

CONFIDENTIAL HELP

Speechlessness, insomnia, changed appetite, difficulty concentrating, disgust, shame, fear, feelings of guilt and powerlessness, unwanted recurring reminders of the assault, social isolation or inability to work are quite »normal« reactions to an »abnormal« event.

The affected can find prompt support for example from **Frauenberatungsstelle Oberhausen** (women's advice center)
Telephone **0208 209707** / E-Mail **info@fbst-ob.de**

Telephone consulting time

Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. / Wednesday 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. / Friday 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Outside of these hours the answering machine is on, please leave a message and the advisors will get back to you as soon as possible.



ANONYMOUS EVIDENCE SECURANCE (ASS)

- **Evangelisches Krankenhaus Oberhausen**
Clinic for Gynecology and Obstetrics
Virchowstr. 20 / 46047 Oberhausen
Telephone 0208 881-0

CONFIDENTIAL HELP

- **Frauenberatungsstelle Oberhausen**
Helmholtzstr. 48 / 46045 Oberhausen
Telephone 0208 209707

TELEPHONE CONSULTATION

- **Telephone counseling**
0203 29513331
- **Helpline for violence against women**
08000 116 016

VICTIM PROTECTION

- **Weisser Ring Oberhausen**
Telephone 0208 604495

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ANONYMOUS EVIDENCE SECURANCE

AFTER A
SEXUAL OFFENSE



IMPORTANT FACTS

The injuries and traces of the assault or abuse are legally documented as part of a medical examination and secured using a forensics set.

During the examination, possible consequences of the assault – such as infection with HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases as well as worries about an unwanted pregnancy and the use of a subsequent contraceptive – can be discussed. **This examination is anonymous, confidential, voluntary and free of charge.**

Those affected by the sexual assault are also informed about psychosocial assistance.

A police report can be filed later.

DECISIVE STEPS

Immediately after the act of violence, the affected should go to the hospital named on the back and ask for an Anonymous Evidence Securance (ASS) if they **do not want to file a police report at first.**

To secure the traces after the assault, it is important not to change clothes and, if possible, not to take a shower.

The traces are kept in the Institute for forensic medicine in Düsseldorf for 10 years and can be retrieved in the event of a later complaint.

After the investigation, those affected receive information and contact details from counseling centers and victim protection facilities.

COMPLAINT YES OR NO?

Most of those affected are very stressed after the sexual offense and need time to understand what happened. **The decision for or against filing charges should therefore be carefully considered.** Professional advice, for example from the women's advice center, can help to make the right decision.

Filing charges is voluntary. Once known to the law enforcement authorities, it must be followed up and cannot be withdrawn.

It is possible to seek legal advice before filing charges. In any case, the Anonymous Evidence Securance (ASS) ensures that the traces can be used as evidence in any later criminal proceedings.