



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV): INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are more than 1 million international students who come to study at colleges and universities in the United States each year. Language differences, cultural differences, and potential unfamiliarity with U.S. laws and processes can create challenges for international students who experience Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

GBV can include physical, sexual, psychological, economic, and emotional abuse that can adversely impact a student's wellbeing. It's important for students to understand what GBV is, who it affects, and how to get help.

WHAT IS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

GBV is any harmful threat or act directed at an individual or group based on their sex. It can affect anyone, regardless of their actual or perceived:

- Age
- Socioeconomic status
- Immigration status
- English language learner status
- Culture
- Gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation
- Disability
- Race, ethnicity, nationality, or religion
- Or other factors

Perpetrators can be peers, authority figures, family members, others you may know, or strangers.

EXAMPLES OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Some forms of GBV include:

- Domestic or dating violence
- Sex-based harassment (including sexual violence)
- Stalking
- Online harassment and abuse
- Forced marriage
- Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C)
- Human trafficking

LEARN MORE ABOUT GBV AND HOW TO SEEK HELP

The Department of Homeland Security's Council on Combating Gender-Based Violence and the Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education have created an online resource to inform you of your rights, and the responsibilities of your school and law enforcement, if you see or experience GBV. Scan the QR code to:

- Learn about GBV
- Know what to do if you see or experience GBV while attending a U.S. college or university, including how to report it
- Familiarize yourself with immigration options you might have if you experience GBV



FOR MORE INFORMATION

dhs.gov/gbv-student-toolkit