

# the **RED CUP** Q&A



**separating alcohol fact from fiction**  
EVERY TUESDAY IN THE DAILY WILDCAT

## **Q** April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. What does that have to do with alcohol?

**A.** Plenty. The answer can be found in the definition: Arizona Revised Statutes clearly define sexual assault as “intentionally or knowingly engaging in sexual intercourse, masturbatory behaviors, or oral sexual contact with anyone who does not consent” and further states, “Sexual assault occurs if the victim is unable to give consent to the sexual act because of drugs or alcohol or any other similar impaired state.”

What this definition means is that if someone has been drinking or using drugs, a high level of caution needs to be observed. Someone who is incapacitated cannot consent to sexual activity. Being “passed out” is clearly incapacitation and engaging in sexual activity with a person who is incapacitated is sexual assault. If someone has been sick due to alcohol or drug use, one can conclude that they are incapacitated.

This year’s awareness campaign, “It’s time... to get involved,” incorporates a bystander approach to sexual violence prevention. A bystander, or witness, is anyone who sees a situation but may or may not know what to do, may think others will act, or may be afraid to do something.

Ways you can be a positive bystander:

- Recognize when a situation looks to be dangerous for someone
- Decide what you can do
- Take action – don’t assume others will – even if it’s calling for help

The 2011 Sexual Assault Awareness campaign focuses on everyone speaking up to prevent sexual violence in our neighborhood, community, workplace, and school.

If you’ve ever wanted to help but didn’t know what to do, schedule a Step UP! Bystander presentation for your group or department for action tips. Other April events include taking a RAD Self Defense course for women or participating in Take Back the Night with other campus organizations on April 26th at 5:30pm.

Contact Campus Health at 520-621-5700 for more information regarding these and other activities.

Let’s come together and create positive social change.



**wildfact**

**You can check out Step UP!  
at [www.health.arizona.edu](http://www.health.arizona.edu)**



**Got a question  
about alcohol?**

Email it to [redcup@email.arizona.edu](mailto:redcup@email.arizona.edu)



[www.health.arizona.edu](http://www.health.arizona.edu)

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