Help and assistance

Ask a person you trust to assist you, if possible, immediately after the offence! Be accompanied by a person you trust, if possible

- to the **hospital** or
- to the **police** (if you want to report the offence immediately)

Rape is not only a physical but also a very serious psychological injury.

It is almost impossible to cope with this alone. Therefore, it is important to get help from special guidance offices in order to cope with such an experience.
This is the only way to prevent any psychological long-term damages!

Any conversations with special guidance offices are free of charge et confidential.

Anonymous preservation of evidence (ASS):

St. Franziskus Hospital Ahlen
gynaecology
Robert-Koch-Straße 55
59227 Ahlen
Phone: 02382 8580

Please use the code word "ASS".

Guidance and information:

General guidance

Victim protection office of the Warendorf district police department
Phone: 02581 600283 and 02581 600291

Help line violence against women
Multilingual and around-the-clock
Phone 116 016
Online guidance: www.hilfetelefon.de

Special guidance for women

Women information centre/specialist office against sexual violence Beckum
Phone : 02521 16887

Women information centre/specialist office against sexual violence Warendorf
Phone: 02581 60975

Specialist guidance for men

Guidance for men, SKM im Kreisdekanat Warendorf
Phone: 02581 9410116 and 02522 83434720

Special guidance for children and adolescents

Specialist protection office against sexual violence in childhood and adolescence
Phone: 02382 893136

Supported by:
Ministerium für Kinder, Jugend, Familie, Gleichstellung, Flucht und Integration des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen

For the sake of legibility, this text addresses its readers informally.

Texts: adopted by the district of Gütersloh.
Thank you for your kind support!

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Medical aid following sexual violence/rape

Anonymous preservation of evidence

LET US HELP YOU!

KREIS WARENDORF

englisch

Care
Assistance
Conservation of evidence

Information about anonymous preservation of evidence for victims having experienced sexual violence or fearing that this happened.

- **Were you raped?**
- **Was the offence committed at home or within your circle of friends and acquaintances?**
- **Was the offender a person you did not know?**
- **Did you have a black-out and you do not know what happened?**

Individuals having experienced sexual violence often feel helpless, powerless, and desperate.
Often, they have difficulties to make decisions immediately after the offence.
These are normal reactions to an experience which is not normal. The reason for this is extreme mental stress, similar to a state of shock.

Often, there no witnesses of the offence. Therefore, it is so important to immediately preserve every evidence of the offence!
Only by means of such evidence (e. g. DNA traces or proven date rape drugs) will it be possible, to apprehend the offender and to prosecute him, where applicable.

Should you not be able to make up your mind to press charges immediately, you should avail of the ANONYMOUS PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE (ASS) in order to preservice every evidence against the offender.

Such evidence preserved in the hospital are kept for a period of 5 years. The police will not be informed about this.

Strafanzeige

Yes — **No** — **Perhaps**

In any case:
Do not eliminate any evidence of the offence before a medical examination!

- **Do not take a shower or do not wash yourself.**
- **Do not wash your clothes.**
- **Do not destroy any other evidence (e. g. bed sheets, towels, furniture).**

Criminal complaint? – Yes, absolutely!
Call the police immediately (phone 110).
The police will take care of you, will preserve evidence and do everything that is necessary.

Criminal complaint? – No (not yet)!
Drive to the hospital as quickly as possible to preserve evidence anonymously! Maybe, a person you trust can accompany and support you.

Anonymous evidence should be taken even where the offender was not identified. Preserved evidence can identify an offender even many years later.

www.kreis-warendorf.de/gleichstellung/ass

Anonymous preservation of evidence (ASS) Process:

1. Following the offence (and without taking a shower), you drive to St. Franziskus Hospital Ahlen to take ASS in the district of Warendorf and ask for anonymous preservation of evidence (“anonyme Spurensicherung”). You will find their addresses on the back of this sheet.
2. To enable medical examination, you will only need your health insurance card. Such examination is confidential, the hospital will not even be entitled to inform the health insurance company. Evidence (e. g. clothes, DNA) will be preserved by the hospital and a medical examination report will be established and will remain in the hospital. Please, do not forget to take extra clothes.
3. You will sign a statement setting out that you wish an anonymous preservation of evidence and storing of such evidence for a 5-year-period. You will be given a copy of such statement.
4. Such preserved evidence of the offence will be stored anonymously in the forensic institute in Münster. This entire process is free of charge for you.
5. Should you make up your mind later on to lodge a criminal complaint, you will inform the police about such anonymous preservation of evidence. Then, the police will do what is necessary with such evidence.
6. If you do not lodge a criminal complaint, such evidence will be destroyed in 5 years.