



# Male & female attitudes to sexual consent



Research undertaken by Dublin Rape  
Crisis Centre's 'We-Consent' campaign

November 2024

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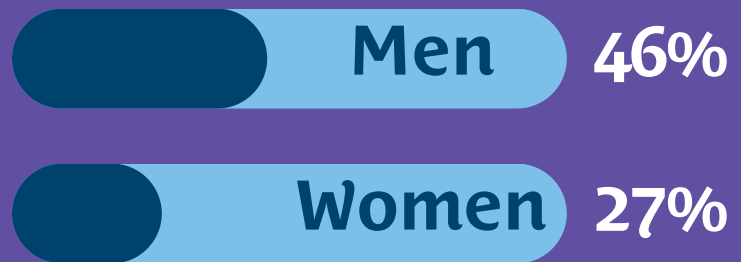


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55% of people surveyed who are dating are fearful "that a partner might say that the sexual encounter when they were drinking was not consensual, despite going along with it at the time"

46% of men surveyed think people often make up accusations about non-consensual sex, compared to 27% of women



While the majority of the surveyed cohort (92%) agree that "Even if you have given consent, you can change your mind at any time".

A significant minority of younger men (29%) aged 18-24 believe that "Once you have consented, you can't really change your mind".

25% of men surveyed agree "I am not sure that sex without consent is as widespread a problem as it is made out to be"

Compared to 14% of women

39%

of dating adults say they often feel vulnerable when it comes to sexual relations due to **fear of misreading the situation**

1 in 10 people surveyed agree that "even when the other person originally says 'no', it can be ok to keep going and they might 'get in the mood'"

73% disagree with this statement.



1 in 10 say that "sex happens when one of us wants it, even if the other person is not in the mood", a view more commonly held by men under 35 (3 in 10)