

**DoD Safe Helpline Info Paper**

**Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Informational Video**

**2020**

Safe Helpline designed a short, animated video to provide survivors of sexual assault in the DoD community with information about Sexual Assault Forensic Exams (SAFEs). A SAFE is a physical examination to collect evidence from a survivor's body and clothes after a sexual assault. Knowing what happens during a SAFE is important for survivors, as these exams can be invasive, confusing, and overwhelming. In addition to outlining the process, the video describes when SAFEs may be helpful for survivors, such as when a survivor may want to pursue legal action against their perpetrator now or in the future. To learn more about SAFEs, watch the video [here](#).

The survivor-facing video includes answers to common questions a survivor may have about SAFE exams, including:

- When can I get a SAFE?
- Who conducts a SAFE?
- What happens during a SAFE?
- Do I have to make a report?
- What are my reporting options?

Throughout the video, Safe Helpline shares useful information about SAFE exams and additional resources for survivors who are interested in pursuing a SAFE exam, including:

- Contacting a SARC to discuss reporting options as well as legal, medical, or mental health resources available.
- Asking a SAPR VA or friend to be present during the exam for support.
- Accessing Safe Helpline for additional support and resources.

Safe Helpline's SAFE video can be a tool you can use to help educate your community on base about SAFEs. Here are some ways you can use the SAFE Video:

- Post the SAFE video to your Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) or Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) team's website.
- Post the SAFE video on SAPR or installation/base social media.
- Include the SAFE video as a resource during your next SAPR/SHARP training.
- Provide the video to survivors who may be interested in a SAFE.
- Share the SAFE video with medical providers on base who may work with survivors of sexual assault.

To download a copy of the video, please visit the [Safe Helpline store](#). You may also watch the video on YouTube [here](#), or on [SafeHelpline.org/SAFE](#).