



*New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault*  
518.482.4222 • [www.nyscasa.org](http://www.nyscasa.org)

***The New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault calls on men of NYS, in cooperation with the women in their communities, to sign the following pledge:***

**Because:**

- I understand that rape is a crime of violence, power and control.
- I am outraged that a rape occurs every 2 minutes in this country.
- I know that rape is a crime of violence through which both women and men in our society are victimized.
- I know that the overwhelming number of perpetrators (98%) of sexual violence against women and men are male.
- I am distressed that over half of sexual assault victims are children.
- I am aware that NYS has 78 Rape Crisis Programs serving over 23,000 victims and their loved ones every year.
- I am concerned that NYS statistics continue to show an increase in rape. (Over 9000 new cases were reported to NYS Rape Crisis Programs in 2002-2003.)
- I am dismayed that only 16-19% of rapes are reported to the police.
- I believe that men can help stop rape by becoming an integral part of the solution to end sexual violence which may include acknowledging their own victimization.

**I therefore PLEDGE:**

- To listen and learn about the problem of sexual violence and understand that it is not solely a woman's issue.
- To support programs that serve all individuals who have experienced sexual violence.
- To challenge sexism, and 'jokes' that degrade women and men.
- To learn to identify and oppose sexual harassment and violence in all settings.
- To examine how my own behavior and biases, including failure to act or speak out, might contribute to the problem of sexual violence.
- To learn why some men are violent and to challenge those men to recognize that they can be powerful without making others powerless.
- To work towards long-term solutions in concert with the survivor-led anti-rape movement.
- To refuse to remain silent and instead work collectively with women and men to END SEXUAL VIOLENCE, not only in New York State, but across our nation.

**SIGNED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*revised 7-29-04*

*All individuals signing the pledge will be listed by name only on the NYSCASA website as a supporter of the "I Commit to End Sexual Violence" campaign.*