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Consent Policy

DFs is a friendly group. Every DF, old or new, is welcome at our events. Everyone should feel encouraged, inspired, and excited by the fantastic opportunities available to them. Everyone has the right to feel welcome, to feel comfortable, and to feel safe.

Be friendly, respect boundaries. Do not expect everyone to have the same boundaries as you, be sensitive and respectful of all other people.

Before sharing any intimate behaviour with another person, especially sexual acts, remember that you must have consent. Yes means yes and no means no. Positive affirmation is necessary for consent. This means each and every time for every act. This affirmation must be explicit and non-coercive, "maybe", "not yet", "I'm not sure" do not count as giving consent. Sexual arousal does not count as consent. If you are uncertain, ask. If you are not comfortable with asking for explicit consent, stop, until you are.

You must accept "no", either verbally or through body language, as an answer without questioning the person's reasons. Threatening and/or coaxing people into saying yes does not count as getting consent. A person may change their mind and withdraw consent at any time, this must be respected.

If someone is under the influence of alcohol or drugs they cannot consent. If you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs you must still get consent. You will be held equally responsible for your actions whether you are sober or otherwise.

How to help

We encourage DFs to look out for their each other. Don't be afraid to check up on someone, no one will be offended if you ask them if they're ok.

There will be a comments box available (Give place and appearance of box) for you to report anything that might be worrying you, including behaviour that breaks consent. This box is managed by (Give name and position, Ideally mest-up trained and ctte rep) if you do not wish for them to read your comment please write so on the outside and someone else from ctte or the event coordinators will read it. Complaints received this way will be dealt with according to

our complaints procedure.

There are MEST-Up reps on duty at all times, they will wear (explain what they're wearing here). These people are trained in mediation and support. They are there to listen to you and help you. Go to them if you have any worries for yourself or someone else, if someone has upset you in any way or if you need any other kind of emotional support.

Any behaviour that breaks consent or otherwise endangers people on the event will be dealt with according to our safeguarding policy which is displayed (tell them where they can find a printed copy).

Explicit Consent List, if there are any further questions on the subject

- Consent for one act does not count as consent for any other.
- Consent at one time does not count as consent at any other
- Not saying "no" is not consent
- Not saying "yes" when asked, is not consent
- Ambiguous answers, e.g, "maybe", are not consent
- Coaxing a yes out of someone is not consent
- Threatening a yes out of someone is not consent
- If someone changes their mind you no longer have consent
- If someone is aroused, this does not mean they consent.
- Someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs cannot consent
- If you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs you must still obtain consent

Consent = freely given, clear affirmation that you would like to experience whatever intimate act is being suggested, sexual or otherwise.