

SPST Policy: CCP 16
Policy on “Consent”

Adopted: 6/30/2015

Updated: 7/27/2015

1. Saint Paul School of Theology is committed to education and prevention of sex crimes and sexual harassment at all seminary sites. This policy provides for definition of “consent” as required by the Violence Against Women Act and Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), as well as consequences for violation of this policy.

2. Definition of “Consent”. In order to prevent unwanted sexual advances and sexual violence and to uphold standards of professional behavior, Saint Paul School of Theology defines “consent” as the affirmative, unambiguous, and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity during a sexual encounter. Members of the Saint Paul community are expected to comply with the notion that “no means no” without exception. When in doubt, always err on the side of “no.” Moreover, an individual who is incapacitated in some manner, whether physically or mentally, due to the effects of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason, or is asleep, or is placed under threat, coercion, duress, intimidation, or force cannot give consent. The existence of a prior relationship or previous sexual activity does not constitute consent.

3. Any violations of this definition of consent should be reported immediately to the Equity Compliance Officer (ECO). Any reports provided to the Associate Dean of Students at Resurrection, the Associate Dean at SPST at OCU, or the Chief Financial Officer who serves as Director of Human Resources will be immediately forwarded to the ECO. Following appropriate investigation, violations of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action including potential suspension or dismissal of students and potential termination of employment for faculty and staff.