

# Lesson 4

## COERCION

### Activity 3

#### Rape Myths

We discussed that there is an environment in our culture that may support rape. Some of that comes from the media and the constant showing of rape on TV and in movies. While these shows are against rape, the way they depict rape and sexual abuse may not be the best way to encourage people's natural benevolence towards those who have been hurt. Read each of these myths and describe why you think people have come to believe them.

1. Attractive people are more likely to be raped than unattractive people.
2. A prostitute can't be raped. But if she is "raped," then it harms her less than another woman.
3. If a heterosexual guy is sexually assaulted or molested, and he gets an erection, he is probably a little bit gay.
4. If a woman goes back to the apartment of a man on their first date, she is showing a willingness to have sex.
5. If a woman truly didn't consent, she would have fought her rapist.
6. It's the girl's responsibility to say no.
7. If a woman has a fantasy of being tied up or being raped, it probably means that secretly or unconsciously she would like to be raped.
8. Quite a few women lie about being raped to get someone in trouble.
9. If a woman gets drunk at a party, it's still her responsibility to say no. If she gets raped, it's partially her fault.
10. A girl who is stuck up and thinks she's too good for most guys deserves to be taught a lesson.
11. In most rapes, the girl is experienced and has "been around."
12. If a girl is too scared to say no and then a guy has sex with her, then it's not rape.

13. A gay guy can't be raped.

14. It's fair for a newspaper article to point out that the victim was wearing high heels and a mini-skirt.

15. Good students are probably unlikely to rape.

16. It's a girl's responsibility to take a self-defense course so that she can better protect herself against rape.