



Campus information: Prevent sexual harassment

23. January 2014

Important notice: Report a sexual assault immediately!

Because of recent events, the University Board, the representative for the physically disabled, the Equal Opportunities Commissioner, the "Studentenwerk" and the socio-political department of the AStA ask all members of Kiel University to report cases of sexual assaults or harassment immediately. At the same time, victims should file a complaint with the police. This is the only way offenders can be found and prosecuted. Also, such instant action will help victims in dealing with this shocking situation.

This notice is a result of an incident that took place on January 10th, approximately at 10:25 a.m. in the building of Leibnizstraße 10. A man in a wheelchair pretended to be in an emergency situation. Since no attendant was around, a lecturer asked a group of students to assist the man from building 8 to the toilet for disabled persons in building 10. A female student agreed to do so. While the lecturer requested medical assistance, the man simulated an urgent need to go to the toilet and asked the female student for assistance. Once inside, he overpowered her and forced her to engage in sexual activity.

Fortunately, the student reported this assault to the university's legal advisor shortly afterwards. The offender has now been identified; he is not a member of Kiel University. The student has filed a complaint and the man is banned from entering University grounds. It then emerged that the offender had already harassed several other women in this manner prior to this event; alarmingly, this had not been made public.

Sexual assault and harassment will not be tolerated by the University – irrespective of who is responsible. At the same time, we wish to welcome disabled persons at our University, without prejudice of any kind. We therefore urgently call on all university members to report any form of sexual harassment or assault immediately. Even if it is difficult for you to do so: We wish to help you in the wake of such a shattering experience and prevent further such incidents. Take heart: Complaints can always be filed in written form as well. They will be handled discreetly and confidentially.

Contact:

If you have been a victim of sexual harassment or assault or have been witness to such an incident, please contact the following persons:

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Dr. Iris Werner
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