

# Supporting a client's disclosure

This is an infographic created by [Ryerson University, Office of the Sexual Violence Support and Education](#). The “BRAVE” way of supporting clients might also be useful where clients disclose violations of their legal rights and experiences of harassment and discrimination.

If someone discloses sexual violence to you, it's okay to not have all the answers. You don't need to be an expert to support them. Rather try to remember to be BRAVE:



# B

**Begin by listening.**

Don't pry or press for additional details.

# R

**Respect confidentiality.**

Ensure they understand how and when you will share the information they have provided you.

# A

**Ask what support looks like to them.**

Let go of assumptions. Reporting to the police is not every survivor's vision of justice.

# V

**Validate them.**

Remind them it is not their fault and they are believed.

# E

**Empathize.**

Understand everyone has a different way of healing from violence.