What We All Need to Know about Military Sexual Trauma (MST)

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"Rape culture’s language defines Mary’s identity."

The primary difference between a civilian and military sexual assault is the reporting process.

Implicit message conflicts with efforts to change culture.
“Rape culture’s language defines Mary’s identity.”
Rape Culture: Myths and Facts
Implicit message conflicts with efforts to change culture
But change is happening

Overview, Definition, and Differences of MST
Not only external but also internal pressure to be “manly” enough...

The primary difference between a civilian and military sexual assault is the reporting process

MST is a term that includes the assault and fallout

Restricted Report
- A confidential reporting method that allows a Service Member to disclose to specified officials that he or she has been the victim of a sexual assault
- Victim receives access to medical care, counseling, and advocacy, without requiring officials to automatically report to law enforcement or initiate an official investigation

Unrestricted Report
- When a victim reports an incident of sexual assault, the matter is referred for investigation and victim’s rights apply.
- Victims may receive health care, counseling, & advocacy services. However, details of the incident are reportable to command and law enforcement.
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Unique Experience of a MST Survivor
Multiple complexities make military sexual assaults potent.
Conclusion
Contact

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