



**SchuDS**

**Central Counseling Center  
For Protection Against  
Discrimination And  
Sexualized Violence**

## Area of responsibilities

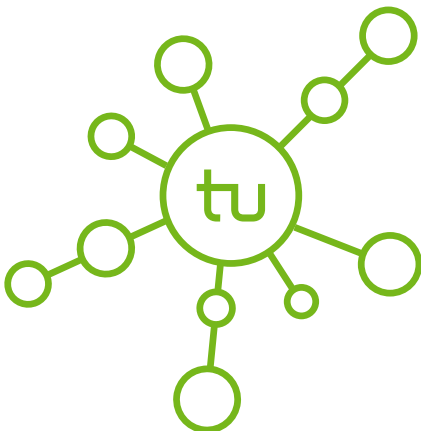
The Central Counseling Center For Protection Against Discrimination And Sexualized Violence (shortform in german: SchuDS) at TU Dortmund University is the central point of contact for people

- who experience or observe discrimination or sexualized violence,
- would like preventative advice or
- have general questions on the subject.

The SchuDS aims to sensitize the university public and raise awareness and attention for discrimination and sexualized violence.

## Target group

The SchuDS is for all members and relatives such as students, teaching staff, employees of TU Dortmund University and all persons who are authorized to stay there temporarily and/or permanently with the knowledge and will of the university.



## Counseling

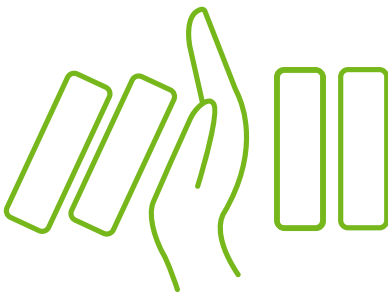
Counseling is free, confidential and if desired anonymous. If necessary, we provide advice in English or in simple language. You are welcome to bring a person of trust or an assistant to the counseling at any time. Counseling sessions can be held in person, via telephone, e-mail or Zoom.

Please contact us by telephone or e-mail to arrange an appointment. We strive to create an atmosphere that is as inclusive as possible. Please let us know in advance if there is anything we can take into account when choosing the counseling room or similar.

## Prevention

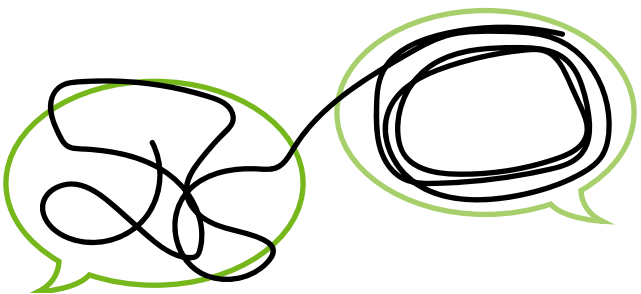
Contact SchuDS if you have questions about various forms of discrimination and sexualized violence. We offer support with

- preventive questions
- development and implementation strategies for action
- raising awareness of different categories of discrimination



## Consulting principles

- Counseling is confidential and anonymous if desired.
- Counseling is partisan.
- The counseling offers a safe space to talk about experiences of discrimination and/or sexualized violence.
- The counseling approach is always based on the needs of the person seeking advice.
- Empowerment in the sense of (the experience) of self-determination and self-empowerment of the person seeking advice is an important basis for counseling.
- In the context of counseling multiple categories of discrimination (intersectionality) are taken into account.
- The possibilities and limits of counseling and complaint measures are explained transparently.
- No steps are taken without consent.



## What is discrimination?

Discrimination is the unjustified disadvantaging and exclusion of a person or a group on the basis of:

- gender • social/ethnic origin • race • appearance
- age • disability, impairment/illness • sexual orientation • religion/belief • family situation • democratic values • etc.

Discrimination can take place directly or indirectly through supposedly neutral procedures, criteria or rules. If two or more grounds of discrimination act simultaneously, this is multiple/intersectional discrimination.

## What is sexualized violence?

Sexualized violence includes any form of violence, which is based on a sexualized act in order to exercise humiliation, power and violence. This includes (non-)verbal, digital, emotional and physical forms such as

- obscene, sexist words • intrusive, unpleasant gestures & glances at intimate areas • unwanted sending/sharing of images/videos • blackmailing of images/videos/actions • unwanted touching, rape



silent call for help

## Important

It is not the (lack of) intention that determines whether discrimination or sexualized violence has taken place. Rather, the perspective of those affected is important. Sexualized violence in particular can affect anyone, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, origin or clothing. The blame always lies with those who perpetrate forms of sexualized violence.

Are you unsure whether you are affected or because you have observed something? Listen to your gut feeling. Unpleasant feelings often have a reason. In a confidential conversation, we can discuss the experience together and consider whether and what steps can be taken.

### Central Counseling Center For Protection Against Discrimination And Sexualized Violence

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IG: [tudo\\_family\\_and\\_diversity](#)