

THE TITLE IX TRAP

Essential Scripts & Protocols
Student Edition

Memorize this sentence.

"I need to speak with my attorney before I answer any questions."

This is the only thing you say to campus police, Title IX staff, or administrators about an accusation. Then you call your parents. That's it.

SECTION 1

Night-Of Self-Check

Before you go upstairs, to her room, or anywhere private—ask yourself:

- Am I sober enough to remember this tomorrow?
- Is she sober enough to remember this tomorrow?
- Have I known her longer than tonight?
- Do I trust her and her friend group?

If the answer to any of these is "no" → Don't go.

If you're going anyway, text your wingman before you leave the party:

"Leaving with [name]. Should be back by [time]. Check on me if you don't hear from me."

This creates a witness and a timeline.

SECTION 2

The Morning-Stay Rule

Do not leave in the middle of the night. Set an alarm if needed. Wake up when she wakes up, or before.

If she seems...	Say this:
Fine / Happy	"Hey, I'm gonna head out. That was fun. See you around?"
Quiet / Withdrawn	"Hey, you okay? You seem quiet." [Listen.] "Okay, well I'm gonna head out. Text me if you want to talk."

Upset / Angry	"I'm getting the sense you're upset. Do you want to talk about it?" [Listen. Stay calm.] "I'm sorry you're feeling that way. I thought we were both okay with what happened. I'm gonna head out now."
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Avoid these statements:

- "I'm sorry if I did something wrong" — sounds like an admission
- "I don't remember everything" — creates confusion and uncertainty
- "Did something happen?" — suggests you don't know what you did

SECTION 3

Morning After Texting**Before you text anyone:**

Review what you remember. Check your phone for messages and photos from last night. Check your location history. Talk to your roommate or wingman.

If anything feels uncertain → STOP. Call your parents before texting her.

■ GREEN — Respond normally

She texts:	You text:
"Had fun last night!"	"Me too! Let me know if you want to hang out again."
"Want to get coffee sometime?"	"Sounds good, I'll text you."

■ ■ YELLOW — Be careful, stay brief

She texts:	You text:
"Can we talk?" / "Are you okay?" / "Do you remember what happened?"	"Yeah, I'm good. What's up?" [Wait to see what she says before saying more.]

■ RED — Do not respond. Screenshot. Call parents.

She texts:	You do:
"I don't think I wanted that to happen"	Screenshot. Do not respond. Call parents immediately.
"My friends are saying that wasn't okay"	Screenshot. Do not respond. Call parents immediately.
"I was really drunk, I don't remember everything"	Screenshot. Do not respond. Call parents immediately.

Avoid statements that create confusion or uncertainty. When in doubt, say nothing and call your parents first.

SECTION 4

Wingman Protocol

Pre-Party Agreement (Group Text)

Sober wingman sends to the group:

"Tonight's wingman: [Name].

If someone is too intoxicated to make clear decisions, we step in and get him home.

If one of us thinks someone's had too much, we call it.

Everyone crashes at my room.

Check in the next morning before anyone starts texting."

Morning Debrief

Before returning phones: Does anyone remember anything from last night that could be a problem? Anyone uncertain about what happened?

If someone says yes: Don't text anyone. Call your parents first.

SECTION 5

If You Are Contacted

If campus police, the Title IX office, an administrator, or anyone official contacts you about an accusation:

Situation	Say this:
Campus police want to talk	"I need to speak with my attorney before I answer any questions."
Title IX office contacts you	"I've been advised not to discuss this without my attorney present."
Calling your parents	"I need you to call me right now. Someone is accusing me of something and I haven't talked to anyone yet."
Texting your wingman before leaving a party	"Leaving with [name]. Check on me in an hour."
Morning after (everything is fine)	"Good seeing you last night. Hope you got home okay."
She texts asking if you remember what happened	Screenshot. Do not respond. Call parents immediately.

Then do not: text anyone involved, post on social media, try to resolve anything on your own, or discuss the accusation with friends.

The Title IX Trap is an educational resource. It does not constitute legal advice. Consult qualified legal counsel for specific situations.