

# THE CONSENT ICEBERG

Personal & Social Impacts of Power

Hey, wanna  
make out?



Yeah, I'm  
into that.



## PERSONAL/ INTERPERSONAL LEVEL

The tip of the iceberg is just a small part of something much bigger

Consent is most often thought of as a negotiation between two or more individuals

## SOCIETAL LEVEL

Below the surface, power dynamics are at play

but, consent is impacted by systems of power. An unequal balance of power influences the negotiation - making it difficult to know if consent is freely given.

EXAMPLE

Gender norms teach that men should be sexually aggressive and that women should be passive and always ready for sex.

EXAMPLE

A person with a disability propositioned by a support person may fear that saying no will mean losing essential assistance.

EXAMPLE

Sexual harassment in the workplace: the victim/survivor may not be able to do or say something for fear of losing their job.