

AURORA

TIPS FOR SAFE ONLINE DATING

You are never at fault for someone else choosing to enact violence against you. Here are some tips that may help reduce risk while online dating.

PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY

Don't share personal information like your phone number, where you live, or your job until you meet and trust someone. Messaging through apps can be annoying, but this way you control who has your number.

KNOW YOUR BOUNDARIES

Establish and share your limits ahead of time and be prepared to set them as needed. These may include a two-drink limit, curfew, level of sexual activity you're comfortable with, etc.

TELL A FRIEND

Tell someone where you are going or share your location. Send them a picture of your date's profile.

DON'T RELY ON YOUR DATE FOR TRANSPORTATION

This protects your address and allows you to be in control of when you leave.

MEET IN PUBLIC & DO YOUR RESEARCH

Plan to meet at a public, populated place for your first date. Beforehand, check your date out on social media. Consider a phone or video call using the dating app prior.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If you feel uncomfortable, trust your instincts and have an exit strategy ahead of time like needing to pay your meter, plans to meet a friend, etc. It is ALWAYS okay to end a date if you feel uncomfortable. You do not owe this person anything.

The Aurora Center is here to help you create a safety plan beforehand or to support you afterward if you experience violence while on a date. We are here for you.