**What are “Date rape” drugs ?**

Date rape drugs are drugs that may be slipped into an unsuspecting victims drink to render him or her physically helpless. These are drugs that are sometimes used to assist in a sexual assault. Sexual assault is any type of sexual activity that a person does not agree to. These drugs are powerful and dangerous; often they have no color, smell, or taste, so you cant tell if you are being drugged.

The drugs can make you become weak and confused or even pass out, so you are unable to refuse sex or defend yourself. If you are drugged, you might not remember what happened while you were drugged.

These drugs are known as “Club Drugs” because they tend to be used at Dance Clubs and Concerts.

* **Rohypnol** -(roh-HIP-nol) is the trade name for flunitrazepam, is also known as:
* Ruffies, R-2, poormans Quallude, mind eraser, forget pill
* **GHB** – which is short for gamma hydroxybutyric (GAM-muh-heye-DROX-ee-BYOO-tur-ihk) acid, GHB is also known as:
* Cherry meth, easy lay, Gamma 10, G-juice, Liquid Ecstasy, liquid X
* **Ketamine** - (KEET-uh-meen), also know as:

Psychedelic Heroin, Purple, special K, super Acid, Bump, Black hole, Cat Valium

**What do the drugs look like?**

* Rohypnol comes as a pill that dissolves in liquids. Some are small, round, and white. Newer pills are oval and green-gray in color. When slipped into a drink, a dye in these new pills makes clear liquids turn bright blue and dark drinks turn cloudy. But this color change might be hard to see in a dark drink, like cola or dark beer, or in a dark room. Also, the pills with no dye are still available. The pills may be ground up into a powder.
* GHB has a few forms: a liquid with no odor or color, white powder, and pill. It might give your drink a slightly salty taste. Mixing it with a sweet drink, such as fruit juice, can mask the salty taste.
* Ketamine -comes as a liquid and a white powder.

**What effects do these drugs have on the body?**

These drugs are very powerful. They can affect you very quickly and without your knowing. The length of time that the effects last varies. It depends on how much of the drug is taken and if the drug is mixed with other drugs or alcohol. Alcohol makes the drugs even stronger and can cause serious health problems — even death.

**Rohypnol**

The effects of Rohypnol can be felt within 30 minutes of being drugged and can last for several hours. If you are drugged, you might look and act like someone who is drunk. You might have trouble standing. Your speech might be slurred. Or you might pass out. Rohypnol can cause these problems:

* Muscle relaxation or loss of muscle control
* Difficulty with motor movements
* Drunk feeling
* Problems talking
* Nausea
* Can't remember what happened while drugged
* Loss of consciousness (black out)
* Confusion
* Problems seeing
* Dizziness
* Sleepiness
* Lower blood pressure
* Stomach problems
* Death

**GHB**

GHB takes effect in about 15 minutes and can last 3 or 4 hours. It is very potent: A very small amount can have a big effect. So it's easy to overdose on GHB. People in home or street “labs” make most GHB. So, you don't know what's in it or how it will affect you. GHB can cause these problems:

* Relaxation
* Drowsiness
* Dizziness
* Nausea
* Problems seeing
* Loss of consciousness (black out)
* Seizures
* Can't remember what happened while drugged
* Problems breathing
* Tremors
* Sweating
* Vomiting
* Slow heart rate
* Dream-like feeling
* Coma
* Death

**Ketamine**

Ketamine is very fast acting. You might be aware of what is happening to you, but unable to move. It also causes memory problems. Later, you might not be able to remember what happened while you were drugged. Ketamine can cause these problems:

* Distorted perceptions of sight and sound
* Lost sense of time and identity
* Out of body experiences
* Dream-like feeling
* Feeling out of control
* Impaired motor function
* Problems breathing
* Convulsions
* Vomiting
* Memory problems
* Numbness
* Loss of coordination
* Aggressive or violent behavior
* Depression
* High blood pressure
* Slurred speech

**Are these drugs legal in the United States?**

Some of these drugs are legal when lawfully used for medical purposes. But that doesn't mean they are safe. These drugs are powerful and can hurt you. They should only be used under a doctor's care and order.

* Rohypnol is **not** legal in the United States. It is legal in Europe and Mexico, where it is prescribed for sleep problems and to assist anesthesia before surgery. It is brought into the United States illegally.
* Ketamine is legal in the United States for use as an anesthetic for humans and animals. It is mostly used on animals. Veterinary clinics are robbed for their ketamine supplies.
* GHB was recently made legal in the United States to treat problems from narcolepsy (a sleep disorder). Distribution of GHB for this purpose is tightly restricted.