

# SEXUAL ASSAULT PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Sexual violence prevention encompasses skill-building and creating a healthy command climate to reduce the likelihood of a negative outcome.

Building skills that improve or enhance healthy relationships, respect, cohesion, and healthy boundaries helps reduce the likelihood of sexual assault.

## PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- **Making social connections.**
- **Being part of connected and collaborative communities.**
- **Receiving leadership support. Leaders build trust, encourage personal development, promote effective communication, and support teamwork.**
- **Keeping up morale—the confidence, enthusiasm, collective pride, and willingness to persist in the activities of the group.**
- **Maintaining unit cohesion. Do individuals care about each other? Do they share the same mission and goals? Do they work together effectively? Strengthening Marine Corps Total Fitness across all four domains: social, spiritual, mental, and physical.**
- **Engaging prevention partners, including Embedded Preventive Behavioral Health Capability, Primary Prevention Integrators, and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program staff.**

Sexual assault prevention is the responsibility of every Marine.

Resources are available at [www.usmc-mccs.org/sapr](http://www.usmc-mccs.org/sapr).

