

Victim Blaming.

Below are comments left by people, after Lady Gaga disclosed she had been raped at the age of 19. Lady Gaga is a well-established artist in the music industry and has advocated for survivor's voices quite openly, including a performance she did at the Oscars in 2016 where sexual abuse survivors joined her on stage to amplify their voices. Lady Gaga has received criticism about her disclosure from members of the public but also by other celebrities such as Piers Morgan. Piers wrote that he was sceptical about her claim of rape and that celebrities use PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder) as an accessory nowadays. He also added that Lady Gaga should name names if she wanted to be believed and anything she said should be taken with a pinch of PR salt.

Don't. ever. ask me why more people don't report sexual assault



The image shows a screenshot of social media comments. On the left, there is a post with a photo of Lady Gaga and the text: "Gaga reveals she has PTSD after being raped at 19". Below this are three comments: Elliot Brown (6 hours ago), Simon Cee (6 hours ago), and Simon Cee Replied (6 replies). On the right, there are three more comments: an unnamed user (40 minutes ago), Darren Pedro Gonzalez Johnston (6 hours ago), and John Dennant (6 hours ago). The comments generally question why she is speaking now or why she didn't report it sooner.

This is what everyday victim blaming looks like, Comments like these are what stop people from coming forward in the first place, they are stuck between questions such as 'Why didn't you report it?' and 'Why are you exaggerating, you're going to ruin a young man's life because of your own mistake?'

Let us look back at the definition of the word Consent & the three key words, **Freedom**, **Capacity**, & **Choice**. Below are examples of when someone cannot give consent in relation to these words.

Freedom

- Trapped
- Tied up
- Locked in a room.
- Trafficked.

Capacity

- Drugs / Alcohol
- Sleeping
- Unconscious
- Under 13's cannot consent
- Some forms of disability

Choice

- Blackmail
- Threats
- Pressure
- Grooming
- Bullying
- Abuse of power