Relationship, Dating, and Domestic Violence
DSA.SC.200.080

Summary/Purpose: To provide students with notice of their duty to respect the dignity of each person and promote academic freedom by refraining from acts or threats of relationship violence, dating violence, and domestic violence.

An intimate relationship is defined as an emotional and/or physical connection with another person. The connection may be with friends or roommates, and includes persons who are dating, cohabitating, married, family members, and/or share a residence. This definition includes current and past relationships and may be different or same-gender relationships.

The University prohibits any physical, sexual, or psychologically abusive behaviors used by an individual against a partner or former partner in an intimate relationship.

The use of alcohol or drugs, by either party, in conjunction with an incident of relationship violence, does not alleviate responsibility or diminish the serious nature of the offense. When alcohol or drugs are involved, a victim will not be charged with an alcohol or drug violation and should not let his or her use of alcohol or drugs be a deterrent to reporting the incident.

Forms of relationship violence may include, but are not limited to:
- Actions that are intended to cause bodily injury.
- Threats or actions that cause reasonable fear of harm on the part of the victim, or threaten children or pets.
- Assault with or without a weapon.
- Psychological and/or economic abuse that rises to the level of cruel and inhuman treatment.

The Office of Equal Opportunity and Regulatory Compliance may conduct an investigation into alleged acts of sexual assault. If through an investigation, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Regulatory Compliance determines an act of sexual assault occurred, the evidence used and the finding of fact may be used in a student conduct hearing. Students who act inconsistently with this policy and values identified in the policy will be subject to conduct charges and proceedings.