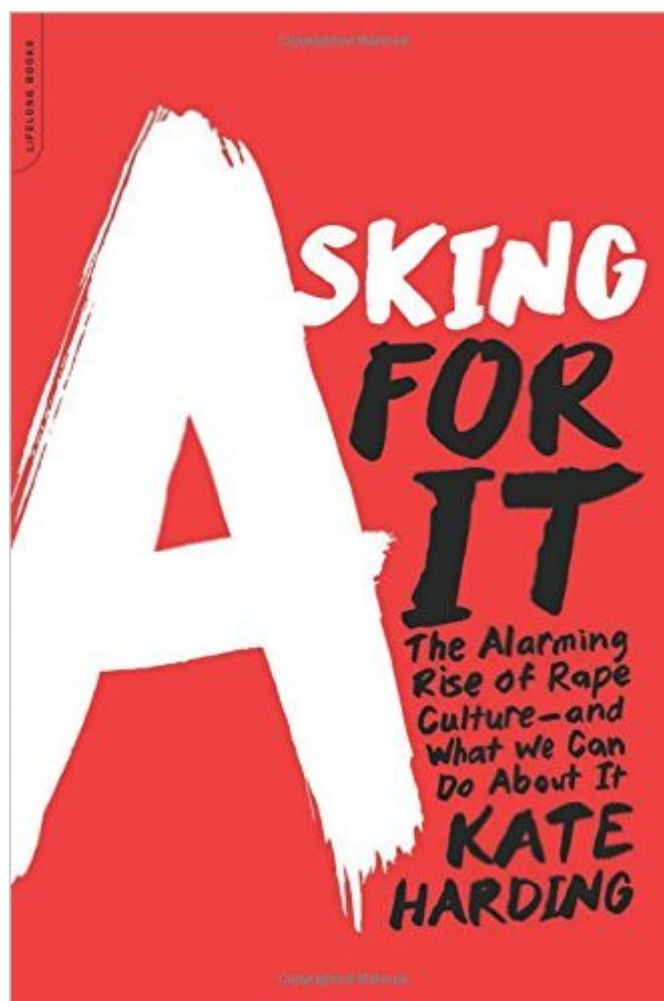


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# Asking For It: The Alarming Rise Of Rape Culture--and What We Can Do About It



## Synopsis

Every seven minutes, someone in America commits a rape. And whether that's a football star, beloved celebrity, elected official, member of the clergy, or just an average Joe (or Joanna), there's probably a community eager to make excuses for that person. In *Asking for It*, Kate Harding combines in-depth research with an in-your-face voice to make the case that twenty-first-century America supports rapists more effectively than it supports victims. Drawing on real-world examples of what feminists call "rape culture"—from politicians' revealing gaffes to institutional failures in higher education and the military—Harding offers ideas and suggestions for how we, as a society, can take sexual violence much more seriously without compromising the rights of the accused.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**\*\* Trigger warning for rape. \*\*** I've been a fan of Kate Harding's ever since her days blogging at Shakespeare's Sister (now Shakesville). I think I first caught wind of her latest project, *ASKING FOR IT: THE ALARMING RISE OF RAPE CULTURE -- AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT*, more than a year ago, and have spent the interim occasionally checking the book's listing, where the publication date seemed to creep further and further away. And it's no wonder: every month brings with it a new development in the national conversation about rape and rape culture. As Harding explains in the Author's Note: "When I sold the proposal for this book in 2012, I foolishly agreed to finish the manuscript in six months, because my agent, editor, and I agreed that rape

culture was having a moment, as it were. News of the Steubenville, Ohio, gang rape case was picking up steam, and the memory of Missouri Representative Todd Akin's "legitimate rape" gaffe was fresh in all our minds. Sexual violence was suddenly a popular topic, but "based on national conversations about rape in the 1970s and 1990s that started strong and dissipated quickly" we feared that if we waited too long, this book might be released to a public that was already over it. "The bad news is that it took me way longer than six months to finish the manuscript. The good news" amazingly, wonderful, really sort of mind-blowing news actually "is that years later, Americans are still walking seriously about rape and rape culture." ASKING FOR IT is a welcome addition to the conversation: smart, witty, and surprisingly enjoyable.

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