

Sexual Assault Information Sheet

Sexual violence is any act (verbal and/or physical) which breaks a person's trust and/or safety and is sexual in nature. The term "sexual violence" includes: rape, incest, child sexual assault, ritual abuse, date and acquaintance rape, marital or partner rape, sexual contact, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Sexual assaults are acts of violence where sex is used as the weapon. Assaults are motivated primarily out of anger and/or a need to feel powerful by controlling, dominating, or humiliating the victim. Victims/survivors of sexual assaults are forced, coerced, and/or manipulated to participate in unwanted sexual activity. Victims/survivors do not cause their assaults and are not to blame. Offenders are responsible for the assaults.

Here Are the Facts for the United States:

Few rapes are reported to the police (32% according to DOJ, 59% according to the FBI) most commonly because it is a private or personal matter and/or the victim fears reprisal from the assailant. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept Of Justice, 1994, and the FBI).

One in two rape victims are under age 18; one in six are under age 12. (Child Rape Victims, 1992, Dept. of Justice).

As many as 1 in 5 to 1 in 7 boys are sexually abused. (Finkelhor, Hotaling, Lewis, & Smith, 1990; Fromuth & Burkhart, 1987, 1989, in The Male Survivor: The Impact of Sexual Abuse, Matthew Parynik Mendel, 1995, Sage Publications). In 1992, over 55,000 American women were raped each month - over 1,800 women per day (Stop Violence Against Women, NOW Legal Defense Fund, 1994).

An estimated 12.1 million women in the U.S. have been victims of rape. Thirty-nine percent of these, or an estimated 4.7 million women, have been victims of more than one rape (Rape in America, National Victim Center, 1992).

The total of 97,464 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement during 1995 was the lowest total since 1989. The 1995 count was 5% lower than in 1994. In the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) program, the victims of forcible rape are always women, and in 1995 an estimated 72 of every 100,000 females in the country were reported rape victims (UCR - FBI Crime Report, 1995, <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr95prs.htm>).

Thirty-one percent of female victims reported that the offender was a stranger (Violence Against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, 1994).

One study found that 29.3% of rapes occurred when the victims were less than 11 years old; 32% occurred between the ages of 11 and 17; and 22% occurred between the ages of 18 and 24 (National Victim Center, 1992).

68% of rapes occur between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. (Violence Against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, 1994).

In 47% of rapes, the victim sustained injuries other than rape injuries. (Violence against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, 1994).

Approximately 28% of victims are raped by intimates such as husbands or boyfriends, 35% by acquaintances, and 5% by other relatives (Violence Against Women, BJS, US DOJ, 1994).

An estimated 14-25% of women experienced forced sex at least once during their marriages. Resnick, Kilpatrick, Walsh, & Veronen, 1991; Russel, 1990, in Wife Rape: Understanding the Response of Survivors and Service Providers, by Raquel Kennedy Bergen, 1996, Sage Publications, USA).

Rape impacts on victims' mental health. Thirty-one percent of all rape victims develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) sometime during their lifetime and they are 3 times more likely to have had a major depressive episode than non-victims of crime. Also, rape victims are 4.1 times more likely to have contemplated suicide and 13 times more likely to have actually made a suicide attempt (Rape in America, 1992).

Eight out of ten violent crimes against white women are perpetrated by white offenders. Similarly, almost 9 out of 10 violent victimizations sustained by black women are committed by black offenders (Violence Against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, 1994).

Here are the Facts for Wisconsin:

Based on Reports Made to Law Enforcement in 1996:

An estimated 6,020 sexual assaults were reported in 1996. This represents a 1.3% decrease from the 1995 reported total.

84% of victims were female, 93% of offenders were male.

92% of all sexual assaults were perpetrated by someone known to the victim, while strangers committed 8%.

61.9% of assaults took place in either the victim's or offender's home.

77% of all sexual assault victims were juveniles. Over 70% of all victims were 15 years old or younger.

The average age of the offender was 25, ten years older than the average victim age of 15.

Source for Wisconsin Statistics: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance Report on Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin 1996: July 1997

This information sheet was revised in 1997 by the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA). WCASA is a membership organization of sexual assault centers and other organizations and individuals throughout Wisconsin working to end sexual violence. For information sheets on additional topics or for membership information, contact WCASA at 123 E. Main St., Madison, WI 53703, (608) 257-1516. For more information about sexual assault, contact your local sexual assault program. This sheet may be reproduced.

Adult Survivors Of Incest Information Sheet

Incest is a betrayal of trust through sexual activity between biological or marital relatives. It manifests either in the form of a "consensual" relationship, as with a brother and sister, or in the more common form of non-consensual abuse. Further, incest offenders project their sexual expression both overtly and covertly by means of inappropriate touching, verbal seduction, abuse, objectification, intercourse, sodomy, direct threats and implied threats.

Perpetrators of incest are both men and women, although the majority are men. Both girls and boys are victimized, with the majority of victims being girls. Perpetrators may include: grandfathers and grandmothers, fathers and mothers, uncles and aunts, brothers and sisters. Incest cuts across lines of race and class. Incestuous abuse may start as early in a child's life as a

few months old and may last throughout the teen years and into adulthood.

Statistics

4.5% of women report an incestuous experience with fathers or stepfathers before the age of 18. 4.9% of women report an incestuous experience with an uncle before the age of 18 (The Secret Trauma, Diana Russell, Basic Books, 1986).

A random survey of 2,627 women and men conducted by the Los Angeles Times found that 27% of the women and 16% of the men had been incestuously abused as children (By Silence Betrayed, John Crewsdon, Little Brown, 1988).

When incest occurs between siblings, 26% of the cases are same sex, with 16% between brothers and 10% between sisters (Healing the Incest Wound, Christine Courtois, Norton Professional Books, 1988).

African Americans are victimized in childhood at the same rates as Caucasians. They report being more severely abused with greater use of force. African American girls are more often abused by relatives other than their fathers; often the offender is an uncle ("The Long-Term Effects of Incestuous Abuse: A Comparison of African American and White American Victims," Diana Russell, et al. Lastin2 Effects of Child Sexual Abuse, ed. By Gail E. Wyatt, Sage Publications, 1988).

66% of all prostitutes were sexually abused as children. 66% of sexually abused prostitutes were abused by fathers, step-fathers or foster fathers. ("Treatment of Prostitution Victims of Sexual Abuse," Mimi Silbert, Victims of Sexual Aggression, ed. By Irving Stuart and Joanne Greer, Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1984).

68% of incest incidents take place in the victims home (Russell, 1986).

Men abuse children with greater frequency than women do. 95% of sexual abuse of girls and 80% of sexual abuse of boys is committed by men (Courtois, 1988).

Aftereffects

Incest is an experience, which affects a survivor's life in many ways. The following is only a partial list of possible aftereffects survivors may experience for years into their adult life:

- Low self-esteem
- Self-blame, guilt
- Vulnerability toward revictimization
- Depression
- Difficulty sustaining relationships and building trust
- Alcohol or drug problems
- Anxiety, the need for control in relationships
- Post-traumatic stress reactions
- Eating disorders
- Dissociative reactions
- Sexual dysfunctions
- Flashbacks and bad memories

Also, many victims of incest may not have memories of it ever happening. Some will not have these memories because the abuse occurred while they were very young. Many abuse victims will report that the actual physical sexual abuse was not the worst aspect of the experience; rather, it was carrying such a powerful secret that must be protected. Others may have literally pushed the memories from their conscious mind in order to survive the abuse. In either case, the victim/survivor may feel as if something

occurred and may eventually regain the memories of the abuse. Whether they remember the abuse or not, victims/survivors may still experience the above aftereffects.

Healing

People who experience incest have experienced violation of trust and sexual exploitation, but they can and do survive. There is no one "right way" to heal. Many will heal with the help of a counselor/therapist and/or support group and others will heal on their own. Once a survivor has made a commitment to address incest issues, it may take an average of 3-5 years of therapy to heal.

Adult survivors of incest who are beyond their early twenties and wish to take legal action against their perpetrators must do so in a civil law suit. They must bring the suit forward within the time outlined in the statute of limitations. In Wisconsin, this is within 2 years of remembering the incest and recognizing it as the cause of injury. Please refer to the Statute of Limitations for more information.

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Sexual Exploitation By Professionals

Sexual activity between a professional and a person in his or her trust is never acceptable. When sexual activity does occur, the professional has crossed the boundary between ethical and unethical behavior and has violated trust. A professional holds

power over another person and the power differential is a barrier to consent. Feeling guilty or responsible is a natural reaction to sexual assault, but the exploitation was not the fault of the client/parishioner/student

Institutions, professional associations and state licensing boards prohibit sexual activity between service providers and clients. Professionals are not ordinary individuals; they receive their power as representatives of institutions or social systems. Sexual exploitation of a client is institutionalized rape.

How Big Is The Problem?

Research indicates that at least 10-15% of counseling professionals who have responded to surveys on this issue are sexually exploiting clients.

In one such study, 70% of the therapists reported they had at least one formerly exploited client In another survey, 65% of 1,423 responding psychiatrists had treated clients sexually involved with a former therapist

Studies of student-professor sexual contact in universities indicate that 2~30% of female students have experienced sexual overtures from their professors. In one study, 17% of female graduate psychology students were sexually involved with a professor and another 30% had rebuffed a professor's sexual advances.

Effects On Clients

Someone who has been sexually exploited by a professional, may be feeling confusion, betrayal, anger, pain and/or desperation. Fear is common. Clients may be experiencing some symptoms of shock including:

- Loss of self-esteem and self-confidence
- Distrust of self and others
- Sexual conflict and dysfunction
- Nightmares, insomnia, headaches, appetite and stomach problems, troubles paying attention and remembering, or exhaustion
- Depression, startle reactions, panic episodes, fear of crowds, or fear of authority figures
- Job loss, career interruption, and wage, health or pension losses
- Loss of connection with partner, family and friends

Where To Turn For Help

Turning to someone for help can feel overwhelming, and the staff at sexual assault programs know this. They have led the way in helping communities understand sexual violence. Most centers offer support groups for survivors of sexual assault. If an agency does not have a group specifically for survivors of professional sexual exploitation, they can be asked to start one.

There may also be legal avenues that can be pursued. Some professionals can be disciplined by their peers through contacting the ethics board of their professional association. Some can be disciplined by state regulatory agencies. A complaint can be filed with the state regulatory agency for which the professional is licensed. In terms of the justice system, an attorney may be able

to file a civil suit against the perpetrator and/or there may be criminal penalties associated with the abuse.

Resources For Questioning Or Reporting Misconduct

Division of Enforcement
1400 E. Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708
(608) 266-3736

Wisconsin Psychological
Association
121 South Hancock Street
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 251-1450

State Medical Society
P.O. Box 1109
Madison, WI 53701
(608) 257-6781
*to report Physicians

Clergy: Contact the person in charge of your local Denomination

Professor: Contact your Dean of Student's Office

Source: Constantinides, Kathy Challenging Professional Sexual Exploitation: A Handbook for Survivors. A project of the Sexual Assault Information Network of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 199i

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more information about sexual assault or to receive support around a sexual assault experience, contact your local sexual assault program.

Sexual Violence Information Sheet

What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual violence is any unwanted sexual contact (verbal and/or physical). The term "sexual violence" includes: rape, incest, child sexual assault, ritual abuse, date and acquaintance rape, marital or partner rape, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Sexual violence refers to acts of violence where sex is used as the weapon.

Most sexual violence is perpetrated by someone the victim knows. Victims/survivors of sexual violence are forced, coerced, and/or manipulated to participate in the unwanted sexual activity. The perpetrator often has physical, emotional, financial, occupational, relational or moral power over the victim. Victims/survivors do not cause sexual violence and are never to blame.

1997 Sexual Assaults In Wisconsin

An estimated 5,881 sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement.

79% of sexual assault survivors were juveniles. More than 70% were age 15 or younger.

92.9% of all sexual assaults were committed by someone known to the victim, 7% were committed by strangers.

56.9% of the assaults took place in the victim's or offender's home.

Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin 1997, WI Office of Justice Assistance. Statistics for 1998 will be available in July 1999.

Facts and Figures for the United States:

One in two rape victims are under age 18; one in six are under age 12. (Child Rape Victims, 1992, Dept. of Justice).

As many as 1 in 5 to 1 in 7 boys are sexually abused. (Finkelhor, Hotelling, Lewis, & Smith, 1990; Fromuth & Burkhart, 1987, 1989, in *The Male Survivor: The Impact of Sexual Abuse*, Matthew Parynik Mendel, 1995, Sage Publications).

One study found that 29.3% of rapes occurred when the victims were less than 11 years old; 32% occurred between the ages of 11 and 17; and 22% occurred between the ages of 18 and 24 (Rape in America, National Victim Center, 1992).

In 1992, over 55,000 American women were raped each month - over 1,800 women per day (Stop Violence Against Women, NOW Legal Defense Fund, 1994).

An estimated 12.1 million women in the U.S. have been victims of rape. Thirty-nine percent of these, or an estimated 4.7 million women, have been victims of more than one rape (Rape in America, 1992).

Few rapes are reported to the police (52% according to DOJ, 59% according to the FBI) most commonly because it is a private or personal matter and/or the victim fears reprisal from the assailant. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, 1994, and the FBI).

Approximately 28% of victims are raped by intimates such as husbands or boyfriends, 35% by acquaintances, and 5% by other relatives (Violence Against Women, BJS, US DOJ, 1994).

Rape impacts on victims' mental health. Thirty-one percent of all rape victims develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) sometime during their lifetime and they are 3 times more likely to have had a major depressive episode than non-victims of crime. Also, rape victims are 4.1 times more likely to have contemplated suicide and 13 times more likely to have actually made a suicide attempt (Rape in America, 1992).

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Community Resources

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Adult Protective Services

414-289-6660

ASHA Women of Color Project

Business #: 414-264-7822

Daystar, Inc.

Business #: 414-342-5080

Hotline/Crisis: 414-669-0554

Sexual Assault Treatment Center

414-937-5555

Sojourner Truth House, Inc.

Business #: 414-643-1777

Hotline/Crisis: 414-933-2722

Task Force on Battered Women & Children, Inc.

Business #: 414-643-1911

Hotline/Crisis: 414-643-1911

The Milwaukee Women's Center, Inc.

Business #: 414-272-6199

Hotline/Crisis: 414-671-6140

Milwaukee Co. District Attorney-Domestic Violence Unit

(414) 278-4792

Milwaukee Co. Victim/Witness

(414) 278-4667

OZAUKEE COUNTY

Advocates, Inc.

Business #: 262-284-3577

Hotline/Crisis: 262-284-6902

Ozaukee Co. District Attorney

(262) 238-8380

Adult Protection

(262) 284-8200

Adult Protection (Developmental Disabilities)

(262) 238-8129

Adult Protection (Mental Illness)

(262) 238-8160

WAUKESHA COUNTY

Adult Protective Services

(262) 548-7212

Waukesha Co. District Attorney

(262) 548-7076

Waukesha Co. Victim/Witness Assistance Program

(262)548-7071

The Women's Center

Business #: 414-542-6777

Hotline/Crisis: 414-542-3828

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Adult Protective Services

Washington Co. Department of Social Services

Phone: (262) 335-4610

Washington Co. Resource Center

Ph: 262-306-2222

TDD: 262-335-4670

Toll Free: 877-306-3030

Elder Abuse Hotline

(262) 335-4610

Friends of Abuse Families

Business #: (262) 334-5598

Washington Co. District Attorney

(262) 335-4311

Washington Co. Victim/Witness

(262) 335-4475 or 335-4851

State/National Resources

Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Phone: 608-255-0539

Wisconsin Coalition-Advocacy

(414) 342-8700

Domestic Violence Hotline (National)

1-800-799-7233

1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

Personal Safety Numbers

Name	Phone	Address

How Do I Know I Am Being Abused- A Self-Test

How Do I Know I Am Being Abused?

Questions to ask yourself:

1. Someone I know (friend, relative, caretaker, teacher, etc.) makes fun of me and calls me names?
2. Someone I know makes fun of my body?
3. Someone I know treats me like a child and won't let me make my own decisions?
4. Someone I know takes my money?
5. Someone I know hurts me when they are helping me get dressed?
6. Someone I know makes me touch him or her in places I don't want to touch?
7. Someone I know talks to me in ways and about things that make me uncomfortable?
8. Someone I know steals things from my home?
9. Someone I know keeps me from seeing other people and won't let me get help from other people?
10. Someone I know does not let me use my wheelchair, cane, communication board, TTY, hearing aid, walker, etc.?

11. Someone I know touches me in places that make me uncomfortable?
12. Someone I know won't give me my medications or meals on time?
13. Someone I know makes me wait too long before getting me to the toilet, getting me out of bed, giving me a bath or changing my clothes and linens?
14. Someone I know gets angry with me when I ask for help?
15. Someone I know ties me to the bed or chair so I can't get up?
16. Someone I know won't let me talk to anyone on the phone?
17. Someone I know talks "for" me, instead of letting me answer on my own?
18. Someone I know hits me?
19. Someone I know says that they will leave me alone if I don't do what they say?
20. Someone I know hurts me when they are helping me take a bath?
21. Someone I know hurts me when they are helping me go to the toilet?
22. Someone I know hurts me when they are helping to feed me?

23. Someone I know is suppose to pay my bills but doesn't always do it?
24. Someone I know watches me when I take a bath or change clothes?
25. Someone I know has made me have sex even though I said no?
26. Someone I know goes into the doctors examining room with me?
27. Someone I know screens my calls or listens to my phone calls and leaves me alone without a phone?
28. Someone I know gets angry with me when they are mad at other people and curses, screams and yells at me?
29. Someone I know pushes me around?
30. Someone I know makes me feel bad about myself?

Grade Yourself:

If you answered yes to any of these questions you are being abused. You do not have to continue to accept these abusive behaviors from another person; there are agencies that can help, for more information contact Independence *First* at (414) 291-7520.

You are being emotionally abused if you answered yes to questions: 1,3 9,14,16,17, 19,26,27,28,30.

You are being physically abused if you answered yes to questions: 5,10, 12,13,15,18, 20,21,22,29

You are being sexually abused if you answered yes to questions: 2,6,7,11,24, 25

You are being economically abused if you answered yes to questions: 4,8,23