



SEXUAL ASSAULT

SCOPE

- In 2003 there were about 10,000 reported forcible rapes in CA. (FBI, 2003)
- Nationwide in 2003 there were about 93,500 reported forcible rapes in 2003, but only 26,500 arrests. (FBI, 2003)
- According to the 2003 crime clock one rape/ sexual assault takes place every 53 minutes in CA and 1 rape every 6 minutes nationwide. (CA Attorney General Crime Clock, 2003)
- There are roughly 2600 registered sex offenders in Sacramento County. (CA Dept of Justice, 2005)
- Over 32,000 pregnancies result from rape every year. (Center for Disease Control, 2003)
- According to one study, 80% of people with disabilities have been sexually assaulted on more than 1 occasion. (CALCASA, 2003)
- 1 in 4 women report being raped by a current or former partner, spouse, or date. (CALCASA, 2003)
- A study of women's prisons in CA showed that nearly every female inmate reported various sexually aggressive acts by guards. (CALCASA, 2003)
- A survey showed 90% of women under 50 years old who have served in the US military have been sexually harassed and 1/3 report rape. (American Medical Association, 2000)
- An estimated half of domestic violence relationships involve sexual abuse. (CALCASA, 2003)

COST/ IMPACT

- Sexual assault costs our government more than \$40 million a year. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)

- Researchers in Michigan estimated that given the total cost of sexual violence in the state, if it were distributed to Michigan residents as a “rape tax” the cost would have been \$700 per person. (Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 2002)
- Compared to non-victims, rape victims were 6 times more likely to have used cocaine, and 10 times more likely to have used other hard drugs. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Men and women who have been raped in childhood or adolescence are 4 times more likely to work in prostitution. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Women with a history of sexual assault are less likely to ask a partner about STDs or tell a partner when they are being too rough. (CALCASA, 2003)

PERPETRATORS

- Half of all sexual assault perpetrators are under 25 years old and 30% are under 21. (FBI, 2003)
- The most common perpetrator profile is a white man in his twenties to early thirties. (FBI, 2003)
- Among drug-facilitated sexual assaults the perpetrator is more likely to live alone and be over the age of 30. (CALCASA, 2003)
- In gang rapes the perpetrators are most often white males between 12 -20. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Most gang rapes (76%) are committed by strangers. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Studies suggest that most rape offenders are married or in consenting relationships. (CA Dept of Justice, 2003)
- 3/4 of sexual assault victims know their perpetrator. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- Of sexual assault perpetrators, 97% are male and 3% are female. If assaults against children are excluded, almost all perpetrators are male. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- There are no significant differences in the rates of rape among different racial groups. (US Dept. of Justice, 2005)
- 80 – 90% of violent crimes against women are committed by someone of the same racial background as the victim. (US Dept of Justice, 2003)

- 67% of women raped and/ or physically assaulted as adults were assaulted by a current or former husband, partner, or date. (CALCASA, 2003)
- In a survey of college students nationwide, 1 in 12 male students had committed acts that met the legal definition of rape or attempted rape and 85% of those that met the legal definition said that what they did was definitely not rape. (CALCASA, 2003)

GENDER

- Most perpetrators of sexual violence are men. Among acts of sexual violence committed against women since the age of 18, 99% of rapes, 92% of physical assaults, and 97% of stalking acts were perpetrated by men. Sexual violence against men is also mainly male violence: 70% of rapes, 86% of physical assaults, and 65% of stalking acts were perpetrated by men. (Center for Disease Control, 2003)
- Men are twice as likely as women to experience acts of violence by strangers. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Research among college students showed that when a vignette depicting a couple as equally intoxicated, the women were held much more responsible than the men for the sexual assault. (Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 2002)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- Sexual assault is not falsely reported more than any other crime. Only 2.5% of all reports turn out to be false. (US Dept of Justice, 2005)
- The main reasons given for not reporting sexual assault are “privacy, fear of reprisal, and belief that police are biased”. (US Dept of Justice, 2003)
- A rape victim is twice as likely to experience loss of time from work than the victims of any other violent crime and are absent longer on average than the victims of any other violent crime. (US Dept of Justice, 2003)
- Of all crimes, sexual assault is the least reported to law enforcement. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- An arrest is made in about 27% of all reported sexual assault cases. (US Dept of Justice, 2000)
- The closer the relationship between the victim and offender, the greater the likelihood that police will not be told about the assault. When the offender was a current or former husband, 75% of all victimization was not reported. (US Dept of Justice, 2000)

- Only 2% of rapists are convicted and imprisoned. (CALCASA, 2003)
- About 5 out of 10 rape defendants are released prior to trial. (CALCASA, 2003)
- The average jail term for an offender convicted of rape is 8 months. (CALCASA, 2003)

CHARACTERISTICS OF INCIDENT

- A person is more likely to be raped at home than anywhere else, about 1/3 of the time. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- A person is least likely to be raped on the way to or from somewhere, about 1.2% of the time. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- Most (68%) sexual assaults occur between 6:00 pm – 6:00 am. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- In 29% of rapes the offender used a weapon. (US Dept. of Justice, 2005)
- The highest number of rapes are committed in July and the fewest in December. (FBI, 2000)
- The most common substances present in victims of an assault are marijuana or alcohol, not “date rape drugs”. (CALCASA, 2003)
- College women report higher rates of drug-facilitated sexual assault experiences than assaults where drugs or alcohol were not involved. (CALCASA, 2003)
- 88% of female sexual assault victims and 86% of male victims took self-protective measures to stop the assault. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)

YOUTH

- Of reported sexual assaults, 67% were under 18, 34% were under 12, and 14% were under 6. (US Dept. of Justice, 2003)
- Women victimized in adolescence were nearly five times more likely than others to experience some form of sexual coercion in their first year in college. (Journal of Adolescent Health, 2000)
- Students with older boyfriends or girlfriends are 30 times more likely to have had sex than their peers and the greater the age difference, more likely to report having intercourse during or before 6th grade. [Statutory rape.] (CALCASA, 2003)

- Of students who have had sex education, 55% say they need more information on what to do if you or a friend has been raped or assaulted. This category was the number one response from students when asked that subject they needed more information about from sex education.” (Kaiser Family Foundation, 2000)
- Among college students nationwide, between 20% and 25% of women reported experiencing completed or attempted rape. (Center for Disease Control, 2003)
- A survey in 1995 of 8th and 9th graders reported that 27% agreed that girls who get drunk at parties or on dates deserve whatever happens to them, 40% agreed that girls who wear sexy clothes are asking to be raped, 46% felt that being raped was sometimes the victim’s fault, and 15% said that forcing your date to have sex is acceptable in some circumstances. (CALCASA, 2003)

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER

- Sexual orientation bias accounted for 16 percent of reported hate crimes. (FBI, 2003)
- Studies over the past two decades on lesbian sexual violence show a range from a low of 5% to a high of 57% of respondents claiming they had experienced attempted or completed sexual assault or rape by another woman, with most studies finding rates of around 30%. (National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, 2002)
- According to studies, young lesbian and bisexual girls experience more sexual harassment than heterosexual girls, with 63% reporting being touched or cornered in a sexual way, as compared to 52% of heterosexual girls. 23% of lesbian and bisexual girls reported that their peers had attempted or completed rape, versus 6% of the heterosexual girls. (Journal of School Social Work, 2001)
- Up to 40% of youth living on the street identify as LGBT, which disproportionately exposes them to sexual assault. (American Journal of Public Health, 2000)
- 1 in 15 lesbian women report being physically assaulted as the result of a hate crime. (Journal of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, 2000)
- In the mid-nineties, the incidents in sexual assaults against LGBT people rose at twice the rate of victims of all violent crimes. (CALCASA, 2003)
- 15% of men who lived with a male partner reported being raped, assaulted, or stalked by their partner. (Center for Disease Control, 2000)
- Although gay prisoners have a high vulnerability to sexual abuse while incarcerated, they are not likely to be perpetrators. (Human Rights Watch, 2001)

- A child's risk of being molested by his or her relative's heterosexual partner was over 100 times greater than being molested by someone who identifies a homosexual or bisexual (less than 1% of all cases). (CALCASA, 2003)
- When presented with vignettes of male-to-male sexual assault, college students in a recent study routinely attributed more pleasure and less trauma when told the victim was homosexual. (CALCASA, 2003)

MALE VICTIMS

- Studies indicate that males who are sexually assaulted experience higher levels of blame for their assaults than female victims. (CALCASA, 2003)
- In 2002, more than 31,000 males over the age of 12 reported being the victim of rape or sexual assault. Of these victims, almost half knew their assailant, either as a teacher, friend, co-worker or other acquaintance. The other half were assaulted by total strangers. (US Dept. of Justice, 2002)
- In a study of males sexually abused as children, 80% had a history of substance abuse, 50% had suicidal thoughts, and 23% attempted suicide. (CALCASA, 2003)
- Surveys of male inmates report that about 1/3 of inmates were sexually victimized. (Human Rights Watch, 2001)
- A study of Navy and Marine Corps men indicated that male-to-male sexual assault was more common in a military setting than in any other setting. (CALCASA, 2003)