

What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual violence is any sex act towards anyone without their consent/permission. There are four types of sexual violence.

- Completed sex act: physical sexual contact including oral, vaginal and anal penetration. This type also includes penetration with a hand, finger or other object.
- Attempted (but uncompleted) sex act: physical contact without penetration.
- Abusive sexual contact: intentional touching (directly or through clothing) of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks of any person without his/her consent or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse.
- Non-contact sexual abuse: voyeurism, intentional exposure of an individual to exhibitionism, pornography, verbal or behavioral sexual harassment, threats of sexual violence or taking nude photographs of a sexual nature of another person without his/her consent or knowledge or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse.

Sexual Violence: Facts at a Glance

Because of shame, guilt or additional threat-many sexually violent crimes go unreported. Victims are NOT at fault and need to report the crime and seek medical attention immediately to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

- Nearly 1 in 5 (18.3%) women and 1 in 7 men (1.4%) have reported rape at least once in their lives.
- Approximately 1 in 20 women (5.6%) And men (5.3%) have experienced sexual violence (other than rape) in the past 12 months prior to the survey.
- 37.4% of female rape victims were raped between ages 18-24.
- Among female rape victims 51.1% are violated by an intimate partner. 12.5% by family members. 40.8% by acquaintances and 13.8% by strangers.
- Among male rape victims 52.4% are violated by acquaintances and 15.1% by strangers.
- 13% of women and 6% of men reported they have experienced sexual coercion at some time in their lives.
- 12.3% of female rape victims and 27.8% of male rape victims were first raped at age 10 years or younger.
- Reported rape results in 32,000 pregnancies each year.
- 50%-80% of sexually violent crimes involve alcohol usage.

Risk Factors That Increase Incidents:

<u>Individual Risk Factors</u> Alcohol and drug use Coercive sexual fantasies Impulsive/antisocial tendencies Preference for impersonal sex Hostility towards women Hyper masculinity Childhood history of sexual/physical/emotional abuse Childhood witnessing of family violence	<u>Relationship Risk Factors</u> Association with sexually aggressive peers Family environment of violence and few resources Strong patriarchal relationship/familial environment of Physical abuse Emotionally unsupportive familial environment
<u>Community Risk Factors</u> Lack of community opportunities Lack of institutional support from police and/or judicial system	<u>Societal Risk Factors</u> Association with sexually aggressive peers Societal norms that support sexual violence Societal norms that support male superiority and sexual entitlement

Prevention of Sexual Violence

Unfortunately, little is known about what prevents sexual violence and many sexual crimes go unreported for various reasons. Until recently prevention programs did not accumulate and evaluate the effectiveness of prevention principles. Education and awareness of sexual violence is the first step, followed by arming victims with tools to reduce risk factors associated with the crime. Understanding risk factors and personal protection is a valuable tool, as well as understanding, accepting and respecting verbal and non-verbal unconsented responses and avoidance of high-risk situations including the use of drugs and alcohol.

Victim Resources/Information & Sources Used for This Publication

As a victim the first step is reporting the crime to a school official and/or law enforcement and seeking medical attention.

Local:

Domestic Violence Intervention of Lebanon County Hot Line (717) 273-7190 www.dviolc.org
Sexual Assault Resource and Counseling Center of Lebanon County Hot Line (717) 272-5308
www.sarcclebanon.org

Lebanon County Victim Services DA's Office, Lebanon County Courthouse (717) 274-2801 x2180
Child Abuse Pinnacle Health Children's Resources Center (877) 543-5018 or (717) 782-6800

State:

PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence (800) 932-4632, www.pcadv.org
PA Coalition Against Rape (888) 772-PCAR, (717) 728-9740 www.pcar.org

National:

National Center for Victims of Crime www.ncvc.org
National Sexual Violence Resource Center www.nsvrc.org
Rape Abuse Incest National Network www.rainn.org

Students' Bill of Rights

As a victim of sexual violence YOU have the following rights:

- To report the assault to law enforcement
- To be treated with dignity and your complaint handled with discretion
- To not face any repercussions due to the reporting
To receive immediate medical attention
- To report confidentially as a victim of sexual assault
- In the situation of stalking or dating violence-you have the right to obtain protective orders such as "No contact" or "restraining"
- To receive a directory of counseling services
- The opportunity to change classes and/or living situations in order to avoid the alleged assailant
- To request prompt action for initiation of legal/disciplinary proceedings
- To have witnesses present in disciplinary proceedings
- To be notified of the outcome of all disciplinary proceeding