Helpful Resources
Sexual Assault

RAINN - Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network
website:  http://www.rainn.org

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence
http://www.oaesv.org

National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-3737-888

GLBTQ:  www.glbinearne.org

Deaf:  http://www.dwaveohio.org

National hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (1-800-656-4673)

Ohio Protocol for Sexual Assault Forensic and

Medical Exams:
http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/hppr/sadv/sadvpro

l.aspx

Ohio Crime Victim Compensation Program - find
“Victim Services” link on:
www.ag.state.oh.us or call Attorney General’s
Crime Victim Services Section hot line at 1-800-
582-2877 or 1-877-5VICTIM

Lima/Allen County Resources:

Crime Victim Services:

Coleman Professional Services:
www.coleman-bh.com  419-229-2222

Family Resource Center:
www.frcobio.com  800-472-5279

Lima Police Department:
www2.wcoil.com/~lpd/  419-227-4444

Allen County Sheriff’s Office:
www.acso-oh.us/  419-227-3535

Ottawa/ Putnam County Resources:

Crime Victim Services:

Ottawa Police Department:
419-523-3449

Putnam County Sheriff’s Office:
www.sheriffco.com  866-788-2676

Confront the dark parts of yourself, and work to banish them
with illumination and forgiveness.
Your willingness to wrestle with
your demons will cause your
angels to sing. Use the pain as
fuel, as a reminder of your
strength.”

August Wilson

Crime Victim Services
Phone: 419.222.8666
Fax: 419.227.7478
330 North Elizabeth Street, 2nd Floor,
Lima, Ohio 45801
Rape Crisis Services
Allen and Putnam Counties, Ohio

Recovery services for victims, whether or not case is prosecuted:

1. Support groups for survivors
2. Emergency money for housing, food new door locks, etc.
3. Teddy bears for children when advocates meet them or when they have to testify
4. Education, literature, and video tapes to help family members be supportive
5. Victims Compensation filing assistance information
6. Spiritual ministry and volunteer peer counseling
7. Speaking to groups such as schools and justice professionals as part of healing process
8. Short-term emotional support, and Trauma Focused Therapy
9. Crisis Intervention
10. Referral for medical and legal advocacy.

- 24 hours a day crisis line with licensed crisis counselor / professional victim advocate toll free 1-877-STOP-RAPE (1-877-867-7273)
- 24 hours a day response to emergency rooms with trained victim advocate
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) forensic evidence collection at all hospitals
- Victim Advocacy for sexual assault victims ages 13 and older
- Coordination with Victim Assistance and Children Services through justice phases

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Services Continued

- Create and maintain county wide protocol and ongoing communication among task force members for victim support and seamless prosecution.
- Training for protocol members on evidence collection, victim rights, SANE, legal issues, prevention tips, male rape, drugs and sexual assault, college campus issues and laws, "promising practices" from around the nation, reducing "revictimization" of repeat victims, different reactions of victims between stranger vs. acquaintance rape, etc.
- Community sensitivity and education for health professionals, justice officials, high schools, college / university student and staff leadership, public service announcements and posters, civic and public organizations, church groups, media reporting sensitivity, etc.
When a Rape Victim Calls

Allen and Putnam Counties, Ohio

1. Questioning
   ~ From the police about the incident. The police must be notified when a woman/man comes into the emergency room and states that she/he has been raped.

2. Examination
   ~ Entire body check for bruises and scratches
   ~ Pap test and pelvic examination with speculum
   ~ Sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy tests
   ~ tests for the presence of semen and/or sperm

3. To be asked to leave her clothing as evidence
   If you are attacked you are encouraged to:
   - Not go to the bathroom
   - Not bathe, wash or change clothing
   - Contact the police
   - Go to the hospital
   - Contact a friend (or an advocate from CVS) to meet you
   - Remember that CVS is here for emotional support

Find out where she/he is to be sure that she/he is in a safe and secure environment.

Find out if there are any physical injuries.

1. Encourage the victim to go to the hospital.
2. Encourage the victim not to go to the bathroom, change clothes, bathe, and apply any medication or baby powder.

If the victim decides to go to the hospital, tell her/him what to expect.

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Encourage her/him to involve the police and to prosecute. If there are doubts about prosecuting, here are some positive reasons to do so:
- Saving someone else from a similar experience.
- Insuring that she/he will not continue to be harassed/humiliated by the perpetrator if he/she is known to the victim.
- The court system, with all its drawbacks, is the only means for her/him to receive justice.

**Crime Victim Services Advocates Can be with You**

- At the hospital
- At the police station
- To help contact others for you
- To speak with your family and significant others
- When you speak with the prosecutor
- At court
- To answer questions about the legal system
- To just listen
- To help file for crime victims compensation
- Give you appropriate referrals
Rape Counseling
Allen and Putnam Counties, Ohio

There is no standard response to sexual assault. You may experience a few or all of the following:

- **Fear, Anxiety** - feeling unsafe, nervousness, fear of situations linked to the assault, compulsive behaviors.
- **Shock, Disbelief** - feeling numb, unemotional, surreal.
- **Helplessness, Depression** - feeling powerless, overwhelmed, unable to make choices, self hatred.

**Anger** - fury, desire to retaliate against assailant.

- **Shame, Embarrassment** - feeling "bad"; feeling that everyone will "know" that you have been raped somehow.
- **Self-blame, Guilt** - feeling at fault, responsible for the attack.
- **Flashbacks** - remembering, "reliving" the assault.
- **Isolation** - feeling alone or that no one else can relate to your experience.

These reactions are common and natural.

In working with a survivor, one must understand that rape is an act of violence, not an act of sex. A survivor who has been raped needs:

1. Access to factual information and concrete resources available.
2. Access to someone who can help her/him deal with the intense feelings about the experience.

Recognize that healing from rape takes time. Give yourself the time you need. Know that it's never too late to call for help. Many survivors do not realize they need help until months or years later.

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When talking with a survivor:

1. Listen. Let the person do most of the talking, but do not pressure her/him to talk.
2. Ask questions only to help you to better understand her/his feelings and needs. Never push a question or point if the person does not feel comfortable with it.
3. Assure her/him that her/his feelings are normal and natural.
4. Encourage the person to re-establish control over her/his life. Do not make decisions for her/him. Encourage independent decision making.
5. Be extremely careful not to place any blame or guilt on the survivor.
UNDERSTANDING PTSD

PTSD (Posttraumatic Stress Disorder) is a mental health condition suffered by many individuals who have experienced one or more traumatic events, including sexual violence. Not everyone who has experienced a traumatic event develops PTSD. About one-third of sexual assault survivors do. Whether or not an individual will develop PTSD depends on factors specific to the traumatic event, such as the intensity of the event, amount of control over circumstances during the event, and physical harm. It also depends on individual factors, such as other current mental health conditions, a family history of mental health conditions, the amount of stress in life not related to the trauma, and the quality of support received after the event.

SYMPTOMS OF PTSD

PTSD is generally characterized by the presence of three types of symptoms:

- **Intrusive memories**: These include flashbacks and disturbing thoughts or dreams about the event. Flashbacks are intense, terrifying recollections of the event, such that the survivor actually feels as if the event is happening again.

- **Avoidance and emotional numbing**: This may include avoiding things that could elicit memories of the trauma, avoiding activities that used to be enjoyable, feeling emotionally disconnected, feeling hopeless about the future, having difficulty with memory and concentration, and having difficulty maintaining close relationships.

- **Anxiety and emotional arousal**: This may include irritability or anger, overwhelming guilt or shame, difficulty sleeping, seeing or hearing things that aren’t there, being easily startled or frightened, and engaging in self-destructive behavior.

ONSET OF PTSD

Symptoms of PTSD typically develop within three months following sexual assault, but may also develop months or even years later in response to a trigger (something that reminds you of the assault). The presence and severity of symptoms can come and go. For example, PTSD symptoms are more likely to worsen when you are experiencing more life stress, or if you see a news report or TV show describing sexual violence.

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV) provided the content for this page.
Statistics
Sexual Assault

National Shame

Recent statistics show that rape is still all too prevalent in America.

- According to The National Women’s Study, 683,000 forcible rapes occur every year, which equals 56,916 per month; 1,871 per day; 78 per hour; and 1.3 per minute (National Crime Victimization Survey. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2000).
- There were an estimated at 84,767 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement in 2010 (Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Statistics, 2010).
- The rate of forcible rapes in 2010 was estimated at 54.2 per 100,000 female inhabitants (Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Statistics, 2010).
- 1 out of every 5 American women and 1 in 33 American male has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, Who are the Victims, 2009).

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Silent Victims

One of the most startling aspects of sex crimes is how many go unreported. The most common reasons given by women for not reporting these crimes are the belief that it is a private or personal matter and the fear of reprisal from the assailant.

- Approximately 78 percent of victims are raped by someone they know; 34 percent by intimate partner, 6 percent by relatives and 38 percent by acquaintances. The rest are perpetrated by strangers. (Violence against Women. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013).
- U.S. Justice Department estimates only 36 percent of all rapes or attempted rapes are reported to law enforcement official from 2005-10.

Living in Fear

According to the U.S. Department of Justice: (All statistics are taken from: Violence against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013.)

- One in every ten rapes takes place in a commercial place or parking lot/garage.
- Twenty-two percent of sexual violence is committed by a stranger
- In 2005-10, the offender was armed with a gun, knife, or other weapon in 11% (1/10) of rape or sexual assault victimizations
- In 58 percent of rapes, the victim sustained injuries other than rape injuries
- At least 39 percent of rapists were under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Eighty percent of female rape victims require medical care after the attack
- Sixty-eight percent of rapes occur between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Face of America

- Females 12 years of age to 17 years comprise the largest category of women forcibly raped in 2005-2010 at a rate of about 4 victimization per 1,000 compared to a rate of 1.5 victimization per 1,000 for ages 35 to 64. (Violence against Women. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013).
- About 21.5 percent of rape victims are white; 26.4 percent are black; 23.8 percent are Hispanic, and 56.6 percent are of other races or two or more races. (National Crime Victimization Survey. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2012).
- About half of all rape victims are in the lowest third of income distribution; half are in the upper two thirds. (Violence against Women. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice. 2013).
Understanding the Trauma of Sexual Violence
Rape Trauma Syndrome

Stages of Rape Trauma Syndrome

Acute Stage:
This stage typically lasts from a few days to a few weeks after the traumatic event and is characterized by intense physical and emotional symptoms. In the immediate aftermath of the trauma, the body and mind of the survivor are still reeling and are struggling to return to a sense of balance and normalcy. Some survivors are very expressive (crying, yelling), while others are very reserved (calm, in shock). Both reactions are normal responses to trauma, as is fluctuation between the two.

Rape and sexual assault are crisis provoking events. Although everyone responds differently to such experiences there are often stages which a person may pass through on the road to recovery.

Rape and other types of sexual assault happen to many people regardless of age, appearance, economic status, race, size, etc. It is never the fault of the survivor. You may feel like you made some unwise decision and even blame yourself for the assault, remember: No One wants to be or deserves to be assaulted or abused.

Following is some information about rape trauma syndrome. Being aware of responding to a crisis like rape may help you to identify your feelings, accept the feelings, and seek out appropriate support and help.

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Underground Stage:
It is intolerable for the body and mind to continue to operate in the intensity described in the Acute Stage and so the survivor works to return to normal, everyday life. This stage can last from a few days or weeks to decades, and the survivor will often go to great lengths to distance him/herself from the trauma and any reminders of it. This might involve making subtle or profound changes to one’s routine or surroundings. It is common to push thoughts of the trauma away, to deny it, or to think and speak of it as if it’s “no big deal.”

Reorganization Stage:
This stage often begins if/when the survivor experiences memories of the trauma and a return of intense emotions described in the Acute Stage. These memories and emotions are usually triggered by something that may or may not be directly related to the past trauma, including experiencing a sensory reminder of the trauma (sight, sound or smell), or experiencing a major life transition.

When to Seek Help
Help is both appropriate and available at any point in your recovery process. It is a sign of strength, not weakness, to seek help in recovering from the trauma of sexual violence. You do not need or deserve to suffer in silence.
IMPORTANT: If you are experiencing physical or psychological symptoms that are interfering with your daily life, or if you are feeling suicidal, it is important that you seek help right away. (Please see our Survivor Series sheet on PTSD and related issues). You deserve to live a happy, healthy, fulfilling life.
HELPING SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS

SUPPORTING A LOVED ONE WHO'S BEEN VICTIMIZED

Sexual assault is a crime of violence in which sex is used as a weapon to harm and humiliate the survivor. It is experienced by the survivor as a traumatic event, similar to combat conditions, natural disasters, or accidents. When someone experiences a traumatic event, it causes physical and psychological reactions that can be intense and confusing for both the survivor and his/her loved ones.

The trauma of sexual assault is uniquely difficult for survivors to recover from because it involves the violation of their most personal space, and it was likely committed by someone known to them, causing them to question their judgment and trust of others. Additionally, sexual assault is the only crime for which the victim is routinely blamed. Nearly all survivors fear not being believed, being blamed for the assault, and being made to feel ashamed by loved ones and authorities. Unfortunately, these fears are too often realized.

In the immediate aftermath of sexual assault, any of the following reactions are possible and are a normal response to a traumatic event:

- **Physical**: body aches/pains, fatigue, upset stomach/bowels, changes in eating and sleeping patterns
- **Mental**: difficulty with concentration and comprehension, confusion
- **Motional**: disbelief, sadness, anxiety, anger, fear, irritability, neediness, feeling numb, mood swings
- **Behavioral**: hyper-vigilance, avoidance of people or places, desire to change appearance, surroundings or tasks, difficulty maintaining intimate relationships

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HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR LOVED ONE.

Helpful things to say:

- “I believe you”
- “It’s not your fault”
- “I’m here for you”
- “What can I do?”

Helpful things to do:

- Treat your loved one the same
- Empower your loved one
- Maintain your focus
- Follow their lead

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV) provided the content for this page.
ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE 1-888-3737-888

Definitions of Trafficking in Persons

Sex Trafficking: All acts involved in the transport, harboring, or sale of persons within national or across international borders through coercion, force, kidnapping, deception or fraud, for purposes of placing persons in situations of forced labor or services, such as forced prostitution, domestic servitude, debt bondage or other slavery-like practices

Child Sex Trafficking: When a child (under 18 years of age) is induced to perform a commercial sex act, proving force, fraud, or coercion against their pimp is not necessary for the offense to be characterized as human trafficking

SEX TRAFFICKING

Statistics

- 3.9 Million children are exploited by the global commercial sex trade
- 98% of victims of sex trafficking are women and girls

Ohio Statistics

- 783 foreign born persons in Ohio are victims of sex or labor trafficking
- 1,078 American-born youth in Ohio are trafficked into the sex trade each year
- 15 cases of human trafficking were prosecuted in Columbus and Toledo between January 2003 and June 2006
- 10 cases of human trafficking were identified by Crime Victim Services in Allen and Putnam Counties in 2011-2012, of which 3 cases are being prosecuted in federal court.

CHILD TRAFFICKING STATISTICS

- Child/Human Trafficking is one of the fastest growing crimes in the world
- As many as 2.8 million children run away each year in the US. Within 48 hours, one-third of these children are lured or recruited into the underground world of prostitution and pornography
- In 2010 the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children received more than 160,000 reports with the vast majority being from child pornography

IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Is the person accompanied by another person who seems controlling (possibly the trafficker)?

Is the person rarely allowed in public except for work?

Can you detect any physical or psychological abuse?

Does the person seem submissive or fearful?

Does the person have difficulty communicating because of language or cultural barriers?

Does the person lack identification or documentation?

Is someone else collecting the person’s pay or holding their money for “safe keeping”?

References

1 U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Administration for Children & Families
2 U.S. Department of State: Diplomacy in Action
3 Polaris Project: For a World without Slavery
4 Stop Child Trafficking Now
Legal Rights
Victims of Sexual Assault

(Rights apply to adult victims of crime, and in most cases apply to juvenile victims also since charges in juvenile court are likely to be bound over to adult court.)

Free Rape Exams – Under O.R.C. 2907.28, any cost incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical facility in conducting a medical examination of a victim for the purpose of gathering physical evidence for a possible prosecution shall be charged to the appropriate local government agency.

"Rape Shield" Laws – Under O.R.C. 2907.02 (D) a victim's past sexual history shall not be admitted into court, unless the court specifically finds limited exceptions.

Do Not Have To Prove Force – Under O.R.C. 2907.02 (C) (rape) and O.R.C. 2907.05(C) (Gross Sexual Imposition) a victim need not prove physical resistance to the offender in prosecutions under this section.

Spousal Rape is a Crime – Under O.R.C. 2907.02 (A) (2) & (G) spousal rape is a crime. Offender is not allowed to use the defense of being married or cohabiting at the time of the commission of the offence

Testing the Accused for Venereal Diseases and HIV – Under 2907.27 when the victim of a sexual assault or the prosecutor in the case requests the defendant to be tested for venereal and HIV diseases, the court is required to have the tests performed, and the offender re-tested within 6 months.

Hire An Attorney – Per O.R.C. 2907.02 (F) upon approval by the court, the victim may be represented by counsel in any hearing in chambers or other proceeding to resolve the admissibility of evidence regarding the victim’s past sexual activity.

Notification of Hearings – Under O.R.C.2930.06 (C) upon a request of the victim, the prosecutor shall notify victim of any court proceedings and related court schedule changes.

Attend Hearings – Under O.R.C. 2930.09 a victim in a case may be present whenever the defendant in the case is present during any stage of the case, other than a grand jury proceeding, unless the court specifically finds it would cause an unfair trial.

Victim Impact Statements – Under O.R.C. 2930.13 (A) Victims may make a written or oral statement for any victim impact statement or pre-sentence investigation (PSI) that a judge orders. If the victim requests, the victim’s written statement must be included in the PSI.
Confidentiality – Under O.R.C. 2930.07 concealment of victim’s or representative’s address, telephone number, and similar identify facts may be requested. Under O.R.C. 2921.22 and adult victim (18 and older) of sexual assault may disclose his/her sexual assault in confidence to a "bona fide program" providing counseling services, and the program is not required to report identifying information to the law enforcement.

Employment Protection – Under O.R.C. 2930.18 a victim has the right, at the prosecutor’s request, to attend any reasonably necessary preparation or criminal proceeding without his/her employer discharging, disciplining or otherwise retaliating against the victim or family member.

Property Return – Under O.R.C. 2930.11 the law enforcement agency responsible for investigating a crime shall promptly return to the victim of the crime any property of the victim that was taken in the course of the investigation.

Objections to Delays in Court Process – Under O.R.C. 2930.08 a victim may object to the motion, request, or agreement between counsel that might result in a substantial delay in the prosecution of the case.

Victim Compensation – Per O.R.C. 2743.191 victims must be told by Law Enforcement about a fund of money, collected from criminals, of up to $50,000 to pay for out-of-pocket costs related to the crime including: mental health expenses, sexually transmitted disease testing, pregnancy testing in some cases, pre-natal care and delivery, post-natal care for the mother, other hospital expenses, and wages lost from not working.

Separate Waiting Area During Court Proceedings – Under O.R.C. 2930.10 (A) the court shall provide a waiting area for the victim, members of the victim’s family, the victim’s representative, or witnesses for the prosecution that is separate from the waiting area provided for the defendant and the defendant’s family members.

Hire an Attorney – Per O.R.C. 2907.02 (F) upon approval by the court, the victim may be represented by counsel in any hearing in chambers or other proceeding to resolve the admissibility of evidence regarding the victim’s past sexual activity.

Consultation Prior to Plea Bargaining – Per O.R.C. 2930.06 (A) Prosecutors must, "to the extent practical", confer with the victim before a plea bargain, diversion, amendment, dismissal, or trial.

Appeal and Release of Defendant – Per O.R.C. 2930.15 (A) (1-4) victims have the right to information of an appeal, the process of the appeal, release of the defendant, time and place of appeal, and results of the appeal.

Incarceration, Release Date, and Contact Person Regarding the Defendant – Per O.R.C. 2930.16(A) victims have the right to know the incarceration of defendant, the likely release date, and the contact information of the custodial agency.

Notification of Judicial Release – Per O.R.C. 2930.16(B) victims have the right to know of judicial release hearings and to make a statement at any hearings for judicial release. The court must notify the victim of the result after any release hearings.

Support Person – Per O.R.C. 2930.10(A) at the victim’s request, the judge must permit a support person to accompany the victim unless the judge rules this will cause an unfair trial for the defendant.
SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) &
SART (Sexual Response Assault Team)

SANE

A sane nurse is a registered nurse who has completed standards and educational requirements in the area of Forensic Nursing with an emphasis on care of the sexual assault victim. Education includes, but is not limited to:

- Rape Trauma Syndrome.
- Identification of injury consistent with sexual assault.
- Evidence collection techniques and rationale.
- Use of colposcopy and other photography techniques.
- Sexual assault and the law.

CVS strongly supports the SANE model of care and efforts are made to provide SANE nurses at both Lima Memorial Hospital and St. Rita’s Medical Center located in Lima, OH. It is your right to receive expert care during your crisis. Ask your advocate for more information.

SART

The SART program is a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach to sexual assault investigation. Members of law enforcement, medical personnel, children services, victim assistance programs, and victim advocates work together to form a more victim sensitive approach to working with sexual assault victims. MDT case review and planning is available in Allen and Putnam counties. Please talk to your victim advocate about this program.

Advantages to SART:
- Multidisciplinary team approach
- Single victim interview
- Higher rate of prosecution
- Victim advocacy and support
- Enhanced quality of case documentation
- Single evidence collector (SANE)
- Optimum use of resources
- Case coordination and review
- Follow-up care to the victim

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SEXUAL ASSAULT AND LGBTQ

DEFINITION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is an act (verbal and/or physical), which violates a person’s trust and/or safety, and is sexual in nature. The term “sexual violence” includes date/acquaintance rape, partner rape, caregiver sexual assault/abuse, stranger rape, incest, child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Sexual contact becomes assault when a person is unable to consent to an activity, does not consent, and/or when a service provider engages in sexual contact with a client. Victims/survivors of sexual violence can be forced, coerced, and/or manipulated into participating in sexual activity. Adults with disabilities who have been sexually assaulted may have experienced sexual assault/abuse as an adult or they may be adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.1

SPECIFIC ISSUES/CONCERNS UNIQUE TO LGBTQ VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- LGBTQ domestic violence abusers may “out” (or threaten to “out”) their victims, thereby exposing victims’ sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or HIV status to family, employers, police, religious institutions, the community, or child protective workers.
- LGBTQ domestic violence perpetrators often control their partners’ expressions of sexual identity and connections to and within the larger LGBTQ community.
- LGBTQ domestic violence perpetrators may sabotage or disallow a transgendered partner access to his/her prescribed hormones, often medically required during the transition process.
- LGBTQ domestic violence perpetrators may be common to manipulate and control the victim around issues of custody and visitation, particularly in cases where the child(ren) are biologically related to the perpetrator and may or may not be legally adopted by the victim.
- Leaving an abusive LGBTQ relationship is not easy despite a common false assumption that because LGBTQ relationships are not legally recognized in the same way that heterosexual relationships are, that the abuse is not serious and the victim should easily be able to leave the relationship.
- Service providers and/or first responders often make assumptions about, and perpetuate the myth that same sex intimate partners cannot perpetuate (or be victims of) domestic violence, as both partners are assumed to share equal social standing, earning potential, and physical strength, and are therefore unable to exert power and control over, or be controlled by an intimate partner.
- Dual Arrests are common within the LGBTQ community, as the lack of gender disparity often makes primary aggressor determinations more challenging than the statistically established norm of male perpetrator/female victim within heterosexual domestic violence1.

WITH A CRIME VICTIM SERVICES ADVOCATE
YOU HAVE THE HELP TO GET—

- the right to be informed concerning the criminal justice process
- the right to counsel
- the right to reparations
- the right to preservation of property and employment
- the right to due process in criminal court proceedings
- the right to be treated with dignity, compassion, and respect
WHAT TO DO IF YOU’RE A SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- Find a safe environment—anywhere away from the attacker. Ask a trusted friend to stay with you for moral support.
- Know that what happened was not your fault and that now you should do what is best for you.
- Report the attack to police by calling 911
- Call Rape Crisis of Crime Victim Services at (419) 222-8666 in Allen County; (419)-523-1111 in Putnam County or (toll-free) (877) 867-7273
- Preserve evidence of the attack—don’t bathe or brush your teeth.
- Write down all the details you can recall from the incident.
- Seek medical attention. At the hospital ER you can ask for a rape kit to be done. A sexual assault advocate from Crime Victim Services is available to accompany you through the process.
- If you are a survivor of sexual assault and are disabled and would like to seek free counseling services, call Laurel Neufeld Weaver, MSW, LISW-S at (419)222-8666.

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- 6% of all anti-LGBT hate crimes are incidents of sexual assault or forcible rape.
- More than half of gay men and lesbians report at least one incident of sexual coercion by a same-sex partner.
- It is often thought that the larger, “butcher” partner will be the assailant in a same-sex assault; however, size or gender identity does not determine who the abusive partner is.
- LGBT individuals may experience abuse during their childhood. They may be abused by parents or others who are intolerant of homosexuality. They may be targeted for sexual abuse by adults that recognize their “difference.”

FACTS COUNTIUNED

~ Over 11% of gay and lesbian youth report being physical attacked by family members (Hetrick-Martin Institute, 1988)

~ 42% of homeless youth, many of whom have run away from home to escape violence, self-identify as gay/lesbian. (Victim Services, 1991)

~ A study of gay, lesbian and bisexual adults showed that 41% reported being a victim of a hate crime after the age of 16. (Herek, 1999)

References

1 http://www.opdv.state.ny.us/whatisdv/lgbtqdvinfo.html
1 www.RAJNN.org
SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

MYTHS ABOUT CRIME AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The first myth is the perception that people with disabilities are "suffering." Rather than extending legal rights and protections, as with other oppressed groups, a societal response prior to passage of the ADA typically was to extend "charity." Being kind to a person with a disability is not an acceptable substitute for the provision of civil rights protections.

The second myth is that people with disabilities lack the ability to make choices or determine for themselves what is best for them in all spheres of life (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, political, sexual, and financial). Although individuals with severe cognitive impairments may need greater support and advocacy services, this does not impede their ability or preclude their right to participate actively in decisions affecting their lives.

The third myth, according to crime victim advocates, is that many people in society fear contact with crime victims generally, as though their distresses are contagious. An even stronger stigma attaches to people with disabilities. Our society is not socialized to integrate differences in abilities as a part of our perception of "normality." The cultural norms for functioning include good hearing and vision, physical independence and mobility, mental alertness, the ability to communicate primarily through the written and spoken word, and physical attractiveness. Deviations from those norms tend to frighten those in the "able-bodied majority" who define the concept of normal abilities. When the two forces of stigma are joined, victimization and disability attitudinal barriers to providing healing and justice can seem even more formidable.¹

DEFINITION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is an act (verbal and/or physical), which violates a person’s trust and/or safety, and is sexual in nature. The term “sexual violence” includes date/acquaintance rape, partner rape, caregiver sexual assault/abuse, stranger rape, incest, child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Sexual contact becomes assault when a person is unable to consent to an activity, does not consent, and/or when a service provider engages in sexual contact with a client. Victims/survivors of sexual violence can be forced, coerced, and/or manipulated into participating in sexual activity. Adults with disabilities who have been sexually assaulted may have experienced sexual assault/abuse as an adult or they may be adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.¹

A CRIME VICTIM SERVICES ADVOCATE HELPS YOU ACCESS YOUR RIGHT...

- to be informed concerning the criminal justice process
- to reparations
- to preservation of property and employment
- to due process in criminal court proceedings
- to be treated with dignity, compassion, and respect
WHAT TO DO IF YOU’RE A SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- Find a safe environment – anywhere away from the attacker. Ask a trusted friend to stay with you for moral support.
- Know that what happened was not your fault and that you should do what is best for you.
- Report the attack to police by calling 911
- Call Rape Crisis of Crime Victim Services at (419) 222-8666 in Allen County; (419)-523-1111 in Putnam County or (toll-free) (877) 867-7273
- Preserve evidence of the attack— don’t bathe or brush your teeth.
- Write down all the details you can recall from the incident.
- Seek medical attention. At the hospital ER you can ask for a rape kit to be done. A sexual assault advocate from Crime Victim Services is available to accompany you through the process.
- If you are a survivor of sexual assault and are disabled and would like to seek free counseling services, call Laurel Neufeld Weaver, MSW, LISW-S at (419)222-8666.

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Research has found that 68 percent to 83 percent of women with developmental disabilities will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime, as well as 32 percent of males.

People with developmental disabilities are more likely to be re-victimized by the same person and more than half never seek assistance from legal or treatment services.

A study of psychiatric inpatients found that 81 per-cent had been physically or sexually assaulted.

The Colorado Department of Health estimates that upward of 85 percent of women with disabilities are victims of domestic abuse, in comparison with, on average, 25 to 50 percent of the general population.

15,000 - 19,000 people with developmental disabilities are raped each year in the U.S.

15.2% of children who have disabilities are twice as likely as males without disabilities to be sexually abused in their lifetime.

38% of women who have been married experienced sexual violence by their partner.

FACTS CONTINUED

Only 3% of sexual abuse cases involving people with developmental disabilities are ever reported.

Lifetime risk for violent victimization was so high for homeless women with severe mental illness (97%) as to amount to normative experiences for this population.

88 to 98% of sexual abusers are male and are known by the victim/survivor who has disabilities.

33% of abusers are acquaintances, 33% are natural or foster family members, and 25% are caregivers or service providers.¹

References


²People with Disabilities and Sexual Assault. Madison: Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault Information Sheet Series (2003).

³People with Disabilities and Sexual Assault.
SEXUAL ASSAULT AND YOUTH

No matter your sexual orientation cultural, racial and economic factors do not seem to have an effect on the likelihood of you becoming a victim of adolescent sexual abuse.

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EFFECTS OF A RAPE: VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ARE

- 3 times more likely to suffer from depression.
- 6 times more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 13 times more likely to abuse alcohol.
- 26 times more likely to abuse drugs.
- 4 times more likely to contemplate suicide¹.

WITH A CRIME VICTIM SERVICES ADVOCATE YOU HAVE—

- the right to be informed concerning the criminal justice process
- the right to counsel
- the right to reparations
- the right to preservation of property and employment
- the right to due process in criminal court proceedings
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FACTS COUNTIUNED

In one study over 50% of high school boys and 42% of high school girls believe that there are times when it is “acceptable for a male to hold a female down and physically force her to engage in intercourse.”

Older adolescents, most commonly are victims during social encounters with assailants.

Younger adolescent’s assailants are more likely to be a member of the extended family.

90% of perpetrators of sexual assault against male adolescents are male.

REFERENCES

1 People with Disabilities and Sexual Assault. Madison: Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault Information Sheet Series (2003).
2 http://www.rainn.org
3 http://www.loveisrespect.org/is-this-abuse/dating-violence-statistics
5 https://www.nymc.edu/dephome/pods/adolmed/Slide%20Presentations
6 http://www.nspw.gov/(X/1)S(byizuuryx/nvFjar13xavybhl)/en/Education/FactsMythsStatistics
Sexual Assault Defined

Sexual assault is a comprehensive term that includes multiple types of forced or inappropriate sexual activity. Sexual assault includes situations in which there is sexual contact with or without penetration that occurs because of physical force or psycho logic coercion.

This includes touching of a person's "sexual or intimate parts or the intentional touching of the clothing covering those intimate parts."


Safety Plan

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www.crimevictimservices.org
Sexual Assault
Facts

One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence.

 Teens 16 to 19 years of age were 3 1/2 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault.

In one study over 50% of high school boys and 42% of high school girls believe that there are times when it is "acceptable for a male to hold a female down and physically force her to engage in intercourse."

54% of women victims who Sexual Assaulted were under the age of 18.

When the Abuse Escalates

Victim/survivor is ending the relationship, or starting to plan to do so;

Abuser is depressed; very high risk if the abuser has talked about or attempted suicide;

Abuser makes threats to seriously harm or kill;

Abuser is stalking;

Abuser has access to weapons, especially guns;

Abuser is inflicting serious injury, strangulation/choking, prior use of weapons;

Abuser has a mental impairment of abuser due to alcohol, drugs, or mental illness;

Abuser has a history of contact with police, courts, protection orders, etc. with no change in behavior.

Information found in pamphlet can be located at www.ODVN.org