

## “What Everyone Needs to Know About Sexual Violence: the Offenders and Their Victims”

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## Definition of Rape

- Rape is a physical assault that is perpetrated sexually.
- Three elements present in every rape:
  - Anger
  - Power/Control
  - Sexual Contact

## NCVS vs. UCR

- **NCVS 2008**  
Rape/Sexual Assault Victimization = **203,830**  
Per Capita Rate (males & females >12)=100
  - **UCR 2008**  
Forcible Rape = **98,000**  
Per Capita Rate (females >18 only)=\*57.7
- \* Because the UCR defines rape as “...the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will” this number rate includes rapes of females only.

## Prevalence of Rape in U.S.

- 1 of 6 Women and 1 of 33 men has experienced an attempted or completed rape as a child and/or adult (NVAW Survey).
- **Oklahoma:** 1 in 8 Adult Women has been “forcibly raped at sometime in her lifetime. That totals more than 174,000 women.” (Rape in Oklahoma. A Report to the Commonwealth {2003})
- On the other hand, NCVS studies have repeatedly found that only 10-16% of assaults that conform to rape were reported...and the 1996 NCVS found that >2/3 of sexual assaults in the US remained unreported. Because of the lack of reporting of sexual assault, it is extremely difficult to accurately measure the true prevalence of rape in the US.

## Prevalence of Rape in US

- Sexual Assault is arguably the **most** underreported crime in the US.
- Up to 85% of women who experience a sexual assault do not report it (Kilpatrick, Edmunds and Seymour 1992).
- Up to 86% of adolescent sexual assault victims do not report (Kilpatrick, Saunders & Smith 2000).

## Just How Many Sex Offenders Are Out There?

- According to the BJS, only 10-16% of sexual assaults are reported to law enforcement.
- Because of this low level of report, a BJS study of sex offenders estimated that the approx. 265,000 convicted sex offenders under control of US correctional agencies were <10% of all sex offenders living in the US (Greenfield 1997).
- Counting undetected offenders, we may have as many as 2,650,000 sex offenders living in the US, many without detection.
- This is comparable to:
  - Almost 1% of the US population of 298 million
  - Equivalent to the population of Kansas (2.6 million)
  - Equivalent to the **combined** populations of WY, AK, DE, & RI

## How Many Sex Offenders Live in Oklahoma?

- As of June 14, 2010, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections reported:
  - Incarcerated Population 25,932
    - SOR Eligible 3,705 (14%)
      - Aggravated 2,692 (73%)
      - Habitual 325 (9%)
      - Other 688 (19%)
  - Probation and Parole 27,816
    - SOR Eligible 1,862 (7%)
- According to Community Corrections, as of late 2005 there were 2,038 sex offenders under community supervision.

## What Happens to Sex Offenders?

- At least 60% of the approx. 265,000 sex offenders above were supervised in the community through either probation or parole or both.
- The remaining 40% were unsupervised (usually post-incarceration)—meaning we have no way of monitoring them other than assuming that:
  - they registered as sex offenders;
  - they provided law enforcement **correct** and current living arrangement information; and
  - law enforcement has the available personnel and time to check up on them.

## Recent Rape Victim Legislation

- 2008—SANE exams can be performed free of charge for rape victims who chose not to report to law enforcement.
- 2009—Effective November 1, 2009, hospitals are no longer required to report rape, rape by instrumentation, or forcible sodomy adults, unless the victim requests the crime be reported to law enforcement (SB 894).

## Myths about Sex Offenders

- 1) **Rape is caused by an uncontrollable sex drive;** this goes 2 ways:
  - a) sex offenders are healthy red-blooded males whose sexual aggression is a product of cultural conditioning tempted by a seductive woman; they are normal guys who are victims of circumstance
  - b) they are demented, oversexed perverts whose predatory assaults are their only source of gratification

## Myths About Sex Offenders

- Both depend on the notion that rape is motivated by sexual desire. The problem is the victim is charged with having aroused him. It becomes easy to blame the victim, who is charged with the responsibility for the perpetrator's arousal...blame is placed on the victim.
- Since when is another person a requirement for sexual release anyway? What about masturbation? It is obvious that sexual assault is not solely about sexual desire--it is about control and humiliation and degradation.

## Myths About Sex Offenders

- 2) **Sex offenders are specialists;** this goes 2 ways.
  - a) Dr. Gene Able's research (1984) found that child molesters might rape adults and rapists might also molest children; he also found that sex offenders committed many "nuisance" behaviors like exhibitionism and voyeurism that law enforcement had until that point thought were unimportant.
  - b) Sex offenders don't just commit sex offenses (Cleary study had 116 offense codes and 220 sex offenders in an overall sample of 295 inmates).

## Myths About Sex Offenders

- 3) Sex offenders have the highest recidivism rate of all offenders.  
BJS study of prisoners released in 1994 found that when recidivism was measured by re-arrest w/in 3 years rapists were among the offenders with the lowest recidivism rates
- 4) Sex offenders cannot be treated.  
While they are not easy to treat, there are specific methods of cognitive treatment which when combined with polygraph have been shown to reduce recidivism.

## Rape Myths

- 5) Sex offenders are not worth treating--just lock 'em up.  
Probation may actually be a safer option than incarceration without a link to community supervision/treatment when the offenders get out of prison-- and approx. 95% of all inmates eventually get out of prison, including rapists and child molesters.
- 6) Sex offender registration makes the community safer.  
We actually don't have the ability to validate this.

## Sex Offenders and Recidivism

- How do we measure recidivism?
  - This is a major issue of concern in regard to sex offenders. The most common measurement is (re)arrest rate. Contrary to popular belief, sex offenders do not have the highest rearrest rates of all offenders.
- Recidivism rates w/in 3 yrs. for prisoners released in 1994
  - homicide = 40.7%
  - other sexual assault = 41.4%
  - rape = 46%
  - robbery = 70.2%
  - burglary = 74%
  - motor vehicle theft = 78.8%

## Myths about Rape Victims

- They must have done something to cause the attack.
- They make false reports to law enforcement.
- If they were really raped, they will be hysterical.

## Sex Offending Cycle

- Deviant sexual fantasies
- Masturbation
- Steps toward overtly deviant behavior
- Targets the victim
- Fantasy rehearsal
- Plans the act

## Sex Offending Cycle

- Grooms the victim
- Offends
- Reinforcement of original fantasy
- Negative feelings (anxiety)

## Victim Selection

- Cleary's (2002) study of sex offenders showed that *opportunity* and *availability* were the most important factor in victim selection.
- **Opportunity** was realized in two ways:
  - Sex offender's physical proximity created access to victims.
  - Sex offender's knowledge of victim's emotional availability created access,
- **Availability** was equal to opportunity to offend which determined victim selection.
- These findings were almost identical to those of Hazelwood and Warren who noted that 98% of the serial rapists in their FBI study cited victim availability as their primary requirement for selection

## Common Victim Responses

- Want an answer to, "Why me?"
- Assume the perpetrator will offend again.
- Fear the perpetrator will return and retaliate, especially if they report to law enforcement.
- Experience triggers from the rape.
- Cycle in and out of phases—acute, recoil, and reorganization.
- Replays rape to figure out how it could have been avoided.

## Rapist Typology

(Hazelwood)

4 types of rapists:

- 1). Power Reassurance
- 2). Power Assertive
- 3). Anger Retaliatory
- 4). Anger Excitation

## Rape Typology

### *4 Levels of Force*

- **Minimal:** to intimidate and control
- **Moderate:** slap, hit, painful but not necessarily injurious
- **Excessive:** bruises, lacerations, may need to go to hospital
- **Brutal:** sadistic torture, will need hospitalization; these offenders can be categorized as **ritualistic** or **impulsive**

## Rape Typology: Power Reassurance

- Most common & least violent; easiest to profile & easiest to catch; may be compared to Groth's power rapist; usually starts out as peeping tom; force level: minimal to moderate
- \*Ritualistic
- Purpose of assault: to reassure himself of his masculinity; elevate his self-esteem; does not intend to hurt or degrade victim

## Power Reassurance

### *Modus Operandi*

- Uses only enough force to control victim (minimal force)
- If he needs a weapon, he chooses one from the home of the victim
- Pre-selects victims through surveillance/peeping; may have several victims selected in advance
- Typically uses surprise approach
- Normally attacks victim in/near victim's residence
- Often assaults between 12 a.m. & 5 a.m. (often a dead giveaway to this type of rapist)
- Victim is usually alone or with small children; \*will not go in if a man is present

## Power Reassurance

- Victim is usually close to his age
- May request his victim “talk dirty”, but he uses little profanity
- May re-contact victim
- Takes souvenirs, most popular: drivers’ licenses, lingerie, photos
- Typically will have victim remove her own clothes; often exposes only the body parts necessary for the rape to occur
- Keeps records of his rapes; check for diaries, newspaper clippings, computer files

## Power Reassurance

- May spend a long time with victim
- Builds confidence as he goes along; may escalate over time and experience
- attacks within his own residential or work area; typically will walk to crime scene
- Time between rapes: 7 to 15 days

## Power Reassurance

### Personal Profile

- Low self-esteem
- Underachiever
- Non-athletic
- Usually single
- Educational level low (high school...)
- If he dates, it’s a significantly younger girl
- Usually white
- Lives within walking distance of first rapes
- Nocturnal

## Power Reassurance

- Nuisance sex offenses; scatophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism...
- Loner
- Has menial job
- Drives older model car

## Suggestions for Interviewing

- Interview during late afternoon/early evening, that is when they feel comfortable.
- Conduct interview in a non-threatening environment.
- When interviewing use an empathic approach; take “father confessor” role.
- Don’t attack him, build him; appeal to his masculinity.
- Offender wants to be understood.

## Victim Response to Power Reassurance Rape

- Largest number of victims.
- Least likely to report to law enforcement. May report after rapist is arrested, or when she hears of other rapes in the area.
- Blames self for not resisting more, or for some other aspect of the rape.
- Continually reviews the rape to determine how it could have been avoided.

## What the Victims of Power Reassurance Rapists Need

- Reassurance that the rape not her fault.
- Reassurance that she did nothing to deserve to be raped.
- A safety plan if she fears the rapist will return—especially when the rape occurred in her home. This may include emergency shelter.
- Encouragement to receive medical care.

## Rapist Typology: Power Assertive

- Less common, more violent ; profile fits many “date” rapists; force level: moderate
- \*Impulsive
- Purpose of assault: he is asserting and expressing his manhood through rape; wants to hurt women

## Power Assertive

### Modus Operandi

- Moderate level of force; often verbally abusive
- Typically uses a “con” approach with victims
- Victim is his age or close
- Normally attacks during early evening hours
- Attacks away from home and employment
- Rips/tears off victim’s clothing (very important detail to profile)
- Multiple sexual assaults
- Often meets victim in bar

## Power Assertive

### Personal Profile

- Macho
- Married or divorced
- Sporadic attacks
- Flashy dresser
- Vehicle reflects his image
- Goes to singles bars; drinks what is popular
- Male-oriented job
- Self-centered
- Arrest background: disturbance , resisting arrest
- May escalate
- Time between rapes: 20 to 25 days

## Suggestions for Interviewing

- May be character disordered—sociopath.
- Must be in a structured environment.
- You are the authority figure.
- Responds only to known facts and well-prepared case. Use only details of crime that are known and verifiable. Approach is “we know you did it and this is how we will prove it.”
- Let him know you’ve done a lot of work.

## Victim Response to Power Assertive Rape

- May question whether it was a “real” rape.
- Feels culpable and blames herself.
- Questions judgment because of the rapist’s con.
- May not report to law enforcement, or may face a blaming or shaming response, especially when alcohol or drugs were involved.
- Withdraws socially.
- Doesn’t seek help initially.

## What the Victims of Power Assertive Rapists Need

- Confirmation that what she experienced was rape.
- Reassurance that the rape not her fault.
- Reassurance that she did nothing to deserve to be raped.
- Encouragement to seek medical and supportive services.
- Support group.

## Rapist Typology: Anger Retaliatory

- Even less common; excessive violence; hard to catch; hates women; force level: excessive; comparable to Groth's anger category
- \*Impulsive
- Purpose of assault: he is angry; punishes and degrades women by raping them in order to act out his anger

## Anger Retaliatory

### Modus Operandi

- Spontaneous crime
- Verbally, physically, and sexually abusive—often brutal
- Uses blitz approach
- Spends short time with victim, but victim will be injured
- Victim is his age or older
- May select symbolic victims, but is opportunistic in victim selection
- Episodic pattern of attacks, not very predictable but can occur at any time
- Often drinks prior to assault

## Anger Retaliatory

### Personality Profile

- Explosive temper, explosive personality
- Alcohol abuse quite common
- Impulsive
- Lone wolf, but not a loner (comfortable alone but has some friends)
- Very self-centered, but not inadequate
- Con man
- Action-oriented job

## Anger Retaliatory

- Attacks at any time of day or night
- Rents home
- Vehicle is commensurate with status (but usually very nice and well-maintained)
- Probably married before (interview former wives and girlfriends)
- Arrests for aggravated assault and domestic violence
- Time between rapes: 6 months to 1 year

## Suggestions for Interviewing

- Take a woman in with you, she leaves and you talk about her.
- Interviewer should be male; very professional and business-like manner

## Victim Response to Anger Retaliatory Rape

- Fearful.
- Confused.
- Complete loss of the feeling of safety.
- Likely to report and be believed because of injuries. May report vaginal rape, but not anal or oral assaults.
- Probably needs medical attention for injuries.
- Feels helpless and hopeless.

## What the Victims of Anger Retaliatory Rapists Need

- Safety.
- Preparation for investigation and court experience, including the fact that the rapist may not recognize her.
- Safety planning for court procedures.

## Rapist Typology: Anger Excitation

- Least frequent, most violent, most dangerous; hard to catch; force level: brutal; comparable to Groth's sadistic category
- \*Ritualistic
- Purpose of Assault: Total domination and control; physical and emotional pain to victim; true sexual sadist

## Anger Excitation

### Modus Operandi

- Premeditated assaults; detailed plan—makes him hard to catch; rape kit
- Plans everything but the victim
- Victim of opportunity (usually)
- “Con” approach
- Selfish and brutal
- Dramatic attitude change “...like I was with 2 people”
- Keeps victims for hours or days
- Records activities

## Anger Excitation

- Has had no sexual experimentation to a great deal of experimental sex (“trysexual”—will try anything)
- Uses instruments and devices
- Sexual bondage
- Victims ages varied
- Impulsive attack pattern but actual attacks are ritualistic
- Likes to cut victims clothing off with knives or scissors (as a reflection of control)

## Anger Excitation

### Personality Profile

- White male; “good family man”
- Outdoorsman
- Gun and knife collector; may collect Nazi memorabilia
- Detective magazines are his pornography
- No arrest record
- Loves to drive because it gives him a feeling of power and control
- Often is a college graduate

## Anger Excitation

- Above average intelligence
- Likes big dogs
- Age: often late 30's
- Attacks because he is bored with the norm; he begins to fantasize and act out the fantasies
- Often lives 2 separate lives: 1 normal, 1 bizarre

## Anger Excitation

- Lives in a middle class residential area; seen as an asset to the community
- Knowledge of police work
- Antisocial personality and planning and implementation may make him very difficult to apprehend
- Tells his victims what he plans to do in detail
- Time between rapes varies without apparent pattern

## Suggestions for Interviewing

- He will either have an attorney or will feel he is so smart he will need no help.
- Know everything about the victim.
- Have a competent intellectual interviewer.
- He'll play mind games with interviewers.
- You will probably only have one chance to interview him.

## Victim Response to Anger Excitation Rape

- May not survive.
- Extensive physical and psychological injuries.
- Fearful she would die; thankful to be alive.
- Feels she is going crazy.
- Reports to law enforcement.

## What the Victims of Anger Excitation Rapists Need

- Extensive psychiatric care from a therapist specializing in working with sexual assault victims and victims of violent crimes.
- Protection and safety, especially if this offender is not incarcerated.

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