

# Sexual Assault

Carri A. Gibson, LMFT

## Let's Talk Statistics (CDC 2012)

- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men reported experiencing rape at some time in their lifetime
- Approximately 1 in 20 women and men (5.6% and 5.3%, respectively) experienced sexual violence other than rape, such as being made to penetrate someone else, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, or non-contact unwanted sexual experiences.
- 4.8% of men reported they were made to penetrate someone else at some time in their lives.
- 13% of women and 6% of men reported they experienced sexual coercion at some time in their lives.

# What is Sexual Assault

- Sexual assault is nonconsensual sexual contact that is obtained through coercion or the use of threat or force. Sexual assault is a deliberate act of violence and an expression of power, control and domination over another. It is not a manifestation of uncontrolled desire, attraction or arousal. Sexual assault occurs in every socioeconomic level of society and in a variety of settings.
  - In understanding sexual assault as nonconsensual sexual contact, it is important to remember that sexual contact obtained without consent is often obtained not only through force, but also through coercion. Coercion can cover a wide range of behaviors, including intimidation, manipulation, threats of negative treatment (withholding a needed service or benefit), and blackmail.
- [Stopvaw.com](http://Stopvaw.com)

## Includes But Not Limited To

- Forcing vaginal, oral or anal sex
- Forcing physically painful sex
- Forcing sex in front of children
- Forcing sex with or in front of others
- Forcing sex with children
- Forcing sex with animals

# Sexual Assault in Context of IPV

- Using sexually degrading names
- Pressuring or forcing to dress a certain way to please/attract other men
- Accusing victim of having affairs, flirting, dressing provocatively
- Punishing victim for attracting attention of others
- Checking underwear for signs of sex
- Coercing pregnancy or abortion
- Extorting Sex in Exchange for Necessities

**Who Is the Abuser?**

## Statistics from CDC Adults

- Among female rape victims, perpetrators were reported to be intimate partners (51.1%), family members (12.5%), acquaintances (40.8%) and strangers (13.8%).
- Among male rape victims, perpetrators were reported to be acquaintances (52.4%) and strangers (15.1%).
- Among male victims who were made to penetrate someone else, perpetrators were reported to be intimate partners (44.8%), acquaintances (44.7%) and strangers (8.2%).

**Sexual Abuse Is Not Stranger  
Danger**

# What Does This Mean To You?

- Understand the violation
- Usually a continuum of violence
- Escalation



**Questions or Comments So Far?**

**What Has Society Taught Us About  
Female/Male Sexuality?**

**Do We Live In a Rape Culture?**



**Thoughts?**

They're advertising the same sweater, so why are they different? His clothing is an accessory, while she IS the accessory. By accepting these differences, we perpetuate the objectification of women's bodies.



Are we part of the problem,  
or will we be part of the solution?

**WHO** women's  
housing  
campaign  
**speaks**  
campaign

# **Sexual Assault Advocacy**

- Empowerment
  - Supporting people that reflects respect
  - Belief that people are own experts
  - They define what help they want and need
- How else can we empower
- Elements to create empowering environment
  - Acceptance of people, Honesty, Open, Healthy communication, Shared Vision



# ADVOCACY WHEEL



# Ethics and Confidentiality

- Mandatory report laws
- Keep confidentiality
  - Do not speak in the halls
  - Do not speak outside of the center/court
- Maintain appropriate boundaries

**Questions or Comments?**