

# Sexual Violence

By Wanjiru Waweru

# Background Information for Sexual Violence



## Background Information

- Introduction
- Types of Sexual Violence
- Facts about Sexual Violence

# Introduction



# Introduction

## What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual Violence is a controlling and inconsiderate person. “Sexual violence means that someone forces or manipulates someone else into unwanted sexual activity without their consent. Reasons someone might not consent include fear, age, illness, disability, and/or influence of alcohol or other drugs. Anyone can experience sexual violence including: children, teens, adults, and elders. Those who sexually abuse can be acquaintances, family members, trusted individuals or strangers. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”

# Types of Sexual Violence

## Types of Sexual Violence

- Rape and Sexual Assault
- Sexual Harassment

# Rape and Sexual Assault





# Rape and Sexual Assault

Rape and Sexual Assault is a Serious Sex Crime Scene.

- “Rape and sexual assault are violent crimes of aggression. Rape is a nonconsensual event, involving the use of force or the threat of force to sexually penetrate the victim’s vagina, mouth, or rectum. Sexual assault often refers to forced sexual contact, but this term frequently acts as an all-encompassing descriptor for any type of unwanted sexual advances, including rape. According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 1 in 5 women and nearly 1 in 59 men in the United States have been the victim of attempted or completed rape in their lifetime. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

Rape appears in strangers and intimate.

- “Rape may occur among strangers or intimates. Acquaintance rape, or date rape, occurs when the victim and the rapist either previously knew each other or have interacted in some socially appropriate manner. About three-fourths of rape victims in the United States know their assailant: Approximately 38% of all rape or sexual assault victims were raped by a friend or acquaintance, 34% by a current intimate partner, and 6% by another relative. Rape by a coworker, teacher, professor, a husband’s friend, or boss—anyone the individual knows—is considered acquaintance rape. Strangers committed about 22% of sexual violence (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Continue with Rape and Sexual Assault

- Most Rape Victims are children and teenagers.
  - “Many victims of rape are children and adolescents. In a national survey, about 43% of female rape victims were first raped before age 18; about 30% were first raped between the ages of 11 and 17; and about 13% were younger than age 10. More than 50% of male rape victims were first raped before age 18 and 28% were first raped when they were age 10 or younger.<sup>43</sup> Although physical abuse and neglect account for the greatest portion of child abuse incidents, child sexual abuse is another tragic dimension of child abuse in general. Sexual abuse accounts for approximately 1 in 10 cases of child abuse. It is difficult to determine the incidence rate of sexual abuse among children. One national survey found that 18% of girls and 3% of boys had been sexually abused or assaulted by another adolescent by age 17.<sup>44</sup> Another report found that three-fourths of adolescent sexual assault victims knew their attackers. More than 30% of all sexual assaults occurred within the victim’s home, 23.8% within the victim’s neighborhood, and 15.4% at the victim’s school. Males are reported to be the abusers in most sexual abuse cases involving children. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Continue with Rape and Sexual Assault

- Steroids could be part of rape crime and end up in serious health problems.
  - “In many cases of date or acquaintance rape, aggressors use drugs to render the victim unconscious or incapacitated (referred to as drug-facilitated sexual assault). Flunitrazepam, commonly known as Rohypnol, is one type of “date rape drug.” This drug is 10 times as strong as Valium and is tasteless and odorless. It comes in pill form, which dissolves in liquid, takes effect quickly, and produces memory loss for as long as 8 hours. Rohypnol is especially popular on high school and college campuses, as well as in nightclubs. Many women have been raped after consuming a drink with the drug dissolved in it. The use of the drug is extremely dangerous and can cause death. Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and gamma-butyrolactone (GBL), which come as colorless, odorless liquids, white powder, or pills, have also been associated with sexual assault. Abuse of GHB and GBL can lead to coma and seizures. Ketamine, used as a tranquilizer in veterinary medicine and available as a liquid or white powder, is another common date rape drug that is snorted or injected. It is referred to as “special K” and can cause death. These drugs are also known as ‘club drugs.’ (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Continue with Rape and Sexual Assault

- Rape could also appear in not only in strangers, it could happen romantic relationships, friends, family members, and marriage.
  - “Rape also happens in marriages, during legal separation, or after divorce. Rape in marriage is often called spousal rape or marital rape. Historically, husbands had unlimited sexual access to their wives and, therefore, rape within marriage was not recognized as a crime: Marital rape has only been a crime in all 50 states since 1993. Many states provide exemptions for certain situations, such as mental or physical impairment of a woman rendering her unable to consent, that protect husbands from being prosecuted for rape. In addition, sexual violence can occur between people of the same sex. An estimated 5.3% of female victims of sexual violence other than rape had female perpetrators. Females also can be the perpetrators in sexual violence against males. Forms of sexual violence where a majority of male victims had only female perpetrators include being made to penetrate, sexual coercion, and unwanted sexual contact. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Continue with Rape and Sexual Assault

- Many rape victims could end up in a serious health consequences that would lasted for a lifetime.
  - “Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a common condition associated with rape. At some point during their lifetimes, 32% of all rape victims develop PTSD, compared with 9% of victims of non–crime-related trauma, such as car accidents. Rape trauma syndrome is also seen in rape victims. It is usually described as having two phases. The first phase, or acute phase, includes the immediate emotions following the event, which include shock, anger, numbness, guilt, disbelief, embarrassment, shame, feelings of being unclean, anxiety, denial, fear, self-blame, and restlessness. This phase is often characterized by significant disruption in a woman’s life. The second phase of rape trauma syndrome includes attempts at reorganizing one’s life and lifestyle and learning to cope again. Victims may decide to change schools, jobs, or routes to school or work in an attempt to remove reminders of the event from their daily lives. Overwhelming feelings often develop that the victim may not directly link to the rape. Even if a woman successfully represses her emotions about a rape, the feelings can persist, sometimes for years. Depression, guilt, and loss of self-esteem are common reactions. Other psychological problems include suicide attempts, eating disorders, substance abuse, social phobia, and other anxiety disorders. Being a victim of rape can also affect a woman’s sexual health and intimacy. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Sexual Harassment



# Sexual Harassment

- Sexual Harassment is another form of serious sex crime.
  - “Sexual harassment is an illegal, violent act involving unwanted sexual attention, requests of sexual favors, or the use of sexual language or behaviors to create a hostile environment. Although sexual harassment can occur in any setting, it most commonly occurs in the workplace. Sexual harassment often involves a male harasser and a female victim. However, sexual harassment recognizes no gender boundaries—a female may harass a male, and the victim and the harasser may be the same sex. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 420, 2020)”
- Three Types of Sexual Harassment : “Gender harassment constitutes behavior that conveys a degrading or hostile attitude toward women, unwanted sexual attention or advances include behaviors such as staring, commenting, touching, or repeated requests for dates or sexual favors, and Sexual coercion, also referred to as quid pro quo (defined as an ‘equal’ exchange or substitution), is the use of threats or bribery to obtain sexual favors. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 420, 2020)”

# Continue with Sexual Harassment

- Over the years, workplaces and individuals have been reported for sexual harassment, however, they ignored it in the law enforcement.
  - “For years, workplaces and individuals trivialized sexual harassment and refused to recognize it as a violation of rights or personal dignity. This practice sometimes persists in the present day. Harassers may rationalize their behavior or offer excuses, but these rationalizations perpetuate power disparities and further dehumanize women. As with other forms of sexual victimization, harassment operates as an instrument of social control. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”
- Sexual Harassment is a form of criminal activity, and therefore it is very harmful that could lead to serious consequences that will be against you in a court of law.
  - “In whatever form it appears, sexual harassment is a harmful, legally punishable offense. A common situation involves a boss or supervisor who requires sexual services from an employee as a condition for keeping a job or getting a promotion. Less blatant forms of workplace sexual harassment include being subjected to obscenities or being made the target of sexual jokes and innuendoes. However deep a harassed person’s feelings of humiliation, anger, and shame, the financial consequences of not complying with sexual coercion on the job may be devastating. Many victims, especially if they are supporting families, cannot afford to be unemployed. Also, many find it difficult to seek other work while they are employed. Thus, a person who quits or is fired as a result of sexual harassment faces the prospect of severe financial difficulties. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421)”



# Continue with Sexual Harassment

- Sexual harassment is not bounded in the workplace, it is appears across the society including education.
  - “Sexual harassment is not limited to the workplace. One report from the American Association of University Women found that nearly half (48%) of middle and high school students surveyed experienced some form of sexual harassment in the 2010-2011 school year. Girls were more likely than boys to be sexually harassed both in person (52% vs. 35%) and electronically (36% vs. 24%). (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”
- Many people faced traumatic experiences in sexual harassment.
  - “Common reactions to sexual harassment include anger, humiliation, shame, embarrassment, nervousness, irritability, and lack of motivation. Guilt is another common feeling, with a victim often questioning whether she (or he) has done something wrong to encourage the harassment. The sense of alienation and helplessness many victims of sexual harassment feel is similar to that experienced by many rape victims. Sexual harassment victims may also experience headaches, stomach pain and nausea, back and neck pain, and a variety of other stress-related ailments. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”

# Facts about Sexual Violence



# Facts on Sexual Violence

- Chances That You May Recognized a Person Who Experienced Sexual Assault
- Victims Generally Noticed Their Assaulter
- Victims Should Never Blame Themselves as Sexual Assault
- Rape is the Minimum Reported and Sentence in Crime Scene in the United States
- Sexual Violence Could Be Preventable

# Fact: Chances That You May Recognized a Person Who Experienced Sexual Assault

- “Sexual violence affects people of all genders, ages, races, religions, incomes, abilities, professions, ethnicities, and sexual orientations. However, social inequalities can heighten the risk. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”
- “At some time in their lives, 1 in 6 women have experienced an attempted or completed rape; more than half occurred before the woman was 18, and 22% before age 12. (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000). (National Sexual Violence Center, 2010)” “By age 18, 1 in 4 girls will be sexually assaulted; by age 18, 1 in 6 boys will be assaulted (Finkelhor, Hotaling, Lewis & Smith, 1990), (National Sexual Violence Center, 2010)”.
- “By age 18, 1 in 4 girls will be sexually assaulted; by age 18, 1 in 6 boys will be assaulted (Finkelhor, Hotaling, Lewis & Smith, 1990) (National Sexual Violence Center, 2010).”
- “During their lives, 1 in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape; 75% occurred before the men were 18, and 48% before age 12 (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000), (National Sexual Violence Center, 2010).”

## Fact: Victims Generally Noticed Their Assaulter

- “People who sexually assault usually attack someone they know — a friend, classmate, neighbor, coworker, or relative. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”
- “Of adults, 73% knew the attacker, 38% were friends of the attacker, 28% were an intimate partner of the attacker, and 7% were a relative of the attacker (Maston & Klaus, 2005), (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”
- “Child victims knew the offender before the attack 90% of the time (Greenfeld, 1996), (National Sexual Resource Center, 2010)”
- About 40% of sexual assaults take place in the victim’s own home. Another 20% occur in the home of a friend, neighbor, or relative (Greenfeld, 1997), (National Sexual Resource Center, 2010)”

# Facts: Victims Should Never Blame Themselves as Sexual Assault

- “It doesn’t matter what someone is wearing or how they are acting, no one asks to be raped. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”
- “People who sexually assault often use force, threat, or injury. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”
- “An absence of injuries to the victim does not indicate the victim consented. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”

## Fact: Rape is the Minimum Reported and Sentence in Crime Scene in the United States

“There are many reasons why victims may choose not to report to law enforcement or tell anyone about what happened to him/her. Some include: concern for not being believed, fear of the attackers getting back at him/her, embarrassment or shame, fear of being blamed, pressure from others not to tell, distrust of law enforcement, belief that there is not enough evidence, and desire to protect the attacker. Many victims who do report a rape or sexual assault find that there is no arrest or conviction. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”

“Probability of arrest after a report is 50.8% (Reynolds, 1999), and the probability of a rapist being sent to prison is 16.3% (Reynolds, 1999), (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”

# Sexual Violence Could Be Preventable

- “By working with your community’s sexual assault center, you can: model supportive relationships and behaviors with your friends and families, stand up for victims and believe them, speak up when you hear harmful comments or witness violent acts, create policies at your workplace or school system to stop sexual violence, and help victims, coordinate a community event to raise awareness about sexual violence or talk with community members about ways they can get involved, and talk with your legislators, and ask them to support prevention, and victim services, (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2010)”



# Gender Dimensions



# Gender Dimensions

## Perspectives on Violence, Abuse, and Harassment:

- Sociocultural Issues
- Historical Trends
- Alcohol and Drug Influences
- Media Influences
- Cost of Victimization
- Legal Dimensions
- Global Issues

# Sociocultural Issues



# Sociocultural Issues

- Cultural values make a negative impact on women.
  - “Cultural attitudes about violence toward women may be based on how society accepts the idea of male dominance. In some cultures, both men and women believe that a man has the right to control the behavior of his wife and daughters, and that a disobedient woman should be punished. A woman not obeying her husband, not having food ready for him, refusing him sex, or simply being a woman can trigger violence in intimate relationships. In 2017, 307 million women were not protected by the law from domestic violence; more than one billion women lacked legal protection against sexual violence by an intimate partner or family member; and close to 1.4 billion lacked legal protection against domestic economic violence. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”
- Sexual Violence is minimized in the advocacy in the women’s rights.
  - “By trivializing rape and sexual assault, rape culture is perpetuated in our society and shows a blatant disregard for women’s rights and safety. Rape culture can be defined as ‘a culture in which dominant cultural ideologies, media images, social practices, and societal institutions support and condone sexual abuse by normalizing, trivializing and eroticizing male violence against women and blaming victims for their own abuse.’ (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”

- List of Examples of Rape Culture
  - Words
  - Concepts
  - Images that involve in six forms of media
    - Jokes
    - Song Lyrics
    - Movies
    - Television Programs
    - Advertising or Commercial
    - Social Media Platforms
- Rape Culture is the idea of sexual violence in gender roles.
  - “It is the concept of trivializing and condoning rape and sexual assault, blaming the victim, and eroticizing the concept of gendered violence. Victim blaming demonstrates how a society can make excuses for rape. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”

- Narcisism plays an important role in rape victims that influences violence in women where it not beyond on their control.
  - “Victim blaming demonstrates how a society can make excuses for rape. Tendencies to blame the victim influence how women and communities cope with relationship violence. Women who feel they are at fault or that they “deserved” punishment may not report a rape or other crimes. Certain factors, including a woman’s style of dress, her relationship with the assailant, evidence of resistance, presence of alcohol or drugs, and location of the incident, may affect a third party’s attitude toward the rape and contribute to his or her belief that the rape may actually be ‘excusable’ or ‘understandable.’ (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”
- Rape Culture conserved to fight violence in Women’s Rights.
  - “By legitimizing these behaviors, cultures perpetuate violence against women. Women are particularly vulnerable to abuse by their partners in societies where there are marked inequalities between men and women, rigid gender roles, weak sanctions against violent behavior, and cultural norms that support a man’s right to sex regardless of a woman’s feelings. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”
- Race and Ethnicity in Rape and Sexual Assault
  - “Reported rates of rape and sexual assault vary by race and ethnicity. Multiracial women and American Indian/Alaska Native women had the highest estimated prevalence of rape during their lifetime (32.3% and 27.5%, respectively); non-Hispanic Black women and non-Hispanic White women had similar lifetime estimates of rape (21.2% and 20.5%, respectively), while Hispanic women had a considerably lower estimate (13.6%). Various reports indicate that multiracial and American Indian/Alaska Native women are at greater risk for rape and intimate partner violence. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”

# Historical Trends



# Historical Trends

- Sexual violence involves an idea of historical gender roles.
  - “Historically, it has been socially acceptable for a husband to physically discipline his wife. The United States followed English law and allowed physical discipline of wives by their husbands until U.S. courts criminalized wife beating in the 20th century. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”
- Rape is part of the American history.
  - “Rape has been documented in American history since the arrival of the Europeans. Spanish explorers used female Native American captives for sexual services and raped Native American women whose tribes they conquered. Native American cultures, however, prohibited rape, and it had rarely occurred until the arrival of the explorers. Fears of brutal rapes by Native American men were found to be unsubstantiated during colonial-era ‘Indian’ wars. Indeed, English women who had been held captive reported no such treatment. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”
  - “In 17th-century New England in particular, female servants were at high risk of rape and sexual harassment. During that era, an estimated one-third of rape victims were female servants, even though that group represented only 10% of the total population. Later, in the South, where slave labor was increasingly used instead of indentured servants, African female servants and slaves found themselves victimized by White owners and overseers who viewed them as property—available for service of their sexual needs. Some historians assert that rape was used to dominate female slaves in a system that otherwise treated them as equals to male slaves. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 406, 2020)”



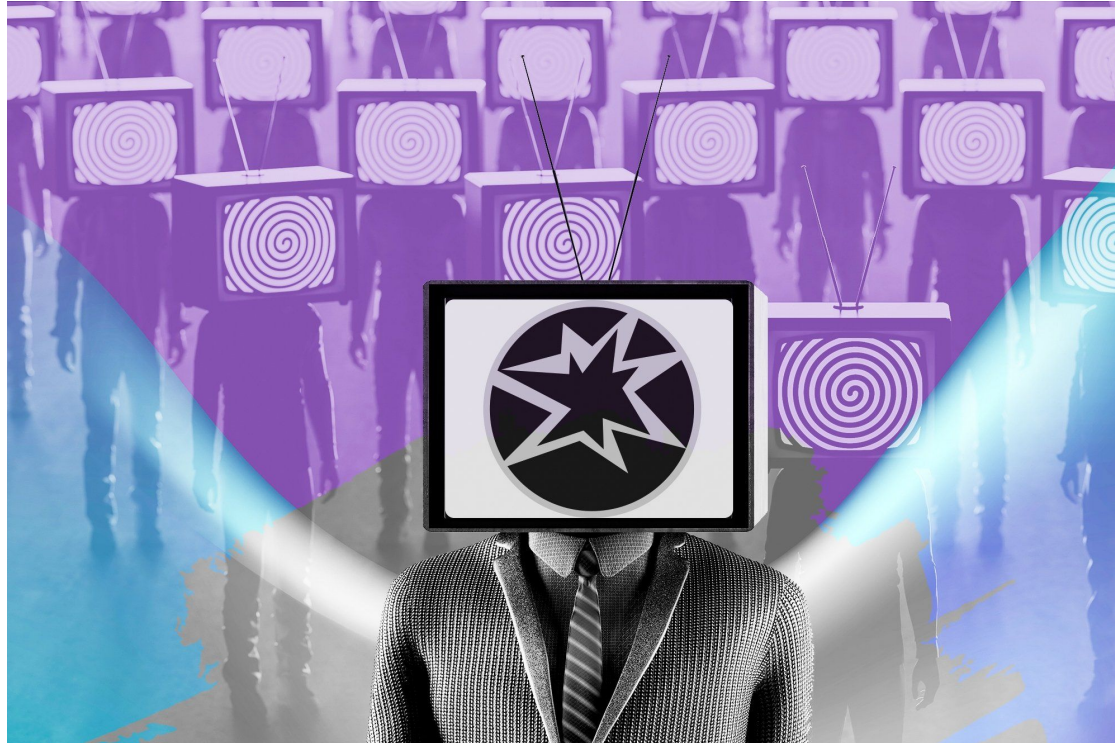
# Alcohol and Drug Influences



# Alcohol and Drug Influences

- Substance abuse impacted all kinds of relationship violence.
  - “Substance use and abuse are consistently associated with all forms of relationship violence. It is unclear whether a direct cause-and-effect relationship exists between the use of drugs or alcohol and violence, or whether this situation involves two overlapping social epidemics. Violence in a home may cause depression and lower self-esteem, possibly leading to an increased use of alcohol. Conversely, conflicts in interpersonal relationships may arise as a consequence of substance use and abuse and lead to violent behavior. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
- A Brief Survey showed a case study in alcohol and drug influences in relationship violence .
  - “Data from the National Crime Victimization Survey, an ongoing nationally representative survey on crime, highlight the strong association between interpersonal violence and substance use. Alcohol can play a significant role in violence. Alcohol use is strongly linked to victims of violence as well as perpetrators of violence. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”

# Media Influences



# Media Influences

- Media impacted the development of violence
  - “Media access through television, movies, video and computer games, and the Internet is a major influence in the lives of Americans, especially for children and adolescents. Media can be a powerful tool for positive learning and entertainment but can also pose a threat to emotional and physical safety. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
- Violence and Sex could an important role in the media culture.
  - “Violence and sex on television and in other media are important, often unrecognized, influences on children and adolescent health and behavior. Research results are conflicting as to whether exposure to violent media actually causes violent behavior. However, exposure to violent television, movies, and video games does appear to desensitize children and adolescents, or make them more accepting, toward violent behavior. Exposure to violent media also creates a “mean world effect,” causing people to believe the world is a more violent, cruel place than it actually is. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”

# Cost of Victimization



# Cost of Victimization

- Violent crime increases financial distribution for many cases.
  - “Violent crime directly causes financial losses, such as healthcare costs for treating any physical and mental injuries, as well as lost wages for missed workdays. The lifetime economic costs associated with interpersonal violence was \$3.6 trillion dollars in 2014, which included medical services, lost productivity from paid work, criminal justice, and victim property loss or damage. Lifetime cost per victim was four times greater for women than men (\$103,767 and \$23,414, respectively) (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
  - “But violence causes much more than just financial losses. Intangible losses, such as long-term pain and suffering and reduced quality of life, are more difficult to quantify but no less real. Studies show a significant relationship between intimate partner violence and chronic pain, bladder and kidney infections, asthma, migraines and headaches, vaginal infections and bleeding, digestive problems, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, low self-esteem, fear of intimacy, sleep disturbances, HIV risk behaviors, and substance abuse. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”

# Legal Dimensions



# Legal Dimensions

- Violence Against Women Act makes a huge change in Legal Dimensions.
  - “The number of violent crimes by intimate partners against females has significantly decreased over the past 20 years. This decrease has been attributed to the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994, which includes these provisions: making it a crime to cross state lines to continue to abuse a spouse or partner, creating tough new penalties for sex offenders, prohibiting anyone facing a restraining order for domestic abuse from possessing a firearm, providing a substantial commitment of federal resources for police, prosecutors, and prevention service initiatives in cases involving sexual violence or domestic abuse, requiring sexual offenders to pay restitution to their victims, requiring states to pay for rape examinations, providing funds for federal victim-witness counselors, extending rape shield laws to protect crime victims from abusive inquiries into their private conduct, and requiring that released offenders report to local enforcement authorities. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
- Since the mid-1990s, the bill change to prevent violence in women’s rights.
  - “Passage of the 1994 bill was a huge triumph for women’s groups as it marked the first comprehensive federal legislative package designed to end violence against women. The provisions were expanded in the Violence Against Women Act of 2000, as well as in the Reauthorization Acts of 2005 and 2013. In 2000, Congress enhanced federal domestic violence and stalking penalties, added protections for foreign nationals suffering abuse, and created programs specifically for elderly and disabled women. In 2005, the legislation created programs for sexual assault victims and American Indian victims of domestic violence. The 2013 legislation reauthorized most of the programs, as well as enhanced efforts to combat trafficking and included sex trafficking in its work. VAWA 2013 also gave Indian tribes the authority to enforce domestic violence laws and related crimes against Indian or non-Indian individuals if the acts are committed in Indian country. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”



# Global Issues



# Global Issues

- Case study shows the research on violence in Global Issues.
  - “In 2005, the World Health Organization conducted a study of more than 24,000 women in 10 countries from different geographical areas, cultures, and rural and urban settings. This landmark study allowed researchers, for the first time, to estimate the frequency and predominant forms of violence against women around the world. The study found that violence against women exists in every culture and every setting, but the frequency of that violence varies significantly. Violence against women was typically, but not always, more common in rural settings and in the developing world. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
- Sexual Violence happens in worldwide.
  - “The proportion of women who had ever experienced sexual violence from an intimate partner ranged from 6% in urban Japan and Montenegro to 59% in rural Ethiopia. In two-thirds of interview settings, at least 5% of women reported that their first sexual encounter was forced. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”
  - “The numbers were significantly higher in some countries—17% of women in rural Tanzania, 24% in rural Peru, and 30% in rural Bangladesh reported that their first sexual experience was forced. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 408, 2020)”

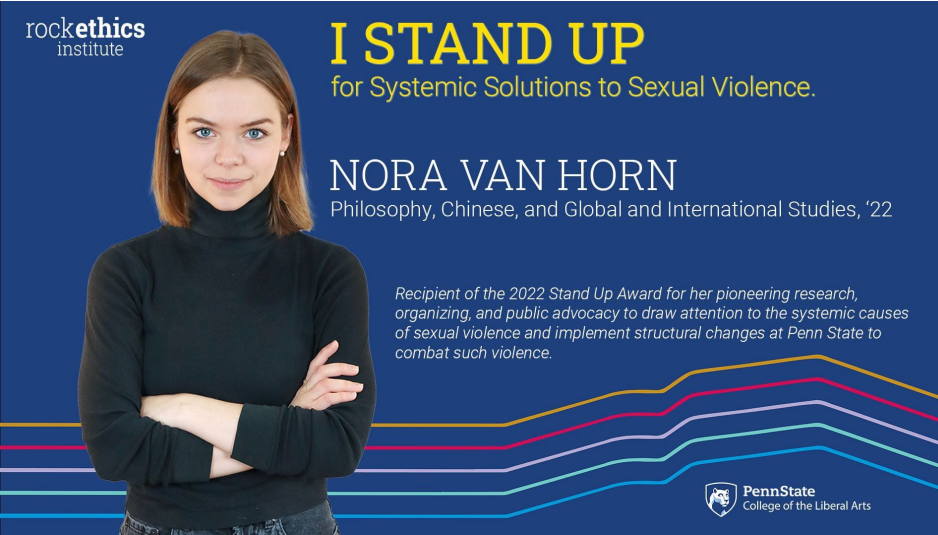
# Question & Response

# Question & Response

What are the Better Ways to Educate and Prevent Sexual Violence?



# Solution No. 1: Listen to Professional Speakers to find a New Definition of Sexual Violence




rocketHics  
institute

**I STAND UP**  
for Systemic Solutions to Sexual Violence.

**NORA VAN HORN**  
Philosophy, Chinese, and Global and International Studies, '22

*Recipient of the 2022 Stand Up Award for her pioneering research, organizing, and public advocacy to draw attention to the systemic causes of sexual violence and implement structural changes at Penn State to combat such violence.*

 PennState  
College of the Liberal Arts

# Question & Response

- We need to redefine sexual violence to listen to lectures such as TED Talk to listen to professional speakers to be educated ourselves as young audiences to prevent it in order to find other solutions, to watch out for warning signs for sexual violence.
  - For an example, Nora Van Horn: Let's Redefine Sexual Assault
    - Nora Van Horn explained the myths of sexual violence. She discussed how colleges and universities are encouraged to preserve students. Nora Van Horn participated and joined the Schreyer Gender Equity Coalition on this problem for years. She talked about how colleges and university communities should describe it as advocacy for sexual violence to create a society equally, respectful, and safe.

# Nora Van Horn: Let's Redefinite Sexual Assault



## Solution No. 2: Raise a Sexual Prevention Awareness

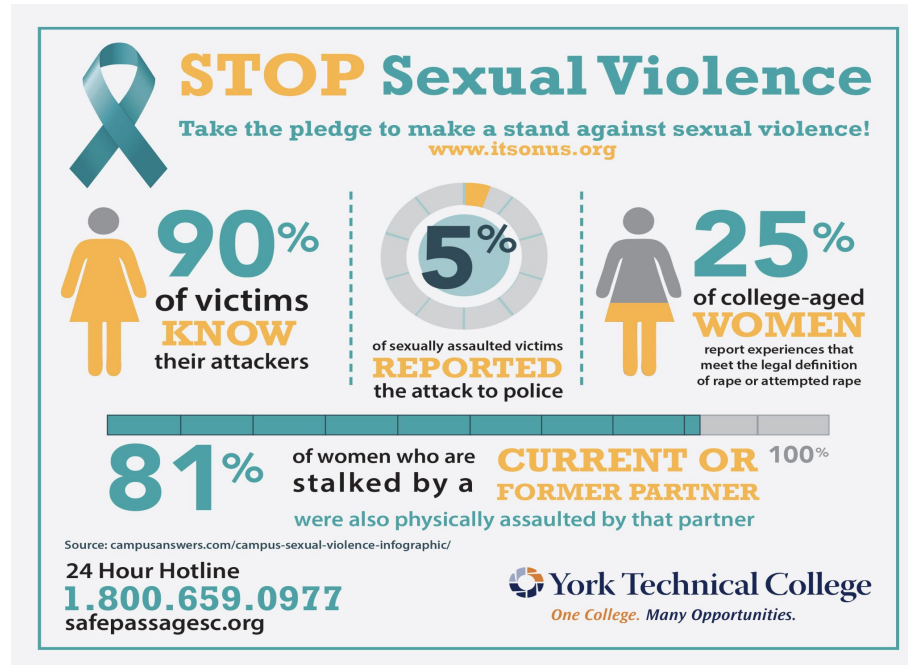




# Question Response

- Raise awareness to prevent sexual violence
  - Be an advocate and support sexual violence victims and participate in the Me Too Movement to adjust the social environment to find solve the issue to protect the toxic situation.
    - “The ‘Me Too’ movement, which focuses on the experiences of sexual violence survivors, has earned a large response in part because sexual harassment and sexual assault impact people every day. By sharing their own experiences, the movement’s proponents make clear just how common sexual harassment is. The hope is that, if people are more aware of sexual harassment and how casually it is sometimes treated, then tolerance for it will decrease and support for victims will rise. The Me Too movement is an effort to effect social change, organized primarily through social media, where it’s often expressed as #MeToo. Originally founded in 2006, it became prominent both online and in the mainstream in late 2017, when several high-profile actresses opened up about their experiences with sexual harassment in the film industry. (Maryland College, 2020)”

# Solution No.3: Response and Prevention in Sexual Violence



# Question & Response

- Find a solution to Prevent the risk of Rape & Sexual Assault
  - “Society as a whole, as well as individuals of both genders, need to act together to prevent rapes and sexual assault. Women are never ‘at fault’ when a rape occurs; women can, however, lower their risk by being careful and clearly communicating what they are, and what they are not, comfortable with. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”
- Seek for warning signs to respond in Rape & Sexual Assault
  - “If a rape or sexual assault occurs, a woman’s first concern should be finding safety and calling the police. The police will assist the victim in seeking medical attention, which is important for treating any physical injuries, testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, and collecting medical evidence for prosecution. It is important to report the assault to the police immediately; the decision about whether to prosecute the offender can be made later. A woman should also contact her local rape crisis center to inquire about counseling and support. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”
- Find Treatments to work on a recovery from Rape & Sexual Assault
  - “The recovery process from rape depends on the individual and the circumstances in which the rape occurred. Victims of rape often suffer from mental health problems, gynecological issues, negative health behaviors, chronic health conditions, and higher risk for suicide. Rape also may lead to unwanted pregnancies and STIs, including HIV/AIDS. Being tested immediately after the incident for STIs may help a woman prevent long-term consequences from disease. Post-exposure prophylactics, including antibiotics, emergency contraceptive pills, hepatitis B vaccination, and antiretroviral drugs, can reduce the likelihood for some STIs or unwanted pregnancy. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 417, 2020)”

# Question & Response

- Learn to Handle with Sexual Harassment
  - Dealing Effectively
    - Find several opportunities and healing.
      - “First, the victim should recognize that criminal charges could be filed against the perpetrator. If there is not an immediate concern for one’s safety and there has not been attempted rape or assault, the victim could confront the person responsible for the harassment. The confrontation should be stated in clear terms, and the specific behaviors should be identified as sexual harassment. The victim should make it clear that the behavior is unwelcome, will not be tolerated, and that, if it continues, charges will be filed through appropriate channels. Some victims carefully document what has occurred and provide a written confrontation rather than undertake a verbal discussion. Others may choose to seek out the assistance of their human resources department if the sexual harassment occurs within a work setting. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”

# Question & Response

- Report an Incident, File a Complaint, and Send It to Court
  - “If the behavior does not stop, the next step is to discuss it with the supervisor of the person responsible for the harassment. It is often helpful to talk to other employees—many times there is more than one victim. Discussing the matter with other employees provides peer support and pressure for the behavior to stop. Official complaints can be filed with local or state Human Rights Commissions or Fair Employment Practice Agencies. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”
  - “If legal action is necessary, victims can file lawsuits in federal courts under the Civil Rights Act. Lawsuits can also be filed under city or state laws prohibiting employment discrimination. A person who has been the victim of sexual harassment is more likely to receive a favorable court ruling if attempts were made to resolve the problem within the organization before taking the issue to court. (Alexander, Bader, Garfield, and LaRosa, pg. 421, 2020)”

# No. 4: Watch Law and Order Special Victims Unit

STANDING FOR VICTIMS



**LAW & ORDER**  
SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT



# Question & Response

- The Impact of Law and Order SVU changed the perspective of sexual violence compared to other crime scene shows..
  - “Among a spate of crime procedural dramas such as *NCIS* and *CSI*, *Law & Order* and *Law & Order: SVU*, in particular, helped to change the way people think about sexual assault, according to law experts and researchers who have studied the influence of the show. Among them is Stacey Hust, a professor of communications at Washington State University who published a study in 2015 showing that viewers of *SVU* had healthier attitudes toward sexual consent and a better understanding of the causes of sexual violence than those who watched shows like *NCIS* or *CSI*. (Gajanan, 2019)”
  - Mariska Hartigay who played Olivia Benson became an icon in the Law and Order SVU to bring a door open for women to participate in a law-enforcement career which could lead to a male-dominated industry.
    - “She is a woman in a Male-Dominated Field. From the moment I started watching the show until the most recent episode, it’s been evident that Olivia is the toughest of all the characters. Despite being one of the only featured women in the series, she is at the top of her field. There are so many times when assaulters or men in higher power try to use the fact that she’s a woman to try and intimidate, but Olivia has yet to be stopped. (Fernandez, 2017)”
  - Benson is a huge advocate for Sexual Assault and Domestic violence to support victims.
    - “She advocates for Sexual Assault and Domestic Abuse Victims. The core premise of her character surrounds itself on this. Despite gender, ethnicity, or circumstance, Olivia is always there to listen (or fight) when the time comes. She shuts down victim blaming the moment she senses it and works to stray victims away from shame. Through her own experiences with sexual assault, both on the job and in her home life, she is able to provide an honest perspective on what life after entails. She gives a helping hand to the women and men whose lives have been affected and altered from traumatizing cause while giving them the strength to come forward. (Fernandez, 2017)”

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