

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

A LOCAL & GLOBAL EPIDEMIC

SEXUAL VIOLENCE is any unwanted sexual attention, contact or activity. It violates a person's trust, autonomy, and sense of safety. It causes many survivors to suffer emotional, physical, financial, and social consequences. Stigma surround sexual violence often contributes to the trauma experienced by survivors, preventing many from seeking services or reporting the assault. Sexual violence occurs at both the individual and societal level in the context of rape culture, wherein it is connected to and influenced by other forms of oppression, thus disproportionately affecting the most under-served and marginalized populations. Survivors and advocates in Massachusetts and around the globe are working tirelessly to provide life-saving services and to prevent sexual violence once and for all.

HELPING SURVIVORS

In Massachusetts, 16 Department of Public Health (DPH) funded Rape Crisis Centers (RCCs) provide life-saving and healing services to survivors. These programs offer free and confidential 24-hour crisis hotlines, prevention, education and training, individual and group counseling, and accompaniment for survivors in hospitals, police stations, courts, and more.

Hotlines

In FY18, RCC hotlines throughout the Commonwealth answered 14,112 calls: 8,889 calls from survivors and 5,223 from significant others and professionals. Another 57 calls were answered by the statewide Spanish-language hotline.

Prevention Education & Training

In FY18, RCCs conducted 2,112 outreach and education activities.

Individual & Group Service Provision

In FY18, RCCs provided direct, in-person services to 4,365 individuals, which included counseling, legal accompaniment, medical accompaniment and other additional advocacy services. In FY18 RCCs also provided 1,408 group counseling session.

SANE & Medical Accompaniment

The MA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program is a nationally recognized forensic nursing care model for sexual assault patients. In FY18, the MA SANE program provided direct services to 2,388 patients, including 1,220 children and 1,168 adults and adolescents across the Commonwealth.



MASSACHUSETTS SNAPSHOT

In FY18, there were 2,423 incidents of sexual assault reported to MA Rape Crisis Centers.

This is a 15.4% increase over FY17!

The 2017 Massachusetts State Health Assessment showed that 18.2% of women and 6.2% of men in Massachusetts report ever experiencing sexual assault in their lifetimes, and 14.4% female and 6.5% of male MA public high school students report experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime.

Sufficient data is not available to determine rates of sexual violence in transgender and non-binary populations.



NATIONAL SNAPSHOT

In a CDC survey, 43.9% of women & 23.4% of men, reported experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime. 47% of transgender people reported experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime.

The Department of Justice estimates that only 23% of sexual assaults were reported to the police in 2016.

There was an estimated 129,380 rapes reported to law enforcement in 2018. **This is 2.7% higher than 2017 and 18.1% higher than 2014!**

Among college students, 18% of females, 4% of males, and 21% of transgender and gender-queer people reporting being sexually assaulted while in school.

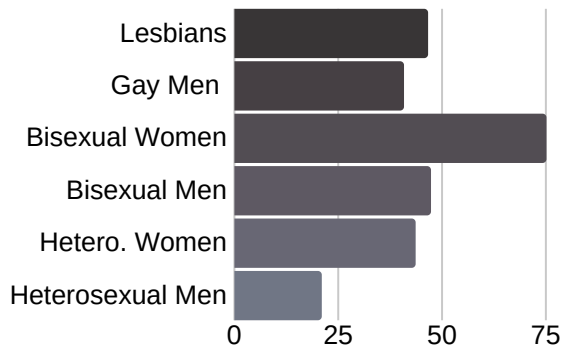
AT THE INTERSECTIONS

UNDERSTANDING THE MULTI-LAYERED OPPRESSION OF SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence disproportionately affects the most marginalized members of our society. Survivors at the intersections of oppression are less likely to be believed if and when they disclose SV. Jane Doe Inc. engages in many areas of policy to address the intersectional oppressions that impact the lives of all survivors and their families, and to ensure that cultural and identity specific resources are comprehensive and accessible to all communities.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION & GENDER IDENTITY

LIFETIME PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE



50-65% of Transgender People of Color have experienced SA in their lifetime.

BLACK WOMEN

35 % of Black Women in the US report contact sexual violence in their lifetime

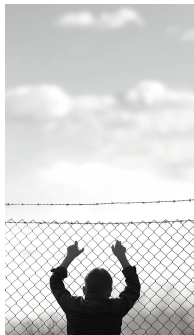


1 in 4 black girls will be sexually abused before the age of 18

IMMIGRATION DETENTION AND PRISONS

Between 2010 and 2016, 33,000 allegations of sexual abuse were lodged against the U.S.

Department of Homeland Security agencies, 40% against ICE (Immigration & Customs Enforcement).



In 2015 of 24,661 allegations of SA in prisons, only 6% were substantiated.

STUDENTS & YOUTH



21% of TGQN (transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming) college students have been sexually assaulted, compared to 18% of non-TGQN females, and 4% of non-TGQN males.

DISABILITY

People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities experience rape or sexual assault



more than people without disabilities

HOUSING CRISIS AND SA

