

ACQUAINTANCE AND DATE RAPE

Rape is an act of violence in which sex is used as a weapon. Acquaintance and date rape are rapes perpetrated by someone known to the victim such as a friend, employer, date, or someone the survivor recently met. Acquaintance and date rape, like stranger rape, are almost entirely perpetrated by males against females. The survivor is NEVER responsible for acquaintance or date rape regardless of what she is wearing, where she is, how much she is drinking, or whether or not she fights back. Only offenders are to blame for acquaintance rape.

FACTS AND STATS

- 84% of all rapes are committed by someone the victim knows (Warshaw, R., 1988. **Never Called It Rape**).
- 67% of young women reporting rape were raped in dating situations (Levy, B., 1993. **Dating Violence: Young Women in Danger**).
- On any given day in the United States, 5760 women will be assaulted by a male intimate partner (Pipher, M., 1994. **Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls**).
- There are at least 1.8 million women battered in the United States each year, and from 40% to 45% of those women are forced into sex by a male partner. (Campbell, et al. 1995. "The Influence of Abuse on Pregnancy Intention." **Women's Health Issues**, Winter: 5).
- 1 out of 3 high school relationships includes battering or rape (Creighton, A., 1990. **Helping Teens Stop Violence**).
- 33% to 46% of women in physically abusive relationships are also sexually assaulted by their partner (Holmes, M., 1995. "Primary Health Care Provider's Role in Sexual Assault Prevention." **Women's Health Issues**, Winter: 5).
- The risk of rape is four times higher among women aged 16 to 24, the prime dating age (Warshaw, 1988).
- Young women between the ages of 14 and 17 represent an estimated 38% of those victimized by date rape (Warshaw, 1988).
- 75% of men and 55% of women involved in acquaintance rapes reported using alcohol or other drugs prior to the incident (Warshaw, 1988).