

Laura Luciano, Interim Director

lluciano@echo.rutgers.edu

(848) 932-1181

“In the tunnel where I was raped, ...
a girl had been murdered and
dismembered. I was told this story
by the police. In comparison, they
said, I was lucky. But at the time, I
felt I had more in common with the
dead girl than I did with the large,
beefy police officers or my stunned
freshman-year girlfriends. The dead
girl and I had been in the same low
place. We had lain among the dead
leaves and broken beer bottles.”

-Alice Sebold, Lucky

Sexual Violence is:

A crime:

Each state defines the crime differently and often people don't know that what happened is against the law

A Violation of the Student Code of Conduct

Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking, and other Related Misconduct”

A trauma:

Any significantly distressing experience that causes severe emotional shock and may have long-lasting psychological effects

“emotional memories are forever” (Goodwin, 1993)

Something that goes on for a moment but becomes a memory by the traces it leaves behind (The Jetty)

A crisis:

An emotionally stressful event; a traumatic change in a person's life

Sexual Violence

- any form of unwanted, unwelcome, forceful or coercive sexual contact.
- There are many behaviors that fall into this category
- Although sometimes called by different names, the common threads that bind these behaviors together are issues of violence, control, power and entitlement.
- Some people believe behavior happens on a continuum

Types of Sexual Violence

- Sexual Assault /Rape
- Non consensual touching / Criminal Sexual Contact
- Child sexual abuse/ incestuous sexual abuse
- Sexual harassment
- Intimate partner violence
- Stalking
- Lewdness
- Voyeurism
- Trafficking
- Pornography

Research indicates:

that approximately **1 in 5 women** and **1 in 33 men** will be victims of sexual assault in their lifetime

The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey(N ISVIS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

That **1 in 4 girls** and **1 in 6 boys** will experience that assault prior to the age of 18

Finkelhor, David, et al. "Sexual Abuse in a National Survey of Adult Men and Women: Prevalence, Characteristics and Risk Factors," *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 1990.

That rates of sexual violence on campuses is higher than the national average

(Fisher, Cullen, & Turner 2000)

That the vast majority of victims know their perpetrator CALCASA 2003

That sexual violence is underreported and under-prosecuted Lonsway K A , and Archambault J

Violence Against Women 2012;18:145-168 & Koss, 1987 & CALCASA 2003

That Trans people and the disabled experience the highest rates of sexual

violence Stotzer, R. (2009). Violence against transgender people: A review of United States data. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 14, 170-179.& Young, M.E., Nosek, M.A., Howland, CA., Chanpong, G., Rintala, D.H. 1997 & Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Special Issue. Vol.78 (12,Suppl.5) 534-538.

Why does interpersonal violence happen?

- It's a choice
- Entitlement
- Power and control
- Rape culture
- Risk factors:
 - Lack of empathy
 - Exposure to violence in the home
 - Rigid gender role socialization

Culture of violence?

Some argue that we are living in a culture that tolerates or even promotes violence, especially violence against women. The norms, beliefs, attitudes, rituals and language in our culture allow or encourage violence.

Factors that contribute to rape culture:

- Ascribed power of some groups
- Powerlessness of some groups
- Gender role socialization
- Tools that we use to communicate
 - Popular media
 - Language, use of terms
- Buy in to myths and stereotypes

Myths

- Rape is committed by strangers
- Rapists commit acts of sexual violence because they are sexually frustrated or just can't help themselves
- Rape only happens to 'certain people'
 - promiscuous, stupid, attractive, women.
- Rape is something women and children make up
- Consent is sometimes unclear due to body language or intoxication
- Rape happens accidentally when consent is unclear
- Rape is not premeditated



WHAT IS CONSENT?

- Based on choice
- Active, not passive
- Verbal. Legal consent is verbal, when no forms of trickery, manipulation or intimidation are in place.
- Possible only when there is equal power
- Given freely, not given because of fear
- If you cannot say “no” comfortably, then the “yes” has no meaning.
- The influence of drugs and / or alcohol pre-empt a person from having the ability to give consent.

How do you establish consent?

- Ask the question
 - Specific to clarify intention
 - Lack of saying no is not the same as giving consent
- Of a capable person
 - Drunk
 - Unconscious
 - Mentally or physically incapacitated
 - Underage
- With adequate disclosures
 - Exposure to STI
 - Intention for relationship
 - Marital or commitment status
 - Attitudes toward contraception and pregnancy
- without coercion
 - Bribe
 - Threats
 - False disclosure
 - Obligation

Perpetration

SEXUAL ASSAULT SEQUENCE

- **STEP ONE: Target Selection**
drunk, easily controlled
- **STEP TWO: Approach and Evaluation**
Builds trust, “Nice guy,” fills drink, tests
- **STEP THREE: Separation**
Questions, isolates from friends, guilt
- **STEP FOUR: Consenting or Pressured Sex**
Aggressive, guilt, manipulative

SEXUAL ASSAULT SEQUENCE

(CONT'D)

This is what turns an individual into a perpetrator:

- **STEP FIVE: Intimidation**

Increased aggression, force, no longer “nice guy”

- **STEP SIX: Sexual Violation**

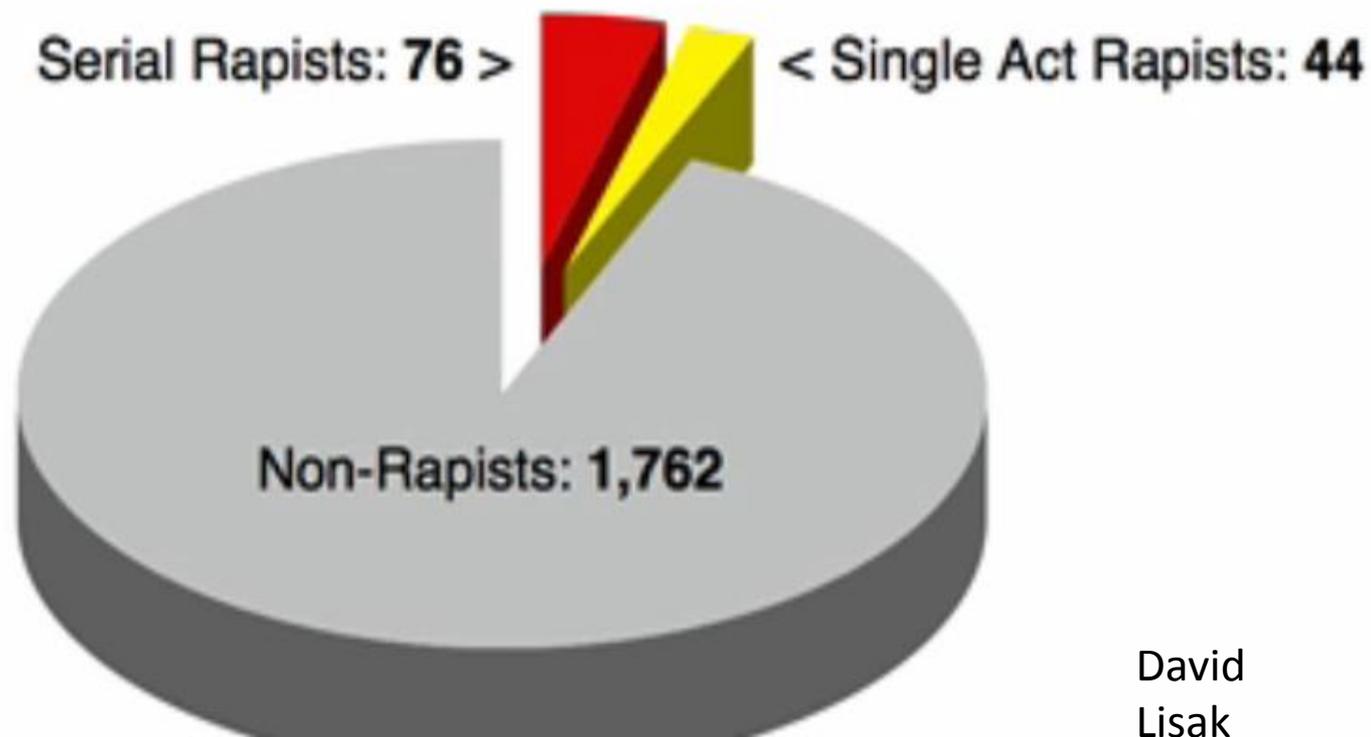
Aggressive, self-absorbed

- **STEP SEVEN: Termination**

Ensure no consequences, “nice guy”, blame, threaten

Serial Offenders - **Boston-Area Study**

- > Men Assessed: **1,882**
- > Rapists: **120** / Serial Offenders: **63%**



Interview with Frank

Anatomy of a campus rapist

- Rapes repeatedly (6+)
- Premeditates and plans
- “stakes out victims”, targets
- Maneuvers victims into positions of vulnerability
- Uses alcohol
- Uses instrumental violence, not gratuitous violence “just enough”
- Hypersexual: has access to consensual sex, more than the average person, uses pornography, masturbates and is compulsive about sexuality
- No particular ethnic or racial group, not mentally ill
- Looks like a “typical” college student, a “good guy”
- Prior to the assault uses ugly talk, ugly jokes, and is misogynistic
- Indicate/show no empathy

Serial Offenders - **Comparing the Studies**

Serial Rapists: **63%**



91% of all rapes
by serial rapists

Serial Rapists: **71%**



95% of all rapes
by serial rapists

“Trauma, especially abuse,
narrows one’s life. A person
who experiences trauma
must often focus on survival,
rather than living fully”

-the Cutting edge, Sidran institute

Common Responses/Reactions

- Minimization
- Guilt, shame, or embarrassment
- Shock and confusion
- Depression
- Flashbacks
- Difficulties with concentration or attention
- Decreased ability to perform at work or school, or accomplish daily tasks
- Fluctuations in weight
- Feeling on guard most of the time(hyper-vigilance)
- Sleep disturbances, nightmares
- Fatigue
- Self-medication with alcohol/drugs
- Self-blame
- Frustration, irritability, anger
- Fear and anxiety
- Emotional numbness
- Isolation/disconnection from other people
- Feeling suicidal
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Working on this issue

- **Prevention Programming:**

- Primary
- Evidence based
- Bystander focused
- Healthy relationships
- Anti-bullying
- Healthy/toxic masculinity

- **Intervention:**

- Connect with local, county based SV Programs
- Trauma based
- Advocacy