
Information about:

ACQUAINTANCE RAPE

One in four women surveyed have been a victim of rape or attempted rape. *4 percent of those raped knew their attacker, and 57 percent of those rapes happened while on dates. One in twelve male students surveyed had committed acts that met the legal definition of rape or attempted rape. Of these students, 84 percent of those men who committed rape said that what they did was definitely not rape. Sixteen percent of the male students who committed rape and ten percent of those who attempted rape took part in sexual attacks involving more than one attacker.

Most acquaintance rapes take place in either the victim's or the assailants home, apartment, or dormitory. Debunking the belief that being in familiar surroundings does not necessarily provide security.

Women who are raped within dating relationships or by an acquaintance are seen as "SAFE" victims because they are unlikely to report the incident to authorities or even view it as rape.

Responses of the Victim

Only 27 percent of those women whose sexual assault met the legal definition of rape thought of themselves as rape victims. 42 percent of rape victims did not tell anyone about their rape and only five percent of rape victims reported the crime to police, or sought help at rape crisis centers.