

Sexual Assault Issues for LGBTQIA Communities

- Young lesbian and bisexual females were four times more likely to have experienced their own peers “attempt[ing] to hurt them in a sexual way (i.e. attempted rape or rape),” than heterosexual girls.
“California Sexual Assault Report Outlines Alarming GLBT Statistics,” A. Lawlor, 2005
- Data collected by a California Coalition Against Sexual Assault report and San Francisco Women Against Rape found that 1 in 3 lesbians have been sexually assaulted by a woman, and 1 in 4 have experienced violence within a lesbian relationship.
“California Sexual Assault Report Outlines Alarming GLBT Statistics,” A. Lawlor, 2005
- Men living with male intimate partners experience more intimate partner violence than men living with female intimate partners. 15% of men who lived as a couple with another man reported being raped/assaulted or stalked by a male cohabitant.
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance: Uniform Definitions and Recommended Data Elements,” L.Salzman, et al. 1999
- A 1991 study of university students reported that of their sample of gay/bi-sexual students (including both gay men and lesbians) approximately 18% had been victims of rape, approximately 12% had been victims of attempted rape, and approximately 37% had been victims of sexual coercion.
Journal of College Student Development, “Patterns of Sexual Behavior, Coercion, and Victimization of University Students,” J. Baier, et al. 1991
- Lesbians report “physically or mentally coercive sex” more often than gay men. One study found that 31% of lesbians reported forced sexual encounters versus 12% of gay men.
“The Gender of Sexuality: The Gender Lens,” P. Schwartz et al., 1998
- In a survey of 403 transgender people, 78% reported having been verbally harassed and 48% reported having been victims of assault, including assault with a weapon, sexual assault or rape.
Gender Public Advocacy Coalition, “First National Survey of Transgender Violence,” R. Wilchins, et al., 1997
- 52% of participants in a study of sexual coercion in gay/lesbian relationships reported at least one incident of sexual assault/coercion.
Violence and Victims, “Sexual Coercion in Gay/Lesbian Relationships Descriptives and Gender Differences,” L. Waldner-Haugrud, et al., 1997
- Preliminary data of transgendered and intersexed individuals gathered by the Gender, Violence and Resource Access Survey found that 50% of respondents had been raped or assaulted by a romantic partner
“Transgender and Intersex Survivors of Domestic Violence: Defining Terms, Barriers and Responsibilities,” D. Courvant, et al. 1998
- Transgendered people are often sexually targeted specifically because of their transgendered status. The sexual perpetrator will stalk them or attack them, infuriated by their cross-gender behavior.
Girlfriends Magazine, “A Hate Crime by Any Other Name,” R Wilchin January 1999
- Violence against members of the transgender community shares many similarities with violence stemming from anti-female hatred and anti-homosexual (and other hate crime) attacks.
Peace Review, “Anti-Transgender Violence: The “Invisible” Human Rights Violation,” T. Witten et al., 1999