

Teen Dating Violence Facts

Prevalence and Frequency

Teen dating violence runs across race, gender, and socioeconomic lines. Both male and females are victims, but boys and girls are abusive in different ways:

- Girls are more likely to yell, threaten to hurt themselves, pinch, slap, scratch, or kick;
- Boys injure girls more severely and frequently;
- Some teen victims experience violence occasionally;
- Others are abused more often...sometimes daily.

“Teen Victim Project,” National Center for Victims of Crime, <http://www.ncvc.org/tvp>, (Last visited 10/5/04).

A comparison of Intimate Partner Violence rates between teens and adults reveals that teens are a higher risk of intimate partner abuse.

Jay G. Silverman et al, “Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality.” *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Vol. 286, 572, 576-577, (Nov. 5, 2001).

Females ages 16-24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group – at a rate almost triple the national average.

U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report: Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-99 (Oct. 2001, rev. 11/28/01).

Nearly one-half of adult sex offenders report committing their first sexual offenses prior to the age of 18.

Ron Snipe, et al, “Recidivism in Young Adulthood, Adolescent Sexual Offenders Grown Up,” 25 *Criminal Justice & Behavior*, 109, 117, (1998).

58% of rape victims report being raped between the ages of 12-24.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), (2002).

Half of the reported date rapes occur among teenagers.

California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) 2002 Report: Research on Rape and Violence, <http://www.usasonama.org/teensite/statistics.htm#Child/Teen%20Victimization>, (Last Visited 10/01/04).

Intimated partner violence among adolescents is associated with increased risk of substance use, unhealthy weight control behaviors, sexual risk behaviors, pregnancy, and suicide.

Molidor, Tolman, & Kober, (2000); National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, (2001).