



ACQUAINTANCE RAPE



“Acquaintance rape includes forced, manipulated or coerced sexual contact.”

Definition

Acquaintance Rape is a sex crime committed by someone who knows the victim. It could be a friend, classmate, relative, co-worker. As a sex crime, acquaintance rape includes forced, manipulated or coerced sexual contact.

Statistics

- More than 70% of rape victims knew their attackers, compared to about half of all violent crime victims.
- 90% of rape victims who knew their attacker did not report the attack to the police.
- 38% of acquaintance rape victims are 14-17 years old. The average age of all adolescent and college victims is 18.5 years.
- 90% of rape victims under age 13 knew their attacker.
- In a survey of more than 6,000 students at 32 colleges and universities in the U.S., it was found that:
 - One in four women had been victims of rape or attempted rape;
 - 84% of the rape victims knew their attacker;
 - 57% of the rapes happened on dates;
 - Only 27% of the women considered themselves to be victims of rape, although their assaults met the legal definition of rape;
 - 42% of the rape victims told no one of the assault, and only 5% reported it to the police;
 - 38% of the women who reported having been raped were 14-16 years old at the time of the attack.

**Acquaintance
Rape**

Sexual Violence

Rape Myths

**Sexual
Harassment**

ACQUAINTANCE RAPE

“Rape is always the fault of the offender.”

Remember

Acquaintance rape is never the victim’s fault. It doesn’t matter where the victim was or what she was wearing. Rape is always the fault of the offender.



**Acquaintance
Rape**

Sexual Violence

Rape Myths

**Sexual
Harassment**

² Rennison, Callie M. *Criminal Victimization*, 1998: Changes 1997-98 with Trends 1993-98. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 1999.

⁴ Bohmer, C. & Parrot, A. *Sexual Assault on Campus*. Lexington Books: New York, p.31, 1993.

⁵ Warshaw, 1988.

⁷ Greenfield, Lawrence A., *Sex Offenses and Offenders: An Analysis of Data on Rape and Sexual Assault*. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 1997.

²⁴ Warshaw, Robin. *I Never Called It Rape: The Ms Report on Recognizing, Fighting and Surviving Date Acquaintance Rape*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1994.