Sexual Violence Prevention Workshop

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By the end of today’s workshop, participants will be able to:

- Explain why sexual violence should be considered a public health issue
- Describe the importance of evidence-based resources and the role they play in terms of intervention & prevention strategies
- Identify some key databases which provide evidence-based research related to sexual violence prevention within colleges or universities
- Identify relevant organizations that collect data on this topic and access this information

**Disclaimer:** I am a Librarian, not an MD or MPH, this session is for basic information purposes only.
Defining Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is any sexual activity where consent is not freely given. This includes completed or attempted sex acts that are against the victim's will or involve a victim who is unable to consent.

Sexual violence also includes:

• Unwanted sexual contact
• Non-contact, unwanted sexual experiences (such as verbal sexual harassment)

(Center for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2016)
Sexual Violence as a Public Health Issue

“Sexual violence is a very serious public health problem that affects millions of women and men.” (CDC, 2016)

“Sexual violence is a serious public health and human rights problem with both short- and long-term consequences on women's physical, mental, and sexual and reproductive health.” (World Health Organization[WHO], 2016)
Benefits to a Public Health Approach

- Considered a **preventable** problem which can be eliminated.
- Viewed as a multi-faceted problem with many different players involved.
- Does not place blame or responsibility on the victim
- Comprehensive, multi-disciplinary, and community-based approach
- Relieves heavily on evidence. Programs which have been developed and tested
- Promotes widespread adoption

West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services [WV FRIS], 2014
Evidence-based practice

“Evidence-based public health practice is the development, implementation, and evaluation of effective programs and policies in public health through application of principles of scientific reasoning, including systematic uses of data and information systems and appropriate use of behavioral science theory and program planning models.”

(Secretary’s Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2020, 2010)
Synonyms and Related Terms

In order to conduct a thorough search of the literature it is important to brainstorm the different terms or phrases (including outdated terms) related to Sexual Violence.

- Sexual violence
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual assault
- Sexual harassment
- Rape
- Intimate partner violence
- Gender-based sexual violence
- Dating violence
- Interpersonal violence
- Stalking
- Sexual victimization
- Date rape
- Acquaintance rape
PubMed Search

**PubMed** - Developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). Strong focus on biomedical and health-related information including allied-health.

- ((("Sex Offenses/prevention and control"[Mesh] OR "Rape/prevention and control"[Mesh] OR "Sexual Harassment/prevention and control"[Mesh] OR "Intimate Partner Violence/prevention and control"[Mesh]) OR (("sexual violence" OR "gender-based sexual violence“ OR “sexual trauma” OR “dating violence” OR rape OR “spouse abuse”) AND (prevention OR initiatives OR "risk reduction" OR programs OR intervention OR "Primary Prevention"[Mesh]))

AND

- (“Schools"[Mesh] OR Universities OR colleges OR "Students"[Mesh] OR "Student Health Services"[Mesh] OR University[TIAB] OR Colleges[TIAB])

AND

- Filter by: Systematic Review, Review, Meta-analysis

Save your search and create an alert
PsycINFO Search

PsycINFO- A world-class resource for abstracts and citations of behavioral and social science research. Heavily focused on psychology and counselling.

- ( DE "Intimate Partner Violence" OR DE "Partner Abuse" OR DE "Intimate Partner Violence" OR DE "Domestic Violence" OR DE "Rape" OR DE "Acquaintance Rape" OR DE "Sexual Harassment" OR DE "Sexual Abuse" OR DE "Partner Abuse" ) OR ( ("Sexual violence" OR "sexual victimization" OR stalking OR "sexual trauma" OR "gender-based sexual violence“ OR dating violence” OR “spouse abuse") AND (MM "Prevention" OR prevention OR "risk reduction" OR programs OR intervention) )

AND

- ( DE "Higher Education" OR DE "Graduate Education" OR DE "Postgraduate Training" OR DE "Undergraduate Education" OR DE "Colleges" OR DE "Community Colleges“ OR DE "Higher Education") OR AB ( colleges OR universities )

AND

- Filter by Methodology
The Problem with Data and Statistics

• **Jeanne Clery Act & Violence Against Women Act** (2013 amendment): mandated that schools track and disclose the number of domestic violence and stalking incidents on campus, in addition to other training obligations for staff dealing with sexual violence cases.

• American Association of University Women (AAUW) analyzed Cleary data from 2014 and found that 91% of college campuses disclosed zero incidences of rape on campus.

• Incidences of sexual violence has routinely been under-reported. We know this because campus climate surveys, research, and qualitative evidence suggests the numbers are significantly higher.

(AAUW, 2015)
Finding Statistics and Data - Research

• Repeat the same search used in PubMed but replace “Prevention” with “Statistics” OR “data” with /statistics and numerical data
  • ("Intimate Partner Violence/statistics and numerical data"[Mesh]) OR "Rape/statistics and numerical data"[Mesh]) OR "Sexual Harassment/statistics and numerical data"[Mesh] OR "Sex Offenses/statistics and numerical data"[Mesh])

• Repeat a similar type of search in: PsycInfo and ERIC (education database)

• Google Advanced Search: filetype:xls OR site:.edu OR site:.gov
Finding Statistics and Data - Data

Government, non-government and University associations often collect statistics and reporting numbers on the Cleary Act as well as internal investigations

• Department of Education’s [Campus Safety and Security Data Analysis Cutting Tool](#).

• American College Health Association. [National College Health Assessment (NCHA)](#)
  
  • Data highlight. Reported sexual assaults

• CDC’s WISQARS™ (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System). [Nonfatal Injury Reports](#)

• [Rape And Sexual Assault Among College-Age Females, 1995-2013. Bureau of Justice Statistics](#)

• [National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) - NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool](#)

• [Association of American Universities. AAU Climate Survey On Sexual Assault And Sexual Misconduct](#)
Questions?

HTTP://LIBGUIDES.TULANE.EDU/SVRESOURCE
References


