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## Intimate Partner Violence – Statistics and Fact Sheet

- Dating Violence is an act or threat of violence by an individual against his/her dating partner (Violence Prevention Program, retrieved from [www.ccmckids.org/vpp](http://www.ccmckids.org/vpp) on June 1, 2006).
- Roughly 85% of all people who are the victims in an abusive relationship are women (Bureau of Justice Special Report, 2001).
- According to the FBI, 20% of the women killed by a husband or boyfriend were between the ages of 15 and 24 years old (Family Violence Law Center, 2003).
- Nearly 5.3 Million incidents of intimate partner violence (includes dating and domestic violence) occur each year among American women ages 18 and older. Conversely, about 3.2 million incidents occur among men ages 18 and older (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000; CDC Fact Sheet, 2006).
- 70% of teenage and college women who are sexually assaulted, are raped during the course of a date (*Children Now*, Kaiser Permanente Poll, December, 1995; The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Dating Violence Fact Sheet).
- 21% of college students report they have experienced dating violence by a current partner. 32% report dating violence by a previous partner (Sellers & Bromley, “Violent Behavior in College Student Dating Relationships,” *Journal of Contemporary Justice*, 1996; The National Center for Victims of Crime, Campus Dating Violence Fact Sheet; The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Dating Violence Fact Sheet).
- 13% of college women report they were forced to have sex by a dating partner (*No More Factsheet*, Liz Claiborne, Inc., [www.loveisnotabuse.com](http://www.loveisnotabuse.com); The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Dating Violence Fact Sheet).
- Among college students who were sexually assaulted, 35% of attempted rapes, 22% of threatened rapes, and 12% of completed rapes happened on dates (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, “The Sexual Victimization of College Women,” Bureau of Justice, 2000; The National Center for Victims of Crime, Campus Dating Violence Fact Sheet; The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Dating Violence Fact Sheet).
- 60% of acquaintance rapes on college campuses occur in casual or steady dating relationships (Johnson & Sigler, “Forced Sexual Intercourse on Campus,” *Journal of Contemporary Justice*, 1996; The National Center for Victims of Crime, Campus Dating Violence Fact Sheet; The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Dating Violence Fact Sheet).
- While both males and females report acting violently in relationships because they were angry, males tend to use force in order to control their girlfriends while females tend to act violently in self-defense (O’Keefe, 1997; National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center [www.safeyouth.org](http://www.safeyouth.org), retrieved 5/30/2006).

- As with other forms of domestic violence, all socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and religious groups can be affected ([www.WomensLaw.org](http://www.WomensLaw.org), retrieved 5/30/2006).
- Dating violence can occur in heterosexual, gay, and lesbian relationships ([www.WomensLaw.org](http://www.WomensLaw.org), retrieved 5/30/2006).
- Dating Violence is similar to other forms of domestic violence in the following ways: patterns of repeated violence that escalates over time, apologies and promises to change occur following a violent outburst, and increasing danger for the victim when she/he attempts to end the relationship ([www.WomensLaw.org](http://www.WomensLaw.org), retrieved 5/30/2006).
- For young adult women, dating violence can be more isolating because the abusive partner attempts to control all aspects of the victim's life. The abuser may make it more difficult for the victim to develop new relationships with peers, nurture existing relationships with family and friends, develop and foster a sense of emotional independence, develop and foster personal values and beliefs, and stay focused on school or a fledgling career ([www.WomensLaw.org](http://www.WomensLaw.org), retrieved 5/30/2006).
- Dating violence encompasses a number of behaviors that range from verbal, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse (Violence Prevention Program, retrieved from [www.ccmckids.org/vpp](http://www.ccmckids.org/vpp) on June 1, 2006).
- 92% of women say that reducing domestic violence and sexual assault should be at the top of any formal efforts taken on behalf of women today (Liz Claiborne Inc., study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February, 2005).
- 37% of all women who sought care in hospital emergency rooms for violence-related injuries were injured by a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend (US Department of Justice)
- Some estimates report almost 1 million incidents of violence occur against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend each year (The Commonwealth Fund, Health Concerns across a Woman's Lifespan: 1998 Survey of Women's Health, May, 1999).
- For 30% of women who experience abuse, the first incident occurs during pregnancy (The National Domestic Violence Hotline, retrieved on June 6, 2006 from [http://www.ndvh.org/educate/abuse\\_in\\_america.html](http://www.ndvh.org/educate/abuse_in_america.html)).
- As many as 324,000 women each year experience intimate partner violence during pregnancy (Gazmararian, Petersen, Spitz, Goodwin, Saltzman, & Marks. "Violence and reproductive health; current knowledge, and future research directions." *Maternal and Child Health Journal*; 4 (2): 79-84).