



# 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  
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**Sexual Violence**

**Rape Myths**

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Harassment**

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

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

<sup>5</sup> Warshaw, 1988.

<sup>7</sup> 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.

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