Facts about GLBT sexual assault

• Wooten (In Press) conducted a study of 219 GLBTQ college students in Boston and Atlanta. Of this sample, 52% reported experiencing unwanted sexual contact. 20% had experienced a sexual assault, and approximately 6% had experienced rape.
• In a study of 342 adult gay men and lesbians conducted in 2005, 63% reported being victimized as children, and 40% reported being re-victimized as adults. Gay men and bi men and women were more likely than lesbians to report being victimized (Heidt, Marx, and Gold, 2005)
• In one study conducted by David Duncan (1999), a sample of 412 university students revealed that 16.9% of the subjects reported that they were lesbian, gay, or bisexual; the remainder identified themselves as heterosexual. Of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual subjects 42.4% (30.6% female and 11.8% male) and 21.4% of the heterosexuals (17.8% female and 3.6% male) indicated they had been forced to have sex against their will.
• In a study of 162 gay men and 111 lesbians conducted by Lisa Waldner-Haugrad (1997) at the University of Houston, 52% reported at least one incident of sexual coercion by same-sex partners. Gay men experienced 1.6 incidents per person, while lesbians experienced 1.2 incidents per person. This study suggests that gay men may experience as much, if not more, coercion in sexual relationships as lesbian women.
• Studies over the past two decades on lesbian sexual violence show a range from a low of 5 percent to a high of 57 percent of respondents reporting that they had experienced attempted or completed sexual assault or rape by another woman, with most studies finding rates of over 30 percent (Duncan, 1999; Lie, Schilit, Bush, Montagne & Reyes, 1991; Loulan, 1988; Renzetti, 1992; Sloan & Edmond, 1996; Waldner-Haugrud & Gratch, 1997; Waterman, Dawson & Bologna, 1989).
• The preliminary data of transgender and intersex individuals gathered by the Gender, Violence and Resource Access Survey found that 50% of respondents had been raped or assaulted by a romantic partner (Courvant and Cook-Daniels, 1998). Eyler and Witten (1999) have began a longitudinal study of violence against the transgendered community, and the preliminary data clearly show a high degree of incidence of both physical and sexual violence perpetrated on those who express cross-gender (or otherwise gender variant) behavior.

Bibliography


