April 6, 2006, a presentation to the Education Committee of the UW Board of Regents

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response in the UW System
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National Perspective

Eva Shiffrin, J.D.
Staff Attorney
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc.
Characteristics of Sexual Assault

- Approximately 90% of victims are female.
- Over 90% of offenders are male.
- Over 90% of sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone known to the victim.
- In approximately 90% of assaults the victim and offender are the same race.
- In Wisconsin, over 90% of offenders are white males.
- 2% of sexual assault accusations reported to police are found to be false; the same rate as for other types of violent crime.
National Survey of College Women

(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)


• Random survey of 4,446 college women enrolled in Spring 1997.

• Colleges and universities from 1,000 to >20,000 students and in urban, suburban, and rural locations.

• Reference period was since school began in Fall 1996 (approx. 7 months).
## Sexual Victimization

(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victimization involving physical force</th>
<th>7.7%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victimization involving non physical force</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any victimization (either physical or nonphysical or both)</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Completed or Attempted Rape

*(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of victimization</th>
<th>% of students</th>
<th>% undergrads</th>
<th>% graduates</th>
<th>Incident rate per 1,000 female students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completed rape</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted rape</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Characteristics of Incidents

(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)

• Offenders were known to victims 90% of the time.
• >90% of offenders were men assaulting women.
• Majority of incidents occurred in the evening, with more than half after midnight.
• Majority of incidents occurred in living quarters of victim or offender.
• Approximately 2/3 of incidents occurred off campus.
• Fewer than 5% of completed and attempted rapes were reported to law enforcement officials.
## Victim Decision to Report Rape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reported to any police agency</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported to any campus authority</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disclosed incident to someone other than police or campus authority</td>
<td>66.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Reasons Incidents Not Reported

(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons Incident Not Reported to Any Police Agency</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Want Other People to Know</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Want Family to Know</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Serious Enough to Report</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Sure Crime or Harm Intended</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Proof that Incident Happened</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Would Not Think Serious Enough</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afraid of Reprisal by Person or Others</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Barriers to Reporting

- Self-blame, embarrassment, shame.
- Mistrust of judicial system.
- Fear of being sanctioned for illegal use of substance or underage drinking.
Alcohol and Sexual Assault

- Alcohol most frequently used substance in drug-facilitated rapes.
- 75% of acknowledged sex offenders reported using alcohol to facilitate an assault. (Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)
- Alcohol use does not cause sexual violence.
- Sexual assault and substance abuse are separate issues.
Campus Sexual Assault Offenders

(Fisher, Cullen, Turner, 2000)

% of Sample

Completed rape

Attempted rape

Classmate

Friend

Boyfriend/ex-boyfriend

Acquaintance

Other

Offender

0 10 20 30 40 50

35.5

34.2

23.7

2.6

4.0

43.5

24.2

14.5

9.7

8.1
Characteristics of Offenders

- Study of 1,882 male students at mid-sized urban university. Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists, Lisak, David, and Miller, Paul M Victim Advocate. Spring 2005.

- They were asked behaviorally specific questions, but not using words such as rape, assault, abuse, or battery.

- 120 (6.4%) of those in the survey replied they had acted in ways that met the criteria for rape or attempted rape.

- 78 (63%) of the 120 admitted to just under 6 rapes each.

- 80.8% admitted to raping women incapacitated by drugs and/or alcohol.
UW System Coordination

Dr. Janice Sheppard
Senior Academic Planner
UW System Office of Academic and Student Services
UW System - Role

Coordination of

- Reporting
- Data compilation
- Collaboration with WCASA
- Workshops and Training
UW System

Reporting

• Annually review and revise guidelines for institutional reporting to clarify process and improve consistency.
• Gather and compile institutional reports as required by Wis. Stats. 36.11(12).
Data

- Assaults reported to University Officials
- AODA survey (2005)
- Institution specific survey data
Collaboration

• Co-sponsored 2004 and 2005 Conference on Sexual Violence and the College Campus.
Workshops & Training

- As part of the 2006 Conference, UWSA will organize workshops for UW campus staff to
  - Share promising practices.
  - Receive training on outcomes based assessment.
UW Campus Model

Providing Coordinated Victim Services

Dr. Ann Malain
Associate Director, Counseling Center
UW-Oshkosh
Victim Services Coordination Model

Characteristics

• Comprehensive, wrap-around, campus based services model for victims.

• Leverage existing campus and community resources interlinked cooperative system.

• Victim Services Coordination Model.
UW-Oshkosh

Victim Services Coordination Model

Purpose

• Provide coordinated, interdisciplinary response.
• Meet medical & emotional needs of victim.
• Assist investigative needs of the police or campus judicial process.
• Enhance victim safety & increase offender accountability.
UW-Oshkosh

Campus Partnerships

- Dean of Students/Judicial Affairs
- University Police
- Counseling Center
- Residence Life
- Student Health Center
- Campus Victim Advocates
Community Partnerships

- REACH community sexual assault service providers
- Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc. (CADASI)
- Fox Valley Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)
- Winnebago County Domestic Violence Coordinated Community Response Team (DV-CCR)
Advantages of the Model

• Provides consistent case review of individual and community safety issues.
• Links victims more consistently to existing campus and community resources.
• Helps identify concern regarding victim needs.
• Clarifies criminal or campus judicial process in each case.
• Provides consistent case review for meeting state and federal laws (Title IX).
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Primary Positive Impact of Services

• Increased number of victims seeking support.
• Support to victims allows them to persist in
  • Academics.
  • Healing.
  • Campus complaint & criminal processes.
• Secondary impact of services.
UW-Oshkosh

Secondary Impact of Services

• Judicial Affairs officers can focus on investigation because victim is supported elsewhere.

• Police investigations
  • Proceed more smoothly.
  • More successful in gathering timely and documented evidence.
  • Result in stronger cases.
  • Greater chance for prosecution and conviction of assailants.
Next Steps

- Continue prevention education.
- Increase reporting.
- Track outcome trends in
  - Victim impact and retention.
  - Campus judicial proceedings.
  - Survey of student attitudes.