



RAPE IN UTAH

- One in three Utah women will experience some form of sexual violence in her lifetime.
- Over three-fourths (78.7%) of women surveyed in Utah who had been sexually assaulted reported that the first sexual assault they experienced was committed on them before their 18th birthday.
- The majority of sexual assaults are committed by a male who is someone the victim knows: 31% of victims were assaulted by a relative, 21% were assaulted by husbands, ex-husbands or boyfriends. Only 13% of assaults were committed by a stranger.
- Women who were sexually assaulted were more likely than victims of nonsexual trauma to suffer negative health and psychological impacts such as PTSD and depression.
- Only 1/3 of victims received counseling related to the sexual assault they had experienced.
- Only 1 in 10 victims surveyed said they had reported the assault to police.
- Charges were filed in less than half (44.3%) of sexual assaults reported to the police.

Rape in Utah, 2007, Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- Reported rapes in Utah increased in 2009, while reporting of all other violent crimes decreased.
- Rape is the only violent crime in Utah that exceeds the national average.
 - 2008 Rapes reported per 100,000 female population: US = 57.7, UT = 64.8
- From 2002 to 2009, Carbon, Uintah, Salt Lake, Tooele and Weber counties had a significantly higher reported rape rate than the average state rate of 70.0 per 100,000 female population.
- In 2010, one rape was reported every 9.57 hours, and 4,730 forcible sexual assaults were reported in which the victim was a family member.

Uniform Crime Reports, 2002-2010, Utah Department of Public Safety

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- **High school students' experience of rape:** In 2009, 8.2% of females and 5.8% of males surveyed in Utah high schools had been physically forced to have unwanted sexual intercourse.
- Adults in Utah who reported 5 or more adverse childhood experiences were 15 times as likely to report having been raped as an adult than adults who reported no adverse childhood experiences.
- Rape victims had a significantly higher prevalence in reporting they were not satisfied with life (14.7% vs. 4.8%), didn't receive the social and emotional support they need (33.8% vs. 13.2%), had fair or poor health (25.9% vs. 10.7%), and were limited in activities because of physical, mental, or emotional problems (39.2% vs. 19.7%)

Utah Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2010; Adverse Childhood Experiences and Health, 2011, Utah Department of Health

VICTIM TREATMENT RESTITUTION FUNDS

Currently, only a small percentage of restitution owed to victims by Defendants is ever paid. When a person is convicted of a sex crime, fines assessed should be granted to direct service providers to be used to treat victims of rape and sexual assault.

DATING PROTECTION BILL

For individuals who go on one date and they are sexually assaulted or abused by their dating partner, no protection is provided for them under current Utah law. In order for them to acquire a stalking injunction there has to be at least two incidents of abuse and because they do not live together or have a child in common they cannot obtain a protective order.

Utah Rape Myths

Myth: **Rapists are strangers.**

4 out of 5 (80%) of reported rapes are committed by someone known to the victim.

Myth: **A woman cannot be raped by her husband.**

In 1991, Utah passed a law recognizing forcible rape (forcible non-consensual sexual intercourse) between married couples as a felony.

Myth: **Rapes are one-time impulse occurrences.**

Rapists rape on the average of 6-10 times a year. A rapist averages 30 rapes before being convicted. 64% of reported rapes are planned.

Myth: **Women can prevent rape by fighting, running or screaming.**

70% of reported rapes include threat of bodily harm or death. Most rapes include brute force and/or threat of a weapon.

Myth: **Women provoke sexual assault through seduction.**

In Utah, the oldest victim is a 94-year-old woman. The youngest victim is a 3 day-old baby boy.

Myth: **Women frequently "cry rape."**

Less than 2% of reported rapes are re-counted.

Myth: **A person who has been sexually assaulted will be hysterical.**

Survivors exhibit a spectrum of responses: calm, hysteria, laughter, anger, apathy and shock. Survivors cope in different ways.

Myth: **"She asked for it." Women often provoke rape by their own behavior: wearing low-cut or tight clothing, going out alone, staying out late, being drunk, using drugs, kissing, etc.**

No one asks to be sexually assaulted. The victim's behavior does not justify or excuse the crime. The sex offender, not the victim, must be held responsible for this crime.