

*What Happens at Conference, Stays at  
Conference: Exploring the Issues of  
Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault  
and Correlates at Conferences*

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# Introduction

Sexual assault: least reported of all crimes

Only crime where the **victim is blamed**

Purpose: To examine the issue of sexual assault and sexual harassment occurrence at academic conferences



# Sexual Assault Rates & Characteristics



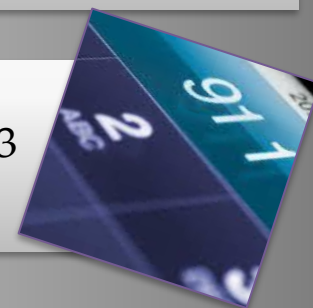
1 in 6 to 1 in 4 women will be victims within lifetime<sup>1</sup>

With majority of assaults, victim knows perpetrator



12-25% of women in the world have been victims<sup>2</sup>

Only 25%-32% of assaults are reported to authorities<sup>3</sup>



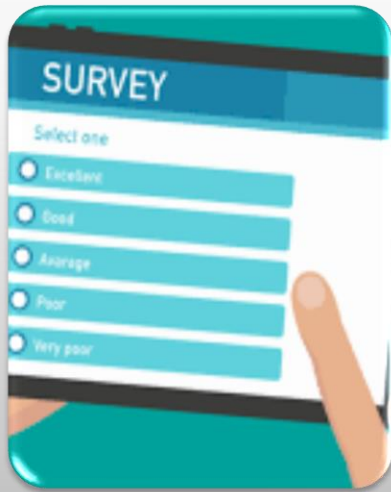
1 in 33 (3%) of men experience sexual victimization during lifetime<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Reddington & Kreisel (2009); <sup>2</sup>World Health Organization (2000); <sup>3</sup>Bachman (1998) and Reddington & Kreisel (2009);

<sup>4</sup>Reddington & Kreisel (2009) and Taden & Thoennes (1998);

# Methods

## Survey



- Sent to ASC/ACJS/Regional sections and divisions
- Sent via Twitter and Facebook
- Sent to a random sample of ASC members from the public membership list

## Sample (n=142)



- Information from 142 responses
  - 115 female (81%); 24 male (16.9%); 2 other (1.4%)
  - Ages ranged from 22-77
  - 127 White (89.4%); African-American/Black 4 (2.8%); Hispanic/Latino/Latina 2 (1.4%); Asian 2 (1.4%); Middle Eastern 2 (1.4%); Other 3 (2.1%)

# Results (n=158)

|                              | Victims | Reported to police | Reported to others |
|------------------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Property Crime               | 1.3%    | 0%                 | 50%                |
| Unwanted sexual touching     | 3.2%    | 0%                 | 60%                |
| Incapacitated sexual assault | 2.5%    | 0%                 | 50%                |
| Sexual harassment            | 9.5%    | n/a                | 26.7%              |

# Results (n=158)

|                          |               | Victims | Reported to police | Reported to others |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Property Crime           |               |         |                    |                    |
|                          | Once          | 5.1%    |                    |                    |
|                          | Twice         | 2.5%    | 25%                | 16.7%              |
| Violent Crime            |               |         |                    |                    |
|                          | Once          | 0.6%    | 0%                 | 0%                 |
| Unwanted sexual touching |               |         |                    |                    |
|                          | Once          | 10.1%   |                    |                    |
|                          | Twice         | 6.3%    | 0%                 | 70%                |
|                          | Three or more | 2.5%    |                    |                    |

# Results (n=158)

|                              | Victims | Reported to police | Reported to others |
|------------------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Unwanted sexual acts         |         |                    |                    |
| Once                         | 1.9%    | 0%                 | 75%                |
| Twice                        | 0.6%    |                    |                    |
| Unwanted sexual intercourse  |         |                    |                    |
| Once                         | 1.3%    | 0%                 | 100%               |
| Incapacitated sexual assault |         |                    |                    |
| Once                         | 3.2%    | 0%                 | 83.3%              |
| Three or more                | 0.6%    |                    |                    |
| Attempted Forcible rape      |         |                    |                    |
| Once                         | 1.3%    | 0%                 | 100%               |
| Three or more                | 0.6%    |                    |                    |

# Results (n=158)

|                         |               | Victims | Reported to police | Reported to others |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Attempted forcible rape |               |         |                    |                    |
|                         | Once          | 1.3%    | 0%                 | 100%               |
|                         | Three or more | 0.6%    |                    |                    |
| Sexual harassment       |               |         |                    |                    |
|                         | Once          | 7%      |                    |                    |
|                         | Twice         | 6.3%    | n/a                | 51.3%              |
|                         | Three or more | 11.4%   |                    |                    |



# Conclusions



## Limitations



## Future Research