Sexual Assault Statistics for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Older Adults

- 18% of women raped each year are sixty years of age or older.
  Cries from the Heartland Video, 1995.

- About 70.7% of older victims were assaulted in a nursing home; 14.6% of older victims were assaulted in the home of the perpetrator; 12.2% were sexually assaulted in their home; 2.4% were assaulted in an adult care residence.

- In one-third of the cases, sexually abusive acts towards elders were witnessed by others.

- According to one study more that ½ of nursing home residents, who were victims of sexual assault, died within 1 year of their victimization.

- In 90% of all elder abuse cases, the perpetrator was a family member. Two-thirds of the offenders were adult children or spouses.

People with Disabilities

- Among adults who are developmentally disabled, as many as 83% of females and 32% of males are victims of sexual assault.

- 40% of women with physical disabilities reported being sexually assaulted.
• 49% of people with developmental disabilities, who are victims of sexual violence, will experience 10 or more abusive incidents.

• Only 3% of sexual abuse cases involving people with developmental disabilities are ever reported.

• Of the women with disabilities who have been married, 38% experienced sexual violence by their partner.

• 33% of abusers are friends or acquaintances, 33% are natural or foster family members, and 25% are caregivers or service providers.