Unit 15: Violence by Strangers, Interpersonal Violence, and Sexual Violence

Objectives

- Define intimate partner violence
- Define consent and sexual assault
- Understand epidemiological patterns in violence against women:
  - Committed by strangers
  - Interpersonal violence
  - Sexual violence
### Violence by Strangers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violent crime:</th>
<th>Rates of violent crimes against women are less than those against men</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Carjacking</td>
<td>- But the proportion has grown</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Robbery</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Murder</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Gang violence</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sexual assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Rape</td>
<td><strong>Strangers commit 55% of aggravated assaults against women.</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hate Crimes

- **Hate Crime:**
  - Collective violence motivated by hatred or prejudice against a person’s race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.

- Considered an ‘act of terrorism’

- Terrorism –systematic use of fear to change the way other persons behave.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

2010 Hate Crimes
Behind the Bias

Motivation percentages of the 6,624 single-bias incidents in 2010:

- Race: 47.3%
- Religion: 20.0%
- Sexual Orientation: 19.3%
- Ethnicity/National Origin: 12.8%
- Disability: 0.6%

Interpersonal Violence

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
Who Is At Risk for Violence?

- **ANYONE**
- But especially vulnerable groups:
  - Women
  - Children
  - Disabled
  - Elderly
  - Immigrants
  - LGBTQ

Violence Against Women

- **Violence Against Women:**
  - Collectively refers to violent acts that are primarily or exclusively against women.
  - Specifically targeted because of gender
  - Can be perpetrated by anyone
Who is Affected?

- Not only the abused, but:
  - Family, friends, coworkers, other witnesses, society at large
- 15 million children live in homes where violence occurs
  - Half are aware of the violence
  - 3.3 million children witness the violence

Cycle of Violence
IPV or Domestic Violence

- 5 Types of Interpersonal Violence:
  - Physical
  - Sexual
  - Economic/Property
  - Psychological
  - Social

Intimate Partner Violence

- IPV
  - Abuse that occurs between two people in a close relationship
  - Includes current and formers relationships
  - Can occur along a continuum
    - One incident to ongoing battering
- 1 in 4 women will experience IPV during her lifetime
IPV

- 4.8 million women experience IPV violence each year
- 10% of high school students are victims of IPV each year

Stalking

- Violent behavior directed at a specific person involving:
  - Repeated sightings or encounters
  - Nonconsensual communication
  - Written, verbal, or implied threats
  - Any combination, that would cause a reasonable person to feel afraid
Stalking

- Stalker’s behavior typically becomes increasingly threatening, serious, and violent.
- Cyberstalking
  - Stalking done through a distance using modern communication technology

Domestic Violence in Same Sex Relationships

- 1999 meta-analysis found lesbians and gay men to be just as likely to abuse as heterosexual men.
Domestic Violence and Same Sex Relationships

- Services are designed for heterosexual individuals
- Obstacles to reporting
  - Dismissal by social services and police
  - Lack of support
  - Not wanting to attract negative attention to the gay community
- Leads to what some have labeled “the double closet.”

Sexual Assault
Consent

- **Consent IS:**
  - Giving explicit permission
  - Only possible when there is equal power
  - Based on choice
  - Active, not passive
  - Determined without pressure or coercion from others
- **Consent IS NOT:**
  - Giving in because of fear
  - Based on manipulation, deception, or lying
  - Possible when one person has more power than the other
  - Possible when one person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs
  - Giggling, changing the subject, or squirming

**Sexual Assault:**
- Forced sexual contact of any kind

**Rape:**
- Forced sexual penetration without consent
- Can occur among strangers or intimates
- Can occur among individuals of the same sex
### Incidence and Prevalence

- **1 in 6** women will be SA in their lifetime
- **1 in 33** men will be SA in their lifetime
- **1 in 4 college women** experience sexual assault
  - 4x more likely than women in the general population

### Incidence and Prevalence

- **18.3%** of women have survived a completed or attempted rape
- **44%** of rape victims were < 18 years
  - 15% are < 12 years
  - Accounts for 10% of child abuse cases
  - 13% of girls, 3.4% of boys have been sexually abused
- Of rapes:
  - ¾ of victims know their assailants
    - 48% were friends or acquaintance
    - 17% were a current intimate partner
    - 8% a relative
Class Wrap-Up

- **Key Words:**
  - Violent crime, Hate crime, IPV, Consent, Sexual Assault

- **Individual Importance:**
  - Most violence committed against women, is by someone that they know.

- **Public Health Importance:**
  - Nearly a quarter of women will experience either domestic violence or sexual assault in their life.

- **Socio/Economic Importance:**
  - Our society is poorly set up to prevent and handle violence among vulnerable populations like LGTBQ and students.