



The Voice

A publication by Voices Against Violence



Issue 11

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2011

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Little Justice For Adult Victims of Sexual Assault in New Hampshire

On February 28, 2011, a report entitled "The Reality of Sexual Assault in New Hampshire" was released by the Research Committee of the Governor's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence. The study examined the response of the criminal justice system to adult female victims of sexual assault. The findings illuminate both the immense barriers and the lack of justice that victims face within this system. Only **13 out of 344 offenders** were found guilty in 2006.

Snap Shot Findings (NHCADSV News & Events)

I. Rapes don't get prosecuted because of public misperceptions. Jurors attitudes reflect

public misperception of the reality of adult female sexual assault and thus make it difficult if not impossible, to successfully prosecute these cases. Public opinion and lack of knowledge impacts the ability to successfully prosecute adult female sexual assault cases and decisions about whether to bring cases forward.

II. Different system goals hinder responses to victims.

There is a lack of consistent collaboration among the various disciplines responding to adult female sexual assaults. The responses of interviewees showed the ways in which different parts of the system have different goals and a different focus.

III. Real rape? Deserving victims?

There are inconsistent and ineffective responses to adult female sexual assault across the state. The professionals interviewed understand the complexity of victim reactions, but everyone agrees that "the system" as a whole still endorses stereotypes about "real rape" or "deserving victims".

IV. The system is broken.

The criminal justice system is not designed to respond to the challenges of adult female sexual assault cases. Interviewees across disciplines agreed that a new approach is needed to effectively deal with adult female sexual assault cases.

As a community, we need to work together to find ways to improve these numbers, find

By the Numbers	
3	The percentage of reported sexual assaults of adult females in NH that resulted in a conviction in 2006
4	The age at which a male is at highest risk for being the victim of sexual violence
14	The age at which a female is at highest risk for being the victim of sexual violence
84	The percentage of sexual assaults committed by someone the victim knows
127	The number of seconds between sexual assault in the United States

justice for victims, and hold perpetrators accountable.

For more information about this study visit:
<http://www.nhcadsv.org>.

You Can Help End Sexual Violence

1. Believe & Support Victims.
2. Educate Yourself. What is consent? What are "No" messages?
3. Be Vocal. Let others know that sexual violence is never the victim's fault. It is never an acceptable consequence for anything.
4. Wear a Teal Ribbon and Tell People Why!
5. Attend a S.A.A.M. Event (see page 2)

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April Calendar of Events:
Sexual Assault Awareness Month
April, 2011

*What will you
do to end
sexual
violence
in our
community?*

March 31 & April 1, 8pm

Vagina Monologues @ PSU, Hyde 220
Tickets Available @ Silver Center Box Office
\$6/students, \$8/faculty & staff, \$11/all others
Proceeds to benefit Family Planning

April 5 - All Day Event

National Take Action Day designed to involve bystanders in preventing sexual violence. Take action by changing your Facebook picture to you and a picture of a clock and update your status to: *"It's time to get involved!!!"*

www.facebook.com/voicesagainstviolence

April 11, 7:30pm — 9:00pm

"Until The Violence Stops" film and discussion panel @ PSU, Boyd 144. The documentary unites women from all over the world as they share their painful experiences at the hands of abuse.

April 12 - All Day Event

2011 Clothesline Project Display @ the State House Lawn, Concord, NH. T-shirts made by victims, survivors, loved ones, and community members are displayed. T-shirts are designed to represent the impact of sexual and domestic violence, stalking and child abuse. To participate, you may donate new or gently-used t-shirts to the Voices Against Violence office. Call 536-3423 to set up a time to make t-shirts. Shirts and materials will also be available at the Clothesline Project displays. For more information visit: <http://www.avap1.org/clothesline/>

April 13 — 16th

Clothesline Project Display @ Colby Sawyer College, New London, NH. T-shirts made from 1994 to 2011 will be displayed.

April 15 - All Day Event

Denim Day held everywhere! Denim Day has been internationally celebrated since 1999 in protest of an Italian High Court ruling that overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing "very tight" jeans. Enraged by the verdict, women of the Italian Legislature protested this decision by wearing jeans to work. As news of the decision spread, so did the protest.

Wear denim today to raise awareness!

April 16 - 9:30am Registration

Walk A Mile in Her Shoes @ PSU, in front of Hartman Union Building. Walk begins at 10:30am, rain or shine. A walk to stop rape, sexual assault and gender violence. No registration fee, but donations will benefit Voices Against Violence. For more info, visit the PSU Campus Police or www.walkamileinher shoes.org

April 20 - All Day Event

PSU Denim Day for Plymouth State University. Wear denim today to raise awareness!

April 26 — 28th

Pizza Nights! @ Plymouth House of Pizza. A portion of food sales on these nights will be donated to Voices Against Violence. Support victims by grabbing a slice of delicious pizza.

April 30, 10am—3pm

Plymouth Area Clothesline Project Display @ Plymouth Town Common (or HUB Fireplace Lounge if inclement weather). This is a great opportunity to show your support, while viewing this powerful display.

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Community Support
Making a Difference in the Lives of Victims



We're looking for some help finding...

Lawn Mower	Sleds	Passes to Local Events:
Infant car seat	Bicycles	Jazzercise, Movies, Lost
Table Lamps	Outdoor table w/ umbrella	River, Squam Lake
Alarm clock with radio	Outdoor chairs	Science Center, Whales
DVD player	Gift Certificates: Hannaford,	Tale, Silver Center for the
Fabric markers/paint	Staples, Walmart, etc.	Arts etc.
New/Gently Used T-Shirts	Booster seat that clips to table	
Weed Wacker		

Please call 536-3423 if you are able to donate any of these items. Thank you!

A Special Thanks to Our Recent Donors

Scott King	Ted & Hope Russell
Patricia & Richard Hage	M.E. Latulippe
Darlene King-Jennings	Mark & Reine Fischler
Jon & Connie Maata	James D. Aguiar
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Roderick Macleish	KPinC Consulting
Thomas Garesche	Richard & Kathie Flanders
James & Pamela Farmer	Betsy Cheney & Ann Thurston

Here are some of the ways that your donations are helping to break the cycle of violence:

1. **Heating Oil.** So women and children fleeing from abuse have a safe, warm refuge.
2. **Girls ' Empowerment Group.** So middle school girls have the tools to develop healthy relationships.
3. **Transportation.** So victims can get Protective Orders from the Court, attend medical appointments, and escape from abuse
4. **Education.** So that children learn about age-appropriate topics including body safety, bullying, and teen dating violence

Duncan & Eve Porter-Zuckerman
Christopher & Heather Chabot
Plymouth United Methodist Church
Joyce Palmer & George DeWolf
Winnie Donatelli c/o Margaret DeLuca
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

And to everyone who contributed to our 2011 Winter Ball

To make a monetary gift to Voices Against Violence, please send your check to: PO Box 53, Plymouth NH 03264.

All donations are tax deductible.

Voices Against Violence

PO Box 53
Plymouth, NH 03264

Office Phone:

1(603) 536-5999

1(603) 536-3423

24 Hour Crisis Line:

1 (603) 536-1659

1 (877) 221-6176 (toll free)

www.facebook.com/voicesagainstviolence



Reaching Out.
Speaking Out.

Since 1981 Voices Against Violence has been reaching out to and supporting victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking. Our advocates provide understanding, information, and support to victims, survivors, and non-offending family and friends. Our services include a 24-hour Crisis Line, Court Advocacy, Police and Hospital Accompaniment, Systems Advocacy, Emergency Shelter, Support Groups, and Education and Outreach. Domestic and sexual violence can take many forms including physical abuse, mental abuse, sexual assault, verbal threatening, and name calling. It can affect anyone at any time: friends, coworkers, relatives, children, teens, men, and women. By acknowledging the existence of domestic and sexual violence and stalking in our communities, we can raise awareness of the problem and enable both victims and witnesses to take action and break the cycle of violence.

Free and Confidential

24 hours a day, 7 days a week