

Sexual Violence Fact Sheet

Childhood Sexual Victimization in Virginia

Overview

Key findings from the report,

Childhood Sexual Assault Victimization in Virginia

*Division for Injury and Violence Prevention,
Virginia Department of Health, August 2004*

As many as 1 in 4 children are sexually victimized

- Of the 1,769 women and 705 men surveyed, 25% were sexually victimized as children; for women, the figure was 27% and for men, 20%.
- Over half (51%) of women experienced sexual assault before the age of 13, as did 39% of men.

Children are sexually victimized in different ways

- Female victims were much more likely to have been victimized by rape or attempted rape than male victims.
- Male victims experienced higher levels than females of non-forcible child rape and non-forcible child molestation in the teenage years.
- Of the males and females reporting having non-forced sexual intercourse, 100% of those 12 and under, 85% of those age 13 and 14, and 83% of those age 15-17 would be classified as victims according to Virginia law.



Childhood Victimization

Many perpetrators are trusted adults

- Seventy-one percent of assaults against children were perpetrated by adults.
- Almost half (43%) of the perpetrators were identified as family members.
- Most (89%) of the perpetrators were male.
- Only 10% of perpetrators were strangers.

Few victims receive professional help

- Very few victims (8%) received medical care for the worst incident of child sexual victimization.
- 10% of respondents said their worst incident of child sexual victimization was reported to police.
- 33% of victims spoke with a counselor about their victimization at any time after the event.

Resources

Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline offers crisis intervention, support, information, and referrals to local Sexual Assault Crisis Centers, Domestic Violence Programs, and other community resources. It is free & confidential 24 hours a day.

1.800.838.8238 (v/tty)

www.vsdvalliance.org

The Stop It Now! Helpline is a toll-free resource for questions or concerns about child sexual abuse. Anyone may call concerned about sexually inappropriate behaviors in another adult, adolescent or child or in themselves. Staff provide an opportunity for callers to gather information, talk through a situation and explore options for taking action. **The helpline operates Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

1-888-PREVENT (1-888-773-8368).

Virginia Child Protective Services Hotline will document a report of child abuse and neglect. All reports trigger an investigation by the local CPS social worker, who will investigate and make an assessment of the child's immediate safety needs.

1-800-552-7096 (in state) 1-804-786-8536 (out of state) 1-800-828-1120 (TTY)



Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence
ACTION ALLIANCE

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Phone: 866.3.VSDVAA • Virginia Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline: 1.800.838.8238 (v/tty)