

Facts about Teen Sexual Assault

- Sexual assault is defined as any action of a sexual nature, which is perpetrated against another who is unwilling or unable to give consent.
- One in three girls and one in six boys will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18.¹
- 33% of sexual assaults occur when the victim is between 12 and 17 years old.²
- In a survey of local high school students, 42% of the students believed that forced sex was acceptable under some circumstances.³ Forcing someone into sexual contact of any kind is NEVER acceptable
- 78% of teenage rape victims do not tell their parents about the incident. 71% of teenage rape victims tell a friend.⁵
- One study reported that 11%-20% of teens were pregnant as a direct result of rape.⁶
- Sexual assault increases rates of bulimia, substance abuse, and suicide attempts among adolescent females. ⁷
- The FBI and other researchers find that false reports of sexual assault run at 2%, the same as those for other crimes.⁸

-
1. Bureau of Justice Statistics (1997).
 2. U.S. Department of Justice Statistics (2000).
 3. LACASA Survey of 3,750 Middle & High School Students in Livingston County. LACASA. Howell, MI. 2003.
 4. National Center for Victims of Crime (2004)
 5. Harper Collins, 2nd Edition 1994, I Never Called it Rape, by Robin Warshaw
 6. Boyer & Fine (1992) Sexual Abuse as a Factor in Teen Pregnancy.
 7. The Commonwealth Fund Survey of the Health of Adolescent Girls. The Commonwealth Fund. New York. 1997.
 8. Salholz, et al. (1992) Virgin or Vamp



COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES CENTER
2895 W. Grand River Avenue
Howell, MI 48843
Phone (517) 548-1350
Fax (517) 548-3034
TTY (517) 548-0781
info@lacasa1.org
www.lacasa1.org

24-HOUR
TOLL-FREE CRISIS LINE
(866) 522-2725

Created by LACASA. Updated 2007.
Reprint permitted with credit to LACASA.

Abuse impacts on humanity and on society; therefore, LACASA is committed to diversity and to serving all individuals.