

# *Sexual Offences*

## *Sexual violence - in WHO reports*



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KATEDRA PRAWA KARNEGO WYKONAWCZEGO



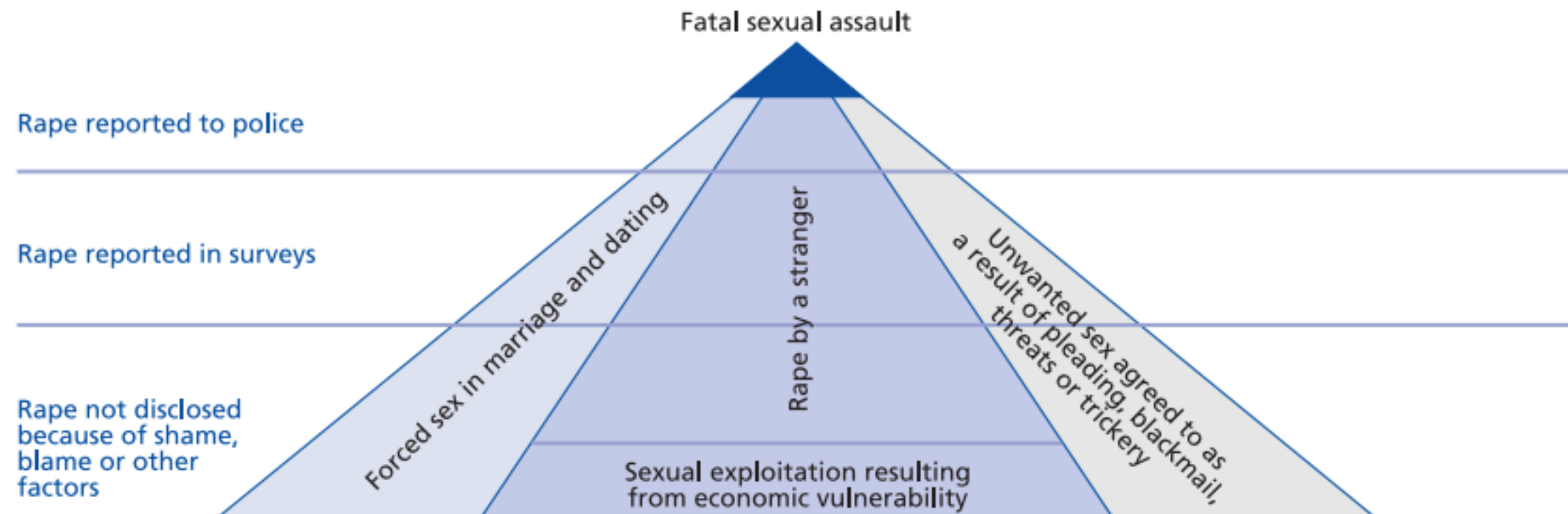
# *The extent of the problem*

## *Sources of data*

- ▶ Data on sexual violence typically come from police, clinical settings, non-governmental organizations and survey research. The relationship between these sources and the global magnitude of the problem of sexual violence may be viewed as corresponding to an iceberg floating in water
- ▶ The small visible tip represents cases reported to police.

FIGURE 6.1

### Magnitude of the problem of sexual violence



# *Estimates of sexual violence*

- Surveys of victims of crime have been undertaken in many cities and countries, using a common methodology to aid comparability, and have generally included questions on sexual violence. Table 6.1 summarizes data from some of these surveys on the prevalence of sexual assault over the preceding 5 years.

TABLE 6.1

Percentage of women aged 16 years and older who report having been sexually assaulted in the previous 5 years, selected cities, 1992–1997

Country	Study population	Year	Sample size	Percentage of women (aged 16 years and older) sexually assaulted in the previous 5 years (%)
<b>Africa</b>				
Botswana	Gaborone	1997	644	0.8
Egypt	Cairo	1992	1000	3.1
South Africa	Johannesburg	1996	1006	2.3
Tunisia	Grand-Tunis	1993	1087	1.9
Uganda	Kampala	1996	1197	4.5
Zimbabwe	Harare	1996	1006	2.2
<b>Latin America</b>				
Argentina	Buenos Aires	1996	1000	5.8
Bolivia	La Paz	1996	999	1.4
Brazil	Rio de Janeiro	1996	1000	8.0
Colombia	Bogotá	1997	1000	5.0
Costa Rica	San José	1996	1000	4.3
Paraguay	Asunción	1996	587	2.7
<b>Asia</b>				
China	Beijing	1994	2000	1.6
India	Bombay	1996	1200	1.9
Indonesia	Jakarta and Surabaya	1996	1400	2.7
Philippines	Manila	1996	1500	0.3
<b>Eastern Europe</b>				
Albania	Tirana	1996	1200	6.0
Hungary	Budapest	1996	756	2.0
Lithuania	Šiauliai, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Panevėžys, Vilnius	1997	1000	4.8
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar, Zuunmod	1996	1201	3.1

Source: references 35 and 36.

# Sexual violence by intimate partners

TABLE 6.2

Percentage of adult women reporting sexual victimization by an intimate partner, selected population-based surveys, 1989–2000

Country	Study population	Year	Sample size	Percentage assaulted in past 12 months	Percentage ever assaulted	
				Attempted or completed forced sex (%)	Attempted or completed forced sex (%)	Completed forced sex (%)
Brazil <sup>a</sup>	Sao Paulo	2000	941 <sup>a</sup>	2.8	10.1	
	Pernambuco	2000	1 188 <sup>a</sup>	5.6	14.3	
Canada	National	1993	12 300		8.0	
	Toronto	1991–1992	420		15.3 <sup>b</sup>	
Chile	Santiago	1997	310	9.1		
Finland	National	1997–1998	7 051	2.5	5.9	
Japan <sup>a</sup>	Yokohama	2000	1 287 <sup>a</sup>	1.3	6.2	
Indonesia	Central Java	1999–2000	765	13.0		22.0
Mexico	Durango	1996	384		42.0	
	Guadalajara	1996	650	15.0	23.0	
Nicaragua	León	1993	360		21.7	
	Managua	1997	378	17.7		
Peru <sup>a</sup>	Lima	2000	1 086 <sup>a</sup>	7.1	22.5	
	Cusco	2000	1 534 <sup>a</sup>	22.9	46.7	
Puerto Rico	National	1993–1996	7 079			5.7 <sup>b</sup>
Sweden	Teg, Umeå	1991	251		7.5 <sup>c</sup>	
Switzerland	National	1994–1995	1 500		11.6	
Thailand <sup>a</sup>	Bangkok	2000	1 051 <sup>a</sup>	17.1	29.9	
	Nakornsawan	2000	1 027 <sup>a</sup>	15.6	28.9	
Turkey	East and south-east Anatolia	1998	599			51.9 <sup>b</sup>
United Kingdom	England, Scotland and Wales	1989	1 007			14.2 <sup>d</sup>
	North London, England	1993	430	6.0 <sup>b</sup>	23.0 <sup>b</sup>	
United States	National	1995–1996	8 000	0.2 <sup>b</sup>	7.7 <sup>b</sup>	
West Bank and Gaza Strip	Palestinians	1995	2 410	27.0		
Zimbabwe	Midlands Province	1996	966		25.0	

# Forced sexual initiation

- ▶ A growing number of studies, particularly from sub-Saharan Africa, indicate that the first sexual experience of girls is often unwanted and forced.
- ▶ Forced sexual initiation and coercion during adolescence have been reported in many studies of young women and men
- ▶ Where studies have included both men and women in the sample, the prevalence of reported rape or sexual coercion has been higher among the women than the men

TABLE 6.3

## Percentage of adolescents reporting forced sexual initiation, selected population-based surveys, 1993–1999

Country or area	Study population	Year	Sample		Percentage reporting first sexual intercourse as forced (%)	
			Size <sup>a</sup>	Age group (years)	Females	Males
Cameroon	Bamenda	1995	646	12–25	37.3	29.9
Caribbean	Nine countries <sup>b</sup>	1997–1998	15 695	10–18	47.6 <sup>c</sup>	31.9 <sup>c</sup>
Ghana	Three urban towns	1996	750	12–24	21.0	5.0
Mozambique	Maputo	1999	1 659	13–18	18.8	6.7
New Zealand	Dunedin	1993–1994	935	Birth cohort <sup>d</sup>	7.0	0.2
Peru	Lima	1995	611	16–17	40.0	11.0
South Africa	Transkei	1994–1995	1 975	15–18	28.4	6.4
United Republic of Tanzania	Mwanza	1996	892	12–19	29.1	6.9
United States	National	1995	2 042	15–24	9.1	—

Source: references 5, 6 and 54–60.

<sup>a</sup> Total number of adolescents in the study. Rates are based on those who have had sexual intercourse.

<sup>b</sup> Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Lucia.

<sup>c</sup> Percentage of adolescents responding that their first intercourse was forced or “somewhat” forced.

<sup>d</sup> Longitudinal study of a cohort born in 1972–1973. Subjects were questioned at 18 years of age and again at 21 years of age about their current and previous sexual behaviour.

# ***Forced sexual initiation***

## **Gang rape**

- ▶ Rape involving at least two or more perpetrators is widely reported to occur in many parts of the world.
- ▶ National data on rape and sexual assault in the United States reveal that about 1 out of 10 sexual assaults involve multiple perpetrators. Most of these assaults are committed by people unknown to their victims

## **Sexual trafficking**

- ▶ Each year hundreds of thousands of women and girls throughout the world are bought and sold into prostitution or sexual slavery
- ▶ A World Organization against Torture (OMCT) report suggested that more than 200 000 Bangladeshi women had been trafficked between 1990 and 1997

# ***Forced sexual initiation***

## **Sexual violence against sex workers**

- ▶ Whether trafficked or not, sex workers are at high risk for both physical and sexual violence, particularly where sex work is illegal
- ▶ A survey of female sex workers in Leeds, England, and Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland, revealed that 30% had been slapped, punched or kicked by a client while working, 13% had been beaten, 11% had been raped and 22% had experienced an attempted rape
- ▶ Only 34% of those who had suffered violence at the hands of a client reported it to police.

## **Sexual violence in schools, health care settings, armed conflicts and refugee settings**

- ▶ Each year hundreds of thousands of women and girls throughout the world are bought and sold into prostitution or sexual slavery
- ▶ A World Organization against Torture (OMCT) report suggested that more than 200 000 Bangladeshi women had been trafficked between 1990 and 1997



# *Consequences of sexual violence*

- ▶ As is the case with female victims of sexual assault, research suggests that male victims are likely to suffer from a range of psychological consequences, both in the immediate period after the assault and over the longer term.
- ▶ These include guilt, anger, anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, sexual dysfunction, somatic complaints, sleep disturbances, withdrawal from relationships and attempted suicide.
- ▶ In addition to these reactions, studies of adolescent males have also found an association between suffering rape and substance abuse, violent behaviour, stealing and absenteeism from school.



# ***Prevention and policy responses***

There are considerable variations between countries in their approach to sexual violence.

- ▶ Prevention and policy responses to sexual violence against men need to be based on an understanding of the problem, its causes and the circumstances in which it occurs. In many countries the phenomenon is not adequately addressed in legislation. In addition, male rape is frequently not treated as an equal offence with rape of women.
- ▶ Some countries have progressed in their response to male sexual assault, providing special telephone hotlines, counselling, support groups and other services for male victims.
- ▶ In many places, though, such services are either not available or else are very limited
- ▶ In most countries, there is much to be done before the issue of sexual violence against men and boys can be properly acknowledged and discussed, free of denial or shame. Such a necessary development, though, will enable more comprehensive prevention measures and better support for the victims to be implemented.