

# REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT: A GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS

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# REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT: A GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS

## WHY A GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS?

The purpose of the guide is to provide insight into new trends and assist journalists in developing strategies to accurately frame the public discussion on sexual assault.

In addition to offering statistics and resources pertaining to sexual assault, our hope is that this guide will encourage an accurate and compassionate approach to reporting on this issue and facilitate relationship building between journalists and local sexual assault experts.

This guide was developed by the Statewide Sexual Assault Media Advisory Group, convened by the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. The Media Advisory Group consists of media representatives, state administrators, victim advocates, and educators. Substantial input was solicited from reporters, editors, and publishers from Michigan newspapers.

## THIS GUIDE WILL ADDRESS:

- **The scope, magnitude and impact of sexual assault**
- **Perpetrator dynamics**
- **Ethical considerations in reporting on sexual assault crimes**
- **Suggestions for approaching an interview with a sexual assault survivor**
- **Identifying and locating experts**

## VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:

[www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org)  
for the most up-to-date information  
and statistics found in this Guide.

*“There’s no way, really, to completely prepare a reporter for covering that first sexual assault story. Reporters are people, likely a little more curious about things, but as affected as anyone by what they see and learn. This handbook offers an easy and authoritative way to give these sensitive stories what they immediately need—context. If it’s not in the guide, the guide offers the sources for reporters to get it. Sexual assault is and should be a matter of great public interest. But it is easy to sensationalize, to the detriment of all involved—and that can include the accused. Keeping things in context is a guard against that tendency and makes a sexual assault story more useful to a concerned public. This guide ought to be in newsrooms across Michigan. And editors ought to make sure that reporters are familiar with it.”*

Ron Dzwonkowski, Editorial Page Editor, *The Detroit Free Press*

Funded by the Michigan Department of Community Health Injury Prevention Section through a supplement to Grant # U17/CCU522265-01 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

There are several terms used, often interchangeably, throughout this Guide to discuss the crime of sexual assault, those who commit this crime and the population affected. Following are definitions for the most common terms used in reporting on sexual assault and the circumstances under which these terms are used.

**ACQUAINTANCE RAPE** — An umbrella term used to describe sexual assaults in which the survivor and the perpetrator know each other. The perpetrator may be a passing acquaintance or someone the survivor knows intimately, such as a partner, husband, ex-partner, coworker, family friend or neighbor.

**ADVOCATE** — An individual from a rape crisis center or sexual assault program who works with victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. The role of the advocate is to provide confidential, emotional support and assistance with legal, social service and medical issues.

**CIVIL CASE** — A lawsuit seeking recovery in the form of monetary or non-monetary damages for injuries sustained by the plaintiff. Defendants are not incarcerated as a result of a civil case.

**COERCION OR FORCE** — [MCL 750.520b(f)(i) to (v)] Coercion or force includes but is not limited to any of the following circumstances:

- The actor overcomes the victim through the actual application of physical force or physical violence.
- The actor coerces the victim to submit by threatening to use force or violence on the victim, and the victim believes that the actor has the present ability to execute these threats.
- The actor coerces the victim to submit by threatening to retaliate in the future against the victim, or any other person, and the victim believes that the actor has the ability to execute this threat. As used in this subdivision, “to retaliate” includes threats of physical punishment, kidnapping, or extortion.
- The actor engages in the medical treatment or examination of the victim in a manner or for purposes which are medically recognized as unethical or unacceptable.

**CONSENT** — To give permission or approval to do something.

**CRIMINAL CASE** — A case brought against a defendant by the “People of the State of Michigan” as the plaintiff. In a criminal case, a defendant who is found guilty may be incarcerated.

**CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT (CSC)** — The legal term used for sexual assault or rape in Michigan law. This term is used to consolidate and define a number of sexually assaultive crimes under one heading. The word “rape” is not used in Michigan law. The “degrees” of criminal sexual conduct differentiate the elements of the various CSC crimes according to the presence or absence of certain statutory “circumstances.” (reference MCL 750.520a through e)

**DEFENDANT** — The person accused in either a civil or criminal case of criminal sexual conduct. This person is also referred to as rapist or assailant.

**DRUG FACILITATED RAPE OR SUBSTANCE-RELATED RAPE** — Sexual assault committed by a perpetrator who uses alcohol, drugs, or other substances to create additional vulnerability in his victim.

**MARITAL RAPE** — (MCL 750.520l) Sexual violence committed against a legal spouse.

**PERPETRATOR** — Used to describe the person who committed criminal sexual conduct. Is also referred to as rapist or assailant.

**RAPE** — Criminal sexual conduct involving penetration.



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**RAPE SHIELD LAW** — Rape Shield Laws limit the use of a victim’s prior sexual history in an attempt to undermine the credibility of the victim’s testimony in a criminal sexual conduct case. Michigan Penal Code (MCL 750.520j) states that evidence of specific instances of the victim’s sexual conduct, opinion evidence of the victim’s sexual conduct, and reputation evidence of the victim’s sexual conduct shall not be admitted unless and only to the extent that the judge finds that the proposed evidence is material to a fact at issue in the case and that its inflammatory or prejudicial nature does not outweigh its probative value.

**RECIDIVISM** — A return to offending behavior after a period of abstinence or being offense-free. The tendency to relapse into a certain mode of behavior.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT** — Sexual acts—which may or may not include penetration—that are conducted against someone’s will by force or threat of force or in situations in which an individual is unable to give consent.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE)** — A specially-trained and certified registered nurse or nurse practitioner who conducts the forensic exam or evidence collection of a sexual assault victim.

**SANE PROGRAM** — A free standing program or project of a clinic, hospital or rape crisis center specifically established for the purpose of conducting forensic medical exams (evidence collection) in sexual assault cases.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM (SART)** — A community approach to provide a comprehensive response to sexual assault survivors. A SART usually consists of a SANE program, an advocate from a local rape crisis center and a law enforcement officer. Each member of the SART has a specific role in the response and works closely with the other team members.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAM OR RAPE CRISIS CENTER** — A program established to provide confidential, emergency and ongoing support and assistance to victims of sexual assault at no charge, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, physical or mental ability, and political or philosophical beliefs.

**SEXUAL CONTACT** — [MCL 750.520a (n)] Includes the intentional touching of the victim’s or actor’s intimate parts or the intentional touching of the clothing covering the immediate area of the victim’s or actor’s intimate parts, if that intentional touching can reasonably be construed as being for the purpose of sexual arousal or gratification, done for a sexual purpose, or in a sexual manner for revenge, to inflict humiliation or out of anger. Sexual Contact offenses include CSC II, CSC IV, and Assault with Intent to Commit CSC II.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT** — Unwanted and unwelcome sexual behavior that interferes with an individual’s life, work or education. This behavior can include verbal or physical acts as well as acts that create a hostile environment.

**SEXUAL PENETRATION** — (MCL 750.520o) Sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anal intercourse, or any other intrusion, however slight, of any part of a person’s body or of any object into the genital or anal openings of another person’s body—emission of semen is not required. Sexual Penetration offenses include CSC I, CSC III, and Assault with Intent to Commit CSC Involving Penetration.

**SURVIVOR** — For purposes of this manual, used to describe the individual who was assaulted. This term is largely used by advocacy groups to acknowledge the strength of an individual who endures trauma such as a sexual assault. Not every individual refers to herself or himself as a survivor and when interviewing survivors, reporters are encouraged to use the term preferred by the individual. (Also see definition for victim)

**VICTIM** — Used to describe the individual who was assaulted. This word is most commonly used in the criminal justice system, in news stories and by general public. (Also see definition for survivor)

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN** — Violence committed on the basis of gender. This term is used to encompass all forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls including sexual assault, domestic violence, child sexual abuse, trafficking, and abuse in later life, among other crimes.



## SEXUAL ASSAULT FACTS, STATISTICS AND CURRENT TRENDS

### SEXUAL ASSAULT FACTS:

**One out of every six** American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime.<sup>1</sup> In 2002, seven out of every eight rape victims were female.<sup>2</sup>

**About three percent** of American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.<sup>3</sup>

**Sexual assault perpetrators are not strangers to the victim.** 76% of women raped or physically assaulted since age 18 were assaulted by a current or former husband, cohabitating partner or date.<sup>4</sup>

**Approximately four out of ten sexual assaults take place at the victim's home.** Two in ten take place in the home of a friend, neighbor or relative.<sup>5</sup>

**Sexual assault perpetrators are not mentally ill.** Most are people we see around us every day.

**Rape is not an impulsive act.** Rape and sexual assault are crimes of violence that stem from a person's determination to exercise power over or humiliate another individual.

**False reporting or allegations of rape are no higher than that for other crimes.** The rate of "false reports" or false allegations of rape is 2% to 3%, no different than any other crime.<sup>6</sup>

**Sexual assault victims are generally reluctant to come forward.** Rape and sexual assault is the violent crime least often reported to law enforcement. In 1999, only 28% of victims reported the assault to police.<sup>7</sup>

**Sexual assault reporting statistics** vary based on the source. Generally, it is estimated that between 64% and 96% of all rapes are never reported to criminal justice authorities.<sup>8</sup>

### MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT:

- Sexual assaults are committed by strangers.
- Sexual assault is an impulsive act.
- False reporting is widespread.
- Individuals can avoid being sexually assaulted.

### SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTING: FALSE OR UNFOUNDED?

Each time a high profile rape case makes the news, it spawns widespread speculation by the public about the truth of the allegations.

Generally, the public believes that false reporting of sexual assault is rampant.

While many accept that statistics for false reporting are no higher than for any other crime, there is some disagreement as to whether this statistic reflects false allegations, reports that are unfounded, or both.

There is a significant difference between a sexual assault being unfounded and a false allegation. Law enforcement officers may decide not to prosecute a case of sexual assault for many reasons, such as lack of corroborating evidence. An unfounded case does not mean that a *crime was not committed*. This a dangerous assumption that contributes to the stigma associated with reporting sexual assault.

Journalists have an opportunity to educate the public through follow-up news stories on the outcome of a sexual assault case, or a general news story on this issue.



## SEXUAL ASSAULT FACTS, STATISTICS AND CURRENT TRENDS

### THE ECONOMIC COSTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT:

It is impossible to precisely assess the economic toll of sexual violence. In 1996, the cost of crime to victims was estimated to be \$450 billion a year when factors such as medical costs, lost earnings, pain, suffering and lost quality of life were considered.<sup>9</sup>

An estimated \$23 billion of these costs are attributed to lost productivity and almost \$145 billion to reduced quality of life.<sup>10</sup>

The following illustrates the emotional and economic toll that sexual assault has on its victims:

- Up to half of all victims suffer from at least one symptom of prolonged trauma response from rape.<sup>11</sup>
- Rape victims are four times more likely to have an emotional breakdown than are non-victims.<sup>12</sup>
- 25% to 50% of sexual assault victims are likely to seek mental health services and victims often suffer from lifelong physical manifestations of sexual trauma.<sup>13</sup>
- In 1994, 17.6% of rape/sexual assault victims received medical care.<sup>14</sup>
- In 1990, 19.5% of sexual assault victims lost time from work.<sup>15</sup>

There are more than 2,000 victim service programs in the United States. Millions of dollars are dispersed each year by the federal government for victim services through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).<sup>16</sup>

The total expenditure for victim services exceeded \$537 million in FY2000. Most of these funds are for programs dealing with sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse.<sup>17</sup>

### VIOLENT CRIME TRENDS 1997-2001 STATE OF MICHIGAN:

The overall average of the estimated violent crime rate categories have decreased in Michigan between 1997-2001. During this period:

- the estimated violent crime rate decreased by 4%
- the estimated murder rate decreased by 12%
- the estimated robbery rate decreased by 13%
- the estimated aggravated assault rate decreased by 2%

**The estimated rape rate increased by 8%.**

*Source: Crime Analysis Reports Criminal Justice Information Center, Michigan State Police, January 2002.*

### ACCOUNTABILITY:

Of reported rapes, there is a 51% chance for an arrest. Of the arrests, there is an 80% chance of prosecution.

If there is a prosecution, there is a 58% chance of a felony conviction. If there is a felony conviction, there is a 69% chance the convict will spend time in jail. **The average time spent behind bars is less than 11 months.**

So, even in the 39% of attacks that are reported to police, **there is only a 16% chance the rapist will end up in prison.** Factoring in unreported rapes, about 6% of rapists (1 out of 16) will ever spend a day in jail.

*Source: Probability statistics compiled by the National Center for Policy Analysis from U.S. Department of Justice statistics.*





## SEXUAL ASSAULT PERPETRATORS

### WHO ARE SEXUAL ASSAULT PERPETRATORS?

Perpetrators of sexual assault are all around us. More often than not, media attention focuses on cases which reinforce stereotypes of sexual assault perpetrators as “sick,” mentally ill, lower class, or a member of a minority or ethnic group. This can lead the public to be suspicious when a sexual assault perpetrator does not fit this profile, such as a popular high school student, an attorney, or an athlete.

There is nothing generally identifiable about individuals who rape that distinguishes them from other individuals. **Rapists come from all races, ethnicities and socio-economic groups.**

### PERPETRATOR FACTS:

- The average age of rapists at arrest is 31 years of age.<sup>18</sup>
- 52% are white.<sup>19</sup>
- 22% of imprisoned rapists report that they are married.<sup>20</sup>
- Juveniles accounted for about 16% of forcible rape arrests in 1995 and 17% of those arrested for other sex offenses.<sup>21</sup>
- 98% of males who raped boys reported that they were heterosexual.<sup>22</sup>

### PERPETRATORS: STRANGER VS. NONSTRANGER

Acquaintance rape cases, often referred to as “nonstranger” rape cases, are much less likely to be formally charged by prosecutors, and are often reviewed with more suspicion by police officers.<sup>23</sup>

Therefore, it is important to note that most research and statistics available are of sexual assault perpetrators convicted in stranger rape cases.

### COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF INCARCERATED RAPISTS:

According to the work of Dr. David Lisak, University of Massachusetts, Boston and Paul M. Miller, Brown University School of Medicine, Providence, Rhode Island, rapists who have been apprehended, tried and convicted share the following characteristics:

- They exhibit **extreme anger** towards women and view women as objects to be conquered.
- They exhibit a **desire to dominate** and view violence in relationships as normal.
- They adopt **hyper-masculine attitudes** and beliefs.
- They hold **rigid sex-role** stereotypes.
- They believe in **rape myths** (for example, “no” means “yes”) and are **less empathetic**, generally, than non-rapists.

### HOW DO INCARCERATED RAPISTS COMPARE TO THE UNDETECTED RAPISTS?

The term “undetected rapists” is used by Lisak and Miller to describe a rapist who has never been arrested or prosecuted by criminal justice authorities.

Among the common characteristics shared by many incarcerated and undetected rapists are high levels of anger toward women, the need to dominate women, hypermasculinity, lack of empathy and psychopathy and antisocial traits.

In fact, there is considerable data suggesting many commonalities between incarcerated and undetected rapists.

*Source: Lisak, David and Paul M. Miller. Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists. Violence and Victims 2002, Vol. 17, 78.*



## SEXUAL ASSAULT PERPETRATORS

### PERPETRATOR TACTICS AND DYNAMICS STUDY (UNDETECTED RAPISTS):

Very little has been published on the most common sexual assault perpetrators—those assailants who are known to their victims. As discussed on the previous page, it is estimated that 76% of rape victims are assaulted by someone the victim knows (such as a current or former husband, cohabitating partner or date).

This is one of the many reasons that the study conducted by Dr. David Lisak and Dr. Paul M. Miller is so important to sexual assault discourse. Their work has given us insight into some heretofore undocumented sexual assaults committed by rapists who are often known to the victim and undetected by society and the criminal justice systems. This study also exposes trends on college campuses to incorporate sexual assaults into the social atmosphere, making women on campus extremely vulnerable.

The data sampling used in their study, *Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists* published in 2002,<sup>24</sup> included four sample groups of men on college campuses. The total sample group included 1,882 men of which 6.4% met the criteria for rape or attempted rape.

Lisak and Miller found that almost two-thirds of these rapists were repeat offenders who averaged close to six rapes each. The majority (58.3%) also engaged in other forms of interpersonal violence, ranging from battery to physical and sexual abuse of children.

Of these 120 men:

- 80.8% reported committing rapes of women who were incapacitated because of drugs or alcohol.
- 17.5% reported using threats or overt force in attempted rapes.
- 10% reported using threats or overt force to coerce oral sex.
- 63.3% reported committing repeat rapes, either against multiple victims, or more than once against the same victim.
- **120 individuals reported committing 483 acts of rape and 1,225 different acts of interpersonal violence.**

**Strikingly, the repeat rapists were responsible for 1,045 of the 1,225 total acts of interpersonal violence.**

### STUDY METHODOLOGY:

For a participant to be classified among the group of rapists and attempted rapists in this study, he would have responded “yes” to one of the following questions:

1. Have you ever been a situation where you tried, but for various reasons did not succeed, in having sexual intercourse with an adult by using or threatening to use physical force (twisting their arm, holding them down, etc.) if they did not cooperate?
2. Have you ever had sexual intercourse with someone, even though they did not want to, because they were too intoxicated (on alcohol or drugs) to resist your sexual advances (e.g., removed their clothes)?

### HOW DO THESE RAPISTS ESCAPE DETECTION?

Given the number of interpersonal crimes being committed by these perpetrators, how is it that they are escaping the criminal justice system? The answer may lie, in part, in their choice of victim and in their relative abnegation of gratuitous violence.

By attacking victims within their social networks—so-called acquaintances—and by refraining from the kind of violence likely to produce physical injuries in their victims, these rapists create “cases” that victims are least likely to report, and that prosecutors are less likely to prosecute.

Source: Lisak, David and Paul M. Miller. *Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists*. Violence and Victims 2002, Vol. 17, 78.



## ETHICS IN NEWS REPORTING ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

### ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN MEDIA COVERAGE:

Journalists include details of crimes to help put the issue into context. To give the public a sense of safety, journalists may also try to answer the question of “why” the crime they are reporting happened.

The tendency for the public to blame or find culpability with the victim is an issue of great concern for sexual assault survivors. With few other crimes does the victim face scrutiny and retaliation for coming forward.

When reporting on sexual assault, journalists are encouraged to balance the victim’s right to privacy with the public’s right to know.

**Reporters must judge** when details are needed for public safety and when they only serve to re-traumatize the victim or reinforce myths about the victim’s role in the attack.

**Details about the attacker are relevant:** physical description, how access was gained, whether a weapon was used, and if additional physical violence was involved (for example, the victim was incapacitated, held down, or blocked from leaving).

**Details about the victim’s private life,** habits, sexual history or physical appearance, for example, do not contribute to the public’s safety and usually lead to victim blaming.

**Carefully choose words and phrases to avoid furthering the notion that the victim is culpable for the crime.** Consider the assumptions inherent in these phrases:

“Innocent victim”— all crime victims are innocent, and  
“Violent assault” — rape and sexual assault are acts of violence whether the victim sustained other physical injuries or not.

In place of “rape allegation” try “reported rape.” The word “allegation” is not a neutral term and strongly implies doubt.

In place of “date rape” try “acquaintance rape.” The former term implies that the assault occurred “on a date.” In fact, this term is often broadly used in cases where the victim knew the perpetrator.

*Source: Benitez, Judy, M. Ed. Who Decides What’s News? Making News Reporters Our Allies in the Movement to End Violence Against Women. Workshop presented at a media conference sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Los Angeles, California, March 2002.*

### DETAILS THAT LEAD THE PUBLIC TO BLAME VICTIMS:

It is commonly understood that the following details, when included in a news story, contribute to the public perception that sexual assault survivors can somehow avoid being raped.

For this reason, it is essential for reporters to counter the perception of victim culpability. Journalists are encouraged to evaluate the importance of including these details in their news stories:

- There were no weapons used during the assault.
- The victim did not sustain severe physical injuries.
- The victim was young but not a child.
- The victim was attractive.
- The victim was a prostitute, drunk or went willingly with the perpetrator.
- The victim had consensual sex with the perpetrator sometime before the sexual assault.

*Source: Benedict, Helen, author Virgin or Vamp: How the Press Covers Sex Crimes, Oxford University Press, New York, 1992.*

“Research on the newspaper coverage of crime indicates that newspapers have a significant effect on public perception of violent crime, far more than any other news source.”

*Source: Derek J. Paulsen, “Murder in Black and White,” Homicide Studies, Vol. 7, No. 3, August 2003.*



## A NEW APPROACH TO REPORTING ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### WHAT IS NEWSWORTHY?

Sexual assaults that have typically been considered newsworthy are those that are unusual and sensational in nature. For example, patterned or serial rapes, sexual assaults that include another criminal aspect (such as murder or kidnapping), or sexual assaults where the victim is very young or very old.

Journalists, however, have an opportunity to expand the public's knowledge of the realities of this crime and add more depth to a news story by reporting on the following topics:

**Reflect trends and realities** of sexual assault, including the frequency with which it occurs, and the frequency with which it is committed by an acquaintance as opposed to a stranger.

**Investigate stories** (or a series) on the various forms of sexual assault including sexual assault in jails and prisons, drug facilitated sexual assault or sexual assaults on college campuses.

**Consent or lack of consent** is often the central issue in sexual assault. Do not report only on the accused rapist's claim that there was consent. Report on the victim's testimony about the lack of consent.

Rape is a violent crime and includes physical and/or verbal coercion. **Accurately report the violent nature of the sexual assault** with specific explanations of how force, threats or coercion were used. Use terms that convey the violence of sexual assault in both acquaintance and stranger cases.

**Provide information** about local resources and where survivors can go for help.

**Learn about violence against women.** Develop skills for recognizing what details to include and words to avoid that lead to public blame of the victim.

*Source: Johnson, Barbara and The San Francisco Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Media Guidelines for Coverage of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence.*

### IS SHE A VICTIM OR SURVIVOR?

As previously discussed on pages 2 and 3 (see *Glossary of Terms*), advocates have long used the term "survivor" to convey the strength and courage it takes for sexual assault victims to move on with their lives.

Journalists are encouraged to try using the term *survivor* in place of victim in their next news story.

Keep in mind, however, that not all sexual assault victims would consider themselves survivors. Journalists are encouraged to take the lead from the individual about whom the story is being written.

**“The news media play a significant role in public safety by providing important information about the nature and extent of crime and efforts to prevent crime and assist victims.”**

*Source: Suzette Hackney, Detroit Free Press*



## INTERVIEWING SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS

### SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWING A SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVOR:

**P**utting a name or face to any crime adds depth and personalizes a story. When covering a sexual assault crime, it is important for journalists to consider the victim's right to privacy and process for healing.

When a victim chooses to be interviewed, it is usually after a great deal of thought. Journalists should consider the difficulties in approaching a person who is likely to continue to suffer the lingering effects of trauma, anger and grief.

**Know what you are going to say:** Prepare for the interview, outline points to make and more importantly, what words or issues to avoid.

**Make contact and ask permission:** Leave your equipment behind and introduce yourself and your news organization. Set the tone by expressing your sorrow for the circumstances and your hope to communicate the issues important to the victim.

**Be flexible:** Offer to conduct the interview when the survivor is ready. Recognize that it might be hours or days from your initial approach. The result will be more open communication and a better interview.

**Establish ground rules:** Allow the survivor to have some control over the interview, in terms of where the interview is held and what is going to be discussed. Make sure that the victim knows that while you are there as a reporter, not as their friend, your goal is to help them tell their story—and tell the story the way that they want to.

**Thank the survivor for speaking out:** Her testimony will likely further the public's understanding of a victim's plight, and perhaps encourage other victims to come forward and seek help.

**Be prepared to offer resources information and resources:** Be sympathetic to the victim's needs. Ask what kind of community services the victim has accessed, and share your knowledge as well.

*Source: Cote, William and Bonnie Bucqueroux, Covering Crime Without Re-victimizing the Victim. Presented at the Newspapers and Community Building Symposium, National Newspapers' Association Annual Convention held in Nashville, Tennessee, September 1996.*

### IS A RAPE STORY REALLY MORE CREDIBLE WHEN THE VICTIM'S REAL NAME IS USED?

*“As long as people have any sense of privacy about sexual acts and the human body, rape will, therefore, carry a stigma—not necessarily a stigma that blames the victim for what happened to her, but a stigma that links her name irrevocably with an act of intimate humiliation. To name a rape victim is to guarantee that whenever somebody hears her name, that somebody will picture her in the act of being sexually tortured. To expose a rape victim to this without her consent is nothing short of punitive.”*

*Source: Benedict, Helen, author Virgin or Vamp: How the Press Covers Sex Crimes. Oxford University Press, New York, 1992.*

**“I believe we have a professional obligation to assess, the best we can, the vulnerability of individuals as we write stories about the most painful and difficult elements of their lives.**

**As journalists, we generally write a story and move on. Those we write about will forever be connected to that story. We have a duty to show great care and concern.”**

Bob Steele,  
The Poynter Institute



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### STATE AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

#### **MICHIGAN COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

3893 Okemos Rd., Ste. B2  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: (517) 347-7000  
TTY: (517) 381-8470  
Fax: (517) 347-1377  
[www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org)

The Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) provides leadership as the statewide voice of survivors in Michigan. MCADSV offers information on national and state public policy initiatives, violence against women statistics and trends, and referrals to local sources for domestic violence and sexual assault information.

#### **MICHIGAN RESOURCE CENTER ON DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

3893 Okemos Rd., Ste. B2  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: (517) 381-4663  
TTY: (517) 381-8470  
Fax: (517) 347-1060  
[www.mcadsv.org/mrcdsv](http://www.mcadsv.org/mrcdsv)

The Michigan Resource Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence provides a unique collection of books, videos, journals and other media promoting awareness on violence against women issues and increasing the accessibility of educational information and resources for the state of Michigan. Resource Center staff provides limited research, statistics and other resources to journalists reporting on domestic and sexual violence.

#### **MICHIGAN CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION**

Lewis Cass Bldg.  
320 S. Walnut St., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Lansing, MI 48913  
Phone: (517) 334-9180  
Fax: (517) 334-9942  
[www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov)

The Crime Victim Services Commission is the state agency charged with overseeing a wide range of services and funding for victims of crime. Its goal is to promote services and supports that enhance the health, safety, dignity and rights of victims of crime across the state of Michigan.

#### **MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD**

235 South Grand Ave., Ste. 506  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Phone: (517) 373-8144  
Fax: (517) 241-8903  
[www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov)

The Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board's (MDVPTB) mission is to lead statewide efforts to eliminate domestic and sexual violence in Michigan. MDVPTB currently funds 29 sexual assault programs throughout the state. Each program submits data on a quarterly basis and is routinely monitored for quality assurance.

#### **SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM** <http://vip.msu.edu/ASPFiles/sassidx.asp>

The Sexual Assault Surveillance System (SASS) uses multiple data sources and data collection techniques to provide information and statistics on the prevalence of sexual assault in Michigan, demographic data, briefing reports, public policy initiatives and data resources on sexual assault. SASS is located at Michigan State University.



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### STATE AND NATIONAL RESOURCES—CONTINUED

#### **NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCE CENTER**

123 North Enola Dr.  
Enola, PA 17025  
Phone: (877) 739-3895  
Fax: (717) 909-0714  
[www.nsvrc.org](http://www.nsvrc.org)

Serving as a central clearinghouse for sexual violence resources and research, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) provides information, help and support for sexual violence issues on a national level.

#### **FAITHTRUST INSTITUTE**

(formerly known as Center for Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence)  
2400 North 45<sup>th</sup> St. #10  
Seattle, WA 98103  
Phone: (206) 634-1903  
Fax: (206) 634-0115  
[www.cpsdv.org](http://www.cpsdv.org)

The FaithTrust Institute is a leader in providing training and educational resources for clergy, lay leaders, seminary faculty, chaplains, policy makers of religious institutions, and community advocates on the faith aspects of sexual and domestic violence.

#### **STALKING RESOURCE CENTER**

National Center for Victims of Crime  
2000 M St., NW, Ste. 480  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 467-8700  
Fax: (202) 467-8701  
[www.ncvc.org/src/](http://www.ncvc.org/src/)

The Stalking Resource Center provides diverse resources including fact sheets on federal statutes, an annotated stalking bibliography, summaries of state stalking laws, a guide to online stalking resources, statistics, and practitioner-specific educational tools.

#### **NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE**

P.O. Box 6000  
Rockville, MD 20849-6000  
Phone: (800) 851-3420  
Fax: (301) 519-5212  
[www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org)

The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to support research, policy and program development. NCJRS offers extensive reference and referral services to answer your questions about crime and justice-related research, policy and practice.

#### **BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS**

810 Seventh St., NW  
Washington, DC 20531  
Phone: (202) 307-0765  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) collects, analyzes, publishes and disseminates information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime and the operation of the justice systems at all levels of government.



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS

#### ALLEGAN AND OTTAWA COUNTY

##### Center for Women in Transition

411 Butternut Dr.  
Holland, MI 49424

Business Phone Primary: (616) 392-2829  
Crisis Line Primary: (616) 392-1970  
Business Fax Primary: (616) 355-9760  
E-mail Address Primary: donnac@aplaceforwomen.org  
Web Address: www.aplaceforwomen.org  
Counties Served: Allegan, Ottawa

#### ALPENA COUNTY

##### Shelter Inc.

P.O. Box 797  
Alpena, MI 49707

Business Phone Primary: (989) 356-2560  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 356-9650  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 356-6659  
E-mail Address Primary: sllewis@shelterincalpena.org  
Web Address: www.shelterincalpena.org  
Counties Served: Alpena, Alcona, Iosco, Montmorency, Presque Isle

#### BARAGA COUNTY

##### Keweenaw Bay Indian Community VOCA

102 Superior Ave.  
Baraga, MI 49908-9678

Business Phone Primary: (906) 353-4533  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 353-4533  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 353-8799  
E-mail Address Primary: kbicvoca@hotmail.com  
Counties Served: Marquette, Baraga

#### BAY COUNTY

##### Bay Area Women's Center

P.O. Box 1458  
Bay City, MI 48706

Business Phone Primary: (989) 686-2251  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 686-4551  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 686-0906  
E-mail Address Primary: womencen@concentric.net  
TTY/TDD Number: (989) 686-0284  
Web Address: www.bayareawomenscenter.org  
Counties Served: Bay, Arenac

#### BRANCH COUNTY

##### Branch County Coalition Against Domestic Violence/ Shelterhouse

220 N. Michigan Ave.  
Coldwater, MI 49036

Business Phone Primary: (517) 278-3356  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 278-7432  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 279-2054  
E-mail Address Primary: shelterhouse@cbpu.com  
TTY/TDD Number: (800) 649-3777  
Counties Served: Hillsdale, St. Joseph, Calhoun, Branch

#### CALHOUN AND EATON COUNTY

##### Sexual Assault Services of Calhoun County

330 E. Columbia Ave.  
Battle Creek, MI 49015

Business Phone Primary: (269) 968-4660  
Crisis Line Primary: (888) 383-2192  
Business Fax Primary: (269) 969-3872  
E-mail Address Primary: siegelj@trinity-health.org  
Counties Served: Branch, Barry, Eaton, Calhoun, and surrounding

#### CHIPPEWA COUNTY

##### Diane Peppler Resource Center

P.O. Box 636  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Business Phone Primary: (906) 635-0566  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 635-0566  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 635-2952  
E-mail Address Primary: eupdvp1@30below.com  
Counties Served: Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac

##### Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians—Victim Services Program

P.O. Box 1576  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Business Phone Primary: (906) 635-7705  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 635-7706  
E-mail Address Primary: judlorie@saulttribe.net  
Counties Served: Alger, Delta, Marquette, Chippewa, Schoolcraft, Mackinac

#### CLINTON COUNTY

##### Relief After Violent Encounter

P.O. Box 472  
St. Johns, MI 48879

Business Phone Primary: (989) 224-4662  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 725-9444  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 224-6947  
E-mail Address Primary: rave@voyager.net  
TTY/TDD Number: (800) 720-7233  
Counties Served: Clinton, Montcalm, Shiawassee, Ionia





## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS—CONTINUED

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY

##### **River House Shelter**

P.O. Box 661  
Grayling, MI 49738

Business Phone Primary: (989) 348-3169  
Crisis Line Primary: (888) 554-3169  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 348-1719  
E-mail Address Primary: [contactus@riverhouseshelter.org](mailto:contactus@riverhouseshelter.org)  
Web Address: [www.riverhouseshelter.org](http://www.riverhouseshelter.org)  
Counties Served: Roscommon, Ogemaw, Crawford, Oscoda

#### DELTA AND MENOMINEE COUNTY

##### **Alliance Against Violence & Abuse, Inc.**

115 S. 13th St.  
Escanaba, MI 49829

Business Phone Primary: (906) 789-9207  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 789-1166  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 789-5640  
E-mail Address Primary: [AAVAoffice@uplogon.com](mailto:AAVAoffice@uplogon.com)  
Web Address: [www.aavaonline.com](http://www.aavaonline.com)  
Counties Served: Schoolcraft, Delta, Menominee

#### DICKINSON COUNTY

##### **Caring House, Inc.**

1305 S. Prospect Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Business Phone Primary: (906) 774-1337  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 774-1112  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 774-0575  
E-mail Address Primary: [coneil@chartermi.net](mailto:coneil@chartermi.net)  
Counties Served: Dickinson, Iron

#### EMMET COUNTY

##### **Women's Resource Center of Northern MI**

423 Porter St.  
Petoskey, MI 49770

Business Phone Primary: (231) 347-0067  
Crisis Line Primary: (231) 347-0082  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 347-5805  
E-mail Address Primary: [jan@wrcnm.org](mailto:jan@wrcnm.org)  
Web Address: [www.wrcnm.org](http://www.wrcnm.org)  
Counties Served: Charlevoix, Otsego, Cheboygan, Emmet, Antrim

#### GENESEE COUNTY

##### **YWCA of Greater Flint-Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Services**

310 E. Third St.  
Flint, MI 48502

Business Phone Primary: (810) 238-7621  
Crisis Line Primary: (810) 238-7233  
Business Fax Primary: (810) 238-3813  
E-mail Address Primary: [candicehamel@netzero.net](mailto:candicehamel@netzero.net)  
Counties Served: Genesee

#### GOGEBIC COUNTY

##### **Domestic Violence Escape, Inc.**

P.O. Box 366  
Ironwood, MI 49938

Business Phone Primary: (906) 932-4990  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 932-0310  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 932-2040  
E-mail Address Primary: [dove@chartermi.net](mailto:dove@chartermi.net)  
Counties Served: Gogebic

#### GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

##### **Women's Resource Center of Grand Traverse Area**

720 S. Elmwood, Ste. 2  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Business Phone Primary: (231) 941-1210  
Crisis Line Primary: (231) 941-1210  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 941-1734  
E-mail Address Primary: [wrc@gtii.com](mailto:wrc@gtii.com)  
TTY/TDD Number: (231) 946-1211  
Web Address: [www.wrcgt.com](http://www.wrcgt.com)  
Counties Served: Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Antrim, Benzie, Kalkaska

#### HILLSDALE COUNTY

##### **Domestic Harmony**

P.O. Box 231  
Hillsdale, MI 49242

Business Phone Primary: (517) 439-1454  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 439-1454  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 439-5144  
E-mail Address Primary: [dharmony@dmci.net](mailto:dharmony@dmci.net)  
Web Address: [www.domesticharmony.org](http://www.domesticharmony.org)  
Counties Served: Hillsdale



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS—CONTINUED

#### HOUGHTON COUNTY

##### **Dial Help, Inc.**

P.O. Box 214  
Houghton, MI 49931

Business Phone Primary: (906) 482-9077  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 482-4357  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 482-2502  
E-mail Address Primary: dialhelp@chartermi.net  
TTY/TDD Number: (800) 749-5870  
Counties Served: Ontonagon, Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw

#### INGHAM COUNTY

##### **Gateway Community Services**

910 Abbott Rd., Suite 100  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Business Phone Primary: (517) 351-4000  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 351-4094  
E-mail Address Primary: stefaniez@gatewayservices.org  
Counties Served: Ingham

##### **MSU Counseling Center/Sexual Assault Crisis & Safety Education Program**

207 Student Services  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1114

Business Phone Primary: (517) 355-8270  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 372-6666  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 355-8260  
TTY/TDD Number: (517) 353-7278  
Counties Served: Ingham

##### **Sparrow Health System—SANE Program**

1215 E. Michigan Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48909-7980

Business Phone Primary: (517) 364-3641  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 487-3122  
Counties Served: Clinton, Ingham, Eaton

##### **The Listening Ear Crisis Intervention Center**

313 W. Grand River Ave.  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Business Phone Primary: (517) 337-1728  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 337-1717  
E-mail Address Primary: theear@msu.edu  
Web Address: www.theear.org/SAC  
Counties Served: Ingham

#### ISABELLA COUNTY

##### **Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Victim of Crime Program**

6954 E. Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Business Phone Primary: (989) 775-4814  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 775-4820  
Counties Served: Midland, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella

##### **Sexual Assault Services—Central Michigan University**

195 Student Activities Center  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Business Phone Primary: (989) 774-6677  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 774-2255  
E-mail Address Primary: thomplsm@cmich.edu  
Counties Served: Isabella

##### **Women's Aid Service**

P.O. Box 743  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Business Phone Primary: (989) 773-7960  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 772-9168  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 773-9470  
E-mail Address Primary: was-director@chartermi.net  
Counties Served: Gratiot, Isabella, Clare

#### JACKSON COUNTY

##### **AWARE Inc.**

P.O. Box 1526  
Jackson, MI 49204

Business Phone Primary: (517) 783-2861  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 783-2861  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 783-2660  
E-mail Address Primary: aware@voyager.net  
Counties Served: Jackson

#### KALAMAZOO COUNTY

##### **YWCA of Kalamazoo—Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Programs**

353 E. Michigan  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Business Phone Primary: (269) 385-2869 DV program  
Crisis Line Primary: (269) 385-3587  
Business Fax Primary: (269) 978-1211  
Counties Served: Kalamazoo



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS—CONTINUED

#### KENT COUNTY

##### **YWCA of Grand Rapids**

25 Sheldon Blvd., SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506-3302

Business Phone Primary: (616) 459-7062  
Crisis Line Primary: (616) 776-7273  
Business Fax Primary: (616) 459-5423  
E-mail Address Primary: cblinkhorn@gr-ywca.org  
TTY/TDD Number: (616) 233-0650  
Web Address: www.gr-ywca.org  
Counties Served: Kent

##### **RAVE of West MI**

118 Commerce, SW, Suite 220  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Business Phone Primary: (616) 454-4673  
Business Fax Primary: (616) 454-2059  
E-mail Address Primary: RAVE@iserv.net  
Counties Served: Kent

#### LAPEER COUNTY

##### **Lapeer Area Citizens Against Domestic Assault**

P.O. Box 356  
Lapeer, MI 48446

Business Phone Primary: (810) 667-4193  
Crisis Line Primary: (810) 667-4175  
Business Fax Primary: (810) 667-4743  
E-mail Address Primary: lacada@chartermi.net  
Counties Served: Lapeer and surrounding

#### LEELANAU COUNTY

##### **Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians**

2605 N. West Bayshore Dr.  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Business Phone Primary: (231) 271-3538  
Crisis Line Primary: (800) 817-5017  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 271-7646  
E-mail Address Primary: tribalpolice@gtbindians.com  
Counties Served: Leelanau

#### LENAWEE COUNTY

##### **Family Counseling & Children's Services**

220 N. Main St.  
Adrian, MI 49221

Business Phone Primary: (517) 265-5352  
Crisis Line Primary: (517) 265-6776  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 263-6090  
E-mail Address Primary: fccsoflenawee@hotmail.com  
Counties Served: Lenawee

#### LIVINGSTON COUNTY

##### **LACASA**

P.O. Box 72  
Howell, MI 48844

Business Phone Primary: (517) 548-1350  
Crisis Line Primary: (810) 227-7100  
Business Fax Primary: (517) 548-3034  
E-mail Address Primary: info@lacasa1.org  
Web Address: www.lacasa1.org  
Counties Served: Livingston

#### MACOMB COUNTY

##### **Turning Point**

P.O. Box 1123  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

Business Phone Primary: (586) 463-4430  
Crisis Line Primary: (586) 463-6990  
Business Fax Primary: (586) 463-1771  
E-mail Address Primary: scoats@turningpointinc.com  
Web Address: www.turningpointinc.com  
Counties Served: Macomb and surrounding

#### MARQUETTE COUNTY

##### **Women's Center/Harbor House**

1310 S. Front St.  
Marquette, MI 49855

Business Phone Primary: (906) 225-1346  
Crisis Line Primary: (906) 226-6611  
Business Fax Primary: (906) 225-1370  
Counties Served: Marquette, Alger

#### MASON COUNTY

##### **Region Four Community Services**

906 E. Ludington Ave.  
Ludington, MI 49431

Business Phone Primary: (231) 843-2541  
Crisis Line Toll Free: (800) 950-5808  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 843-7897  
E-mail Address Primary: fmp@mishoreline.com  
Web Address: www.regionfour.org  
Counties Served: Lake, Oceana, Mason

#### MECOSTA COUNTY

##### **WISE**

P.O. Box 1249  
Big Rapids, MI 49307

Business Phone Primary: (231) 796-6692  
Crisis Line Primary: (231) 796-6600  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 796-0358  
E-mail Address Primary: wise@tucker-usa.com  
Counties Served: Newaygo, Mecosta, Osceola



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS—CONTINUED

#### MIDLAND COUNTY

##### **Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault/ Shelterhouse**

P.O. Box 2660  
Midland, MI 48641

Business Phone Primary: (989) 835-6771  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 835-6771  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 835-7449  
E-mail Address Primary: [lasher@cdvsa.org](mailto:lasher@cdvsa.org)  
Counties Served: Gladwin, Midland

#### MONROE COUNTY

##### **Family Counseling & Shelter Services of Monroe County**

P.O. Box 905  
Monroe, MI 48161

Business Phone Primary: (734) 241-0180  
Crisis Line Primary: (734) 241-7233  
E-mail Address Primary: [fcsmc@wwnet.net](mailto:fcsmc@wwnet.net)  
Counties Served: Monroe

#### MUSKEGON COUNTY

##### **Every Woman's Place**

1221 W. Laketon  
Muskegon, MI 49441

Business Phone Primary: (231) 759-7909  
Crisis Line Primary: (231) 722-3333  
Business Fax Primary: (231) 759-8618  
TTY/TDD Number: (231) 722-4103  
Counties Served: Muskegon

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

##### **HAVEN**

P.O. Box 431045  
Pontiac, MI 48343

Business Phone Primary: (248) 334-1284  
Business Fax Primary: (248) 334-3161  
E-mail Address Primary: [hnuriel@haven-oakland.org](mailto:hnuriel@haven-oakland.org)  
TTY/TDD Number: (248) 334-1290  
Web Address: [www.haven-oakland.org](http://www.haven-oakland.org)  
Counties Served: Oakland

#### SAGINAW AND TUSCOLA COUNTY

##### **Sexual Assault Program of Child & Family Services of Saginaw**

2806 Davenport  
Saginaw, MI 48602

Business Phone Primary: (989) 790-9118  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 790-9118  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 790-8037  
E-mail Address Primary: [info@saprogram.com](mailto:info@saprogram.com)  
Web Address: [www.saprogram.com](http://www.saprogram.com)  
Counties Served: Saginaw, Midland, Bay, Tuscola

##### **Underground Railroad, Inc.**

P.O. Box 2451  
Saginaw, MI 48605

Business Phone Primary: (989) 755-0413  
Crisis Line Primary: (989) 755-0411  
Business Fax Primary: (989) 755-3006  
E-mail Address Primary: [undergnd@pilot.msu.edu](mailto:undergnd@pilot.msu.edu)  
TTY/TDD Number: (989) 755-0413  
Web Address: [www.undergroundrailroadinc.org](http://www.undergroundrailroadinc.org)  
Counties Served: Saginaw

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

##### **Safe Horizons**

P.O. Box 610968  
Port Huron, MI 48061-0968

Business Phone Primary: (810) 985-4950  
Crisis Line Primary: (810) 985-5538  
Business Fax Primary: (810) 985-5911  
E-mail Address Primary: [mail@safe-horizons.org](mailto:mail@safe-horizons.org)  
Counties Served: St. Clair

#### ST. JOSEPH AND VAN BUREN COUNTY

##### **Domestic Assault Shelter Coalition**

P.O. Box 402  
Three Rivers, MI 49093

Business Phone Primary: (269) 273-6154  
Crisis Line Primary: (269) 279-5122  
Business Fax Primary: (269) 273-9465  
E-mail Address Primary: [DASC@net-link.net](mailto:DASC@net-link.net)  
Counties Served: Van Buren, Cass, St. Joseph

#### WASHTENAW COUNTY

##### **Sexual Assault Crisis Center**

2940 Ellsworth  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Business Phone Primary: (734) 971-3695  
Crisis Line Primary: (734) 971-3696  
Business Fax Primary: (734) 434-1511  
Counties Served: Washtenaw



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS—CONTINUED

#### WASHTENAW COUNTY

##### **Sexual Assault Prevention & Awareness Center— U of M**

715 N. University, Ste. 202  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1611

Business Phone Primary: (734) 998-9368

Crisis Line Primary: (734) 936-3333

Business Fax Primary: (734) 998-9380

E-mail Address Primary: kcichy@umich.edu

Web Address: [www.umich.edu/~sapac](http://www.umich.edu/~sapac)

Counties Served: Washtenaw

#### WAYNE COUNTY

##### **Detroit Police Department Rape Counseling Center/ Domestic Violence Project**

4201 Saint Antoine, Ste. 6-F  
Detroit, MI 48201

Business Phone Primary: (313) 833-1660

Crisis Line Primary: (313) 833-1660

E-mail Address Primary: [granta758@dpdhq.ci.detroit.mi.us](mailto:granta758@dpdhq.ci.detroit.mi.us)

Counties Served: Wayne

##### **First Step**

44567 Pinetree Dr.  
Plymouth, MI 48170

Business Phone Primary: (734) 416-1111

Crisis Line Primary: (734) 459-5900

Business Fax Primary: (734) 416-5555

E-mail Address Primary: [fsadsv@aol.com](mailto:fsadsv@aol.com)

Web Address: [www.fs-mi.org](http://www.fs-mi.org)

Counties Served: Wayne

#### WEXFORD COUNTY

##### **Cadillac Area OASIS/Family Resource Center**

601 Chestnut St.  
Cadillac, MI 49601

Business Phone Primary: (231) 775-7299

Crisis Line Primary: (231) 775-7233

Business Fax Primary: (231) 775-4074

E-mail Address Primary: [frcenter@netonecom.net](mailto:frcenter@netonecom.net)

Web Address: [www.cadillacoasis-frc.org](http://www.cadillacoasis-frc.org)

Counties Served: Missaukee, Wexford



## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE) PROGRAMS

A SANE program is an agency or site set-up specifically to conduct sexual assault forensic examinations. Following is a list, organized by city, of programs currently operating in Michigan. This list is current as of April 2003.

ANN ARBOR	<b>Sexual Assault Prevention &amp; Awareness Center—Univ. of Mich.</b> Business Phone Primary: (734) 998-9368 Crisis Line Primary: (734) 936-3333
BATTLE CREEK	<b>Sexual Assault Services of Calhoun County</b> Business Phone Primary: (269) 968-4660 Crisis Line Primary: (888) 383-2192
EAST LANSING	<b>MSU Counseling Center/Sexual Assault Crisis &amp; Safety Educ. Program</b> Business Phone Primary: (517) 355-8270 Crisis Line Primary: (517) 372-6666
GRAND RAPIDS	<b>YWCA of Grand Rapids-Domestic Crisis Center/Sexual Assault Program</b> Business Phone Primary: (616) 459-7062 Crisis Line Primary: (616) 776-7273 Crisis Line Alt: (616) 451-2744
HOLLAND	<b>Center for Women in Transition</b> Business Phone Primary: (616) 392-2829 Crisis Line Primary: (616) 392-1970 Crisis Line Toll Free: (800) 848-5991
HOUGHTON	<b>Dial Help, Inc.</b> Business Phone Primary: (906) 482-9077 Crisis Line Primary: (906) 482-4357 Crisis Line Toll Free: (800) 562-7622
IRONWOOD	<b>Domestic Violence Escape, Inc.</b> Business Phone Primary: (906) 932-4990 Crisis Line Primary: (906) 932-0310
JACKSON	<b>Aware Inc.</b> Business Phone Primary: (517) 783-2861 Crisis Line Primary: (517) 783-2861
KALAMAZOO	<b>YWCA of Kalamazoo-DV &amp; SA Programs</b> Business Phone Primary: (269) 385-2869 DV program Crisis Line Primary: (269) 385-3587 Crisis Line Alt: (269) 345-3036





## EXPERTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT ISSUES

### MICHIGAN SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE) PROGRAMS—CONTINUED

LANSING

**Sparrow Health System-SANE Program**

Business Phone Primary: (517) 364-3641

MT. CLEMENS

**Turning Point**

Business Phone Primary: (586) 463-4430

Crisis Line Primary: (586) 463-6990

MT. PLEASANT

**Sexual Assault Services-Central Michigan University**

Business Phone Primary: (989) 774-6677

Crisis Line Primary: (989) 774-2255

MT. PLEASANT

**Women's Aid Service**

Business Phone Primary: (989) 773-7960

Crisis Line Primary: (989) 772-9168

Crisis Line Alt: (989) 463-1046

Crisis Line Toll Free: (989) 539-6014

PONTIAC

**HAVEN**

Business Phone Primary: (248) 334-1284

Crisis Line Primary: (248) 334-1274

Crisis Line Toll Free: (877) 922-1274

SAGINAW

**Child & Family Services of Saginaw Co. Sexual Assault Program**

Business Phone Primary: (989) 790-9118

Crisis Line Primary: (989) 790-9118

TRAVERSE CITY

**Women's Resource Center of Grand Traverse Area**

Business Phone Primary: (231) 941-1210

Crisis Line Primary: (231) 941-1210

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