

Quick Statistics in Arizona

The following report experiencing rape in their lifetime:

- **3% of men**
(13% experience sexual assault);
- **18% of Hispanic women;**
- **27% of African American women;**
- **28% of White women;**
- **29% of women identified as Asian, Pacific Islander, Hawaiian, mixed race or other ethnic group.**



Local Resources for Diverse Populations

Against Abuse, Inc.

Casa Grande, AZ
520-836-0858

Cenpatico
24 hour crisis line
1-866-495-6735

Community Alliance Against Family Abuse (CAFA)
Apache Junction, AZ
480-982-0196

Horizon Human Services
Casa Grande, AZ
520-836-1688

Pinal County Domestic Violence Coalition
Casa Grande, AZ
520-836-1239

National Resources

National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
www.thetaskforce.org

National Organization on Male Sexual Victimization www.malesurvivor.org
Pandora's Project
www.pandys.org

Students Active for Ending Rape (SAFER)
<http://safercampus.org/>

For a complete list of references for all materials in this brochure, please visit our website found below.

<https://centralaz.edu/about-cac/title-ix/>

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Central Arizona College

Multicultural Survivors of Sexual Assault



see something · hear something · know something

**say
something!**
**Title
IX**

DON'T IGNORE SEXUAL VIOLENCE

LGBTQI Survivors

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, & intersex individuals may experience additional difficulties & fear in the event of sexual assault than heterosexual individuals. Reporting an incident may involve disclosing one's sexual orientation & thereby create fear of alienation, misunderstanding, or exposure to assumptions & judgments. Additionally, since numerous LGBTQI communities can be very close, survivors may fear losing friends or facing avoidance from other community members. Transgender individuals may experience additional discrimination during reporting if anatomy &/or appearance do not match stereotypical gender norms.



Male Survivors

If a male survivor was under the impression that sexual assault only happened to women, he may feel isolated & alone. Due to societal standards in Western cultures, male survivors may feel emasculated. If the assault was perpetrated by another man, the survivor may struggle with confusion relating to sexual orientation. Men may avoid disclosing their assault, seeking services, or choosing legal prosecution because of assumptions that may be made about them, their gender role, or their sexuality. Male survivors may also assume that there are no resources available for men who have suffered from sexual assault. Fortunately, this is not the case. See the back page for resources.

**TO RECEIVE HELP AFTER AN ASSAULT:
CONTACT THE LOCAL POLICE;
GO TO A SAFE PLACE;
CONFIDE IN A TRUSTED INDIVIDUAL, &/OR
SEEK SERVICES THROUGH TITLE IX
CENTRALAZ.EDU/TITLE-IX**

Racial & Ethnic Minority Survivors

As seen with other types of diverse populations, racial & ethnic minority sexual assault survivors face unique barriers & difficulties. Sometimes the issue of racism becomes evident in assaults & survivors may need additional resources to cope with this additional trauma. In some cultures, seeking help is not easy or even acceptable. These cultures often place value on relying upon family members, community, church, or God(s) rather than upon outside support. With the notion that they may be frowned upon for seeking additional help, or contacting legal assistance, some survivors may not disclose the assault & attempt to deal with the trauma on their own. An additional struggle is fear of scrutiny & misunderstanding from potential service providers.



Survivors with Religious Affiliations



Individuals from religious backgrounds may also face unique struggles after a sexual assault. In some religious affiliations, sexual assault survivors seek support within their organization & look to their faith in order to help them cope with the trauma. Alternatively, some religious cultures place high value in chastity & wholeness. To have engaged in sexual activity, regardless of how or why, may be considered sinful or shameful. Survivors who are members of these religious organizations may experience fear in disclosing the assault as well as shame & a perception of responsibility for the events.

Survivors with Low Socioeconomic Status

A common barrier & concern for sexual assault survivors who live in a low socioeconomic status is a means to locate & pay for resources that may benefit them. Some survivors may experience a sense of hopelessness & avoid looking for available services because they may feel that they are nonexistent.

However, there are services available for survivors who meet this description, such as counseling agencies that provide counseling services with a sliding scale payment option.

College Student Survivors

Although college students may identify with one or more of the categories described here, they also have distinctive struggles related to their life stage & development. Unfortunately, many colleges & universities have alcohol driven cultures in which sexual assault is all too common, making this population at especially high risk for unwanted sexual contact. In fact, at least 50% of college students' sexual assaults are associated with alcohol use & 90% of campus assaults are committed by an acquaintance of the victim. Since many college students move away from home, sexual assault survivors may feel isolated & alone in their pain. This reaction may be even more acute if the survivor is in a new location & he/she is unaware or unfamiliar of the support services available in the area. A fear of academic failure may also consume survivors who are in college. Depressed feelings, isolation, & feelings of helplessness may prevent the survivor from engaging in school work. Time away from school for legal purposes connected with the assault may create additional stress. Completing assignments late, taking time off, or delaying graduation may become considerations. Survivors have a need to take control of their lives & college students may disregard emotional feelings to complete school work.

Survivors/assailants of sexual assault can cross all lines of ethnicity, sexuality, gender & religion: HOW CAN I HELP?

- Believe the person who tells you that he or she has been assaulted & remember that it is NEVER the survivor's fault.
- Realize that people of all shapes, sizes, races, ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, & socioeconomic statuses can be affected by sexual assault.
- Educate yourself on different stereotypes & myths surrounding sexual assault.
- Recognize that degrading sex-role stereotypes & misconceptions about sexual orientation may make it difficult for individuals of diverse populations to disclose their experiences.
- Encourage the individual to seek additional services such as counseling, legal help, familial support, etc.