Sexual Assaults on College Campuses

Felicia Sabin
Sociology Department

INTRODUCTION

This study investigates the impact of gender on sexual assault and, if assaulted, knowing the perpetrator of the assault on a college campus.

1.5% of women attending college have reported being sexually assaulted in one form or another.

75% to 95% of all rapes that take place go unreported, and that the number may be slightly higher for male victims.

Women are perceived as easier prey for sexual assault perpetrators

Sexual assault is a display of attempts by men to control and dominate women

HYPOTHESES

1. Females are more likely than males to be sexually assaulted on college campuses.

2. Female and male sexual assault victims are equally likely to know the perpetrators of their assaults.

DATA: National Incident-Based Reposting System (NIBRS), 2012

• Time Period: 2012

• Mode of Data Collection: Mail Survey

• N= 5,934,473

• The data was collected from police departments that sent their information to the FBI

RESULTS

1. Women are more likely than men to be sexually assaulted.

2. Men and women are equally likely to know the perpetrator of their sexual assault.

TABLE 1: Impact of Gender on Sexual Assaults on College Campuses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Been Sexually Assaulted</th>
<th>Known Offender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>4.704**</td>
<td>5.022**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>-388**</td>
<td>.372**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>-3.18**</td>
<td>.530**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Known offender</td>
<td>2.377**</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stranger</td>
<td>1.889**</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N= 77,421</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*<.05, **<.01

DISCUSSION

• This study looked at gender and sexual assaults

• The findings showed that women are more likely than men to be sexually assaulted, but no more or less likely to know their perpetrators.

• Women are more likely to be victimized because they are perceived as easier prey, but they are not more or less likely to know the perpetrators of their crime.

• Males that sexually assault women like to dominate and control. It is a lot easier to do so if they have already formed a relationship or bond with them.