Overview of Sexual Assault/Interpersonal Violence

- In the U.S., 25% of women will be physically and/or sexually abused by an intimate partner during their lifetime, primary examples of Interpersonal Violence (IPV). 
- Every year 1.5 million women are physically and/or sexually abused. About 1 in 5 adolescent girls report being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.
- Sexual assault not only includes forced sexual intercourse but also attempted forced sexual intercourse or any type of unwanted sexual contact.
- Approximately 70% of rape victims believe that they will be blamed for the rape if it is reported.
- Females are 3 to 6 times more likely to suffer from interpersonal violence than males.
- Adolescent girls who experience sexual intimate partner violence are more likely than non-victims to suffer from physical abuse as well.
- “Controlling Coercive Violence” (CCV) has been coined as a combination of physical abuse, emotional abuse, stalking, and sexual coercion.

Risk Factors

Sexual assault victims contemplating suicide can show:

- Shame - Males display more shame is sexually victimized by another male.
- Guilt
- Isolation/social avoidance
- Pre-occupation with sexual assault
- Feelings of inadequacy
- Interpersonal relationship problems

Resources and Other Information

Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN) www.rainn.org
National Sexual Violence Resource Center http://www.nsvrc.org/
Sexual Assault Resource Center http://www.sarcby.org/
Joyful Heart Foundation http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/learn/sexual-assault-and-rape
1in6: Support for Men Who Have Experienced Sexual Abuse https://www.1in6.org
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence http://endsexualviolence.org/

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