SCSU Women’s Center’s Sexual Assault Report
Profile for 2013 Calendar Year

A total of fifteen sexual assaults were reported to the Women’s Center between January 1 and December 31, 2013.

Eleven assaults were known to be committed by acquaintances and in four cases the type of the relationship to the victim was unknown or not provided in the report.

This compares to two stranger assaults reported in Calendar Year 2012 out of 24 reports. National data reveals that 80 to 90% of all sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows.

Location
One sexual assault occurred on campus, eleven occurred off campus, and the exact location was unknown in three cases. A total of ten sexual assaults occurred in the private residence of either the victim or perpetrator. One sexual assault occurred in connection with a house party. One occurred at a sorority. In three reports, location information was unavailable. Our local statistics mirror national statistics demonstrating that most sexual assaults occur in a private residence versus on the street.

Victims

Twelve victims were female, one was male, and, in two cases, the sex of the victim was not included on the report. All victims were enrolled students at the time of the assault. Ten victims were known to be between the ages of 18 and 23, and the age was unknown in five reports. National statistics show that women ages 16 to 24 years old are more at risk of being sexually assaulted than any other age group. In addition, college women are at higher risk than women from the same age group who are not in college. It is important to note, however, that sexual assault can occur to anyone at any age.

Perpetrators

Ten of the perpetrators were known to be male, and five reports did not include the sex of the perpetrator. No reports involved more than one perpetrator. Seven were known to be SCSU students at the time of the assault, one was not a student, and the affiliation was unknown in seven reports.

Reported By

Five of the assaults were reported to the Women’s Center directly by the victim, seven were reported by the Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center, and three by another campus office.

Drug and Alcohol Involvement

Drugs or alcohol were known to be involved in five of the sexual assaults. Perpetrators using alcohol as a tool to commit a sexual assault is well documented. Perpetrators often in the guise of being friendly will persuade the victim to drink or will look for someone who is more vulnerable due to drugs or alcohol.
Reports and Investigations
Title IX complaints were investigated in three cases. In four cases victims chose not to report a Title IX complaint to the university. In eight cases, a Title IX complaint was not applicable to the case.

Special Note: The Women’s Center has been compiling reports by Academic Year since its inception in 1989/1990. Beginning with the 2012 Calendar Year, the Women’s Center converted to Calendar Year reporting. The intent of this change is to foster more interdepartmental consistency in terms of statistics being reported.

History of Academic Year Women’s Center Reporting of Sexual Assault Reports
Guidance by the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, requires employees of the University to report knowledge of sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, harassment, stalking and hazing to Ellyn Bartges, Title IX Coordinator, in the Equity and Affirmative Action Office in Administrative Services 102. The Affirmative Action Office is required to investigate and respond, but cannot guarantee confidentiality. For additional information, contact 320.308.5123.

The Women’s Center has been collecting and summarizing sexual assault reports within the campus community since our inception in 1989/90. The victim’s name is not recorded in the report and confidentiality is maintained. For additional information call 320.308.3995 or 320.308.4958.