**Statistics**

*Women are victims*... one out of every six American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault in her lifetime (PICVAW, National Institute of Justice and CDCP, 1998).

*Men too...*2.78 million men have experienced an attempted or completed sexual assault in their lifetime (PICVAW, 1998).

*And of course children...*about 44% of sexual assault/abuse victims are under the age of 18 (U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2004).

*The rapist isn’t a masked assailant...*73% of sexual assaults were perpetrated by a non-stranger: 38% of rapists are a friend or acquaintance, 28% are an intimate, and 7% are a relative (NCVS, 2005).

*And isn’t hiding in the bushes...*about four out of ten sexual assaults take place at the victim’s own home. Two in ten take place in the home of a friend, neighbor or relative. One in ten takes place outside, away from home. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, 1997).

*Silent victims...*sexual assault is one of the most under reported crimes, with 60% being left unreported. Males are the least likely to report although they make up 10% of victims (NCVS, 2005).

**The Facts about Sexual Assault**

- Victims of sexual assault do not cause perpetrators to act.
- Sexual assaults are committed primarily out of anger and/or a need to feel powerful, to control and to dominate another person.
- Victims of sexual assaults are forced, coerced or manipulated to participate in sexual activity. *By definition, the ‘activity’ is assault when it occurs without consent.*
- Victims, who by virtue of staying alive, are referred to as “survivors,” are traumatized by the assault. Friends or family members may also experience trauma; the term used to refer to these caring others is “secondary survivors.”
- Sexual assault is a crime.

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**To Contact Us**

HCWC  
P.O. Box 234, San Marcos, TX  78667-0234  
(512) 396-3404  
24 hour HELPline  
(512) 396-HELP (4357)  
[www.hcwc.org](http://www.hcwc.org)  
[info@hcwc.org](mailto:info@hcwc.org)
A Note to Survivors

If you choose to report to law enforcement, don’t eat, drink, shower or change clothing until you have been examined. These actions may destroy important evidence.

If you do not choose to report to law enforcement, you can still receive a forensic sexual assault exam at no cost.

Seek medical attention. Even if you decide not to report, for your physical well-being it is important to receive treatment for any external and/or internal injuries, and for any possible sexually transmitted diseases.

If you suspect that you have been drugged, it is important to have a urine test done as soon as possible. Most drugs used for the intent of sexual assault are detectable in the urine for only 12 to 72 hours.

Seek support. Whether or not you decide to take any of the above steps, it is important that you receive support for your well-being. Many people believe or they are encouraged to believe that they should forget about the assault/abuse and “get on with their lives.” This may work temporarily, but it seldom works long term. Eventually, the trauma may impact relationships and the ability to go on with life as before.

Support from Sexual Assault & Abuse Services at HCWC is free and confidential. Please call.

Who Qualifies for Our Services?

Women and men who have been
- sexually assaulted as an adult;
- sexually abused as a child;
- sexually harassed;
- or affected by the sexual abuse/assault of someone they love.

Sexual Assault and Abuse Services

The mission of Sexual Assault & Abuse Services is to create an environment where the effects of sexual abuse are understood and the communities we serve are empowered to take action against these injustices.

We provide crisis intervention, support, empowerment to females and males who have experienced sexual abuse including sexual harassment, molestation, incest and/or sexual assault.

In collaboration with other Center programs and the community, we seek the support and resources necessary to achieve this mission.

“I tried to ignore what happened to me when I was younger. I’m fortunate that I was able to find some direction at HCWC.”

Joe, incest survivor

Services

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Hospital Accompaniment
- Law Enforcement Accompaniment
- Court Accompaniment
- Crime Victims Compensation Assistance
- Information & Referral
- Prevention Education Programs

Healing through self-determination and empowerment