

TOOL

SEXUAL ASSAULT

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

QUESTIONS: TRUE / FALSE

- () 1. Most rapists are scary looking men who hang out in the bushes and dark alleys.
- () 2. Rape? It could never happen to me.
- () 3. Rapists are motivated by power, not sex.
- () 4. If you stay out of the parks, dark alleys and inside after dark, then you won't get sexually assaulted.
- () 5. A lot of women get sexually assaulted because they "ask for it" by the way they dress and act.
- () 6. A woman can't charge her partner with sexual assault if she has consented to having sex on other occasions.
- () 7. It isn't really sexual assault if he doesn't use a weapon, leave cuts and bruises, or threaten to hurt you.
- () 8. Sexual assault doesn't happen very often in our society.
- () 9. Teenagers are most often sexually assaulted by someone they know.
- () 10. Many women falsely accuse innocent men of sexual assault for reasons of revenge, to protect their reputations or because of an unplanned pregnancy.



ANSWERS

1. FALSE In 75% of sexual assaults the attacker is someone known to the victim. He looks just like an average, everyday, normal guy.
2. FALSE All people are potential victims. The biggest "target group" are females in the age range of 14-24 years of age.
3. TRUE Sexual assault is a crime of violence acted out in a sexual way. Power and control are the motives for this crime.
4. FALSE Most sexual assaults take place in someone's home. The second most common place is in a vehicle.
5. FALSE No one asks to be sexually assaulted. Most assaults are planned or deliberate. What you are wearing or how you act doesn't give anyone the right or the message to sexually assault you. Don't blame the victim. It is the offender who is responsible for his actions.
6. FALSE Because you are in a relationship or have consented to having sex with the person before, it doesn't give that person permission to force you into sex. Any unwanted sexual act is a crime, no matter who commits it, a boyfriend, husband, lover, relative...
7. FALSE Some sexual assaults are not committed with a weapon, or with the threat of one or even verbal pressure (coercion); those are still considered sexual assault. You don't have to have physical wounds after being sexually assaulted. The emotional and mental ones are too much as it is.
8. FALSE Sexual assault happens way more than you think. It is estimated that only one in every ten sexual assaults are reported to the police.
9. TRUE Up to 84% of women know the person they are assaulted by. A lot of the time he is a friend, an acquaintance, a date, or even a relative.
10. FALSE False accusations of sexual assault are rare. They occur at the same frequency that false accusations of other crimes do, approximately 3%.

From <http://www.sexualassaultsarnia.on.ca/book2/t-4.htm>

