

Research Paper

A Study on the Etiology of Sexual Abuse

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ABSTRACT

This report presents data that examines violent crime across the general population. The objective of the study is to understand the reasons for victimization of sexual abuse. The primary data has been collected from people belonging to 18-50 years of age. Qualitative analysis has been conducted. Violent crime patterns vary by a host of factors, including age and gender of victim and place, time, and type of crime. This study also discusses the various ways to prevent the rise of sexually motivated crimes.

Keywords: Age, Sexual Abuse, Violent Crimes

Victimization of crime refers to the experience of individuals or groups being targeted and harmed by criminal acts. It involves various types of crimes, including but not limited to theft, assault, robbery, sexual assault, domestic violence, and cybercrime. Victims of crime can suffer physical, emotional, and financial harm as a result of their victimization.

Victimization can occur in different contexts, such as in public spaces, homes, workplaces, or online. The impact of crime on victims can be severe and long-lasting, affecting their overall well-being, sense of safety, and quality of life. It is important to address victimization and provide support and resources to help victims recover from the trauma and minimize the risk of future victimization.

Various factors contribute to the vulnerability of individuals to victimization. Some common factors include:

- **Individual Characteristics:** Certain personal attributes, such as age, gender, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental disabilities, can influence the

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likelihood of victimization. For example, children, women, and individuals with lower income or disabilities may be at higher risk.

- **Lifestyle and Behaviors:** Engaging in activities that expose individuals to risky situations or environments, such as walking alone at night in high-crime areas or substance abuse, can increase the chances of victimization.
- **Environmental Factors:** Characteristics of the physical and social environment can contribute to victimization. High-crime areas, inadequate lighting, lack of security measures, and social disorganization can create opportunities for criminals to target potential victims.
- **Relationship Dynamics:** In cases of interpersonal violence, the relationship between the victim and the offender plays a significant role. Domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and familial abuse are examples where the victimization occurs within personal relationships.
- **Repeat Victimization:** Some individuals may experience repeated victimization, often referred to as revictimization or victimization clustering. Previous victimization can increase the risk of future victimization due to factors such as increased vulnerability or the presence of persistent offenders.
- **Technological Advancements:** The rise of technology and the internet has introduced new forms of victimization, such as cybercrime, identity theft, and online harassment. Individuals who use technology without adequate security measures or awareness of potential risks may become targets.

Addressing victimization requires a comprehensive approach that includes crime prevention strategies, law enforcement efforts, victim support services, and community engagement. It is crucial to raise awareness about crime, educate individuals about personal safety measures, strengthen security infrastructure, and provide resources and assistance to victims to help them recover from the physical and psychological effects of their victimization.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Help Seeking Among Victims of Crime- Michael R. McCart

Several strategies were used to identify the relevant literature. Manuscripts published prior to 2010 were located using descriptor/index term-based searching in PsychINFO, PILOTS, and Medline. The descriptor/index terms chosen included “crime,” “rape,” “domestic violence,” “help-seeking behavior,” and “health care utilization” in PsychINFO, “crime,” “rape,” “assault,” and “health care utilization” in PILOTS, and “crime,” “rape,” “assault,” and “domestic violence” in Medline. In addition, free-text searching was used in all three databases using the words “service use” and “reporting behavior” cross referenced with “crime,” “rape,” “assault,” and “domestic violence.” The reference lists of relevant articles were reviewed to identify papers that might have been missed in the electronic searches. Preference was given to empirical reports published in peer-reviewed journals. Due to space limitations, qualitative studies were largely excluded. The one exception pertains to our review of the literature on barriers to help-seeking among victims of crime. We were able to locate only a small number of empirical articles on this topic. Therefore, the results from a few qualitative reports are included to provide information on crime victims' thought processes and concerns related to help seeking and service use.

Due to the high rates of crime victimization and concomitant mental health and medical problems in the general population, patterns of help seeking among adult crime victims

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represent an important area of investigation. Distinctions are commonly made in the help-seeking literature between formal and informal sources of support. Formal helpers include trained professionals, such as law enforcement officials, mental health workers, and physicians. Informal helpers include members of informal social networks, such as family and friends. To our knowledge, no comprehensive review of the help-seeking literature has been published to date. Thus, in this paper, we attempt to synthesize existing data on formal and informal help seeking among victims of crime.

Age, Criminal victimization and offending- Scott Menard

Explanations for the Victimization-Offending Relationship

The first step in the scientific process is observation; from there, we move to theoretical explanation of the observations. The discovery of the relationship between victimization and offending led to the development of explanations for why the same individuals would be both perpetrators and victims. From a routine activities or lifestyle perspective, individuals who are involved in illegal behavior place themselves in situations where they are more vulnerable to victimization because of the absence of capable guardians and the presence of willing offenders (in addition to themselves).

Methodological Limitations in Studies of the Relationship Between Victimization and Offending

Previous studies of the relationship between victimization have generally been limited by one or more of (a) reliance on official statistics for offending, (b) reliance on samples of questionable generalizability, and (c) limitations on the age range, particularly excluding the youngest potential victims (under age 12) and also, in those studies that do involve self-reported perpetration of illegal behavior, limitation to younger age groups (adolescents or young adults). A different issue arises if we try to rely only on victimization data such as the NCVS: while it is possible to obtain characteristics of both victims and offenders, the latter as perceived by the victims, we do not have data on both victimization and offending for the same individuals; instead, we are limited to comparing the characteristics of victims and offenders without being able to truly ascertain to what extent the two populations overlap. A similar problem arises in studies of victimization and offending when the same variables are used as predictors of victimization and offending, but the direct effects of victimization and offending on one another are not examined.

Violent Victimization and Offending: Individual-, Situational-, and Community-Level Risk Factors -Robert J. Sampson

This review is divided into seven major sections. First, the literature on factors underlying an individual's risk of violent victimization is assessed. This section includes a review not only of demographic correlates (e.g., age, race, and sex) emphasized in previous research, but of lifestyle and routine activity factors as well. In a similar fashion, the second section reviews the individual-level correlates of violent offending. In the third section, an overview is presented of situational-level risk factors in violence, along with analyses that consider victim-offender relationships and the concept of a victim-offender overlap. The fourth and fifth sections assess community-level determinants of violent crime and metropolitan (i.e., city-level) sources of violence, respectively. In the sixth section, some key problems and pitfalls in attributing causal interpretations to findings from past research are examined. Finally, the last section identifies promising directions for future research designs and public policy initiatives.

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For these and other reasons discussed throughout this paper, the prospects appear promising the merging a community level approach to violence with traditional concerns regarding individual and situational factors. Link between violent victimization and violent offending will not be cheap but appears essential nonetheless.

In the positive side, the implication of this community-level perspective is that there are in fact policy options that may help reverse the tide of community social disintegration. Among others, these might include resident management of public housing (to increase stability), tenant buy-outs (to increase home ownership and commitment to locale), rehabilitation of existing low-income housing (to preserve area stability, especially single-family homes), disbursement of public housing (versus concentration), and strict code enforcement (to fight deterioration). Moreover, there are recent examples that such policies are viable and, in fact, have stabilizing effects on communities and hence potential for crime reduction.

METHODOLOGY

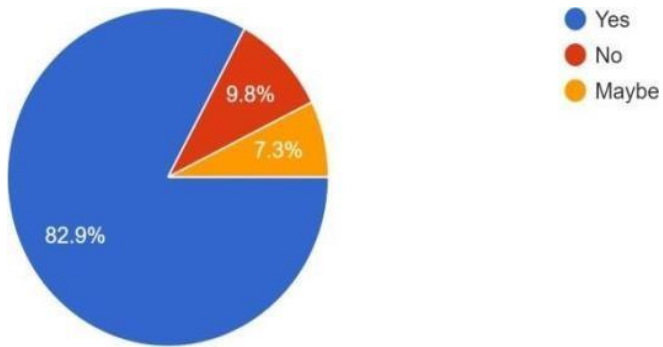
The objective of the study is to understand the reasons for victimization of sexual abuse. The primary data has been collected from people belonging to 18-50 years of age. Qualitative analysis has been conducted.

Data Analysis and Discussion

SI. No		No. of samples responded as YES	No. of samples responded as NO	No. of samples responded as UNSURE	No. of samples responded as SOMETIMES
1.	Sociological Factors responsible for victimization				
	1. Rate of sexual abuse	82.9%	9.8%	7.3%	
	2. Age	14.6%	63.4%	22%	
	3. Gender plays a role in becoming victim	34.1%	53.7%	12.2%	
	4. Time	22%	56.1%	22%	
	5. Safe to walk alone in night	14.8%	68.3%	17.1%	
	6. Place where you live as safe for sexual abuse	48.8%	17.1%	34.1%	
2.	7. School or workplace have a committee against sexual harassment	34.1%	36.6%	39.3%	
	Psychological Factors responsible for victimization				
2.	1. Self-defense classes can have impact on reducing sexual abuse	51.2%	12.2%	36.6%	
	2. Common in areas	12.2%	7.3%	80.5%	
3.	Legal Factors responsible for victimization				
	1. Area equipped with security systems	50%	37.5%	12.5%	
	2. Lack of patrolling	34.4%	25%	9.4%	31.3%
	3. Spontaneous action by the law enforcement	12.2%	2.5%	34.1%	51.2%
	4. Media platforms	65.9%	34.1%		

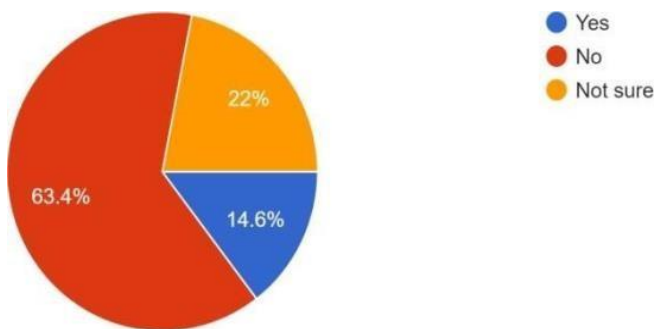
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Graph 1: Increase in sexual abuse cases



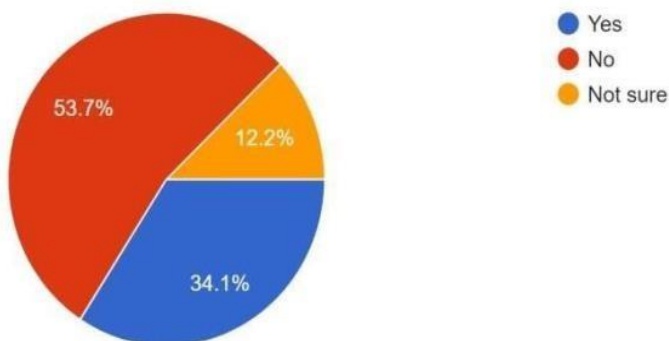
The above data shows that 82.9% agree that sexual abuse is rising nowadays and 9.8% disagree to the sexual abuse rise.

Graph 2: Age matters to sexual abuse



The above data shows that 63.4% agree that the age matters in becoming a victim to sexual abuse. 22% disagree that age matters to sexual abuse.

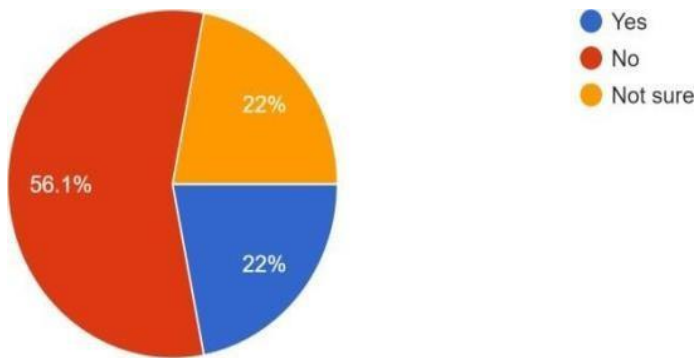
Graph 3: Gender as a problem



The above data shows that 53.7% agree that gender as a major reason for victimization. Only 34.1% disagree to gender as responsible for victimization.

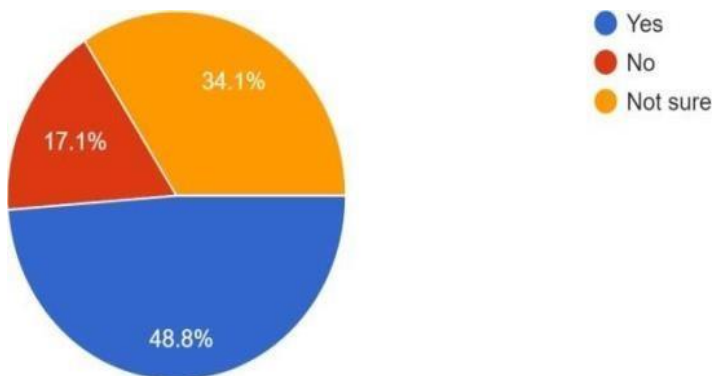
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Graph 4: Time is responsible for sexual abuse



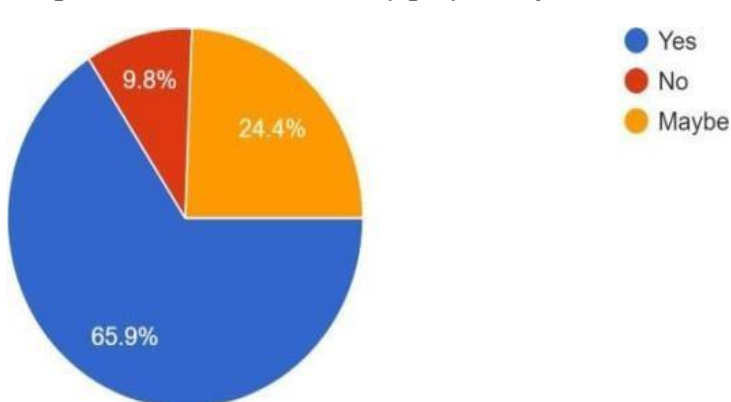
The above data shows that 56.1% agree that time is responsible for victimization. 22% disagree that time is responsible for victimization.

Graph 5: Location



The above data shows that 48.8% agree that location is responsible. 34.1% disagree location is responsible.

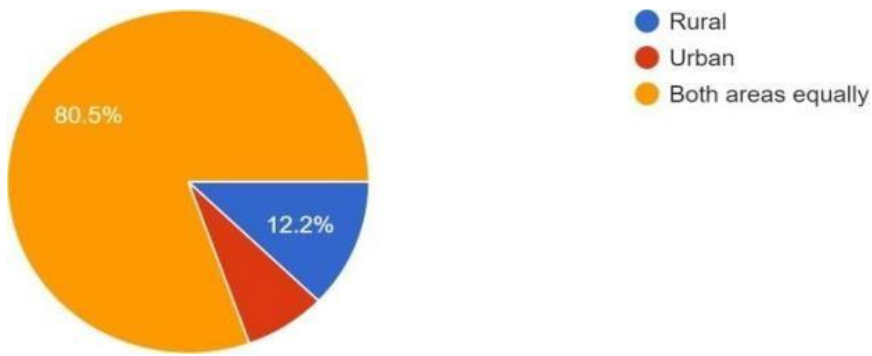
Graph 6: Power and authority play a major role



The above data shows that the areas of 65.9% of the people are power, authority as a role in sexual harassment. 24.4% areas are not agreed with this point.

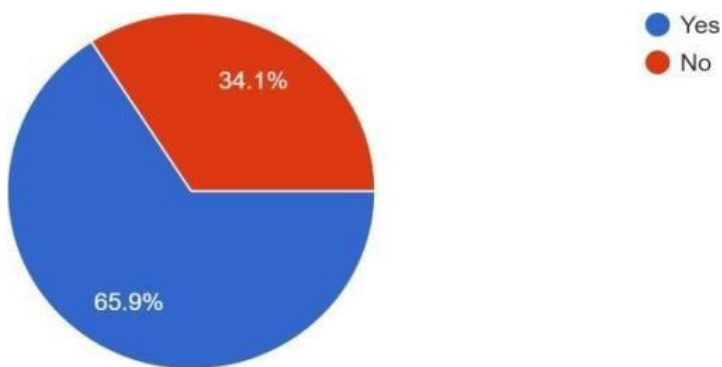
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Graph 7: Area which has more cases in sexual abuse



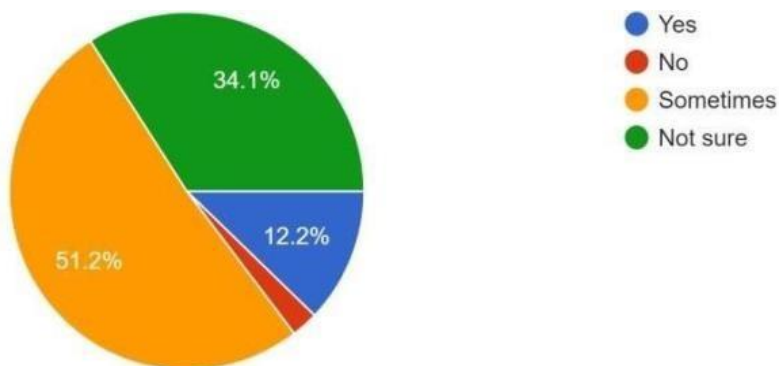
The above data shows that the areas of 80.5% of the people have both the areas urban and rural has more sexual abuse cases.

Graph 8: Media platforms regarding this subject



From the above data 65.9% people are agreed. 34.1% disagree media platforms regarding this subject.

Graph 9: Law enforcement action regarding this case



From the above data 51.2% people are sometimes the spontaneous action was taken by the law enforcement. 34.1% disagree that spontaneous action is taken by the law enforcement when a crime is reported in their area.

Major findings of the study

1. Majority of the people agree that location of the victim is responsible for increase in sexual abuse cases.

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2. Almost half of the people agree that time of day is responsible for increase in sexual abuse cases
3. Majority of people agree that age is responsible for increase in sexual abuse cases
4. Majority of people agree that sexual abuse is rising nowadays.
5. More than half of the people agree that gender is responsible for increase in sexual abuse cases
6. Only half of the people's areas are equipped with security systems.
7. Power, Position and Authority play a major role in increase of sexual abuse cases
8. More than half of the people agree that sometimes the spontaneous action is taken by the law enforcement when a crime is reported in their area.

Measures to stop the rate of rise in sexual abuse and stand against sexual abuse.

Speak out against the root causes, create a culture of consent, stop victim blaming, broaden your understanding of rape culture, take an intersectional approach measuring rape is a complicated and, to a degree imperfect enterprise.

The challenges are especially daunting when attempting to discern when in an intimate encounter, a sexual advance cross the line from imprudence to criminal behavior.

CONCLUSION

Rape and sexual assault are the most injurious crimes a person can inflict on another. The effects are devastating, extending beyond the initial victimization to consequences such as unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, sleep and eating disorders and other emotional and physical problems. The data on understanding the frequency and context under which rape and sexual assault are committed is vital and can influence public health and mental health policies and help identify interventions that will reduce the risk of further future attacks. The above survey gives a data that there is increase in the rate of sexual abuse which does not rely on the age gender or the type of clothing a person wears. There is no particular as of how and why are these cases of sexual abuse rising.

It is quite clear that the majority of victims of crime do not report their crimes to the police or utilize medical or mental health services to aid them in their recovery processes. We know there are multiple barriers to reporting and service utilization; however, we know very little about what victims need over the course of their involvement with the criminal justice system and beyond to help them overcome these barriers. Many innovative service programs and early interventions, including coordination of victim services, web-based information and interventions, and remote contact with professionals, demonstrate promise and are likely to make a significant impact on accessibility to and consumption of information and services. However, significant research is still required before we can adequately understand and meet the needs of victims of crime.

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Conflict of Interest

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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