

## ***Violence Against Women in Michigan***

In 1996, a statewide survey of women aged 18-69 in Michigan collected data on violence in women's lives. This survey found that:

- In the year before the survey, 12% of women sustained at least one form of violence (physical, sexual<sup>1</sup>, or threat) perpetrated by a man.
- Since age 16, over half (58%) of Michigan women experienced some type of violence by a man.
- Women were more likely to sustain violence by someone they knew (52%) than by strangers (35%).
- Over one-third (38%) of women who had ever had a partner had experienced some type of partner<sup>2</sup> violence.
- One out of five (21%) women with current partners reported sustaining some type of violence in that relationship.
- 38% of women have experienced physical violence by a man since age 16.
- 40% of women have experienced some form of sexual violence, ranging from unwanted touching to forcible rape, since the age of 16.

Source: Michigan Dept. of Community Health, Community Public Health Agency, Survey of Violence In the Lives of Michigan Women, 1996.

- In 1996, 5,466 forcible rapes were reported in Michigan. Nationally, it is estimated that half or fewer of all attempted/completed rapes are reported to police. The level of reporting may vary by state.

Source: US Department of Justice, 1996 Crime in the United States.

- In 1998 Michigan Domestic Violence Service Providers sheltered 13,429 women and children.
- In 1998 Michigan domestic violence crisis lines received over 60,000 crisis calls.

Source: Michigan Family Independence Agency, Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

### **National Facts**

- Women were about 6 times more likely than men to experience violence committed by an intimate (husband, ex-husband, boyfriend, or ex-boyfriend).
- Women aged 19-29 and women in families with incomes below \$10,000 were more likely than other women to be victims of violence by an intimate.
- Violence by an intimate was more likely to result in injury to women than stranger perpetrated violence.

Source: 1992-3 National Crime Victimization Survey

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<sup>1</sup> Any forced or attempted sexual activity against a woman's will. Sexual touching, including unwanted touching, grabbing, kissing, or fondling.

<sup>2</sup> Partner—husband or live-in male partner.