



Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Recommended Reading List

Castro, C. A., Kintzle, S., Schuyler, A. C., Lucas, C. L., & Warner, C. H. (2015). *Sexual assault in the military. Current psychiatry reports, 17(7), 1-13.*

Abstract: Military sexual assault is a pervasive problem throughout the military services, despite numerous initiatives to end it. No doubt the military's lack of progress stems from the complexity of sexual assaults, yet in order to develop effective strategies and programs to end sexual assault, deep understanding and appreciation of these complexities are needed. In this paper, we describe the root causes and numerous myths surrounding sexual assault, the military cultural factors that may unintentionally contribute to sexual assault, and the uncomfortable issues surrounding sexual assault that are often ignored (such as the prevalence of male sexual assault within the military). We conclude by offering a broad, yet comprehensive set of recommendations that considers all of these factors for developing effective strategies and programs for ending sexual assault within the military.

CDC Division of Violence Prevention – Sexual Violence: The CDC uses a 4-step approach to address public health problems like sexual violence: 1) Define the problem, 2) Identify risk and protective factors, 3) Develop and test prevention strategies, 4) Assure widespread adoption.

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/index.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Understanding Sexual Violence – Fact Sheet. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2004.

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/sv-factsheet.pdf>

Description: Two page fact sheet that describes the CDC's public health approach to sexual violence, the impact of sexual violence on health, the risk factors for perpetration of sexual violence, information on sexual assault prevention, and additional resources and references.

Chaney, Q. & Merrill, K. R. (Eds.). (2012). *Sexual assault and harassment in the U.S. military.* New York: Nova Science Pub.

Includes three reports prepared by the United States Government Accountability Office: *DOD Needs Greater Leadership Commitment and an Oversight Framework*, GAO-11-809: Published: Sep 21, 2011. Publicly Released: Oct 25, 2011, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-11-809>; *Military Justice: Oversight and Better Collaboration Needed for Sexual Assault Investigations and Adjudications*, GAO-11-579: Published: Jun 22, 2011. Publicly Released: Jun 22, 2011, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-11-579>; *Military Personnel: Additional Actions Are Needed to Strengthen DOD's and the Coast Guard's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Programs*, GAO-10-215: Published: Feb 3, 2010. Publicly Released: Feb 24, 2010, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-10-215>.

Davies, M. (2002). Male sexual assault victims: A selective review of the literature and implications for support services. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 7(3), 203-214.

Abstract: In recent years much has been done to publicize the plight of female rape victims. However, the sexual assault of adult males has received little attention in the research literature or by the public. This paper provides a selective review of the research into the prevalence and effects of male sexual assault victims. Research shows that the effects of sexual assault on adult males are often severe. This paper also outlines findings from experimental studies that have shown that reactions towards male sexual assault victims depend on both the victim's sexual orientation and the perpetrator's gender. Finally, implications for support services are outlined. Victims of both male and female perpetrators are considered, and both gay and heterosexual victims are discussed in relation to the specific needs of these victims. The needs of transgendered victims are also briefly considered, as are the needs of the sexual partners of male sexual assault victims. This paper concludes by offering some suggestions for future research.

DeGue S, Valle LA, Holt MK, Massetti GM, Matjasko JL, Tharp AT. A systematic review of primary prevention strategies for sexual violence perpetration. *Aggression and Violent Behavior* 2014;19(4): 346-362.

Abstract: This systematic review examined 140 outcome evaluations of primary prevention strategies for sexual violence perpetration. The review had two goals: 1) to describe and assess the breadth, quality, and evolution of evaluation research in this area; and 2) to summarize the best available research evidence for sexual violence prevention practitioners by categorizing programs with regard to their evidence of effectiveness on sexual violence behavioral outcomes in a rigorous evaluation. The majority of sexual violence prevention strategies in the evaluation literature are brief, psycho-educational programs focused on increasing knowledge or changing attitudes, none of which have shown evidence of effectiveness on sexually violent behavior using a rigorous evaluation design. Based on evaluation studies included in the current review, only three primary prevention strategies have demonstrated significant effects on sexually violent behavior in a rigorous outcome evaluation: Safe Dates (Foshee et al., 2004); Shifting Boundaries (building-level intervention only, Taylor, Stein, Woods, Mumford, & Forum, 2011); and funding associated with the 1994 U.S. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA; Boba & Lilley, 2009). The dearth of effective prevention strategies available to date may reflect a lack of fit between the design of many of the existing programs and the principles of effective prevention identified by Nation et al. (2003).

Farris, C., Schell, T. L., & Tanielian, T. (2013). *Health following military sexual assault: Recommendations for care, research, and policy*. Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND.
http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/OP382.html

Description: Awareness of military sexual assault — sexual assault of a servicemember — has been increasing within the Department of Defense (DoD). The DoD is striving to improve this situation, but unique conditions of life in the military may make response to these events more difficult than within the civilian sector. This paper reviews the prevalence of sexual assault among servicemembers, victim responses in the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault, barriers to disclosure, victim needs, and DoD efforts to provide necessary resources to victims. The authors review civilian guidelines for the care of physical injuries, response to STI/HIV and pregnancy risk, forensic services, advocacy and support services, and formal mental health care. They then review DoD directives, forms, and guidelines for sexual assault victim care, revealing that these generally are consistent with civilian guidelines. However, little is known about the fidelity with which these

DoD recommendations are implemented. The authors close with recommendations for future research to support the DoD's commitment to a culture free of sexual assault, including a comprehensive, longitudinal epidemiological study of military sexual assault, a needs assessment of disclosed and undisclosed military victims, an evaluation of the training enterprise, and an evaluation to document the extent to which DoD directives requiring immediate, evidence-based care for military victims are being implemented with fidelity.

Harrell, M. C. & Castaneda, L. W. (2009). *A compendium of sexual assault research*. Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND. http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR617/

Technical report (Rand Corporation), TR-617-OSD. Prepared for the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) W74V8H-06-C-0002.

Summary: “Recognition of the prevalence and pernicious effects of sexual assault, and especially of acquaintance rape, has increased dramatically since the early 1990s. During this time, a large volume of research has enhanced understanding of the problem. This volume summarizes recent studies on sexual assault that the authors deem useful and relevant to the U.S. Department of Defense and other policymakers interested in sexual assault issues. The authors provide a brief overview of the prevalence and effects of sexual assault, and of important events and laws pertaining to sexual assault in both the civilian and military sectors. They then discuss the research that has been conducted on ten aspects of sexual assault, including its prevalence, victim and perpetrator characteristics and risk factors, prevention, recovery and coping, and the responses of the health care, law enforcement, and criminal justice systems. Finally, in this compendium's annotated bibliography, the authors summarize more than 450 studies of sexual assault, tailoring their descriptions of research from a variety of fields for an audience of policymakers and informed lay readers.”

Lawhorne, S. C., Philpott, D., & Scott, J. (2014). *Sexual assault in the military: A guide for victims and families*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield.

Publisher's description: “Sexual assault and harassment in the military have been a critical subject for years. Many victims may be reluctant to press charges because of fear of retaliation, damage to their careers, and widespread uncertainty regarding the military justice system. However, when circumstances arise, there are resources available to assist victims and families in their efforts to report, seek help, and recover from the effects of sexual assault. Yet, finding those resources can be challenging, especially in a time of crisis. *Sexual Assault in the Military* serves as an easy-to-use, comprehensive reference guide for military members and their families about sexual assault and harassment.”

Morral, A. R., Gore, K. L., Schell, T. L. (Eds.). 2015. *Sexual assault and sexual harassment in the U.S. military volume 2: Estimates for Department of Defense service members from the 2014 RAND military workplace study*. <http://sapr.mil/index.php/research/rand>

Description: DoD contracted the RAND Corporation (RAND) to administer the *RAND Military Workplace Study (RMWS)* to determine the prevalence of sexual assault in FY 2014.

Volume 2 of the report features the results of the survey for Active and Reserve component members in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps along with recommendations to the Department. The report also provides information on the prevalence of sexual harassment and gender discrimination and includes some limited data on retaliation perceived by sexual assault victims.

Namrow, N. A., Hurley, M. M., Van Winkle, E. P., & De Silva, S. D. (2016). 2015 Military investigation and justice experience survey (MIJES): Overview Report. <http://sapr.mil/index.php/research/dmdc>

Description: The Military Investigation and Justice Experience Survey (MIJES) is an anonymous survey and the first DoD-wide survey effort designed to assess the investigative and legal processes experienced by survivors that have made a formal report of sexual assault and have gone through the military investigation process to case closure. The 2015 MIJES does not employ statistical sampling or scientific weighting. Therefore, results from this survey and report cannot be generalized to the full population of military survivors rather only to respondents of the survey.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office. (2015). Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military: Fiscal Year 2014. Retrieved from http://sapr.mil/public/docs/reports/FY14_Annual/FY14_DoD_SAPRO_Annual_Report_on_Sexual_Assault.pdf

Description: To assist in addressing the crime of sexual assault within the Military, the DoD and various military Services conduct comprehensive annual sexual assault assessments and issue reports. The data provided in the reports serve as the foundation and catalyst for future sexual assault prevention, training, victim care and accountability goals. The 2015 Annual Report describes statistical data on sexual assault reporting, survey and focus group results, and key program efforts implemented by the Department: 1) advancing sexual assault prevention, 2) encouraging greater reporting, 3) reporting sexual harassment complaints, 4) improving response to male victims, 5) combatting retaliation associated with sexual assault reporting, and 6) tracking accountability in the military justice system.

Tharp, A. T., DeGue, S., Valle, L. A., Brookmeyer, K. A., Massetti, G. M., & Matjasko, J. L. (2013). “A systematic qualitative review of risk and protective factors for sexual violence perpetration.” *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 14*(2), 133-167.

Abstract: The current review summarized results of 191 published empirical studies that examined the risk and protective factors for sexual violence perpetration. Studies in the review examined factors for perpetration by and against adolescents and adults, by male and female perpetrators, and by those who offended against individuals of the same sex or opposite sex. Factors associated with child sexual abuse (CSA) perpetration were not included. In all, 2 societal and community factors, 23 relationship factors, and 42 individual-level factors were identified. Of these 67 factors, consistent significant support for their association with SV was found for 35, nonsignificant effects were found for 10, 7 factors had limited or sample-specific evidence that they were associated with SV but were in need of further study, and 15 demonstrated mixed results. The factors identified in the review underscore the need for comprehensive prevention programs that target multiple risk and protective factors as well as factors that occur across the social ecology. Moreover, we identified two domains of factors—the presence and acceptance of violence and unhealthy sexual behaviors, experiences, or attitudes—that had consistent significant associations with SV but are not typically addressed in prevention programs. Therefore, SV prevention may also benefit from learning from effective strategies in other areas of public health, namely sexual health and youth violence prevention.

Ullman, S. E. (2010). *Talking about sexual assault: Society's response to survivors*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Publisher's description: "Sexual assault is a traumatic experience for any woman. Furthermore, many victims who tell others about their assault must endure a "second assault" in the form of negative reactions, such as victim blaming and disbelief. One third to two thirds of victims may experience such reactions, which have negative mental and physical health effects on the victims. This book provides a comprehensive look at women's rape disclosure, addressing such issues as why, how often, and to whom women disclose their sexual assault; how people respond to disclosures; what factors influence how they respond to disclosures; and how these responses affect survivors."