

...ay college and university campus and has been
...e focus of campaigns by many campus groups
...ross the province. Yet there are still men and
...omen who don't recognize or understand what
...ate rape is. This pamphlet has been put together by
...e Women's Issues Committee of the Ontario Fed-
...ation of Students to explain what we mean when
...e say NO MEANS NO! Date rape is defined as
...xual assault committed by someone the victim
...nows, whether a classmate, neighbour, friend,
...tic, co-worker or steady partner.

The Facts

1 in 3 women will be sexually assaulted at some time in their lives;

1 in 8 women will be sexually assaulted while attending college or university;

While incidents of violence committed against men do occur, violence against women is more pervasive, more systemic, and usually more severe;

The commonly held belief that all rapists are deranged stranger lurking in the alley is a myth. As a result of people believing this, many fail to recognize date rape as sexual assault and mistakenly blame the victim for arousing the attacker; Women of all ages and physical types, from every cultural, racial, religious and socioeconomic background regardless of sexual orientation are sexually assaulted;

Sexual assault has the lowest reporting rate of any violent crime with estimates ranging as low as 5%;

Date rape has the lowest reporting rate with only 1% of date rapes being reported;

A recent study conducted among over 6100 students found that 84% of the women who had been sexually assaulted knew their attacker and that 57% of sexual assaults had happened on a date;

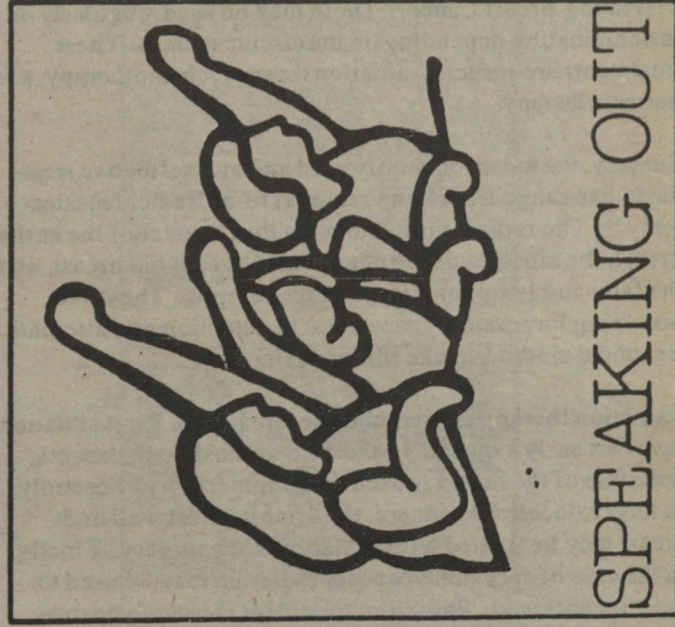
The same survey that found that 75% of the men

ing or taking drugs.
• About 90% of the victims of sexual assault are women, 10% are men.

• In the overwhelming majority of cases involving male victims, the attacker is a heterosexual man.
• Studies indicate that the effects of rape are long lasting and debilitating. 1 in 5 rape survivors attempt suicide and 1 in 6 suffer a nervous breakdown

• According to a 1988 American college and university date rape survey:

- 1 in 4 of the women surveyed were victims of rape (according to the legal definition: forcible penetration)
- only 27% of the women whose experience met the legal definition of rape thought of themselves as a rape victim.
- 1 out of 12 of the male students surveyed had committed acts that met the legal definition of rape, or attempted rape.
- 84% of the men who committed rape, as defined by law, said what they did was definitely not rape.



Common Myths

Date rape often happens because one partner has not truly listened to the other. If there is any question as to whether or not the person you are with wants to have sex, don't assume or push...find out for sure. It is always better to find out at that moment than to regret it later. Here are some of the common myths and their realities which are all too often ignored.

Myth: "Women often say no when they mean yes"

Fact: NO MEANS NO! Never assume that you understand what your partner wants better than she does.

Myth: "If a woman has agreed to have sex with her partner in the past she cannot be raped by him."

Fact: Anytime a person does not want to have sex, but is forced to do so, that act is rape.

Myth: "Agreeing to kiss or neck or participate in foreplay means a woman has agreed to have sex."

Fact: Everyone has the right to stop sexual activity at any point no matter what has preceded.

Myth: "When men are sexually aroused they need to have sex."

Fact: Men don't physically need to have sex after becoming aroused, any more than women do.

Myth: "If she didn't fight back it wasn't rape."

Fact: Just like having your wallet stolen is theft - whether or not you fought back - having sex against your will is rape - whether or not you fought back.

Myth: "If a woman has excited a man she should carry through."

Fact: While a partner may be the stimulus of sexual excitement, ultimately an individual controls their own body. No one is under any obligation to relieve their partner's sexual tension.