

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is an annual designation observed in April. The mission of this month is to raise awareness about sexual violence around the world, and to educate communities on how to prevent it. The term "sexual assault" is a large umbrella and includes all of the following:

- Rape
- Molestation
- Unwanted sexual contact of any other form
- Sexual harassment
- Incest
- Child Sexual Abuse
- Sexual violence, even with an intimate partner
- Sexual exploitation
- Human trafficking
- Voyeurism

If you, or anyone you know is experiencing any of these, or experiences them in the future, call the police or the 24-Hour Emergency Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at 740-695-5441 or the National Sexual Assault Telephone Hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673) to be connected with a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in your area. to be connected with a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in your area. Sexual assault is a crime and is not something that should ever be taken lightly. Do not be afraid to speak out if this happens to you.

In April, and every month to follow, people across the country are encouraged to embrace their voices to show support for survivors and speak out if they have experienced sexual assault themselves. One month is not enough time to solve this serious issue, but it's a fantastic place to start. This month do your part to end the widespread problem that is sexual assault. Here is a list of statistics about sexual assault in the U.S.

- 1. Nearly 1 in 5 women in the United States have experienced rape (or attempted rape) at one point in their lives.
- 2. 1 in 67 men in the United States have experienced rape (or attempted rape) at one point in their lives.
- 3. Every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted.
- 4. Only 5 out of every 1,000 perpetrators will end up in prison (which is why it is so important to speak out if this happens to you).
- 5. The majority of sexual assaults happen at or near the victim's home, often by someone they know, and/or trust.
- 6. Health care is 16% higher for women who were sexually abused as children.
- 7. Rape is the most under-reported crime; 63% of sexual assaults are not reported.