Association of State Uniform Crime Reporting Programs

Using NIBRS to Measure Sexual Violence

Little Rock, Arkansas
September 2005
Good afternoon! My name is Rob McManus and I am pleased to join you today with support from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). As an OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center consultant, I would like to give you an overview of OVC and its available resources and assistance.

Created in 1983, OVC implements the provisions of the Victims of Crime Act and administers the federal Crime Victims Fund which has supported more than $6 billion in resources for compensation and assistance services for crime victims since its inception in 1984.

OVC collaborates with international, national, tribal, state, military and local victim assistance and criminal justice agencies as well as other professional organizations to serve victims. OVC can provide many of the tools you need – through the OVC Resource Center, the OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center and the OVC web site.
Have you ever visited OVC’s website to get the latest news in the victim’s field or to share ideas at the Web Forum?

Have any of you ever seen an OVC “No More Victims: exhibit at a conference or meeting?

Or are you familiar with Helping Outreach Programs to Expand grants?
OVG “Putting Victims First”

- Information is power and OVC is dedicated to “Putting Victims First.”

- OVC provides quick and easy access to funding information, training and technical assistance, publications, skill-building tools, and other resources to enhance victim services.
OVC’s Resource Center

The *No More Victims, Know More, Ask OVC* Brochure explains more about OVC’s Resource Center and highlights the training and technical assistance and resources OVC TTAC offers victim service providers and allied professionals.
I also want to take a moment to tell you about OVC’s Professional Development Scholarship Program, which offers financial assistance for qualified victim service providers to receive continuing education.

The program is designed for service providers from small, community or faith based organizations that help victims and operate with limited budgets or resources.

The program offers up to $1,000 for individuals and $5,000 for multidisciplinary teams to help cover the registration, travel and hotel accommodations costs of attending approved training events.

For more details, please visit OVC TTAC’s web site, www.ovcttac.org
I would also urge you to visit OVC’s Web site to discover the many valuable tools and resources available from OVC.
Why use NIBRS?

- Summary report data simply don’t have the data required.

- Local RMS systems have more data, but are not often compatible.
Victimization Surveys

- Expensive
- Time consuming
- You have to keep doing them
- Not comprehensive
- Advantage – captures non-reported crime
Use NIBRS because

- It tells us when and where sexual violence happens
- Allows us to describe victims & offenders
- Lets us talk about the relationship between victims and offenders
- Provides flexibility
- Limitation – Reported crime only
NIBRS is accurate

- Statewide reporting
- Reporting process is transparent
- Compares well to victim data
Direct service victims and SCIBRS victims were similar in racial makeup.
SCIBRS victims were somewhat younger than Direct Service victims.
Sexual violence increased, 2% from 1991 through 2003
Most sexual violence victims knew, but were not related to, or romantically involved with, the offender.
Most sexual violence occurred in private residences

- School: 4.1%
- Highway, roads: 7.3%
- Private residence: 71.4%
Sexual violence happens most often late at night.
Most victims of sexual violence are female

- Overall, 88% of sexual violence victims are women and girls.

- Forcible sodomy provides an exception to this rule: men and boys make up 56% of victims in this offense category.
Sexual violence victimization rates were higher among minorities.
Violent sex offenders were usually older than their victims.
Sexual violence victimization rates were highest among children.
After a large one year increase, sexual violence against children has remained fairly consistent.
Invasive Sexual Violence against children increased 5.3% from 1991 to 2003.
Forcible fondling against children increased 48.9% from 1991 through 2003.
Forcible fondling was the most frequent form of sexual violence against children.
The sexual victimization rate for white children was 7.5% higher than for non-white children.
Nearly half of violent sexual offenders who victimized a child were 10 or more years older than their victims.
Children were victimized at peak daytime hours, adults at night.
Children were sexually assaulted by people they knew and family members. Adults were sexually assaulted by people they knew and strangers.
When children knew but were not related to the assailant, they were most often acquaintances.
Among family members, parents sexually assaulting their children was the most common victimization pattern.
Research Implications

- NIBRS - Who is assaulting children and at what times of day?
- NIBRS – Do the time of day patterns change with school being in session or not?
- Beyond NIBRS – What are the circumstances of daytime child victimizations?
- Beyond NIBRS – Collaboration with victims groups.
Policy & Prevention
Implications

- Development of policies to focus specifically on violence or sexual violence against children.
- Stranger danger is real, but more applicable to adults than children.
- Education for young children regarding appropriate and inappropriate touching and other sexual behavior.
- Development of strategies based on peak victimization times for children.
Wrap Up

- For the full report, go to the South Carolina SAC website: http://www.scdps.org/ojp/statistics.asp and click on Against Their Will

- Questions?