



Community Advocates for Family & Youth, Inc.

# SPEAK

*Crime - It's Real, It's Wrong  
Speak Out for Yourself or Someone Else*

## What Legacy are You Passing On?

Have you ever witnessed a child being abused, knew your friend was involved in a domestic violence situation, saw a teen become violent against another, knew something was wrong with a co-worker, a friend, your friend's child or even your child's friend? What did you do?

For many of us there is a question we ask ourselves when we see or suspect violence, Should I report? Should I call the police? We have passed that legacy of "asking the question" first on to our children.

This quarter, **SPEAK** looks at *Male Victimization*. A crime that is difficult to get real statistics on because of low reporting or too often the failure to report. Think about it, young men are often encouraged to "man up" during times of crisis and men often take the approach "I can handle it" which may contribute to the low reporting rate of male victimization.

A survey conducted by the Lieberman Research, Inc 49% of

boys who have been abused or witnessed violence grow up to abuse. Another survey points out that half of our youth are too scared to tell anyone when they are victimized. Yet, another states that the majority of victimized youth know the person who committed a crime against and a quarter were targeted by someone their own age.

Thousands of youth have been mugged for money, cell phones and clothes and suffered a crime involving knives or guns but yet the same survey found that telling someone about a crime is seen as uncool or just too much of a hassle. So should we as adults be our children's keeper?

We say **yes, ask the question and take action and change the message to our youth.** Violence is learned and it can be unlearned. We need to **GET INVOLVED.**

Encourage our youth, particularly young men, to report violence,

whether it is abuse, teen dating, bullying, domestic violence in the home, teach them to **REPORT IT.**

Change the message of "what happens in the home stays in the home" so our children are safe and will report when they become victimized. Let our young men know - "**They're the man**" when they report violence regardless of their age.

**WE SAY, when in doubt call and report. And we encouraging YOUTH to do the same. Let's change the legacy we are passing on.**

Arleen B. Joell , CEO

### Mission Statement

*To Educate, Empower & Embrace victims as they speak the truth on their journey to justice.*

### CAFY's Vision

*To help victims become confident and empowered survivors by holding offenders accountable. To have a shared sense of responsibility and community awareness through continuous education and an advocacy-minded judicial system*

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### **MAKE AN EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR COMMUNITY WORK WITH VICTIMS OF CRIME. GAIN VALUABLE SOCIAL SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

#### **CAFY – Victim Services: VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT**

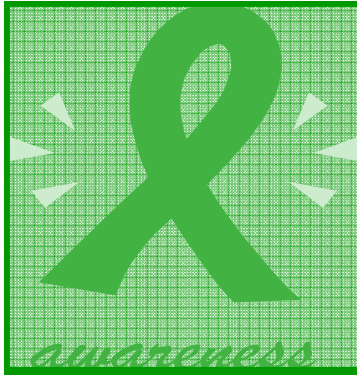
**Community Advocates for Family & Youth** exists to act as the ConstantLink to victims of crime. The Program is actively recruiting volunteers to become victim service volunteers - as advocates, intake workers, teen advocate assistants, resource providers, and court companions.

This is a rewarding volunteer/intern opportunity for seniors, students in human services areas and residents, who are looking to give back in their community. This is a supervised position with goals and objectives to allow students to achieve required internship and community service hour. For more information and to gain supervised experience helping victims of crime, contact:

**Arleen Joell — 301-390-4092 — ajoell@communityadvocates.info**

Training information and position descriptions can be viewed on [www.communityadvocates.info](http://www.communityadvocates.info) or [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org), keyword – Community Advocates.

**Persons with Bilingual skills are encouraged to apply**



## *Reactions to Sexual Assault*

*Victims of Sexual Assault may experience the following:*

- *Shock*
- *Disbelief*
- *Denial*
- *Embarrassment*
- *Shame*
- *Guilt*
- *Depression*
- *Powerlessness*
- *Disorientation*
- *Flashbacks*
- *Fear*
- *Anxiety*
- *Anger*

*If you are a victim of sexual assault, remember:*

***IT WAS NOT YOUR FAULT!!***

## Can Men be Sexually Assaulted?

Yes. Sexual Assault is any sexual contact that is **against a person's will or without consent**. This includes situations where force, violence, or weapons are used as well as situations where the victim is too intoxicated or scared to give consent. Sexual assault happens to men as well as women; however, the problem of sexual assault against men isn't talked about very much.

Sexual assault against men happens in lots of different ways. Some men are assaulted by a stranger, or a group of strangers, while others may be assaulted by someone they know. Men are sometimes sexually assaulted by women but most often they are sexually assaulted by other men. Some attackers use weapons, physical force, or the threat of force to gain the upper hand. Others may use blackmail or a position of authority to threaten someone into submission. Still others use alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both, to prevent victims from fighting back. No matter how it occurs, it is a violation of a man's body and his free will and it can have lasting emotional consequences.

**-An Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence Aid and Resource Collection**  
(aardvarc)

## Friends Can Help

If you have a male friend who has been the victim of sexual assault, you can help:

- **Listen, don't judge.** Try to simply understand his feelings.
- **Offer shelter.** If possible, stay with him at his place or let him stay at yours.
- **Be there and give comfort.** He may need to talk a lot or at odd hours at the beginning. Be there as much as you can and encourage him to talk to others.
- **Encourage him to seek professional help** (See List of Resources under Victim Hotlines)
- **Be patient.** Don't try to rush the healing process or quickly "make it better."
- **Accept his choice of what to do about the sexual assault -- don't be overly protective.** Ask him what he needs, help him list his options, then encourage him to make his own decisions. Even if you disagree. It is very important that he make his own decisions and have them respected.
- **Put aside your feelings and get support for yourself.** It may be too overwhelming for him to deal with your angry feelings on top of his own. If you have strong angry feelings or feelings of blame toward the survivor, talk to a friend or call a hotline.

-National Center For Victims of Crime

### Myth vs. Reality

**Myth:** Men *can't* be sexually assaulted.

**Reality:** Men *are* sexually assaulted. Any man can be sexually assaulted regardless of size, strength, appearance or sexual orientation.

**Myth:** Only gay men are sexually assaulted.

**Reality:** Heterosexual, gay and bisexual men are equally likely to be sexually assaulted. Being sexually assaulted has nothing to do with your current or future sexual orientation. Your sexuality has no more to do with being raped than being robbed.

**Myth:** Only gay men sexually assault other men.

**Reality:** Most men who sexually assault other men identify themselves as heterosexual.

**Myth:** Men cannot be sexually assaulted by women.

**Reality:** Although the majority of perpetrators are male, men can also be sexually assaulted by women.

**Myth:** Erection or ejaculation during a sexual assault means you "*really wanted it*" or consented to it.

**Reality:** Erection and ejaculation are *physiological* responses that may result from mere physical contact or even extreme stress. These responses do not imply that you wanted or enjoyed the assault and do not indicate anything about your sexual orientation.

-The University of Texas Health Center

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### What To Do If You've Just Been Sexually Assaulted

- **Go to a safe place.**
- **Call someone who can help you:** a friend, the police (911)..
- **Don't shower, drink, eat or change your clothes.** These activities can destroy physical evidence that could be useful to the police investigation
- **Get medical attention.** Go to the nearest hospital. Even if you feel embarrassed about your injuries, it is very important to receive medical assistance. Hospital staffs are accustomed to dealing with injuries to the penis or anus and they are trained to do so as professionally as they would treat a broken arm or a heart attack. Even if you don't seem to be seriously hurt, you may have hidden, internal injuries that can become infected or get worse with time. Furthermore, symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases can lie dormant for a long time, but early medical attention may prevent future outbreaks. If you are concerned about HIV infection, talk to a staff member at the hospital about the possibility of exposure and the need for testing.
- **Write down everything** that you remember happening, with as much detail as possible. This can help you to cope with the situation.

-The University of Texas Health Center

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### Did You Know...?

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- 5% to 10% of sexual assaults committed in the United States involve male victims.

- Some experts say that as many as 1 in 10 men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes.

-malesurvivor.org

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### Victim Hotlines

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**NOMSV** (National Organization on Male Sexual Victimization), a non-profit dedicated to healing male survivors of sexual abuse: [www.malesurvivor.org](http://www.malesurvivor.org)

**The National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC)**  
[www.ncvc.org](http://www.ncvc.org)

**Gay/Lesbian Issues Hotline**  
800.246.PRIDE  
800.246.7743

**RAINN Rape, Abuse and Incest Network**  
800.656.HOPE  
24 hr Hotline

**What's Up and Coming?**

What	Where	When	Time	Register
Court Education Information Session	CAFY Offices	August 15, 2007	6:30 - 8:00 PM	yes
Volunteer Information Session	CAFY Offices	September 15, 2007	6:30 PM	no
CAFY Victim Advocate Training	CAFY Offices	Begins October 4, 2007	TBA	yes
TAVA (Teens against Assault, Violence & Abuse) Meeting	Bowie Gymnasium	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday	6:30 - 9:00PM	no
TAVA - Speak out against teen violence	Galilee Baptist Church First Baptist Church of Glenarden	October 27, 2007 November 17, 2007	10:00 - 2:00PM	yes
Court Education Session	Upper Marlboro Circuit Court	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday each Month	10:00AM	yes
Family Dialogue Sessions	CAFY Offices	As Scheduled	TBA	yes

**WANTED!!! Teens**

If you are a teen, 13-18 interested in making a difference in your community - join CAFY. Participate in CAFY's Student Internship Program. For more information, call 301.390.4092 or email admin@communityadvocates.info

**Community Advocates for Family & Youth**

**Core Services**

**Victim Services:** CAFY advocates act as a 'Constant Link' through the criminal justice process by offering case management, court companionship, court preparation, and victim impact statement assistance. CAFY is currently working on forming Victim Impact Panels.

**Restoration Session:** Through self-help group discussion and mediation session we facilitate restoration and reunification for families, youth and adults.

**Outreach Education:** For Youth and Families; We provide Community education such as:

- Youth Court Education and Parent Court Awareness
- Adult Courtroom Education Sessions
- Helping Youth Succeed in Court
- Identity Theft for Seniors
- Knowing Your Rights

**Contact CAFY:**

**Phone: 301.390.4092**

**Victim Services Outreach 301-772-4273**

**E-mail: Admin@communityadvocates.info**

**www.communityadvocates.info**

**CAFY Notices & Events**

**Survivors Are Free & Empowered**

SAFE support group meetings for Youth and Adult victims. Sessions are held every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Call CAFY to register and to receive the room number.

**2007 DONORS** Thank you to the businesses, individuals, groups and foundations that support us financially and with in-kind gifts. Your gifts enable us to continue the work of educating and empowering victims of crime become survivors.

**Business Supporters**

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**WANT TO DONATE NOW?**

**Send your tax deductible donation to C A F Y  
P. O. Box 4419; Capitol Heights, MD 20791**