

# Sexual Assault On College Campuses

by Amy Brubaker

"A first-year student attending a private college returned to her date's fraternity after a party where both had been drinking heavily. Her date asked his roommate to join them. While the date watched, the roommate overpowered and sexually assaulted the student, although she aggressively tried to resist the attack. After the rape, she yelled at him furiously. She was then forced to orally copulate the roommate and was penetrated digitally by her date. Both assailants were well-known members of the college tennis team."

Rape is a serious and violent crime. According to the Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center, rape is defined as "forced sexual intercourse that is perpetrated against the will of the victim." This definition also applies to rapes committed by people the victim know, known as acquaintance rape. "In a large number of reported cases, the attacker or attackers have been well known campus athletes. And in many of the rapes committed at fraternity parties, the

victim has been attacked by multiple assailants."

For example, "A fraternity holds a party. In many cases, but by no means in all, a young woman has had too much to drink and/or too many drugs. Therefore, she may be unaware that the 'friendly' persuasion of the brothers is actually a planned pursuit of easy prey. By the time she recognizes her predicament, her confusion has turned to fear and panic, and escape seems impossible. She is unable to protest or her protests are ignored. Anywhere from one to eleven or more men rape her."

According to the Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center, a rape is committed every six minutes in the U.S. Reported rapes represent only a fraction of the actual rapes that occur. Victimization surveys estimate that ten times as many rapes are committed as are reported one half of the reported rapes are acquaintance rapes.

The women at greatest risk are those between the ages of 16 and 19. The second greatest risk category are of women between the ages of 20 and 24.

Other forms of sexual assault

should also be recognized. They include, sodomy, oral copulation, and rape by foreign object. Sexual assault occurs when ones clothes are ripped or an intimate part of one's body is touched. Sexual harrassment is also illegal as a form of sexual assault. According to the Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center, sexual harrassment is generally defined within the campus context to mean "unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors by a member of the campus community when the assailant uses, threatens to use, or implies that submission to or rejection of such conduct will have an impact upon employment or academic decisions effecting the victim."

Along with the actual violence and physical pain of rape come many other traumas. The typical responses to rape include, "initial feelings of shock and disbelief; intense fears about personal safety; preoccupation with recurrent, intrusive thoughts about the assault; sleep disturbances; anxiety; impaired concentration; mood swings; depression; and feelings of anger, shame, and self-blame."

Disciplinary actions can include

court hearings or hearings with the University.

The only way assaults can begin to be hindered is by reporting them. If one is assaulted at Salem College they should report the assault to Public Safety immediately. The phone number for Public Safety is 721-2718 or to reach the beeper students can dial 761-4357. By calling this number students can also obtain a security guard as an escort from remote places on campus to avoid possible harmful situations. If an assault occurs at Wake Forest a student should call Wake Forest Security or the Police immediately. By reporting the assaults the student can also receive the counseling necessary to help her recover from the trauma as well as medical help.

The key to combating the crime of sexual assault and prosecuting the attackers is to report the crime immediately!

*\*Special thanks to The Rape Treatment Center at Santa Monica Hospital Medical Center for information obtained in their booklet Sexual Assault on Campus written by Aileen Adams and Gail Abarbarel.*

## JUST THE FACTS

by Tammy Taylor

Kathy Martin, a member of the Forsyth County AIDS Task Force Board of Directors and a nurse at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, delivered a talk on AIDS October 26 in Bitting Lobby. There was a low turnout, and those that did not attend missed an hour packed with information.

Ms. Martin presented facts and statistics that were more than alarming. She spoke about the symptoms of AIDS and discussed the three various ways you could get the disease. Those three ways include sexual contact, blood transfusions, and pregnancy.

If a mother is infected, there is a 50% chance that her baby will develop the virus and die within two years. Ms. Martin also indicated that there is a documented case of the disease being transmitted by a mother who breast fed her child.

Ms. Martin also said that you cannot contract the disease by giving blood. However, those individuals in the health care field must be very careful because the disease can spread through blood contact on mucous membrane. This is why most health care workers wear laytex gloves. She also indicated that the IV drug use population of Winston-Salem is close to that of New York City in population breakdown.

In the beginning, AIDS was

thought of as a homosexual disease, when in actuality the disease has no preference as to which sex it attacks. Semen can contain the virus in large doses and for that reason Ms. Martin was very emphatic about the use of condoms. She suggested purchasing laytex condoms which are not as porous as various other types of condoms. She also told us that women are the greatest consumers of condoms.

She realizes that in today's society, not everyone waits until they are married to have sex nor do they have sex only with the person that may become their spouse. Her response to this was always use condoms and know your partner's sexual history. If he doesn't tell you about his past, you may have no future. She also said it was important to change condoms every time you had sex, and suggested to stay away from petroleum lubricants.

Some of the statistics she presented are as follows:

- \* As of September 1 there were 37 diagnosed cases, in Forsyth County.
- \* 629 diagnosed cases in NC, 353 of which are dead.
- \* 72,000 diagnosed cases nationwide, 42,000 of which are dead.
- \* 80 babies a day are born in New York City that test positive for the virus.

## Don't let your glasses blur their vision.



Whether a glass holds 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1 1/4 ounces of spirits, the alcohol content is the same. It's important to know this because the size and shape of the glass can give people a distorted impression of how much alcohol they're actually drinking.

So when you're out to share some cheer with friends, remember how much alcohol is in your glass and that drinking *sensibly* lets you hold things in focus.

Always keep safe driving within your sight.

A public service message from Will Rogers Institute