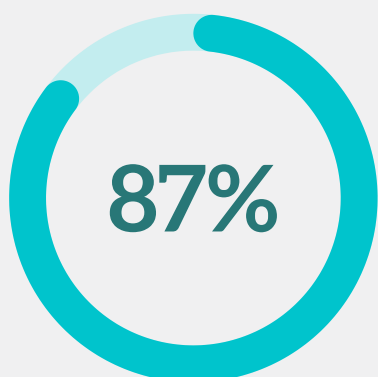


Sexual Violence Myths and Mythbusters



women's support network
of york region

Myth: Rape is most likely to be committed by a stranger.



Mythbuster:

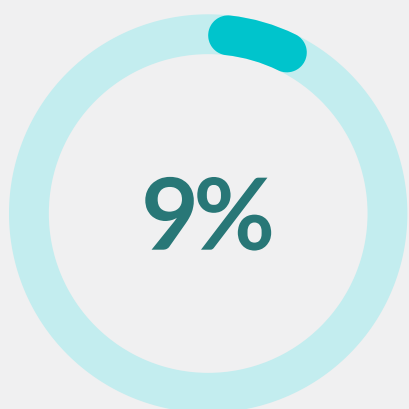
Over three quarters (87%) of survivors knew their assailant* (Rotenberg, 2017);

*Most commonly as a:

- Casual acquaintance (26%);
- A family member (24%);
- An intimate partner (19%).

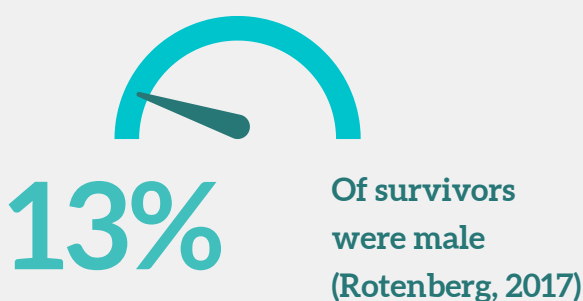
Mythbuster: In Canada, there were just under 3,500 reports of sexual assault reported to police in 2019 that were “false” (Statistics Canada, 2019)

Myth: People lie about sexual assault because they regret having sex, or want to get someone else into trouble



Less than 10% of all reported sexual assaults are false allegations (Statistics Canada, 2019)

Myth: Men cannot be sexually violated. Women don't commit sexual offences.



2SLGBTQIA+ Spotlight

- 1 million Canadians self-identify as 2SLGBTQIA+
 - This represents 4% of the Canadian population (Age 15+)
- 75,000 Canadians self-identify as transgender or non-binary (Jaffray, 2018)



Difficult Truths

- 2018 represents *the first year* for which national estimates of trans and non-binary community members were formally *included and made available* (Jaffray, 2018)
- Members of gender and sexual minorities --while less than 5% of the Canadian population-- are at a higher risk of sexual violence than their cis- and heterosexual peers (Jaffray, 2018)
- Sexual minority Canadians are ~3x more likely to experience violent victimization than heterosexual Canadians (Jaffray, 2018)
 - 11% vs. 4%, respectively (Jaffray, 2018)

