Sexual Assault and Rape in Utah
What we Know from Statistics and Research Studies

SCOPE of the problem:
*Index Crime Statistics in Utah, per 100,000 (2012-2013), FBI/UCR*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Murder &amp; nonnegligent manslaughter</th>
<th>Forcible Rape</th>
<th>Robbery</th>
<th>Aggravated Assault</th>
<th>Violent Crime Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td><strong>34.3</strong></td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>130.4</td>
<td><strong>224.0</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>109.1</td>
<td>229.1</td>
<td>367.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td><strong>33.0</strong></td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td>132.5</td>
<td><strong>205.8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>113.1</td>
<td>242.8</td>
<td>387.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2013)

*In Utah, rape is the only violent crime index higher than the national average.*

Rape in Utah 2007 Study by Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice:
- 1 in 3 Utah Women experience sexual assault
- More than 1 in 6 Utah Women experience rape
  (Mitchell & Peterson, 2008)

Reporting:
- Rape in Utah 2007 – 12% of victims reported the assault or sought medical care (Mitchell & Peterson, 2008)
- To increase reporting rates and support victims, Utah legislature voted to become a “Start by Believing” state in 2015. (End Violence Against Women International, 2016).

Criminal Justice System Response to Rape:
Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Submission Rates:
At multiple sites in Utah, SAK submission rate for SAKs collected from 2010 to 2013 was found to be 22.8% within a year of the assault and 15.4% submitted past a year from the assault, to equal a total submission rate of 38.2% (Valentine et al., 2016). In other published articles reporting on SAK submission rates, the submission rates were close to 60% (Patterson & Campbell, 2012; Shaw & Campbell, 2013).

At the same sites in Utah, the submission rate for SAKs collected in 2014 increased to 75% indicating significant increase by law enforcement in choosing to submit SAKs. Yet, there remains large variability between Utah sites on submission rates (Valentine, Miles, & Mabey, 2017).

House Bill 200 mandating the submission and testing of all sexual assault kits throughout Utah passed in 2017.

Prosecution of Sexual Assault Cases:
In Salt Lake County from 2003 to 2011, 94% of sexual assault cases were not prosecuted, only 6% of sexual assault cases were prosecuted (Valentine, Shaw, Lark & Campbell, 2016). These were all rape cases with fully collected sexual assault kits and victims wanted to prosecute the case.
The Impact of Trauma-Informed Training with Law Enforcement:
West Valley City Police Department participated in a study with Dr. Julie Valentine in which their policies regarding adult sexual assault cases were changed to reflect a trauma-informed approach and detectives received training on the neurobiology of sexual assault trauma. In the sixty-four adult sexual assault cases in the study, the prosecution rate went from 6% to 22% prosecuted (Kelly & Valentine, 2017). Due to the impressive results, the study will be relaunched in April 2017 with West Valley City Police Departments and other law enforcement agencies.

Costs of Sexual Violence in Utah:
Sexual violence costs Utah 4.9 billion dollars annually, or $1,700 per Utah resident per year (Cowan, 2016).

References
Kelly, D., & Valentine, J.L. (2017). The Science of Neurobiology of Sexual Assault Trauma and the Utah Legal System. Accepted for publication by the Journal of Criminal Law, publication pending.
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