



Male Victims of Sexual Assault

It is estimated that 1 in 6 men have experienced abusive sexual experiences before age 18. If you believe you have had an unwanted or abusive sexual experience, you are not alone.

Information

- "Researchers use "**sexual abuse**" to describe experiences in which children are subjected to unwanted sexual contact involving force, threats, or a large age difference between the child and the other person (which involves a big power differential and exploitation)."¹
- If you experienced sexual abuse, whether recently or in the past, you may be experiencing symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder, depression, alcoholism, problems in intimate relationships, and sense of apathy.
- There are several resources available to you. There are also resources that exist specifically for male survivors of sexual assault.
 - Please visit our "Resources for Specific Groups Page" for a list of resources available to men.

Statistics

It is estimated that 1 in 6 men have experienced abusive sexual experiences before age 18. If you believe you have had an unwanted or abusive sexual experience, you are not alone.

- "**Sexual abuse**" describes experiences in which people are subjected to unwanted sexual contact involving force or threats, or instances that involve a big power differential and exploitation.
 - It includes being forced to penetrate, being forced to receive or give oral sex or anal sex, being forced to watch pornography, being forced to touch someone's genitals both over and under clothes, being touched sexually without your consent over or under clothes, and/or being prevented from using birth control during sex
- Men who experience sexual abuse, whether recently or in the past, may experience symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, alcoholism, problems in intimate relationships, and sense of apathy.
- Men can experience sexual abuse by **both men and women**
- Both straight and gay men sexually abuse men
- If you experienced pleasure or an erection during sexual abuse that does not mean that you enjoyed the experience nor that you wanted it to happen.
 - It is a physiological response and other men have experienced that as well
- Your abuse does not determine your sexual orientation
- Most men who experience sexual assault do not become abusive
 - Please visit our "Resources for Specific Groups Page" for a list of resources available to men.

¹ <https://1in6.org/get-information/the-1-in-6-statistic/>