

Facts about sex offenders:

- There are approximately 637,000 registered sex offenders in the United States
(*National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 2008*).
- There are approximately 250,000 convicted sex offenders under criminal justice supervision in the community
(*Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2006*).
- Most sex offenders (80-95%) assault people they know.
(*Greenfield, 1997; Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1997 and 2000*).
- At least half of convicted child molesters report that they also have sexually assaulted an adult
(*Alhmeyer, Heil, McKee, and English, 2004*).
- Over 80% of convicted adult rapists report that they have molested children
(*Alhmeyer et al, 2004*).
- Approximately one-third of sex offenders report assaulting both males and females. Research shows that most convicted sex offenders have committed many, assaults before they are caught
(*English, Jones, Pasini-Hill, Patrick, and Cooley-Towell, 2000*).
- Most sex offenders report that they have committed multiple types of sexual assault (sexual assault crimes include exhibitionism, voyeurism, oral sex, vaginal penetration, attempted penetration, fondling, and incest)
(*English et al, 2000*).
- Over two-thirds of offenders who reported committing incest also report they assaulted victims outside the family
(*English et al, 2000*).
- Studies of victims have shown less than 30% of sex crimes are reported to law enforcement
(*National Victim Center and the Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center, 1992; Tjaden and Thoennes, 2006*).
- Young victims who know or are related to the perpetrator are less likely to report the crime to authorities
(*Hansen, Resnick, Saunders, Kilpatrick, and Best, 1999*).