

RAINN

Improving Access to Justice for Survivors in New York!

Just as a jury heard those testimonies and knew this man was a serial predator, our institutions must catch up and allow evidence of a defendant's pattern of behavior in sexual assault cases. We can no longer accept a legal reality in which survivors' voices don't matter, and with survivors leading the way in exercising the courage to come forward, it's on our courts to ensure it's not in vain." - Sara Rodriguez, survivor from NY

- An estimated 12% of New York women and 5% of New York men experience stalking in their lifetime.¹ This number is likely much higher as less than a third (29%) of all stalking victims reported to police²
- 13% of all students experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation (among all graduate and undergraduate students)³
- 6,040 people reported rape in New York in 2022. The true number is likely higher as sexual assault goes severely underreported⁴

About RAINN

Over the last 25 years, RAINN has served over 3 million survivors and their loved ones through the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

End Victim Blaming, Improve Evidence for Juries, and Modernize NY Protections

End Victim Blaming in the Statutes: Close the loophole that allows perpetrators of rape to blame the victim for being unable to consent due to alcohol or drug consumption.

Modernize Protection Orders (CREEP Act): Create an anti-stalking protection order to include threats from strangers, enhancing safety beyond intimate relationships and bringing NY protections into the 21st century.

Show Survivors They're Not Alone: Brings the rules of evidence for sexual assault cases in line with Federal Rule of Evidence 413, allowing for a process to admit evidence of prior similar acts where relevant.

Allow Survivors to Break Leases After Assault: Enables survivors to terminate their leases without penalty to escape unsafe environments.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hill, E., New York City Police Department, ENDBX National Center for Victims of Crime, & Thoennes, T. (2019). National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. https://www.nyc.gov/assets/ocof/downloads/pdf/201901_FoundationReport_Stalking.pdf

2. Stalking Victimization, 2019 | Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/stalking-victimization-2019>

3. David Cantor, Bonnie Fisher, Susan Chibnall, Reanna Townsend, et. al. Association of American Universities (AAU). [Report on the AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct](https://www.aau.edu/aaucampusclimate)

4. New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. (n.d.). NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/tableau_index_crime.htm