

# Generational Differences In Descriptions and Interpretations of Sexual Violence Experiences

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Statistics show that one in five women and one in 14 men will be sexually assaulted or raped at some point in their lives. 90% of adult rape victims are female and women 8-24 who are college students are 3 times more likely than women in general to experience this type of violence (RAINN 2021). Much sociological research on this topic addresses why people (mostly men) rape, ways to stop this violence, how to protect against this type of violence, or how to support victims in getting help. There is less research on the actual experiences of victims, and almost none on generational differences of those experiences. Giving victims a “voice” is important in understanding how sexual violence affects individual and social identities of victims, and what structural influences affect long-term outcomes for victims. Using feminist and grounded theories, the researchers will analyze data gathered from interviews and written narratives.

