

10 Questions on Gender Based Violence

Answers/sources

1. In what year did it become illegal in Scotland to rape your wife?

1966

1973

1989

Answer: 1989. In England and Wales it became a crime in 1991.

2. According to the Scottish Government, how many women experience domestic abuse at some time in their lives?

15%

19%

25%

Answer: 25%. This is a very significant proportion of the general population but is a statistic that is common across Europe

3. According to a recent home office report, what percentage of serious sexual offences are ever reported to police?

10%

23%

39%

Answer: This report (Cross Government Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Abuse - 2007) showed that only 5% to 15% of cases of serious sexual offences are reported to police.

4. In a 2009 survey carried out by the Rape Crisis Centre, how many women said they had been raped by a partner or ex-partner?

3%

14%

20%

Answer: 20% - (Glasgow Rape Crisis – Intimate Partner Sexual Violence 2009).

5. In a 2009 study of sexual offences across 11 European countries, what percentage of reported rapes in Scotland were found to be false allegations?

4%

11%

26%

Answer: 4% (Kelly et al: 'Different Systems, Same Outcomes' 2009)

6. What percentage of all homicides are committed by a partner or ex-partner?

5-10%

30-35%

50-55%

Answer: 50-55%. This is the most extreme act of domestic abuse which also reflects its gendered context. On average we know that approximately 2/3 women per week are murdered by a partner or ex-partner.

7. What percentage of rapes are carried out by strangers?

3%

8%

34%

Answer: 8% - Scottish Government

8. What percentage of women who attempted suicide are known to have experienced domestic abuse?

14%

34%

55%

Answer: 34%. Walby S (2004) *The Cost of Domestic Violence*, Women's Equality Unit, London – identified

9. What is the estimated cost to the NHS in England and Wales for physical injuries caused by Domestic Abuse?

74 million

98 million

1.2 billion

Answer: £1.2 billion with an overall cost to the economy, including loss of productivity through sickness estimated to be in the region of £16 billion. Walby S, *The Cost of Domestic Violence* (2009) Lancaster University

10. In a study carried out by the NSPCC and Bristol University in 2009, what percentage of 13-17 year olds said they had experienced unwanted sexual acts within a relationship?

17%

22%

33%

Answer: 33% - from a study carried out by NSPCC and Bristol University in 2010.