Violence Against Women

• Women are more likely to be victimized by someone they know (e.g., intimate partner, other relative, or acquaintance/friend) than by a stranger.*

• 78% of non-lethal violence (e.g., rape, aggravated, and simple assault) committed against women is committed by an intimate partner.*

• 4% of non-lethal violence against men is committed by an intimate partner.*

• Approximately 80% of female rape victims are victimized by someone they know.**

• While crimes of violence, in general, have begun to decline in recent years (since 1992), the violent victimization rate for men has declined to a greater degree than it has for women.*

• When men are killed, women are the perpetrators in 9% of the cases. However, when women are killed, men are the perpetrators in 90% of the cases.***

• In 70% of all intimate partner homicides, the victims are women.***

• There has been a decrease in marital homicide since 1983.***

• Unmarried partner homicide rates increased between 1983 and 1993, which was driven primarily by men killing their female partners. These rates have since begun to decline.***

The information for this fact sheet was excerpted from the following sources:


*** Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, analysis of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Supplementary Homicide Reports.