Male Victims:  
Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault Resource Sheet

Even in this progressive culture, organizations and individuals continue marginalizing, isolating, disbelieving and often denying the existence of victims of various “identities”.

As the sexual assault/domestic violence movement grew out of the women's community and from a place of empowerment and healing by and for women, a significant portion of the population of victims were ignored at best, revictimized and ridiculed and denied services, at worst. This population consists of male victims (as well as any gender victims when the perpetrator is female).

Male victims are far less likely to report violence committed against them. (It is believed that only 64% of female victims report crimes committed against them.) National estimates project that at least 1 out of 8 men will be sexually assaulted in his lifetime. (Some believe that the frequency of male victims is as high as 1 in 4.)

As with female victims, it is believed that 75-86% of perpetrators are male (predominantly men who are heterosexual). Again, this statistic is not firm, and the reporting of violence perpetrated BY women is disproportionately underreported (largely due to stigma and shame). A MORI Poll published in 1997 found that 18% of men were abused by their female partners as against 11% of women abused by their male partners.

The male victims that to report and/or seek professional help are often faced with challenges such as:
- society's stigma for not protecting themselves
- victimization because they fail to conform to the Macho man stereotype
- being perceived as a wimp
- not being believed because they are men
- being denied the status of victim
- are removed from or asked to leave their homes because it is the easy option
- have no support systems in place - they have no "listening ear"

Various studies estimate that partner abuse among gay men ranges from 12-36%, which is comparable to the rates of domestic violence among straight women.

A study of 2800 interviews of gay men in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and Chicago, published in December in the American Journal of Public Health, found that violence between intimate male partners has been "virtually ignored as a public health problem." About 34 percent had suffered psychological/symbolic battering, 22 percent physical battering and 5 percent sexual battering.

Due to the fact that most DV shelters and services are constructed around heterosexual women victims, gay (and straight) men who are battered or abused by women or men have no place in many organized systems for helping victims. Often, male victims are told that the only shelter options available to them are emergency housing for homeless people.
### Books and Articles

**Articles:**

**Male Victims of Elder Abuse: Their Experiences and Needs.**  
Review of book by Jacki Pritchard by Loree Cook-Daniels, first published in Adult Abuse Review, Volume 2, Issue 1  
www.wordbridges.net/elderabuse/aar/vol2issue1/malevictims.html

**Editor’s Note - Victim or Perpetrator: Who Decides?**  
Editor’s Note (by Loree Cook-Daniels) in Adult Abuse Review, Volume 2, Issue 3  
www.wordbridges.net/elderabuse/aar/vol2issue3/editorsnote.html

**Is There Anti-Male Bias in Domestic Violence Services?**  
Article by Loree Cook-Daniels in Adult Abuse Review, Volume 2, Issue 3  

**New Study Shows Urban Gay Men As Likely To Be Battered As Heterosexual Women Hiv Diagnosis Often Triggers Violence**  
gumc.georgetown.edu/communications/releases/battered_01242003.htm  
A new study shows that one in five urban gay men is battered by his partner, showing that homosexual men are just as likely as heterosexual women to be victims of domestic violence. This new NIH-funded study, the first of its kind, appears in the December issue of American Journal of Public Health.

**Books:**

**Male Victims of Sexual Assault (Oxford Medical Publications)**  
by Gillian C. Mezey (Editor), Michael B. King (Editor)  
Publisher: Oxford University Press; 2nd edition (July 15, 2000)  
ISBN: 0192629328

**Alone and Forgotten : The Sexually Abused Man**  
by Rod Tobin  
Publisher: Creative Bound; (June 1, 1999)  
ISBN: 0921165609

**Abused Men**  
by Philip W. Cook (Author)  
Publisher: Praeger Publishers; (October 1997)  
ISBN: 0275958620

**Male on Male Rape: The Hidden Toll of Stigma and Shame**  
by Michael Scarce  
Publisher: Perseus Publishing; (October 1997)  
ASIN: 0306456273

**Male Rape: Breaking the Silence on the Last Taboo**  
by Richie J. McMullen  
Publisher: Heretic Books; (September 1990)  
ISBN: 0854491260