

BISEXUAL WOMEN AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

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- Bisexual women are at an elevated risk of being sexually victimized compared to heterosexual women and lesbians.
- Rates of sexual violence against women in the United States
 - Bisexual women 75%,
 - Lesbians 46%,
 - Heterosexual women 43%
- Intimate partner violence national data posits
 - 61.1% of bisexual women are affected
 - Lesbians are affected at the rate of 43.8%

STATISTICS

- Bisexual women had about a fivefold likelihood of experiencing sexual violence by present or past intimate partners

For some different forms of rape

- An alcohol or drug-facilitated one for bisexual women was 28.2% and for heterosexual women was 8.8%
- For sexual coercion, bisexual women were found to be at 50.4% and heterosexual women at 12.8%

INTERSECTION OF RACE AND BISEXUALITY

- Within the bisexual community
 - Hispanic and white bisexuals had the most levels of subjection to violence.
 - Data regarding Indigenous and Asian women were not found.
- Black women were more prone to be affected by intimate partner violence, especially if they had recently been with a male partner

POSSIBLE REASONS

- Microaggressions
 - Pressure to prove sexuality.
 - Hypersexualized.
 - They are viewed as sexual objects for male pleasure
 - Dismissal of the bisexual identity.
- Stereotypes
 - Assumed to always want sex.
 - Promiscuous.
- Internalized stigma
 - Poor self-esteem
 - Internalized pressure to not say "no"

OVERALL MESSAGE

Bisexual women are at an increased risk of experiencing sexual violence, facing more severe instances of it as well. By acknowledging this crucial issue, we can take meaningful steps toward fostering change such as,

- promoting accountability
- developing a more effective and supportive framework for bisexual survivors.

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