




SEXUAL ASSAULT  
CENTRE  
OF EDMONTON

2005  
ANNUAL REPORT



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Edmonton, AB T5V 1A3

Phone: (780) 423-4102  
Fax Line: (780) 421-8734  
24-Hour Crisis Line: (780) 423-4121  
website: [www.sace.ab.ca](http://www.sace.ab.ca)  
e-mail: [info@sace.ab.ca](mailto:info@sace.ab.ca)



## Mission

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton exists to:  
Empower individuals affected by sexual abuse and assault;  
Empower communities to take action against sexual violence.

## Core Beliefs

We believe...

Sexual violence is an abuse of power and trust;  
People can heal;  
In valuing diversity and respecting all people;  
Individuals should be free to make their own life choices;  
Each person should have the opportunity to learn and grow;  
In creating a safe environment and maintaining confidentiality;  
Inability to pay should not be a barrier to receiving service;  
In providing support and advocacy for people  
who have been affected by sexual violence;  
Services must be accessible to children, adolescents, women and men;  
Communities must take action to protect  
vulnerable people and to become free from violence;  
Offenders, not victims, must take responsibility for violence;  
Teamwork is essential;  
Volunteers are crucial to our agency and provide a link to the community;  
In working with other agencies to further common goals.

# Board of Directors

# Personnel



Derise Watson  
Chair



Sue Jamison  
Vice Chair



Pat Harrish  
Secretary

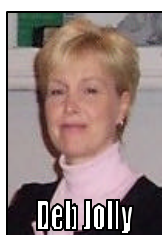


Ryan Scheitzle  
Treasurer

## Board Members



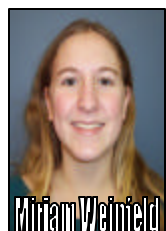
Claire Dallaire



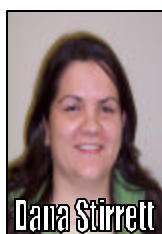
Deb Jolly



John Ratcliff



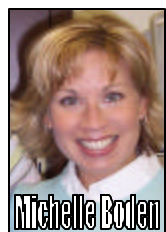
Miriam Weinfeld



Dana Stirrett



Mike Arrowsmith



Michelle Boden



Mary Frances  
Fitzgerald



Sherry Melney



Maryann  
Stepien



JoAnn McCartney

### Executive Director

Karen L. Smith

### Office Manager

Zara Williams

### Financial Administrator

Deb Gouchey

### Director of Client Services

Janice Shigemi

### Child and Adolescent Therapist

Karen Dushinski

Michelle Tsutsumi

### Adult Counsellors

Shirley Howarth

Becky Lee

Angela Coulombe

### Diversity Outreach Worker

Mary Banda

### War Rape Therapist

Sophie Parkins

### Director of Volunteer Services

Lacey Bialowas

### Public Educators

Belinda Roth

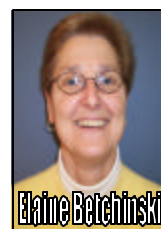
Tarra Mitchell (on leave)

Primrose Igonor

Sonja Goldsmith

Lenore LeMay

Ryan Nealon



Elaine Barchinski

# Volunteers

Adam F.	Chantel P.	Gerry B.	Katrina H.	Melanie S.	Scott C.
Alana P.	Charlotte F.	Gina B.	Kayla S.	Merideth P.	Sean O.
Alicia C.	Chelsea G.	Glenis S.	Keith G.	Michelle B.	Shane M.
Alicia S.	Chelsy S.	Gloria M.	Keith R.	Michelle H.	Sharon B.
Alison D.	Cheryl G.	Glynis T.	Keith W.	Michelle T.	Shawn W.
Allison M.	Cheryl Y.	Gordon N.	Kelly C.	Mike A.	Sheila G.
Amanda H.	Chris B.	Gwen G.	Kenneth T.	Millie H.	Shelila H.
Amber M.	Chris H.	Hayley R.	Kim A.	Miriam W.	Sheldon F.
Amber H.	Cindy G.	Heather B.	Kris S.	Natasha W.	Sherry M.
Ana G.	Claire D.	Heather W.	Krista L.	Nicki S.	Sherry S.
Andre P.	Comfort C.	Heidi A.	Kristen L.	Nicole D.	Shirely O.
Andrea H.	Corinne K.	Hilda Clara B.	Kristine F.	Nicolous J.	Shirley H.
Andrew M.	Dana S.	Holly W.	Krystal M.	Norma S.	Shirley T.
Angela C.	Danna Z.	Irene H.	Lacey B.	Olga B.	Sholly S.
Angela T.	Danny G.	Jackie Y.	Larissa P.	Pamela B.	Sonia S.
Anjili S.	Dave H.	Jana A.	Laura B.	Pat C.	Sonja G.
Anne Marie W.	Dave M.	Janet B.	Laura K.	Pat D.	Sonia T.
Anne P.	David W.	Janice D.	Lauren C.	Pat H.	Sonia Z.
Anne R.	Dawn S.	Janice L.	Leanne B.	Pat M.	Sophie P.
Ashley W.	Deb G.	Janice S.	Leigh A.	Patricia G.	Stacey P.
Audelle W.	Deb J.	Janine D.	Liana F.	Paula G.	Steve B.
Ausha S.	Debbie G.	Janine T.	Lillian G.	Pauline W.	Sue G.
Ayalah A.	Debbie S.	Jason H.	Linda K.	Primrose I.	Susan B.
Bahar M.	Debra H.	Jen B.	Linda O.	Quena S.	Susan J.
Barb J.	Debra W.	Jennifer B.	Linda V.	Quman N.	Susan M.
Barb S.	Del B.	Jill S.	Lindsay P.	Ramona C.	Susan P.
Barb P.	Denise W.	Joan G.	Lisa D.	Rasheal C.	Susanne S.
Beatrice K.	Derrick M.	Joan H.	Lisa K.	Rebecca L.	Sybelle B.
Becky L.	Desiree C.	Joan L.	Lorraine B.	Reg M.	Tammy H.
Belinda R.	Diane C.	Joanne B.	Lyndsey K.	Rhonda B.	Tarra M.
Betsy Z.	Donna G.	JoAnn M.	Lynne J.	Rhonda W.	Tasha D.
Betty M.	Doreen A.	Jocelyne P.	Lynne P.	Rita B.	Taska B.
Bill P.	Doreen B.	Joe L.	Madeline K.	Robert P.	Teresa L.
Bill T.	Doreen C.	John G.	Mandy B.	Robin M.	Tess S.
Brad P.	Doreen G.	John R.	Marcie R.	Rod G.	Tia W.
Brenda H.	Doreen J.	Joy F.	Maria H.	Roger C.	Tonya R.
Brian M.	Ed H.	Joyce M.	Marilyn C.	Rosie N.	Tory P.
Caitlin B.	Elaine B.	Julia M.	Marion D.	Roxanne B.	Troy G.
Calvin K.	Elaine T.	Julie C.	Marion M.	Rubab M.	Vivian L.
Candace B.	Ellen H.	Julie P.	Marlene B.	Ruth S.	Wade W.
Carollyne D.	Emily T.	Juliet S.	Mary B.	Ryan R.	Yvonne F.
Carman A.	Erin B.	Karen D.	Mary G.	Ryan S.	Yvonne S.
Carrie E.	Evelyn A.	Karen K.	Mary Frances F.	Saleena H.	Zara W.
Carrieanne C.	Flora S.	Karen S.	Maryann S.	Sara T.	Zela A.
Catherine H.	Forence R.	Karri K.	Maureen B.	Sara W.	
Cathy S.	Gareth W.	Kateland H.	Mavis M.	Sarah S.	
Cathy V.	Gene Z.	Kathlene S.	Megan M.	Sasa S.	

# Message from the Chair



2005 was another busy year for SACE full of challenges and changes. As with all not-for-profit social service agencies, SACE continued the struggle to provide quality services in the face of increasing demand. The hard work and selfless contributions of volunteers and staff allowed SACE to yet again remain within budget while at the same time ensuring that our 24-Hour Crisis Line, Counselling Program, Public Education Program, and Volunteer Program, continued to provide essential and highly valued services to the community. In the face of ever-increasing demands for service SACE has been successful in developing new services in some areas, particularly within diverse communities with PDD and the War Rape Group.

On behalf of SACE I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, Edmonton Community Foundation, A.B. Edie Equities, Alberta Solicitor General - Victims of Crime Fund, Alberta Children's Services, Edmonton Region Board of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Alberta Human Rights, Multiculturalism and Citizenship, Alberta Gaming - Community Facility Enhancement Program, Capital City Savings Kids Foundation, ECALA, Caritas Health Group Staff Charitable Donations Fund, Royal Alexandra Hospital Employees' Charitable Donations Fund and Civic Service Union Number 52. SACE is also supported by the contributions of many individual donors and we thank these donors for supporting the mission of SACE.

I would like to thank our many volunteers and the SACE staff for their incredible passion and commitment to the SACE mission. Without our valuable volunteers the 24-Hour Crisis Line simply would not be possible and the 1000's of calls we receive every year would go

unanswered, the office would not be as organized as the special events simply would not happen!

The SACE Board continues to update and refine our Strategic Plan and continues to work with our Executive Director to ensure that we remain accountable to the community, our clients, and our funders for the delivery of our services.

I would like to recognize the unique skills and dedication Deb Jolly and Claire Dallaire have always brought to the Board of Directors. This has been their last term on the board and their tremendous skills will be missed. We look forward to working with Michelle Boden, Dana Stirrett, Miriam Weinfeld, JoAnn McCartney and Mike Arrowsmith. Welcome to our new members and thank you to the entire board for their energy and commitment. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank our Executive Director Karen L. Smith for her vital leadership and tireless dedication to SACE, our partners and the community.

J. Denise Watson  
Chair

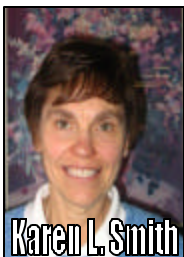
## MYTH

Children are usually molested by strangers.

## FACT

95% of children are molested by someone they know. Offenders look for and create opportunities To access children.

# Message from the Executive Director



Thanks to our many funders 2005 has been very successful for the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE) in expanding services to children, women and men whose lives have been impacted by sexual violence.

SACE is very excited this year to receive funding from Alberta Children's Services for the "Let's Talk" program. "Let's Talk" is geared to provide an information series for parents and care givers as well as a support group for adolescents who have been sexually assaulted. Safe, secure on site child care is provided by St. Albert Day Care Society

SACE is also very pleased that Alberta Children's Services is providing funding to all Alberta Sexual Assault Centres. For SACE this has meant the addition of a half time child therapist and the potential for a crisis intervention worker.

Thanks to the Edmonton Community Foundation for funding another new and innovative program, the War Rape Project. Due to the growing population of recent refugees & immigrants who have suffered sexual violence during armed conflict, the War Rape Group is working to raise awareness about this issue and to develop treatment and support for survivors in their communities.

Responding to the high incidence of sexual violence for people with disabilities funding for a 2 year Public Education position at SACE was provided by the Edmonton Region Board of Persons with Developmental Disabilities. SACE will be presenting in group homes and to the guardians and care givers of people with disabilities. General population presentations will also include information about this very vulnerable population.

In partnership with the Edmonton Police Service Sexual Assault Section with funding provided by the Donner Canadian Foundation/ MAD Canada, SACE had a wonderful opportunity to provide our community with a three day conference. Designed to provide cross discipline training this conference was in great demand and was attended by professionals from across Canada, from Halifax to Whitehorse.

SACE appreciates the financial backing of our supporters: The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, Edmonton Community Foundation, A.B. Edie Equities, Alberta Solicitor General - Victims of Crime Fund, Alberta

Children's Services, the Edmonton Region Board of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Alberta Human Rights, Multiculturalism and Citizenship, Alberta Gaming Community Facility Enhancement Program, Capital City Savings Kids Foundation, ECALA, Caritas Health Group Staff Charitable Donations Fund, Royal Alexandra Hospital Employees' Charitable Donations Fund and Civic Service Union Number 52.

Sincere thanks also to the many local individuals who donate and support the programs and services of SACE.

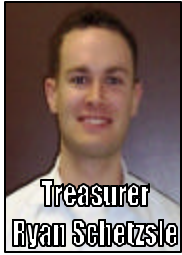
SACE is fortunate to have a talented and dedicated Board of Directors. I would like to once again thank them for the support and guidance they provide in steering our organization forward. To Denise Watson, Susan Jamieson, Ryan Schetzle, Pat Harrish, Claire Dallaire, John Ratcliff, Maryann Stepien, Sherry Melney, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, Dana Stirrett, Miriam Weinfeld, Michelle Boden, and JoAnn McCartney a very sincere thank you. This year we say a sad good bye to departing Board Members, Deb Jolly and Claire Dallaire. Deb has been a valuable link between SACE and EPS. Claire is shortly going to retire from her position with federal government and relocate in Central Canada. We wish them well and thank them for their energy and service.

My thanks are also extended to Elaine Betchinski who represents SACE at the provincial association level. She has recently been elected as President of the Alberta Association of Sexual Assault Centres.

I would like to thank the dedicated and talented staff of SACE: Belinda Roth, Deb Gouchey, Doreen Johnson, Pat Crosswell, Janice Shigemi, Lacey Bialowas, Shirley Howarth, Becky Lee, Zara Williams, Michelle Tsutsumi, Sophie Parkins, Mary Banda, Karen Dushinski, Primrose Igonore, Lenore LeMay, Sonja Goldsmith, Ryan Nealon, Sasha Simcisin, Natasha Weitzel, Patricia Guest and students Melanie Suter and Lindsay Pestana. We could not do the incredible work in our community without you!

Karen L. Smith  
Executive Director

# Treasures Report



Treasurer  
Ryan Schetzle

Financially, the goal of SACE is to use its funding and assets efficiently in order to provide the most effective and useful services to the community. In 2005, the organization was again successful with respect to this goal, managing expenses, stretching to get the most out of dollars, and achieving an operational bottom line very close to breaking even.

It starts with our core funding. We are extremely fortunate to have the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region and The City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, to provide base funding for our two fundamental programs. We are always very thankful to these two organizations for their long history of support, and we look forward to their continued cooperation.

In addition to the two core programs, SACE also has been fortunate with a variety of special projects, which provide additional, unique services to our community. We would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support: Alberta Solicitor General, Alberta Children's Services, Edmonton Community Foundation, Edmonton Region Board of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, ECALA, Capital City Savings Kids Foundation, AUCC Education and Action and the Donner Canadian Foundation.

The other component SACE uses to deliver its services, in combination with the funding dollars, are its assets. The assets of SACE are intangible, and lie in its leased premises, and its people. SACE is very fortunate to be in a wonderful building, and have enjoyed a very positive relationship with landlord Alan Edie personally and A.B. Edie Equities Inc. corporately. We are thankful to Alan for all of his support, the assistance with our renovations, and the generous financial contributions each year.

The most valuable asset SACE has is its people. It is the volunteers and staff that work tirelessly to provide the services to the community. It is the volunteers whose valuable contributions do not show up in the financial statements and it is the staff whose work is far more valuable than the salaries we can pay them. I would like to thank the volunteers and the staff for their tireless efforts and commitment.

Ryan Schetzle  
Treasurer

# Strategic Planning



Secretary  
Pat Harrish

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton is guided by a strategic framework,

- 1) providing responsive and proactive services to meet emerging community and client needs;
- 2) being recognized as an essential community service, providing specialty programs to citizens impacted by sexual violence; and
- 3) increasing the SACE profile/awareness within the community of Edmonton and surrounding area.

Through our environmental scanning process, SACE strives to effectively address ongoing and emerging community needs. Proactive and responsive actions are undertaken, recognizing the need to address emerging issues and rising caseloads, while remaining cognizant of the limitations of existing/available financial and human resources. Continual efforts are made to prioritize community programs and client services, largely guided by limitations in our capacity to respond to all emerging needs. A key factor in our prioritization process and commitment to programming is gaining maximum advancement against our strategic goals, as listed above.

SACE participated in an international, as well as a local conference this year, partnered with EPS, on collaborative community approaches to addressing sexual violence. In addition, recruitment of Michelle Boden to the Board of Directors has enhanced our communications/awareness profile, with a very well researched and produced segment aired on Chorus Radio/CHED's Inside Story, on the pervasive effects of sexual assault and sexual violence.

SACE is a key and valued member of the collaborative AASAC initiative, striving to secure sustainable funding from the Province of Alberta in recognizing sexual violence within the high profile government Roundtable initiative on addressing domestic violence. AASAC initiatives within this framework, through 2005/06/07 include undertaking research into a possible collaboration between sexual assault services and domestic violence services. Analysis and a needs assessment of rural communities for sexual assault services.

Pat Harrish  
Chair, Strategic Planning Committee

# Administrative Team

SACE is a busy, ever changing office with a dynamic team of professionals which is what makes it such a great place to work. Well, that and the free coffee. I joined the SACE team in June 2005 and haven't regretted it for a moment. I have to thank Belinda, my predecessor in this position, for the excellent training and for the office administrator manual, my life line in times of confusion.



The highlight of 2005 has to have been helping to organize the EPS/ SACE Conference "A Collaborative Community Response to Sexual Assault" which was a great success and I benefited greatly from the experience. Thanks to Patricia Guest for all your indispensable website and design brilliance.

Thank you to our students Patricia Guest, Natasha Weitzel, Melonie Suter and Lindsey Pestana for pitching in when and where needed. We have the best volunteers and I want to thank them for their dedication and for allowing me the freedom to crawl under computer desks undisturbed. Thanks Pat C., you always know what needs doing and aren't afraid of paint. Thanks Marion D. calm and cool at all times. Thanks, Doreen J. the master of the database.

Zara Williams  
Office Manager

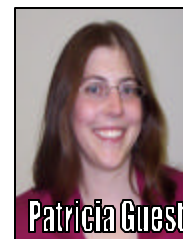
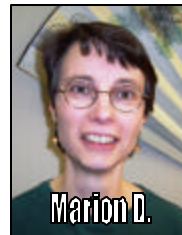


SACE staff at the conference at the Fantasyland Hotel

Financial Administrator  
Deb Gouchey



Administrative Support Team



SACE Board of Directors hard at work



# Client Services

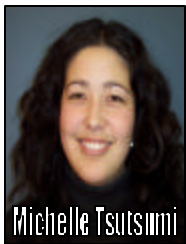
As Director of Client Services I continue to be proud of our incredibly talented and dedicated counselling team who make a difference in the lives of hundreds of people every year. 2005 was a challenging and exciting year. Our programs serve people from all walks of life, and new and exciting initiatives enabled us to reach out even further to those in need. Thanks to the generous support of the United Way of Alberta Capital Region, Alberta Solicitor General, Alberta Children's Services and the Edmonton Community Foundation, our Client Services programs continue to foster hope in the lives of individuals and families who have been affected by sexual violence.



**Janice Shigemmi**  
Director of  
Client Services

## Child and Adolescent Program

An exciting initiative in 2005 was the successful application and launch of a special project funded by Alberta Children's Services titled *Let's Talk*. *Let's Talk* addressed the need for supportive services for parents and non-offending family members of children who have been affected by sexual abuse, as well as the childcare barriers they often face. SACE was pleased to hire Michelle Tsutsumi to develop, deliver and evaluate the *Let's Talk* project. Michelle is a Registered Psychologist and former SACE student. Tarra Mitchell (SACE Public Educator) offered her talents as well as her background in psychology to work as the Project Assistant for *Let's Talk*. Together



**Michelle Tsutsumi**

Michelle and Tarra developed and began delivering a Parent and Caregiver Information Series related to parenting children who have been sexually abused. Offering sound professional guidance to caregivers made a significant difference to parents who were overwhelmed by their circumstances, and starved for information on how to parent a child traumatized by sexual abuse. Childcare at no cost to the client was provided on site during the information series, (provided by staff from the St. Albert Daycare Society) and sessions to date have been well received. Michelle and Tarra also began developing a support group for adolescent females, set to begin in February 2006.

SACE sincerely appreciates the financial support from the United Way of Alberta Capital Region and Alberta Children's Services for providing funding for this program. In 2005 the Child and Adolescent Program continued to meet the expectations of SACE's mandate by providing

counselling services to sexually abused children as soon as possible. The program continues to work closely with referring agencies such as the Child and Adolescent Protection Centre at the Stollery Children's Hospital and the Zebra Child Protection Centre. Counselling and play therapy are offered to children aged 3 to 17 years, provided the abuse has been reported to the appropriate authorities. Once a report has been made and the child has been interviewed, the parent or guardian can contact the program and ask to speak with one of the Child and Adolescent Therapists. An intake is then completed over the phone, covering general background information and ensuring that our services will best meet the needs of the child at that time. Once the intake is complete an appointment is scheduled for the first available time.

The staff work hard to ensure that SACE is a safe healing environment for children, so they can begin to process issues related to sexual abuse and trauma. The Child and Adolescent Program has a well-equipped play therapy room where younger children (and sometimes adolescents) can process trauma issues through the use of therapeutic toys and expressive arts. Our thanks to the Capital City Savings Kids Foundation for their generous financial support.

In 2005 Karen Dushinski continued in her role as Child and Adolescent Therapist. Karen is a Provisionally Registered Psychologist and is completing her PhD in counselling psychology. Janice continued in her double duty as both Director of Client Services and Child and Adolescent Psychologist. Both Karen and Janice spent a great deal of time responding to a wide variety of calls from parents, school counsellors, community



**Karen Dushinski**

workers and organizations regarding child sexual abuse. They also participated in ongoing professional development related to play therapy with traumatized children. In December 2005 Karen and Janice were presenters at the *Collaborative Community Approach to Sexual Assault* Conference hosted by the Edmonton Police Service and SACE. Janice is also a regular presenter for both the volunteer training and professional training workshops at SACE. She is also an active participant with the Children Exposed to Family Violence working group of CIAFV (Community Initiatives Against Family Violence) as well as a member CIAFV's Protocols Committee. This year the Protocols Committee worked hard to develop agency and program specific protocol to address family violence issues.

# Client Services

## Adult Counselling Program

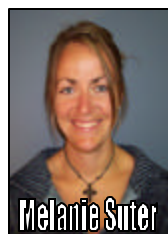
SACE appreciates the ongoing financial support of the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region in our Adult Counselling Program. The Adult Counselling Program at SACE offers group and individual counselling for women and men over the age of 18 who have been affected by sexual violence. Clients may attend up to ten individual counselling sessions per year. The focus of counselling is to help people feel more stable in their lives and provide them with tools to carry on with their healing. Individual counselling also helps to prepare clients for group counselling at SACE.



The Adult Counselling Program staff worked diligently this past year, providing individual and group counselling, completing and tracking intakes, and offering consultation and information to individuals and agencies. SACE continues to benefit from the hard work and expertise of the adult counselling team: Shirley Howarth and Becky Lee. The counsellors provide individual support in addition to running programs. Shirley continues to organize regular group counselling, Becky acted as facilitator for a Sexual Assault Survivors Support group. Karen Dushinski offered court support to clients. The Adult Counselling program maintained a busy schedule in the office with clients as well as developing new ways to track statistics and measure success with ongoing initiatives from the United Way.



This past year the Adult Counselling Team welcomed the



addition of two new and two returning students. Lindsay Pestana and Melanie Suter from the Grant MacEwan Social Work Program were extremely helpful in assisting with research and administrative tasks,



answering crisis calls, and co-facilitating Adults Molested as Children 1 (AMAC 1) with Shirley. Angela Coulombe, a Masters level practicum student from Campus Alberta (and former SACE summer student) successfully completed her graduate practicum in the Adult Counselling Program. Angela maintained a caseload of individual clients and also facilitated AMAC 1 in the fall.



Sasha Simcisin, a former Masters level practicum student also from Campus Alberta continued to provide counselling services, and fulfilled the duties of an intake worker in summer 2005. In the fall Sasha left for Bosnia on a 50-day contract with Partnerships for Tomorrow to share knowledge in the prevention and healing of sexual violence. SACE supported Sasha in kind by providing educational resource supports and resources for translation. Upon his return Sasha was able to share his rich experiences and learning with SACE staff.

A variety of programs to address and overcome the effects

## Adult Group Counselling Program

of sexual assault are offered at SACE. Groups generally meet once per week for three hours for ten to fourteen weeks. There is a maximum of twelve clients per group with two facilitators conducting each group. The following groups were offered in 2005:

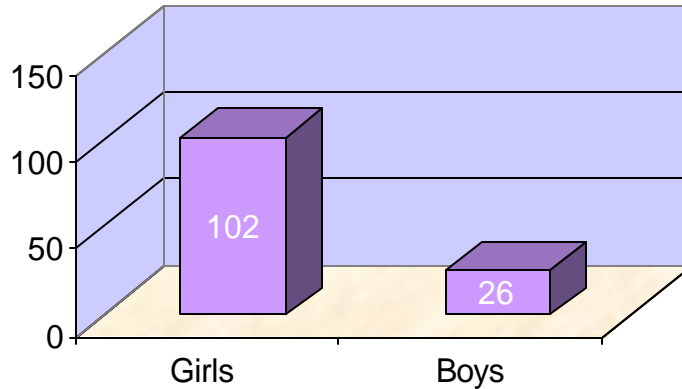
Adults Molested as Children (AMAC 1 & 2): These groups run three hours per week for fourteen weeks. They combine group exercises, discussion and handouts on issues such as feelings toward the offender, body image, and overcoming the effects of abuse. Participants must be 18 and over and complete a screening interview. AMAC 2 builds on the skills gained in AMAC I and allows survivors to continue to receive support and education.

Sexual Assault Survivors: This group runs three hours per week for ten weeks. It addresses the trauma of sexual assault through discussion and exercises. Participants must be 18 and over and complete a screening interview.

Process Group: This group runs two hours a week. It is an ongoing, weekly group that draws on the participants' shared experiences in overcoming the long-term effects of sexual trauma. Participants need to have successfully completed AMAC 2 or SASS. There is a possibility of a screening interview.

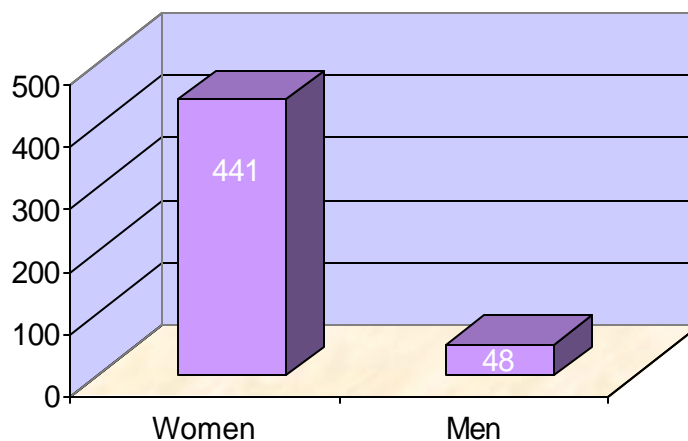
# Client Services

**Child and Adolescent Program:  
Clients 2005**



I went through hell and back trying to get help for my son while dealing with my extended family before I came to the Sexual Assault Centre. SACE was the only place that seemed to understand how this affected our family and they were instantly helpful, giving me support and reassuring information and offering help to my son. I'm very thankful because I just couldn't really help him in the way I'd want to. I hope that all families who are dealing with sexual abuse know about your program so that they don't go through what I did at first. You're a godsend. - Mom of a child client

**Adult Counselling Program: Clients 2005**



# Diversity Outreach & Court Support Program

The Diversity Outreach and Court Support Program focuses on establishing relationships with diverse communities within the Edmonton area. SACE identifies diverse communities as people of various ethno-cultural backgrounds, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals. The Diversity Outreach and Court Support Program would like to thank the Alberta Solicitor General for providing on-going financial support.

The Diversity Outreach and Court Support Program



## Collaboration and Consultation

collaborated with and continues to work with the following organizations in initiatives against family violence and sexual violence: Changing Together... A Center of Immigrant Women, Catholic Social Services, Mennonite Center for Newcomers, Multicultural Health Brokers Co-op, ASSIST Chinese Community Services, Alliance Jeunesse-Famille De L'Alberta Society, Planned Parenthood, La Foundation Madeleine Sanam Foundation... for the Emancipation and Autonomy of African Women, Islamic Family and Social Services, Millwoods Welcome Centre, Edmonton Region Board of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Edmonton Community Services – Elder Abuse intervention Team, Edmonton John Howard Society – Victims Assistance Program, Edmonton Immigrant Services Association, Project Youth: Integration & Education HIV Edmonton, Action for Healthy Communities and Capital Health STD Center.

SACE is proud of the relationships we have developed with the diverse communities. We are currently involved in different community based initiatives against family violence while continuously examining opportunities on how to collaborate and share expertise. SACE is also committed to responding to community emerging needs by providing customized workshops/trainings and services for diverse communities.

The War Rape Project is a multi-faceted and culturally based program funded by Edmonton Community Foundation. There are two different components: A Counselling Program and an Outreach/Public Education. The counselling program provides individual counselling to adults and adolescent survivors and their families. The Outreach and Public Education component is to ensure that we continue to foster partnerships with community

## The War Rape Project

elders\members, agencies serving refugee populations, cultural brokers, settlement counsellors, community workers and other stakeholders.

In January 2006, SACE hired Sophie Yohani Parkins as the psychologist for the War Rape Project.



Sophie completed her PhD in Counselling Psychology at the University of Alberta in 2004 and has experience working in the area of trauma and its impact on the lives of refugees and immigrants from war torn countries. Sophie is currently setting up the War Rape Project by working closely with

the Diversity Outreach Program and the War Rape Working Group. Current plans for the War Rape Project include building partnerships with agencies that offer counselling services to newcomer Canadians, consulting and educating on issues related to war rape trauma, and providing counselling to survivors and their families. The War Rape Project is currently developing a 3-module training course that will be delivered to professionals and front-line workers in the community. The War Rape Project is grateful to the Edmonton Community Foundation for providing funds to support this timely project.

It is estimated that over 80% of women who are sexually assaulted do not report due to humiliation or fear of re-victimization in the legal process. For women of colour, that fear is worsened by the experience of racism. (Ontario Women's Directorate, 2002, *Sexual Assault: Reporting Issues*)

2005 was a year of change and flux. The Public Education Program saw 100% staff turnover. Tarra Mitchell and Liana Frerichs, the public education team since 2002, implemented many new programs and created all of the core presentations, as well as conducting a number of successful seminars related to sexual violence.



Liana Frerichs

SACE was very sorry when Liana moved to Calgary in the spring of 2005. Liana's vibrancy, creativity, and computer savvy are missed. Tarra, always proprietous, had the good grace to wait until

December to go on leave. SACE is looking forward to early 2007 when we will once again be able to avail ourselves of Tarra's leadership, resourcefulness, and professionalism.



Tarra Mitchell

Night; Sex Positive Working Group and the Edmonton Area Sexual Assault Centres' Public Education Committee.

The Public Education team continued to be involved with the Expecting Respect Program in 2005; we feel the contribution of this program is invaluable to junior high and high school students. The Public Educators are now involved with 3 new committees that address issues such as the content of presentations as well as re-working the current teaching models.

SACE sincerely appreciates the ongoing financial support of the City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) to the Public Education Program. Funding has been increased to include an additional Public Educator for the growing demand.

## Diversity Public Education

This program targets diverse communities such as ethno-cultural, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people and contacts agencies which serve these communities. SACE had great success in developing contacts with EmployAbilities (an organization dedicated to promoting and enhancing employment and learning opportunities for persons with disabilities), Kindred House (a supportive place for women and transgender people supporting themselves on the street), TTIQ alliance (a group for transgendered, transsexual, intersex and questioning people) and Red Road Healing (an organization providing support to the aboriginal community). The Diversity Public Educator was an active member of the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Conference Committee (a celebration of the health and healing of Indigenous Peoples around the world).

## PDD Project

The new Persons with Developmental Disabilities Project is underway with PDD Public Educator, Lenore LeMay and PDD Specialist Ryan Nealon. The purpose of the project is to identify issues as it relates to persons with developmental disabilities regarding sexual assault awareness and associated risk factors. A plain language brochure will be developed targeted towards persons with a developmental disability as well as the general public.



Belinda Roth

In May, Belinda Roth, former SACE Office Manager, assumed Liana's position as Public Educator. Shortly after that Primrose Igonor was hired for a new public education position that has a focus on diverse populations Sonja Goldsmith joined the Public Ed team in September of 2005.



Primrose Igonor



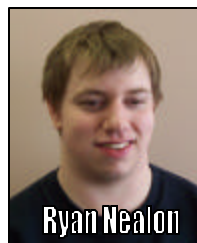
Sonja Goldsmith

2005, was the Public Education program's busiest year yet with over 500 presentations and workshops within schools, community groups and other agencies. The program reached an incredible 18,564 participants of diverse ages, occupations, and cultural backgrounds. In addition to presentations, the Public Educators mailed, faxed, directed people to the SACE web site, and spoke with numerous individuals and groups who requested verbal and written information.

The Public Education Program staff represent SACE in the community by serving on many committees. These committees include: Peer Education Committee, Expecting Respect; Interagency Committee on the Spousal Abuse of Women; Diversity Project; Family Violence Prevention; Children and Family Violence Working Group; Alberta Association of Services for Children and Family; Community Initiatives Against Family Violence; The International Women's Day Committee; Take Back the

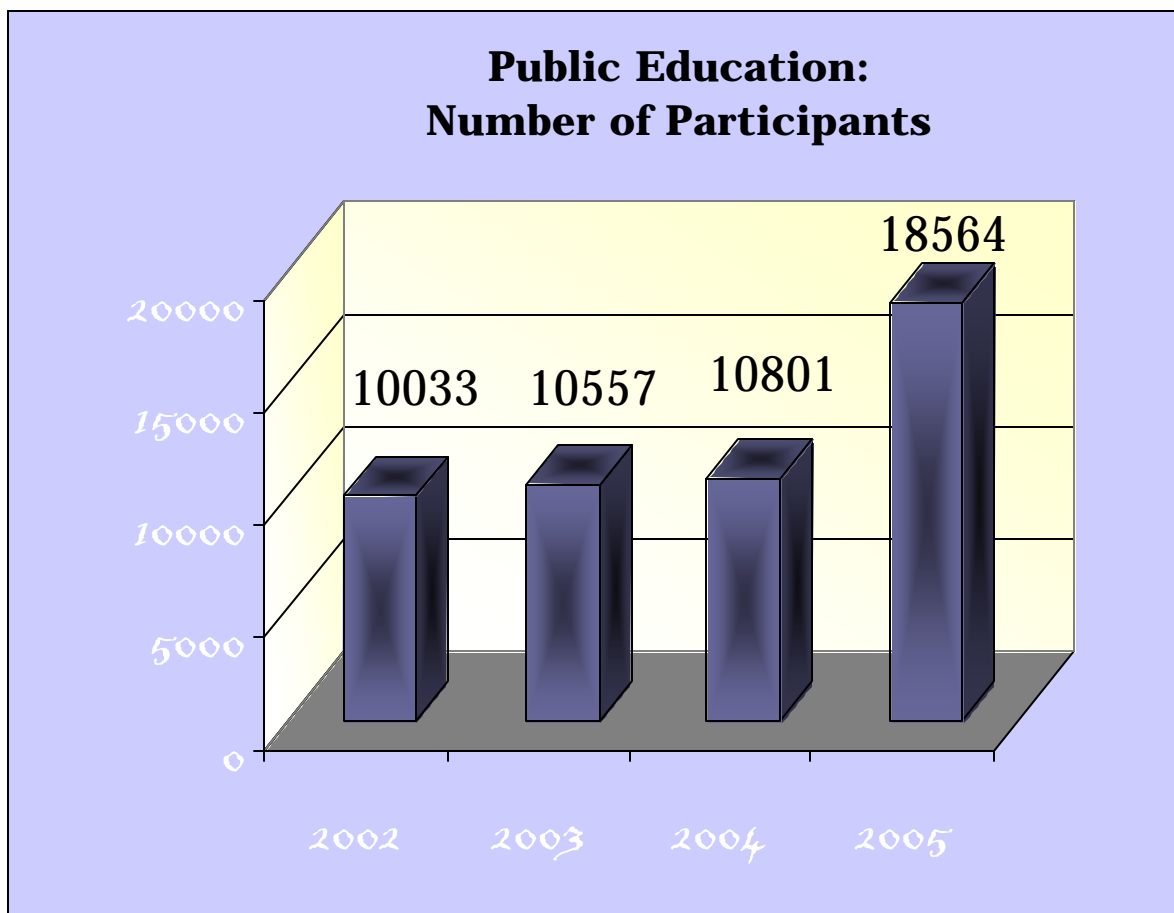
# Public Education

The Public Education Program continues to support ongoing projects including updating written materials, integrating new information and new technology into existing presentations, and constantly educating ourselves as to new information and developments in the area of sexual violence.



**MYTH**  
Child sexual abuse is a 1 or 2 time occurrence, involving a single child.

**FACT**  
It has been found that child sex offenders will molest on average 117 children in their lifetime .



# Volunteer Services

2005 was a year of change in the Volunteer Services Department. After five successful years as Director of Volunteer Services, Heather Bell, left SACE in December. Her expertise, energy and compassion are missed by the volunteers and the staff alike.



Volunteers are key to the continuing success of the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton. Without the dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers the 24-hour crisis line would not be possible. Without the support of our office volunteers who, daily help to maintain and run the office, many tasks would go uncompleted. Without the tireless efforts of our bingo and casino volunteers much needed funding would be unattainable. So, thank you to all of our volunteers for their hours of selfless service and I would like to take this opportunity to mark the sad passing of long time volunteer Sybelle B. after a courageous battle with cancer.

It is crucial that every victim and survivor affected by sexual assault or sexual abuse have somewhere to turn to when they feel they are in crisis or personal distress. Our volunteers offer a safe, confidential, empathetic and non-judgmental resource on our 24-hour crisis line. Each volunteer who chooses this experience receives a very extensive 50-hour training program with input from other agencies. Volunteer training is offered four times annually and consists of information on sexual assault, child sexual abuse, adults molested as children, sexual harassment, suicide intervention, mental health issues, communication skills, and legal and medical issues. Upon successful completion of a written exam, volunteers then assume the responsibility of responding to crisis calls.

In terms of evaluating measurable outcomes, we have learned from our Volunteer Satisfaction Survey that volunteers continue to appreciate the training provided, and the support received from staff and other volunteers. They value this opportunity to give back to the community yet continue to grow in their own personal lives. Thank you to all our Crisis Line Volunteers who work many hours to support the survivors and victims of our community. Special thanks to all of our team leaders and the countless extra phone calls they made.

Our 2005 Volunteer Appreciation “Picnic In The Park” celebration was held at Hawrelak Park in May. This year Claire Dallaire was the recipient of our 2005 “Volunteer of the Year Award”. Claire has been a dedicated board

member and front line volunteer for many years and we will miss her substantial contributions when she moves east. Thank you Claire, for all the hours you have given to the centre.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> we held our “Seasons Greetings” party, which as always was well attended. This annual potluck was very tasty this year and our tacky gift exchange was very creative and provided us with hilarious entertainment.

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton continues to prosper and advance with the support of all our volunteers, Board of Directors, stakeholders, and staff in collaboration with the community. I welcome an eventful and dynamic year for 2006.

Lacey Bialowas  
Director of Volunteer Services



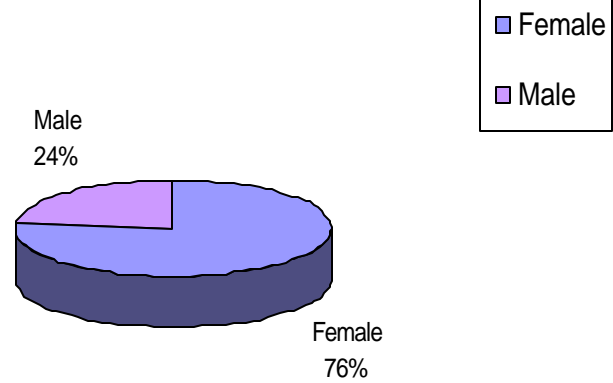
Volunteer Winter Party

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CRISIS CALLS IN 2005:**

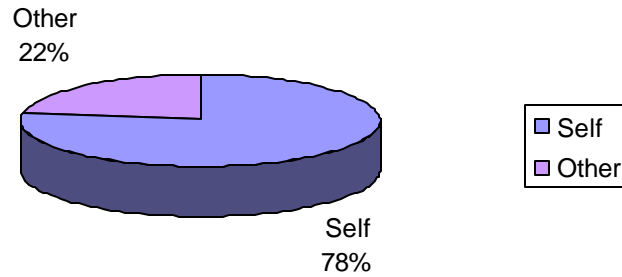
**9202**

The following statistics are based on a random sample size of 1320 crisis calls

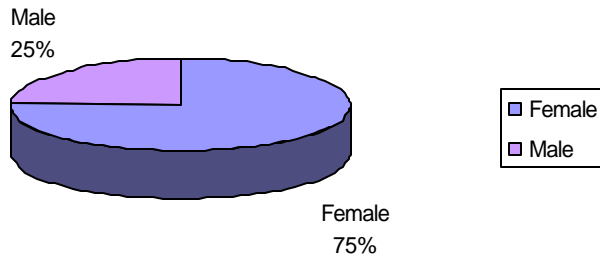
**2005 Caller Gender**



**2005 Caller Relation to Victim**

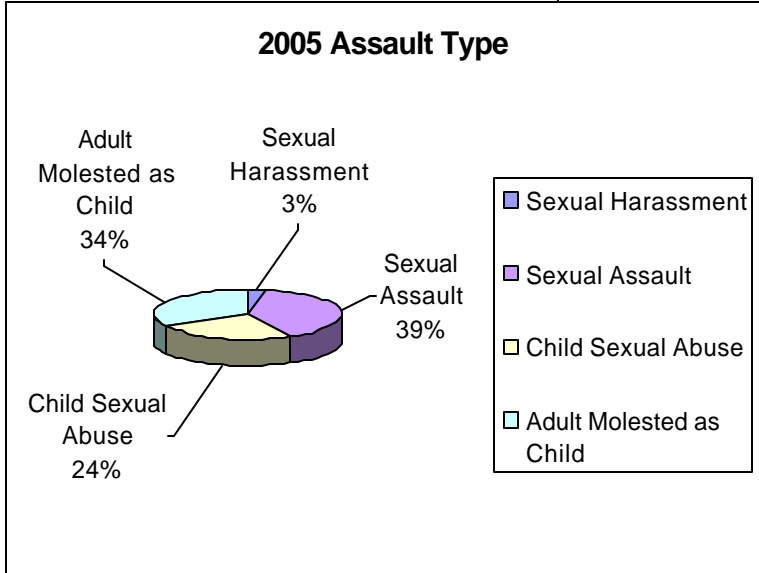
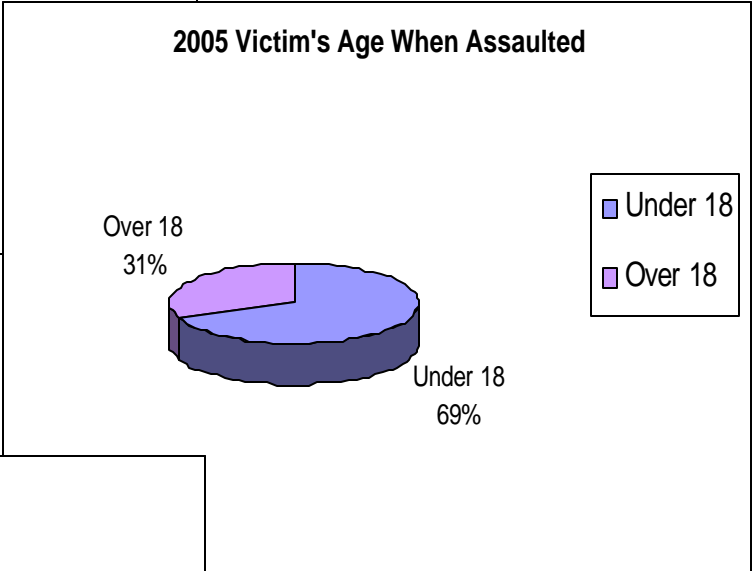
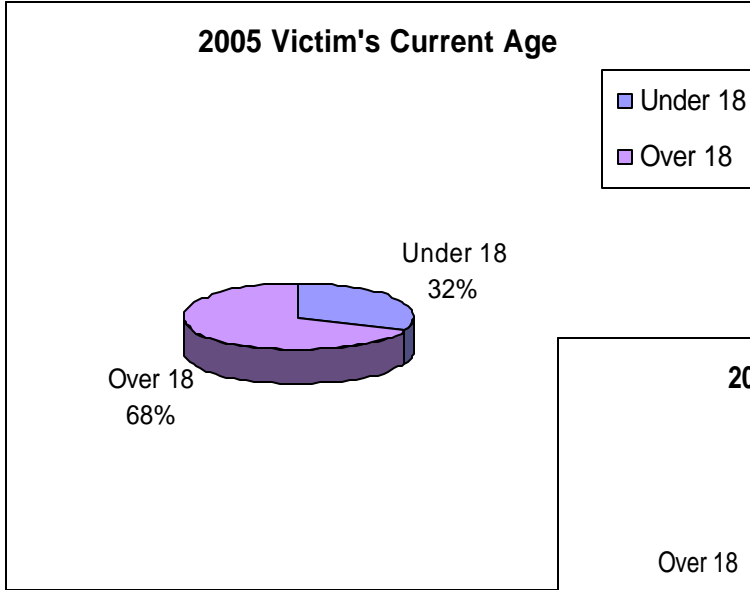


**2005 Gender of Victim**



62% of the victims who reported being sexually assaulted in 1998 were under the age of 18. (Statistics Canada, *Juristat*, Vol. 19, No. 9)





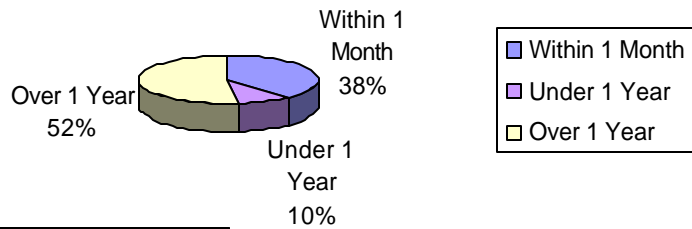
**MYTH**  
 Offenders rarely repeat their crimes once they are caught and punished.

**FACT**  
 On average offenders will offend 100 times in their lifetime. Those caught and forced into therapy will re-offend up to 99% of the time.

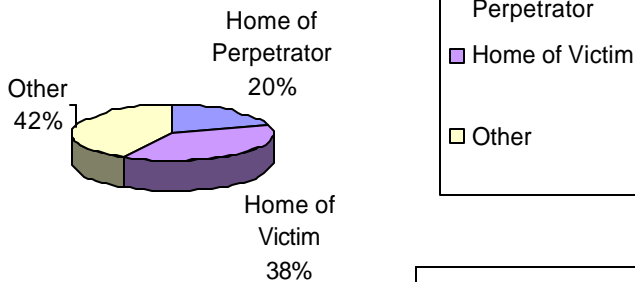
In cases reported to police, 80% of sexual assault survivors knew their abusers.

(Statistics Canada, 2003, The Daily, 23 July)

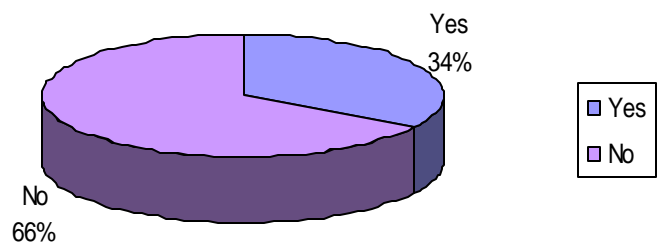
### 2005 Timing of Assault



### 2005 Location of Assault



### 2005 Medical Attention

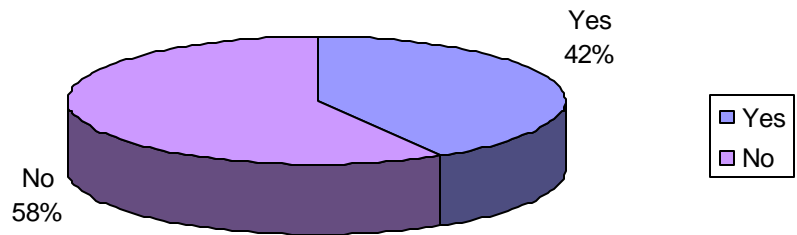


### FACT

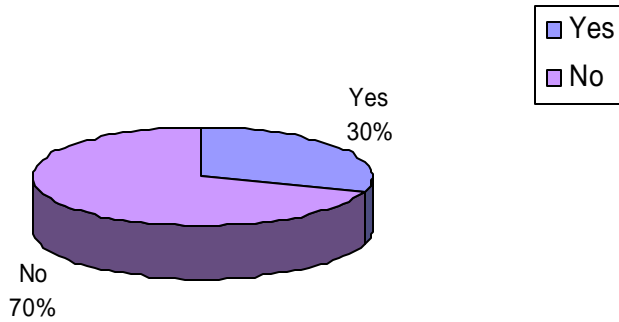
1 in 4 women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

1 in 6 men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

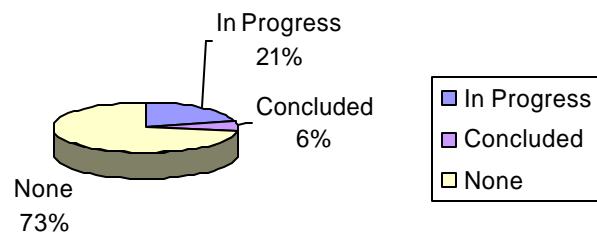
### 2005 Police Involved



### 2005 Child Welfare Involved



### 2005 Legal Status



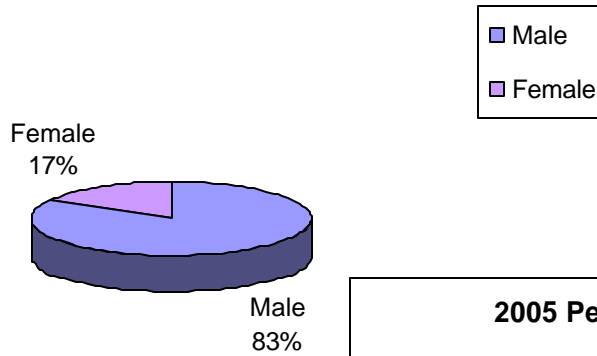
#### MYTH

Sexual assault is an act of sexual passion.

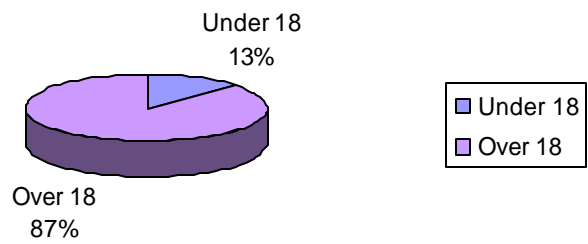
#### FACT

Sexual assault is a violent crime using sex as a weapon.

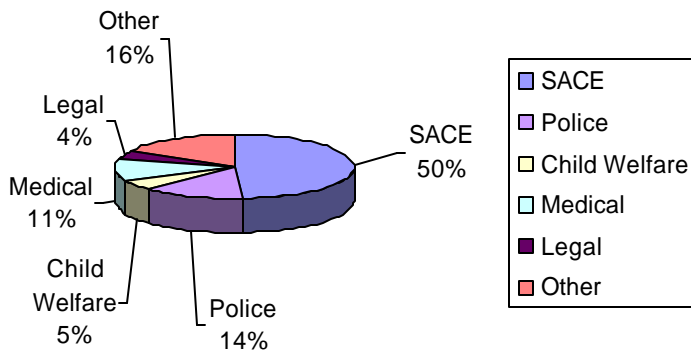
### 2005 Gender of Perpetrator



### 2005 Perpetrator's Age at Assault

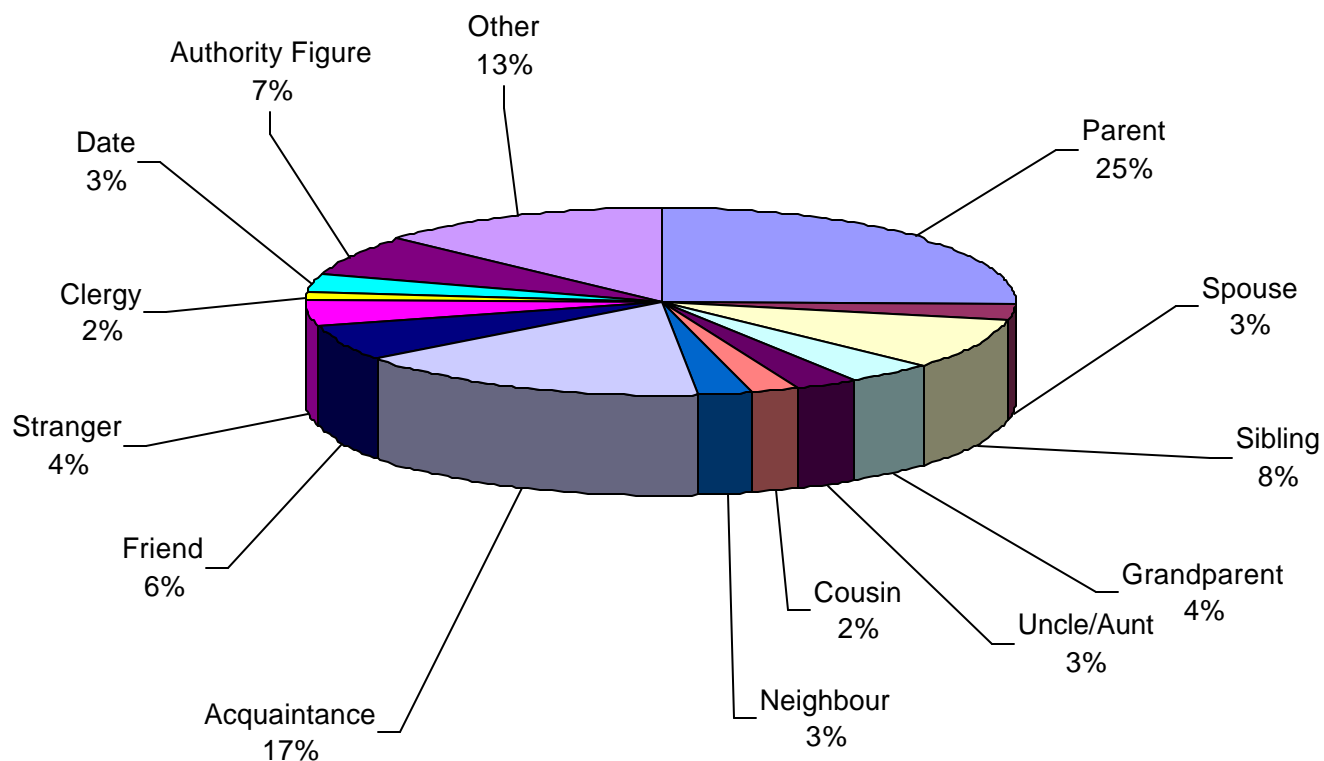


### 2005 Referrals Given



In 2002, children and youth accounted for 61% of sexual assault cases reported to a subset of 94 police departments. Girls represented 79% of those cases. (Statistics Canada, 2004, *Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile*)

## 2005 Perpetrator's Relation to Victim



*"My counsellor was so sincere in her acceptance of me and my story that I learned my value. I now have a feeling of well being that wasn't there before the assault and I have a new desire to get past the hurt and not just over it. Thank you to SACE for being available when I most needed the assistance"*  
SACE Client



# SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE OF EDMONTON

providing crisis intervention - information - counselling - public education



United Way of the  
Alberta Capital  
Region



Thanks to the RCMP "K" Division for their generous donation of the printing of this document.