

# Sexual Assault



Sexual assault is under-reported particularly when compared with reporting of other offences.

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There are people in Australia who think that 'if a woman doesn't physically resist – even if protesting verbally – then it isn't really rape'.

Rape is a form of sexual assault: an act of a sexual nature carried out against a person's will through the use of intimidation or coercion and sometimes physical force.



About two thirds of Australians are aware that rape does not result from men not being able to control their need for sex.

These attitudes justify men's failure to actively gain consent as a 'natural' aspect of masculinity.

In effect, the perpetrator is excused for their actions, and, in some cases, the victim is blamed for the violence occurring, or for not preventing it.

