

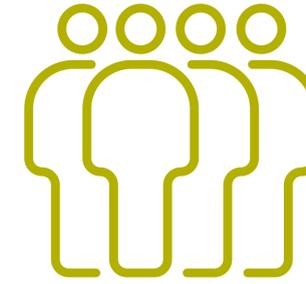
Out of 61,316 allegations only 8.5% are thoroughly investigated by correctional officers.

VICTIMS ARE OFTEN IGNORED OR NOT BELIEVED.

BACKLASH FURTHER DISSUADES INMATES FROM REPORTING

Sexual Exploitation in Beloved and in American Prison Systems

“This story is not something to pass on.”



45% of federal and state prisoners reported being sexually victimized in the past year.

Prison Rape Elimination Act

2003

Congress pass PREA with unanimous support from both parties.

PURPOSE:

To “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.” (Prison Rape Elimination Act, 2003).

CURRENTLY

Because of the new policies put in place with the passing of PREA, Corrections systems are required to inquire about any and all sexual misconduct

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“occasionally a kneeling man chose gunshot in his head as the price, maybe, of taking a bit of foreskin with him to Jesus. Paul D did not know that then. He was looking at his palsied hands, smelling the guard, listening to his soft grunts so like the doves.” (Morrison 127)

“And they took my milk!” (Morrison 17)

”

Quotes Importance

- Paul D is recounting the traumatizing abuse he had suffered at the hands of the men who ran the chain gang he was put into. He and others had to systematically be forced into situations and actions they did not want to be a part of
- Sethe is explaining how she was violated by the boys on the plantation. She was violated in every way possible during this ordeal and much of the novel’s plot has to do with the consequences of this.
- During the time “Beloved” was set the people in power exploited those without power and this is still a common occurrence within our prison systems.



45% of federal and state prisoners reported being sexually victimized in the past year.

“When nearly one in 20 prisoners reports being raped or sexually abused behind bars, it is clear that prison authorities are not doing enough to prevent these serious crimes.” - Jamie Fellner, senior counsel of the US Program at Human Rights Watch.

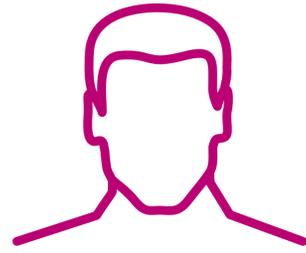


For more information:

- <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2015/06/17/preying-on-prisoners>
- <https://www.hrw.org/news/2007/12/15/us-federal-statistics-show-widespread-prison-rape#>
- <https://abcnews.go.com/US/half-sexual-abuse-claims-american-prisons-involve>

References

- Morrison, Toni. Beloved: A Novel. New York: Knopf, 1987. Print.
- ABC News, ABC News Network, abcnews.go.com/US/half-sexual-abuse-claims-american-prisons-involve-guards/story?id=21892170.
- Santo, Alysia. “Preying on Prisoners.” The Marshall Project, The Marshall Project, 17 June 2015, www.themarshallproject.org/2015/06/17/preying-on-prisoners.
- “US: Federal Statistics Show Widespread Prison Rape.” Human Rights Watch, 25 Oct. 2020, www.hrw.org/news/2007/12/15/us-federal-statistics-show-widespread-prison-rape.



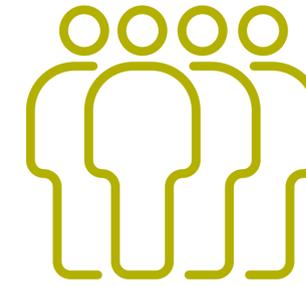
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- “US: Federal Statistics Show Widespread Prison Rape.” Human Rights Watch, 25 Oct. 2020, www.hrw.org/news/2007/12/15/us-federal-statistics-show-widespread-prison-rape.