

## MATERIALS AND RESOURCES ON ADULT VICTIM SEXUAL ASSAULT

CREATED BY

### LEGAL MOMENTUM'S NATIONAL JUDICIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

A particular focus of the National Judicial Education Program's (NJEP) work is adult victim sexual assault. Since its inception in 1980, NJEP has worked with state, federal, and tribal courts to promote the fair adjudication of these cases. NJEP creates and presents an extensive array of materials for in-person, DVD and web-based judicial and multidisciplinary education about adult victim sexual assault and the intersection of sexual assault and domestic violence. NJEP's curricula include research from law, medicine, and the social sciences. These curricula employ interactive teaching techniques and are meant to be adapted for local jurisdictions. All of these resources are intended for multidisciplinary audiences and are utilized by individuals ranging from judges to sheriffs to social workers.

If you received this flyer in hard copy format, you may access more detailed information on any of the resources listed below through NJEP's "Sexual Assault Resources" homepage:

<http://www.legalmomentum.org/our-work/vaw/njep-resources.html>.

### SELF-CONTAINED CURRICULA ON SIX ASPECTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES – **AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

Each of these stand-alone curricula includes a PowerPoint presentation with suggested commentary, a detailed Faculty Manual and additional resources. These are available for download in their entirety at <http://www.legalmomentum.org/our-work/njep/mat-for-jd-edu> after an initial registration screen. Funded by the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, registration and downloads are **FREE** and open to all.

***Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating this Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Cases (6 curricula, 15 to 180 min. in length, for civil/family and criminal court judges):*** Based on NJEP's extensive web course/resource *Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating this Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Cases*, [www.njep-ipsacourse.org](http://www.njep-ipsacourse.org) (described below), these six curricula can be integrated into in-person judicial education programs on a variety of topics relating to domestic violence or sexual assault, utilized in webinars, or reviewed by individuals online.

***The Challenges of Adult Victim Sexual Assault Cases: Materials for New Judges (short, in-person introductory presentation plus extensive Resources CD):*** The focus is on alerting new judges and judges rotating into a new assignment to the unique challenges of cases involving adult victims of sexual assault that arise in criminal, civil, and family courts. This curriculum provides extensive resources to assist judges in meeting these challenges. All items on the Resources CD are provided in full. A featured component of the *Materials for New Judges* curriculum is the publication [\*Judges Tell: What I Wish I Had Known Before I Presided in an Adult Victim Sexual Assault Case\*](#), described below, which can also be downloaded independently.

***Elder Victims of Sexual Abuse (90-min. curriculum):*** Elder sexual abuse by intimate partners, relatives, caregivers, other nursing home residents and stranger assailants is a prevalent and distinct form of victimization in which the victims' age and health further complicate the challenges that every sexual

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*\*Founded in 1970, Legal Momentum is the nation's oldest legal defense and education fund dedicated to advancing the rights of all women and girls.*

abuse/assault case presents for the courts. This curriculum presents current research, strategies for handling these cases and exercises.

***Interpreters in Adult Victim Sexual Assault Cases (75-min. curriculum):*** For already traumatized rape victims, encountering an interpreter untrained on sexual assault and domestic violence issues and determined to protect the image of his or her community, even at the expense of the victim, is profoundly destructive and undermines the fair administration of justice. This curriculum includes resources to improve court interpreter services.

***Jury Selection and Decision Making in Adult Victim Sexual Assault Cases (3-hour and 2-hour versions adaptable to each jurisdiction):*** Research shows that jurors in adult victim sexual assault cases assess the evidence through the lens of commonly held misconceptions and myths about rape, rape victims and rapists. This curriculum presents the research carried out with actual and mock jurors, as well as public opinion poll data about sexual assault. After learning about the current research, judges discuss their role in selecting a fair jury, protecting jurors' privacy and minimizing jurors' stress and trauma in these difficult cases.

***Women in Drug Treatment Courts: Sexual Assault as the Underlying Trauma (60-min. curriculum):*** Many women in drug courts are self-medicating the psychological pain of childhood and adult sexual and physical violence. When drug treatment programs fail to address the underlying trauma, women fail the programs. This curriculum explores the research on substance abuse among female sexual assault victims and the role of drug courts and treatment programs in their recovery.

## WEB COURSE

***Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating This Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Cases (web course/resource available at <http://www.njep-ipsacourse.org>):*** The course provides interdisciplinary research from law, medicine and the social sciences on this hidden but frequent aspect of domestic violence, and explains the significant implications for the courts, particularly with respect to all types of risk assessment. The web course contains 13 in-depth modules on issues ranging from risk assessment to cultural defenses, four civil and four criminal case studies, and several interactive elements. Since publication it has been accessed by over 10,000 users worldwide. Funded by the State Justice Institute and the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, registration is free and open to all. [Download flyer [here](#)].

## PUBLICATIONS

***Judges Tell: What I Wish I Had Known Before I Presided in an Adult Victim Sexual Assault Case,*** co-authored by Lynn Hecht Schafran, Esq. and Claudia J. Bayliff, Esq. (2010).

- *Judges Tell* is a compendium of 25 points and commentary on key issues related to adult victim sexual assault. NJEP developed this publication in conjunction with judges experienced in presiding in adult victim sexual assault cases. [Download this publication [here](#).]

***What Do Elder Abuse, Drug Treatment Courts and Domestic Violence Risk Assessment Have in Common? Educating the Courts and Others About Sexual Violence in Unexpected Areas,*** co-authored by Lynn Hecht Schafran, Esq. and Tracy Vris, SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORT (September/October 2011).

- This publication emphasizes the importance of educating judges and court-related personnel about the presence and impact of sexual violence in unexpected areas. The article describes NJEP's series of ready-to-use curricula and resources for judicial and multidisciplinary education on these rarely addressed topics and cases. [Download this publication [here](#).]

***Risk Assessment and Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: The Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence***, by Lynn Hecht Schafran, Esq., JUDICATURE, January-February 2010 at 161.

- This article is based on NJEP's web course, *Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating This Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Cases*, described above. The article details how sexual abuse elevates the level of risk and potential lethality in domestic violence cases for victims and their children. [Download this publication [here](#)].

## DVDS

To order any of these DVDs, visit NJEP's "[Sexual Assault Resources](#)" homepage.

***Understanding Sexual Violence: The Judge's Role in Stranger and Nonstranger Rape and Sexual Assault Cases (4-hour DVD)***: A DVD curriculum based on NJEP's two-day, in-person curriculum. Includes courtroom vignettes, expert commentary, and a panel of judges discussing how they have used these experts' information in their own courtrooms. [Download flyer [here](#)].

***The "Undetected Rapist" (7-min. DVD)***: A re-enactment of part of an interview conducted with a college student/rapist by Dr. David Lisak, a leading researcher in the field. In the interview, the rapist, who was never reported or prosecuted, callously describes how he planned and executed the rape of a young college student. [Download flyer [here](#)].

***A Response to The "Undetected Rapist" (23-min. DVD)***: Produced in association with IMPACT Personal Safety, Part One is The "Undetected Rapist." Part Two is focus groups of men and women of various ages and backgrounds responding to The "Undetected Rapist." [Download flyer [here](#)].

***Presenting Medical Evidence in an Adult Rape Trial (2-hour DVD)***: A DVD curriculum that explores the presentation of medical evidence in an adult victim rape trial, with a focus on forensic sexual assault examinations, admitting medical evidence into a rape trial, and cross-examination of the medical witness, among other topics. [Download flyer [here](#)].

## IN-PERSON UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE CURRICULA FOR JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS

***Understanding Sexual Violence: The Judicial Response to Stranger and Nonstranger Rape and Sexual Assault (CD of a two-day model curriculum; for a detailed description or to order this curriculum, click [here](#))***: Provides current social science research about adult victim sexual assault and invites judges to consider how this information relates to their responsibilities in the pre-trial, trial and sentencing phases of sexual assault trials and as leaders in the community. Suggests ways judges can minimize retraumatization of victims without undermining defendants' constitutional rights.

***Understanding Sexual Violence: Prosecuting Adult Rape and Sexual Assault Cases (a four-day model curriculum)***: This curriculum for prosecutors uses a case file to explore issues surrounding the prosecution of nonstranger rape cases including: the effect of rape myths and stereotypes on charging decisions, victim treatment, forensic evidence and sexual assault examinations. The curriculum comprises a Faculty Manual, a Participant's Binder, and Resource Books, which include reports, articles, and excerpts that allow participants to consider this subject in greater depth. The Faculty Manual and Participants Binder are available for free online at <http://www.mincava.umn.edu/documents/usypros/>. The Resources Book Vol. I & II is only available in hard copy and can be purchased separately. For more information about this curriculum or about how to place an order, click [here](#).