

I13 Sexual Violence and Victimization in Prison: An Overview of Federal Legislation, Research, and Litigation Issues

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The goals of this presentation are to provide a review of: (1) prior research on rape in prison, (2) a summary of the PREA federal legislation passed in 2003, (3) epidemiological research conducted by the BJS, (4) predictive research on individual, group, and institutional risk factors, and

(5) review of broader issues concerning sex in prisons, disease control, and same sex experiences. This presentation will impact the forensic community by demon- strating the sexual violence and victimization in prisons.

This presentation will present an overview of the recent Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) that was passed by Congress in 2003 to address and eradicate rape in male and female prisons. It will review prior research on this topic and the epidemiological and predictive research that has been funded as a part of this initiative. The inter-dynamics of consensual, bartered, and coerced sexuality will be explored as it affects many aspects of prison life including inmate on inmate physical violence, group rioting and gang conflict, staff on inmate improprieties, and prison infractions and administrative reviews. Predictive research will also be presented as it informs our inquiry into gender differences in institutional violence; the relationship between predictors of sexual and non-sexual violence; the relationships between physical, sexual and relationship violence; and the role of individuals, group and institutional factors in determining the extent and type of sexual relationships that emerge in this type of setting. Broader questions concerning the role of sex and love in prison, disease prevention, and same sex sexuality will also be identified as broader topics that emerge from this more theoretical and empirical inquiry.

Sex in Prison, Sexual Violence, Sexual Victimization