



# INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

## Intimate Partner Violence

According to the 2010-2012 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, nationally, 45% of Black women experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. The same survey found that 40% of Black men experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime (Smith et al., 2017).

According to the 2011 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, approximately 41% of Black women have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime compared to 31% of White women, 30% of Hispanic women and 15% of Asian or Pacific Islander women (Breiding, 2014).

A study with a sample of 1,545 African American and African Caribbean women, found that about 40% of the sample experienced intimate partner abuse (IPA) sometime in her life and about 27% experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) in her lifetime. For the purposes of this study, IPV was defined as a pattern of physical and/or sexual assault or threats of assault from a current or former intimate partner within a context of coercive control and IPA was used as a broader term that includes psychological and emotional abuse. Consistent with prior research, having children, being younger, and having a locally born partner were correlated to recent experiences of IPV (Stockman et al., 2014).

Most African American and African Caribbean women who experienced lifetime intimate partner abuse (IPA), reported physical and psychological abuse (31%) and a combination of psychological, sexual, and physical abuse (30%) (Stockman et al., 2014).

Among African American and African Caribbean women having children 18 years old or younger was associated with lifetime IPV (Stockman et al., 2014).



## Homicide

According to the CDC, "Homicide is one of the leading causes of death for women aged 44 years old and younger. In 2015, homicide caused the death of 3,519 girls and women in the United States. Rates of female homicide vary by race/ethnicity and nearly half of victims are killed by a current or former male intimate partner."

According to the CDC, Black and American Indian/Alaska Native women experienced the highest rates of homicide (4.4 and 4.3 per 100,000 population) and over half of all homicides (55%) were related to IPV.

Firearms were used in about 54% of all female homicides. Compared to all other racial groups, Black women are most commonly killed by firearms.

Black victims were significantly more likely to be killed by an acquaintance (29%) than White victims (15%) (Petrosky et al., 2017).

According to the CDC, "Black women ages 25-29 are 11 times more likely as White women in that age group to be murdered while pregnant or in the first year after childbirth" (Sharps, Laughon, & Giangrande, 2007 as cited by IDVAAC, 2015).

**Black victims were significantly more likely to be killed by an acquaintance (29%) than White victims (15%).**



## Stalking

Nearly 1 in 5 Black women (20%) experienced stalking in their lifetime (Basile et al., 2011). While approximately 1 in 17 Black men (6%) in the United States experienced stalking in their lifetime (Basile et al., 2011).

According to the 2010-2012 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, about 16% of Black women were stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime (Smith et al., 2017).



**About 1 in 5 Black women experienced  
stalking in their lifetime**

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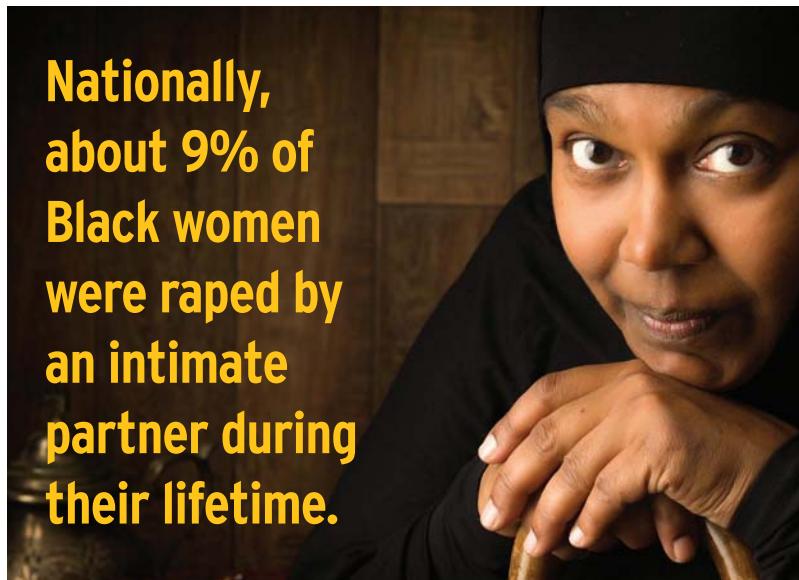
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## Rape

**Nationally,  
about 9% of  
Black women  
were raped by  
an intimate  
partner during  
their lifetime.**



Nationally, about 9% of Black women were raped by an intimate partner during their lifetime compared to 11% multiracial women, 10% White women, and 6% Hispanic women (Breiding, 2014).

About 17% of Black women in the U.S. experienced sexual violence other than rape by an intimate partner during their lifetime compared to 27% multiracial women, 17% White women, and 10% Hispanic women.

15% Black men in the U.S. experienced sexual violence other than rape by an intimate partner at some point during their lifetime compared to 18% multiracial men, 14% Hispanic men, and 8% White men (Breiding, 2014).



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