



The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre(DRCC)



DRCC

Vision and Mission Statement

- DRCC's vision is a society where rape and other forms of sexual abuse are responded to in such a way that limits and prevents the prevalence of sexual violence
- DRCC's mission statement : Preventing and healing the trauma of rape and sexual abuse



RCC

Locations of DRCC

DRCC's main office is on 70 Lower Leeson Street

The outreach services are in:

- Tallaght Hospital
- Tallaght Rehabilitation Centre
- Coolock Civic Centre
- Dochas Women's Prison



RCC

Demography of Clients

- Clients are mainly from Dublin and the Greater Dublin area
- Clients also come from 17 other counties mainly Wicklow, Kildare, Laois, Meath, Cavan and Louth



RCC

History and Stats.

- The DRCC was founded in 1979
- In the first year the Centre received 70 calls to the helpline
- In 2010 the National 24 hour Helpline 1800 77 88 88 received 11,618 calls



RCC

Opening Hours

- The Centre is open to clients 6 days a week, 8am-7pm Mon.-Fri. and 9am-4pm on Saturdays
- The Centre has 35 staff and 75 Volunteers



RCC

Structure

- DRCC is a registered Charity
- Board of Directors – CEO responsible for the executive functions and reports to Board



RCC

Structure

- 6 Departments; Clinical, Volunteer Services, Education & Training, Administration and Accounts, Fundraising, Legal Info. office
- Management Team: CEO, Head of Clinical Services, Head of Education, and Head of Administration



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Services of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

- National 24 Hour Helpline 1 800 77 88 88
- Counselling and support services for the victims of rape, sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse



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Services of the DRCC cont.

- Education and training provided for professionals (Schools, NGOs, Gardai, Health Services etc.) and volunteers
- Lobbying and campaigning for reform in the area of sexual violence (SV)



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Services of DRCC cont.

- Court Accompaniment
- SATU Accompaniment
- Garda Station accompaniment



RCC

Services of DRCC cont.

Outreach Talks to;

- schools
- community groups
- youth groups
- homeless groups etc.



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Services of DRCC cont.

- Advocacy on behalf of victims of SV through the provision of relevant information and linking of victims to other services
- Provides interpreters for Foreign Nationals and people with hearing disability
- Free legal information clinic



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Services of DRCC cont.

Research:

- The SAVI Report
- The Legal Process
- Update on Separate Legal Representation



RCC

Work of DRCC

- Collaborates with other NGOs for the purpose of lobbying, campaigning and advising Government
- Works with Cosc, The National office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence



Work of DRCC

Has representation on :

- The National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women, ERAC
- The Irish Obs. on VAW
- Children's Rights Alliance



© **MULTI-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH**
Combating Sexual Crimes in Society

PROTECTION: Good laws in place to ensure that our citizens are properly protected

PROVISION: Services in place that appropriately respond to the needs of victims of sexual crimes

PREVENTION: Education, awareness raising campaigns and programmes for offenders



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Referral Agencies

- Self Referral
- GP and Hospital/SATU
- Gardai
- Friends and Family
- Front line services, homeless, prostitution, asylum seekers
- Other NGOs

© The SAVI Report Sexual Abuse and RCC Violence in Ireland

- First ever comprehensive research of its kind in Ireland
- A National Study of Irish experiences , beliefs and attitudes concerning sexual violence
- Had the support of the Government
- SAVI is a play on the word savvy meaning “to have understanding of”



SAVI REPORT 2002: Some findings

RCC

- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 6 men experienced sexual abuse in childhood
- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 10 men experienced sexual violence as adults
- 4 in 10 (42%) women and between 2 and 3 in 10 (28%) men experienced some form of sexual abuse in their lifetime



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IMPACT OF SAVI

- The stories told were validated
- The myths about rape and sexual abuse could be scientifically challenged
- Followed by:
 - The Ferns Report 2005
 - The Ryan Report May 2009
 - The Murphy Report Nov. 2009
 - The Cloyne Report 2010

© Societal Changes Reflected in Services

RCC

- Rise in number of male clients using the services
- 9 different Nationalities in Volunteer Group
- Callers to the Helpline from a wide variety of nationalities including, 12 European countries, 17 African Countries, 12 Asian Countries, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and China



Societal Changes Reflected in RCC Services

- Callers to the National 24 Hour Helpline are from 17 counties
- Face to face clients reflect a similar diversity



Sample Stats. 2010 Annual Report

RCC

- 11,628 total calls of which 9,141 genuine counselling calls -
- 294 SATU accompaniments
- 29 court and garda station accompaniments
- 5,007 Therapy sessions offered



© Sample Stats 2010 Annual Report

RCC

- 391 hours of group therapy completed
- 87.25% female clients. 12.75% male clients.
- 60 outreach awareness talks
- Over 4,000 hours of training provided by Ed. & Training Department



RCC

Trends :Impact of Internet

- Easy access to hard core pornography
- Risk to children of chat-rooms – i.e grooming
- Exploitation and abuse of children in the global production of child pornography
- Exploitation of men and women in the global production of pornography



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Internal Challenges

- Developing and maintaining structures that reflect a collaborative, productive and positive working environment
- Responding to the needs of the clients, staff and management in a changing society and uncertain funding
- Maintaining on-going Annual Board and Staff Reviews



RCC

External Challenges

- Providing the level of services needed with cuts on the Government Grant since 2008
- Fundraising for frontline services has become extremely difficult because of the economic downturn
- No funding available for Research
- On-going challenge of keeping Sexual Violence on the political agenda to ensure the necessary legal and constitutional changes



SAVI

- The SAVI Report is dedicated to the 3,000 people who took part in the study. Many recounted difficult and painful personal experiences of sexual violence. All took the time to discuss with the researchers very personal and sensitive aspects of their lives. The study's unique contribution is this substantial input from so many members of the Irish public