

Chairman's Report	2 – 3
Chief Executive's Report	4 – 6
Overview of Clinical Services 2007	7 – 10
Education and Training Department Report	11 – 13
Volunteer Services Department Report	14 – 15
Statistics 2007	16 – 25
Support the DRCC	26
Financial Summary 2007	27 – 28



I'M VERY PLEASED TO LAUNCH and present the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre's (DRCC) Annual Report for 2007. A big part of this launch is our statistics, and once again Angela McCarthy – our Head of Clinical Services – has included a complete and thorough analysis of our compiled statistics. However, it makes for grim reading.

The Centre was set up in 1979 and nearly 30 years later, as you can see in this report, our services are in demand like never before. The statistics in relation to sexual violence are both frightening and shocking.

As an organisation, we continue to strive to be one step ahead, where our supply of services can meet the ever-increasing demand for them. It's not easy. The goalposts keep moving.

How can we stay ahead? How can we predict what services we will have to provide and where we will have to provide them? How can we prevent the trauma of rape and sexual abuse? How can we heal the trauma of rape and sexual abuse? How can we influence decision-makers and law-makers including the Government and the Judiciary, to change the system where change is needed? How can we resource and finance what we have to do?

In those few questions alone, you can see that the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre has to have policy in place and the resources to implement such policy. We have just put the finishing touches to our new five-year Strategic Plan which comprehensively covers every aspect of the business of dealing with this heinous crime. It gives me much hope and encouragement that we will continue to be effective well into the future.

Our statistics show that sexual crime is not diminishing. These statistics are not to be confused with statements from the Gardaí and the Central Statistics Office which show that the figures regarding sexual violence are down. The difference is in victim reporting. Fewer victims are reporting rape and sexual abuse to the Gardaí which distorts the real picture. This report shows the true story. In our report, our CEO - Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop - expands on these reporting issues and what needs to be done.

Our Education and Training Department is charged with driving our policy of prevention of sexual crime. Prevention is key. Our Head of Education and Training– Leonie O'Dowd – in her report shows how we have developed our services in this area to include a prevention and awareness programme for schools, designed for Transition Year students. Furthermore, we conduct training workshops and seminars both here and off site. These include training for Interpreters so that we can respond to the needs of Immigrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees. Seminars we provide include education and training for companies on Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the workplace.

We run training courses with the Gardaí with whom we have an excellent relationship. In 2007, more than 1,000 student Gardaí attended our seminars and received our booklet: "Working Sensitively with Victims of Sexual Violence". I hope to be able to report that following the Garda Síochána Training Review which is currently taking place, the Centre will have an even bigger involvement in training with student and in-service Gardaí.

Everything we do costs money. We collaborate with various agencies including Cosc, and all of their support is very much appreciated. However, whilst we do receive financial support from the HSE, and I would like to gratefully acknowledge that here, it's not enough. And that grant has now been reduced precisely at a time when the demand for, and costs of, providing our services is increasing.

Here in the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre we live in the real world. And I'm not just referring to the daily horrors of rape. But the financial real world too. Yes, we know about budgetary cuts and belt-tightening. Yes, we are not afraid to ask our loyal supporters and benefactors to dig even deeper into their pockets every year. Yes, our energetic Fundraising Department dreams up new initiatives every year to raise money. And that's just to keep our doors open for victims. My message is this: the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre cannot rely on volunteers standing on Grafton Street with flag boxes to keep the Centre open for business, or a raffle to pay the rent. We need the Minister for Health to, at the very least, increase our grant to match inflation. Then we can get on with our real business – "Preventing and Healing the Trauma of Rape and Sexual Abuse".

May I finish by sincerely thanking my Board colleagues, Ellen and her Management team and Staff, and our committed volunteers, including our foreign national volunteers for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Their ability and energy are what makes the DRCC tick and why the Centre will continue to make a difference.

BRENDAN SPRING
Chairman of the Board

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CEO OF THE DRCC



L - R: Eugene Davy, Brendan Spring *Chairman*, Maurice Johnston, Ann Marie Nohl, Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop *CEO*, Audrey Conlon, Maud McKee, Graham Crisp, Anne Conlon *Vice Chair*, Germaine Morrissey.



IN JANUARY 2007 the then Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Brian Lenihan, brought forward the proposed Twenty-Eighth Amendment of the Constitution Bill. This Proposed Bill came about in an attempt to redress the inadequacy of the rushed through 2006 Sexual Offences Act, which came into being when the law on statutory rape was struck down. An All Party Committee, chaired by Mr. Peter Power, had made 62 recommendations on the issues arising as a consequence, and it was expected that the Government would name a date for a Referendum. No date was named and a further All Party Committee was set up, chaired by Ms. Mary O'Rourke, inviting more submissions, and the proposed Bill fell by the wayside. As a result, confidence in the judicial system in this area has plummeted, and this is very worrying for the victims of rape and sexual assault, and it is a very bad message to be sending out to the perpetrators and potential perpetrators of this heinous crime. We know from the Central Statistics Office that reporting of this crime has dropped considerably, but their figures do not match what we are seeing at the frontline.

Protection: A society needs to be able to provide appropriate protection for its citizens. In 2007 a Co. Clare man got a suspended sentence having been convicted and found guilty of raping a woman. The woman in this case, Ms. Mary Shannon, demonstrated enormous courage in waiving her right to anonymity, got justice in the end, but this is not acceptable in a civilised society. She should not have had to endure the further trauma that followed as a result.

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC) continued and continues to lobby for separate legal representation for complainants in rape and sexual assault cases, and for sentencing guidelines and continuing education for Judges working in this area. We need to be able to encourage the reporting of the crime and be confident that justice will be done so that this crime will eventually be the exception in our society. Separate legal representation for complainants would certainly address the huge imbalance that is so evident in the courts in these cases.

The DRCC worked on a campaign to raise awareness of its National Telephone Helpline 1 800 77 8888. It also included encouragement of the victims of rape and sexual assault to avail of the support and help that is there, despite the fact that people were unwilling to come forward and report the crime to the Gardaí, in the current climate. The message is that '*you can come through this*' and there is the possibility of '*a new beginning at the end of the line*'.

The campaign came about as a result of the generosity of Creative Designer, Bill Felton, Tabu Films, actor John Kavanagh, and Paul McCabe of MCM. Carlton Screen Advertising nominated the DRCC as its Charity for 2007, and screened the 60 second *Behind Closed Doors* ad in 250

cinemas around the country. With the support of Cosc, The Irish Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence, the campaign was extended to include an outdoor poster campaign and three 20 second ads for television. While the cinema campaign ran throughout 2007, the television and outdoor campaign ran for the duration of the International 16 days of Awareness Raising for Violence Against Women during November and the beginning December of 2007. An evaluation of the campaign was conducted and its results demonstrated the power of the media in raising awareness and getting the message out to the general public. As a result, there was a marked increase in the number of people using the 1 800 77 8888 National 24 hour helpline during the period of the campaign.

Prevention is one of the major tools we operate as a means of combating the crimes of rape and sexual assault. Raising awareness through the media, with our major media campaign and through press releases and TV and Radio interviews, is one avenue which has proved to be very valuable. Among the other ongoing awareness raising and preventative mechanisms used by the Centre are its:

- outreach talks in schools which are run by the Volunteer Services Department of the Centre
- the training of other agencies (i.e. An Garda Síochána, HSE, etc.) in how to work with the victims of rape and sexual assault and which is run through the Education and Training Department of the Centre.

The Education and Training Department is developing a programme in collaboration with Cosc and which will hopefully be rolled out nationally in all schools.

Provision of services continues to be on DRCC's agenda and in 2007 we added the Tallaght Outreach Counselling Service to our service provision. Over the past number of years we have witnessed a very big increase in the number of people coming from abroad to live in Ireland, and the 11% immigrant clientele of the Centre reflects the national average of immigrants now living in Ireland. This prompted an initiative which was supported by the Department of Integration, whereby Irene Quinn from the Centre was able to link in with the new communities and identify their specific needs around rape and sexual assault. Unfortunately the funding ran out before Irene could complete the work that was needed, but with the little time afforded her, she translated the information leaflets of the DRCC into 6 different languages and distributed them, with the translated information posters, to as many of the new communities as was possible. She also gained the trust of many of the key representatives and we are hoping that we will be able to secure more funding so that this project can be fully implemented.

The DRCC continues its work in combating and responding to the crime of rape in our country and this could not be done without the commitment and generous time given to the Centre by its Chairman, Mr. Brendan Spring, and the members of the DRCC Board for which we are extremely grateful.

The staff of the DRCC, its psychotherapists, telephone counsellors, administration, fundraising, education and volunteer services remain the anchor of the work done on the ground with the victims of this heinous crime. We will continue the work of the Centre in collaboration with the National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women, the Irish Observatory on Violence Against Women, the Cosc office and all other agencies working in the area of responding to and preventing the crimes of rape and sexual assault.

While we are appreciative of the grant we receive from the HSE, we would urge the Minister for Health to ensure that the cap, that remains on our grant for the past number of years, be lifted so that we can continue to give the excellent service that is the trademark of the DRCC.

ELLEN O'MALLEY-DUNLOP
Chief Executive

Overview of Clinical Services 2007

For the past few years, through counselling callers on the Helpline, supporting victims in the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) and working with clients in therapy, the DRCC has become acutely aware of a dramatic increase in sexual violence in our society. In 2007, for the first time, we collected detailed data relating to *additional forms of violence and abuse* disclosed by callers to our Helpline and by DRCC clients, who have experienced rape, sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse. These statistics are published on pages 19 and 22.

472 callers to the Helpline and **177 clients** of our counselling service disclosed that they had experienced *other types of violence and abuse*, along with rape, sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse. These statistics provide a shocking corroboration of what we have known anecdotally for many years i.e., how often victims of adult rape and childhood sexual abuse are subjected also to physical violence, intimidation, psychological abuse and, in many cases, *multiple* types of violence and abuse. Documenting these forms of violence and abuse validates the experiences of victims, and highlights the ongoing need for our National Freephone Helpline and face to face counselling and support services.

RANGE OF CLIENTS ACCESSING OUR SERVICE BY COUNTY

An analysis of clients **by county** (*where known*) shows that while 423 clients seen in the DRCC came from the greater Dublin area, an additional 83 clients came from the counties accessible to our outreach services in Coolock and Tallaght, i.e. Kildare (34), Meath (23), Wicklow (20) and Louth (6). We are aware that clients often seek the anonymity of the city for counselling, and a further 11 clients came from seven other midland, southern and northern counties.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF CALLERS AND CLIENTS

The DRCC's nationwide awareness raising campaign, launched by our CEO, Ellen O'Malley Dunlop, in 2007, greatly increased awareness of our services among the public. In addition, a new DRCC project was funded by Pobal, to provide outreach to immigrant communities and create awareness of our services.

An analysis of the **nationality of callers to the Helpline** (*where known*) in 2007 showed that, while the greatest numbers were from Ireland and the U.K, callers' countries of origin included nineteen European countries, five African countries, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, and China.

In terms of the **clients seen in the Centre** in 2007, there was also a great diversity of nationalities. While 517 of the 592 clients were Irish in origin, 12 were from the UK, 25 clients were from 13 European countries, 31 were from 8 African countries, and 7 were from the US, South America, Australia and China.

The DRCC therapists have had training in multi-cultural issues and have had to expand their skills and understanding to work sensitively with people from diverse backgrounds, which can include foreign nationals who are tourists, workers, immigrants and asylum-seekers or refugees, and victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation. The Centre, in 2007, provided counselling through French and Spanish, and employed interpreters for non English speaking clients. Therapists have adapted to working through interpreters, including sign-language interpreters, if needed, in working with some members of the deaf community.

24 Hour Helpline

Our Freephone Helpline (1800 77 8888) operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. *There is always a counsellor at the end of the line.* In 2007, the Helpline dealt with **13,582** calls. **6,715** of these calls were handled by staff telephone counsellors. In addition, our team of 50 trained volunteer telephone counsellors handled **6,867** calls, supervised and supported by three Volunteer Co-ordinators.

83% of callers were female and **17%** were male. The percentage of male callers has been rising steadily from a low of 12% in 2004, to 14% in 2005, 16% in 2006, and to **17%** in 2007, an increase of 5% in three years.

- **10,155** of the calls in 2007 were genuine counselling calls.

- **3,048** of these calls were from first-time callers.
- In addition, **3,893** repeat calls were received in this period, an increase of **5.5%** on the 2006 figure.

42.63% of calls to the Helpline related to adult rape and **6.81%** related to adult sexual assault. Including statistics for drug rape (2.31%) and sexual harassment (0.98%), a total of **53%** of calls related to sexual violence in adulthood, while **47%** of calls related to childhood sexual abuse.

Accompaniment to the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit

The Centre's trained SATU volunteers accompany and support victims of sexual violence at the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit in the Rotunda Hospital. There was a sharp increase in the number of such accompaniments: from **263** in 2005, to **315** in 2006, to **320** in **2007**, an increase of **22.6%** in the two year period.

Counselling and Therapy Services

In 2007, **twelve therapists** working in two teams from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday inclusive, offered crisis counselling and long-term therapy in the DRCC in Leeson Street in central Dublin, with outreach services in Coolock Civic Centre, Tallaght Hospital and the Dóchas Centre for female offenders.

592 clients were seen for face to face counselling in 2007. Of these, **89%** were female and **11%** were male. **3,834** individual **counselling sessions** were delivered in 2007, an increase of **7%** on 2006 figures. Of these, **31%** (1,190) were crisis appointments for men and women who had experienced rape and sexual assault within the past twelve months. **68%** (2,614) were appointments for past rape, past sexual assault or past childhood sexual abuse which had occurred outside the previous twelve month period.

GROUP THERAPY

Group therapy was offered to clients, male and female. Three groups were run in 2007, a Men's Group, a Rape Recovery Group and a group for victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse, as well as a one-day Family Systems workshop. The groups were co-facilitated by two therapists each and ran for eight weeks. A total of **540** group counselling hours were delivered.

DRCC Outreach Counselling Services

A NEW OUTREACH SERVICE IN TALLAGHT

On July 28th 2007, the DRCC opened an Outreach counselling service in Tallaght Hospital, which is wheelchair accessible. For the next five months, the service had one therapist working on Saturdays. She was joined by a second therapist towards the end of the year. Appointments were made through the Freephone Helpline (1800 77 8888) to the main office in Leeson St. The take-up has been very encouraging, as the fledgling service took off and began to be known. **86** appointments were offered in this period, and **60** were completed, a take-up rate of 70%. An analysis of this service has shown that it meets a need, not just for the Tallaght area, but for people in surrounding counties. Local NGOs have warmly welcomed the service and we are confident it will expand to meet local needs.

DÓCHAS CENTRE

The Counselling and Psychotherapy Services section of the DRCC started a counselling service in the Dóchas Centre, a medium security prison unit located in Mountjoy, in 2005. The initiative was taken at the request of Kathleen McMahon, Governor of Dóchas Centre. A half day counselling service is offered once a week by one of our experienced Therapy Team Leaders. In 2007, **73 sessions** were offered, of which **66** were completed. This represents a **90%** take up rate, compared to a take-up rate of **71%** in 2006.

DRCC OUTREACH IN COOLOCK CIVIC CENTRE

The DRCC's Outreach Service in Coolock moved premises to the Northside Civic Centre in Bunnary Road in 2005. This building is wheelchair accessible. The service expanded from one to two therapists, to meet demand for the local northside service. We recognise that it is essential that the DRCC reaches out to local communities and provides a user-friendly and easily accessible service.

In 2007, two therapists worked together in Coolock on Thursdays and Fridays. The take-up has been very encouraging. **526 sessions** were offered in 2007, of which **417** were completed, a take-up rate of **79%**.

This represents an increase of **7.2%** on completed sessions compared to 2006 figures, and an increase of **22.64%** compared to figures for 2004, when the service first moved to the Civic Centre in Coolock. The service is used by clients from north Dublin, but also from adjoining counties, such as Kildare, Louth, and Meath.

Conclusion

It is clear, from our 2007 statistics, that there is a frightening degree of sexual violence and abuse happening in Irish society, and that, for many victims, this is accompanied by physical and psychological abuse and intimidation, including in some cases threats or attempts to kill. Some of our asylum-seeking clients have experienced rape, torture and imprisonment in their countries of origin. Others clients are victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation.

The services and support provided by the DRCC's 24-hour Helpline, SATU accompaniment and face to face counselling are essential for victims, in the

aftermath of rape or sexual abuse. We are now dealing with a more diverse group of service users, in a multicultural Ireland, and it is our challenge to provide an appropriate service for all.

I would like to thank all our dedicated staff, including our receptionists who welcome and tend to our clients, the volunteer co-ordinators, the volunteers and telephone counselling staff who operate the Helpline, the SATU, Outreach and court accompaniment volunteers and our team of therapists who provide individual and group counselling and therapy in Leeson St. and in Outreach services. Together, in 2007, we endeavoured to implement our mission statement: "Preventing and Healing the Trauma of Rape and Sexual Abuse".

ANGELA MCCARTHY
Head of Clinical Services



Key Services provided by the DRCC

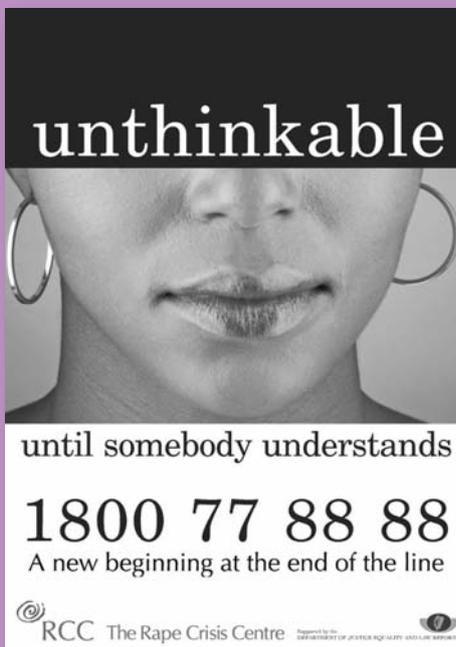
- A 24-hour National Freephone Helpline (1800 77 88 88)
- A Crisis Counselling Service for recent victims of rape and sexual assault
- Long-term therapy for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse and past sexual violence
- Coolock Outreach Counselling Service
- Dóchas Centre Counselling Service
- Tallaght Outreach Counselling Service
- Medical Accompaniment to the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit
- Court Accompaniment
- Outreach Talks to Schools and Community Groups
- Training of professionals who work with victims of rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse in Ireland
- Training programmes on preventing and dealing with bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace
- Research and Statistics
- Campaigning and Advocacy



Conor Lenihan, Minister for Intergration, and DRCC Staff at the New Communities Expo, October 2007.



A selection of posters from the RCC Awareness Raising Campaign launched in 2007.



Education and Training Department Report

The Education and Training Department

A core aspect of the mission of DRCC is the prevention of sexual violence. The work of the Education and Training Department focuses on raising awareness, providing information, and challenging beliefs and attitudes in an attempt to influence behaviour.

It is important that staff of organisations and agencies providing services to people who have experienced sexual violence are equipped to provide these services in the ways that are most accessible and supportive. DRCC sees the provision of training to staff and volunteers of organisations meeting the needs of victims of sexual violence as a vital part of its work. The training for professionals provided by the Education and Training Department of DRCC enhances the value and relevance of the services they provide. Professionals accessing DRCC training include counsellors, psychologists, medical staff, Gardaí, prison officers, mental health professionals, teachers, guidance counsellors, those working in addiction, homelessness, domestic violence and many others.

Training for Community Language Interpreters

With support from the *Fund to Support Legally Resident Immigrants*, administered through Pobal, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre in 2007 initiated the development and delivery of a training programme for community interpreters *Interpreting in Situations of Sexual Violence and Other Trauma*.

This was a pilot project during which we consulted with interpreters, interpreting agencies, those training interpreters, and those providing services to people who have experienced sexual violence and other trauma, and based on this consultation process designed and delivered a training programme for interpreters. This programme was delivered twice in Dublin in the Autumn of 2007. The programme was evaluated and revised after each delivery.

Development and Delivery in Schools of an Awareness and Prevention Programme for Young People

In late 2006, the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre applied for and received funding from the Department of Justice, Violence against Women Section, for the development and delivery of a pilot educational programme for Transition Year students and other young people. The programme is designed to raise awareness about and to prevent sexual violence.

The development of this programme was prompted by a recognition by the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre of the need for a programme designed for Transition Year students, Leaving Certificate Applied students and other young people on the subject of sexual violence awareness and safety. This recognition is supported in the findings of the SAVI (Sexual Abuse in Ireland) Report 2002 on the vulnerability of the 15-17 year age group to sexual violence.

The programme has been designed to be non-threatening, informative and experiential. It aims to empower young people to stay safer by becoming more aware of the issues around sexual violence. It provides legal information and definitions of sexual violence, and encourages students to begin to think about their right to stand up to sexual coercion, and their right to make decisions for themselves about sexuality and acceptable levels of contact.

In order to directly canvass the views of Irish young people as to their own needs, three focus groups were organised in schools in February 2007. Feedback from these meetings was used to inform the design, delivery and methodology of the programme. Regardless of differing genders, socio-economic or educational backgrounds, the results from the three groups yielded interesting similarities. All groups wanted factual information on sexual violence and clarity about legal definitions and practical advice on what to do if someone is being sexually abused. No group wanted to fill in questionnaires, or do any sort of writing or project work, and all groups wanted experiential exercises.

The programme was developed and then piloted in three schools during 2007. The first pilot delivery of the programme took place in a non-fee paying all girls school with a group of Leaving Certificate Applied students, aged 15-17 years. A second pilot took place in September 2007 in a mixed gender community school, with Transition Year students, and was completed in early October. The third pilot delivery was in November 2007 in an all-boys non-fee paying school to Transition Year students.

Following this work, the programme was carefully evaluated in consultation with the students and school staff, and was revised and finalised. The programme provides a range of alternative materials and methodologies that facilitators can draw on to take account of the specific group of young people to whom it is being delivered.

Given the number of schools in the Dublin and greater Dublin area, DRCC envisages a dual strategy of direct delivery of the programme by DRCC staff, and also, where appropriate, the training of school staff to deliver the programme themselves.

Seminars at DRCC

Seminars were held in our training rooms at DRCC which were attended by individuals in various roles wishing to develop their understanding and skills in the area of working with those who have experienced sexual violence. These ranged from introductory one day workshops on issues of child sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault, to a twelve day course specifically for those in the role of counsellor or psychotherapist, which looks at working with the impact of all types of sexual violence.

12 Day Course for Counsellors and Psychotherapists

Each year DRCC provides this in-depth 12 day course on “Issues in Sexual Violence: the Counselling Process” for those working or beginning to work as counsellors and psychotherapists and wanting to enhance their understanding and skills in working with issues of sexual violence. The course explores issues arising in working as a counsellor with adolescent and adult clients who have experienced child sexual abuse, rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment.

Training for Organisations

DRCC provided training programmes in response to requests from individual organisations or groups of organisations for training specific to their needs. We have provided training for community and voluntary organisations, and for agencies in the State health sector throughout Ireland.

Approach to Training

Our training is provided within a non-violent and careful ethos, and with respect for the existing knowledge and expertise of those who attend. The issues on which we provide training are powerful and sensitive issues which can resonate quite deeply for participants, no matter how qualified or experienced. Our approach is participative and experiential, but invitational and without pressure and participants are encouraged and supported to take care towards themselves. This mirrors the approach to working with victims of trauma which we are advocating in our training.

Training of Gardaí

In 2007 DRCC trainers continued to provide seminars for every intake of student Gardaí in the Garda Training College in Templemore, to offer them an opportunity to develop their understanding of the issues that will be involved in working with those who have experienced sexual violence. This involved a team of six trainers going to the Garda Training College four times during the year for two days each time. In the seminars, the students are offered an opportunity to consider the beliefs and attitudes in society and within themselves around sexual violence and how these might affect a person who has had this experience. They are provided with information on the impact of sexual violence. Guidelines are offered as to how to work in a way that is supportive of the victim of sexual violence throughout his or her contact with the policing and legal process.

In 2007 approximately 1,120 student Gardaí attended seminars provided by DRCC in the Garda Training College. Students are provided with a booklet, *Working Sensitively with Victims of Sexual Violence*, developed, in collaboration with the Garda Continuing Professional Development Unit, especially for Gardaí. The booklet provides information about sexual violence, its incidence and impact, and detailed suggestions to support Gardaí in working effectively and sensitively with victims of sexual violence.



Trainers from the Education and Training Department of DRCC at the Garda Training College, Templemore.

Preventing and Dealing with Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

In 2007 we continued to provide a variety of seminars on the theme of Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, and worked with a number of state agencies and voluntary organisations on these issues during 2007. These seminars are provided for businesses, the state sector and community and voluntary organisations. Training is provided for staff, managers, Human Resources staff, Equality Officers, support contact people, and those who will investigate a complaint.

DRCC has a particular specialism in training for Support Contact Persons under Dignity at Work/ Bullying and Harassment policies. We also offer a consultancy service for organisations developing policies and procedures. Seminars are held at DRCC which individuals can attend, and also for individual organisations, for management, staff or those in specific key roles. This work takes us all over the country, into businesses, factories, local authorities, state organisations and NGOs.

St. Stephen's Green Trust

With the aid of a grant from the St. Stephen's Green Trust, DRCC provided three two day training programmes on a subsidised low cost basis to staff and volunteers working with organisations providing services for people in homelessness, those in addiction,

ex-prisoners, and young people and adults working in prostitution. Given that over a quarter of the population of this country has experienced sexual violence, it is crucial that service providers are aware, informed and competent around these issues. For those providing services in certain sectors – for example in prisons, in addiction, in homelessness, in the mental health services – research shows that it is likely that a much higher proportion of the client group have experienced sexual violence and other forms of trauma.

There was an enthusiastic response to this training, with 48 staff of these organisations attending over the three programmes.

New Training DVDs

In 2007 we completed the filming of material for new training DVDs. Seven clients or ex-clients of DRCC volunteered to be interviewed about their experiences of child sexual abuse or rape. The six women and one man involved spoke about the impact of these experiences on their lives, what supported them, their experience of reporting to the Gardáí and of the counselling process at the DRCC. The participants took an active part in the review of the material that was filmed and their approval was sought about what to include in the DVDs. These DVDs have been developed and will be used by DRCC in its training programmes on child sexual abuse, rape, with the Gardáí, and in our counselling training programmes.

LEONIE O'DOWD
Head of Education and Training

Volunteer Services Department Report

Introduction

The Volunteer Services Department provide four different facilities, namely:

- Ensuring the operation of the DRCC National 24 Hour Helpline, after hours and at week-ends
- Provision of Support Personnel to the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU)
- Court Accompaniment
- Outreach Speakers for schools, colleges and community groups

The Volunteer Services Department co-ordinates and manages the recruitment, training, assessment and supervision of all the volunteers who cover the four services. The staff of the Department comprise of one full time Manager and two part time Volunteer Co-ordinators. The three staff members, through 'on-call' rotation, provide a 24-hour support and back-up service throughout the year to all of the volunteers.

2007 was a busy year for the Volunteer Services Department. With two volunteer training programmes held in both spring and autumn, we saw thirty two new volunteers start their two-year commitment. In addition, over the year, thirty volunteers completed their two-year commitment. Their generosity and achievement were marked and celebrated by two Graduation ceremonies, attended by the CEO, staff and volunteer corps. Throughout 2007, we had at least sixty two volunteers covering our four services.

The National 24-hour Helpline: 1800 77 8888

Our volunteers ensure the cover of the 24 hour National Helpline outside office hours – every single day of the year, including all weekends, bank holidays, Easter and Christmas. Because of their commitment, it is possible for the DRCC to state that “There is always someone at the end of the line who will listen”. The Helpline is a life line for the many victims of sexual violence nationwide, who need to talk to someone who cares. Our volunteers are trained to listen, support and offer information to callers who use the Helpline. The volunteers cover the line throughout the night – every night. The vast majority will then go on to work a full day in their professional life.

SATU Support Personnel

Our volunteers also provide a 24 hour, 365 day a year support service to any victims of sexual violence attending the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU) in the Rotunda Hospital. If a person who has been raped or sexually assaulted attends the SATU for forensic testing, one of our SATU volunteers will be there to assist by listening, supporting, giving information and establishing a link with the services of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. In 2007, we again saw large numbers of callouts to SATU, 320 in total for the year, as compared to 317 in 2006. With 38 callouts to SATU in July alone, it was a very busy time for the SATU volunteers. The SATU volunteer on duty may be called out many times during one shift.

Outreach Speakers

Over the past five years, the DRCC has given talks in many organisations throughout the Dublin area, as part of its Dublin Rape Crisis Centre Outreach Initiative. Forty four talks were delivered by the outreach volunteers in 2007. The number of schools who benefited from our volunteer educational presentation was thirty two. In addition, twelve youth / community groups also received inputs from our volunteers. The aims behind these talks are to:

- Highlight the common attitudes and myths which prevail in society surrounding childhood sexual abuse and other forms of sexual violence.
- Highlight the short-term and long term effects sexual violence can have on an individual.
- Discuss the particular issues surrounding disclosure of both recent and past abuse.
- Create dialogue surrounding some of the issues of childhood sexual abuse and rape.
- Give time for a facilitation of group discussion on any issues raised during presentation.
- Make a presentation on bullying and sexual harassment.
- Clarify the meaning of consent and the legal definitions.

Time and time again, our outreach speakers recognise the importance of giving young people a chance to speak openly about the issues around consent they identify as relevant.

Court Accompaniment

The Volunteer Services Department provides court accompaniment to any member of the general public in the Republic who has been a victim of sexual violence, past or present, and who is attending court in relation to this crime. In 2007 our volunteers provided a supportive, informative and caring presence to 39 people, as they negotiated what can be a very difficult court process. Where possible, we try to ensure the same volunteer will be in attendance for the victim. The feedback we have received to date has been extremely positive not only from the victim but also from their family and friends (who were also in attendance in a supportive capacity)

We also provided volunteers to attend local Garda stations on three occasions in 2007, to support victims of sexual violence in the taking of their statements.

Continuous recruitment and training of new volunteers is no easy task, with our time impoverished society, yet we are constantly amazed and delighted at the enormous response we receive at each recruitment campaign. The smooth running of our services is a tribute to the generous, flexible and altruistic nature of our volunteers.

Project of Outreach to Migrant Communities

The DRCC has developed a strategy that is seeking to address the needs of minority ethnic people experiencing sexual violence. The New Communities' Outreach Programme was part of this approach.

Funding was sought and granted in 2006 from Pobal for a new outreach project, within the Volunteer Services Department. In 2007, Irene Quinn, a member of our Telephone Counselling team, was seconded for a year as Outreach Co-ordinator to New Communities. She worked tirelessly to help raise awareness among the migrant communities about the issues of sexual violence and abuse, and appropriate access to referral information and resources.

Information leaflets were translated and printed into six different languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Polish, Romanian and Russian. Presentations were made to community groups, other N.G.O's, hospitals, partnerships, Health Centres and all of the Rape Crisis Centres nationally, to spread awareness. Networking with relevant service providers was an integral part of Irene's agenda to share information and identify obstacles experienced by the new communities in accessing services.

MAIREAD MALLON
Head of Volunteer Services

A NOTE ON THE STATISTICS FOR 2007

Due to the nature of our work, detailed information was not gathered for all individuals who contacted the DRCC. The primary concern of the Centre **is to help callers and clients** and in many cases some or all of the detailed information on callers or clients was unavailable. The statistics below refer to the 12 month period from 1st January 2007 to 31st December 2007

1

Contacts with the 24 hour Helpline
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

DESCRIPTION	2007
Total Counselling calls	13,582
*Total genuine counselling calls	10,155
First Time Callers	3,048
Repeat Calls	3,893
Information Calls	2,332
Calls with Details Undisclosed	583
Unrelated Counselling Calls	299

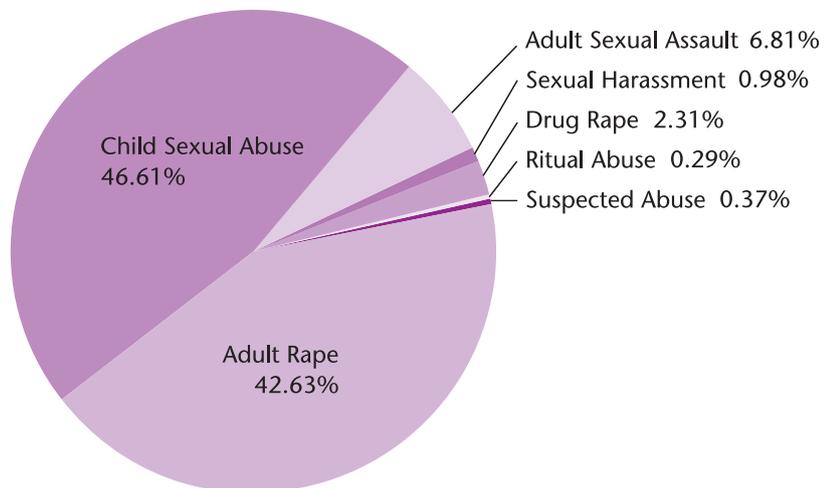
Description of Calls

* Total genuine counselling calls refers to the number of calls when hoax, hang-up, silent and obscene calls are subtracted from the total number of calls.

2

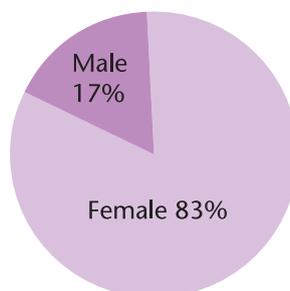
Contacts with the 24 hour Helpline
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Breakdown by Type of Abuse, where known



This table shows for all calls (first time and repeat calls) the type of abuse the caller experienced. 294 of the callers disclosed the fact that they had experienced more than one type of sexual abuse in their lives.

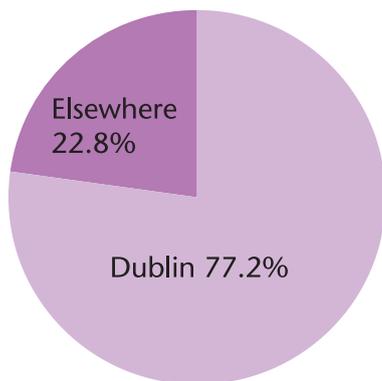
Gender of Caller, where known



3

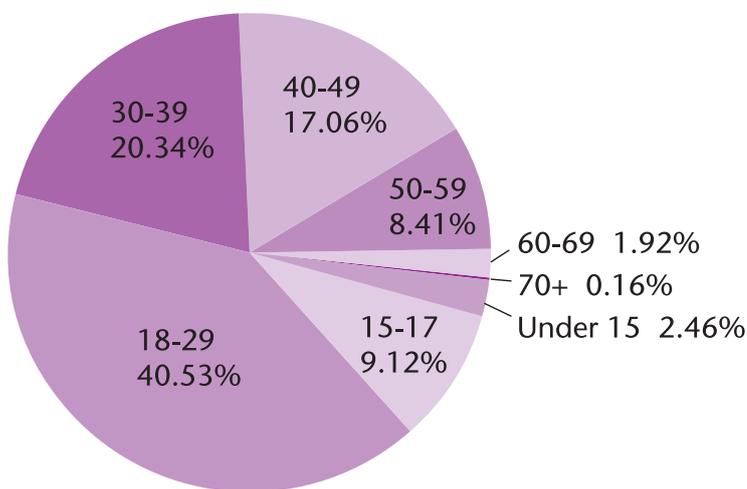
Contacts with the
24 hour Helpline
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

**Breakdown by
Geographic Location**



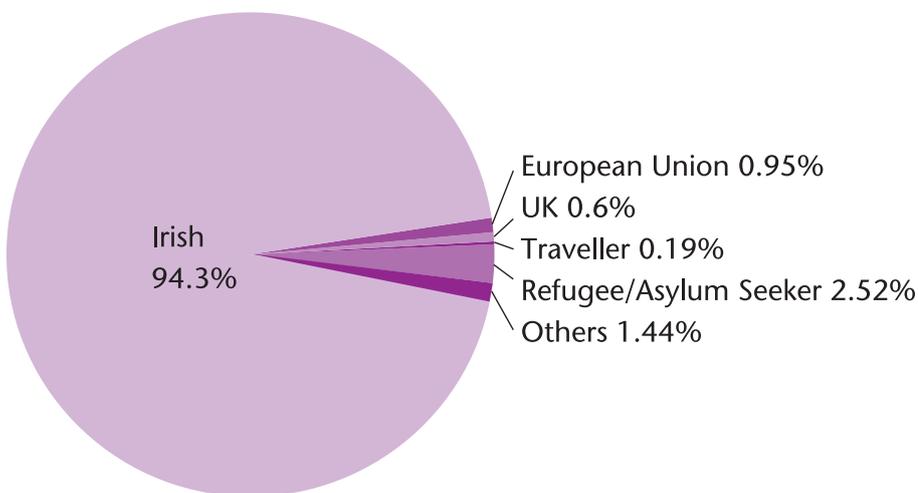
Note that in many cases, the location of the caller was not known.

**Breakdown by Age,
of victim**



Note that in many cases, the age of the caller was not known.

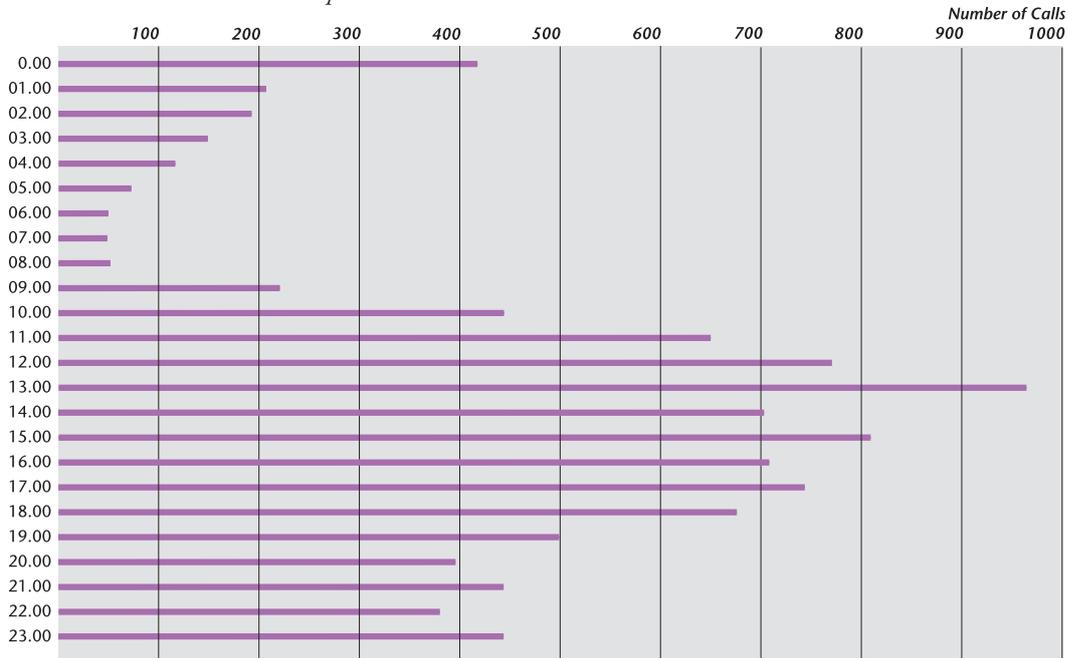
**Breakdown by Ethnic
Origin, where known**



4

Contacts with the 24 hour Helpline *Jan 2007 – Dec 2007*

Time of Call *Calls made in previous hour*



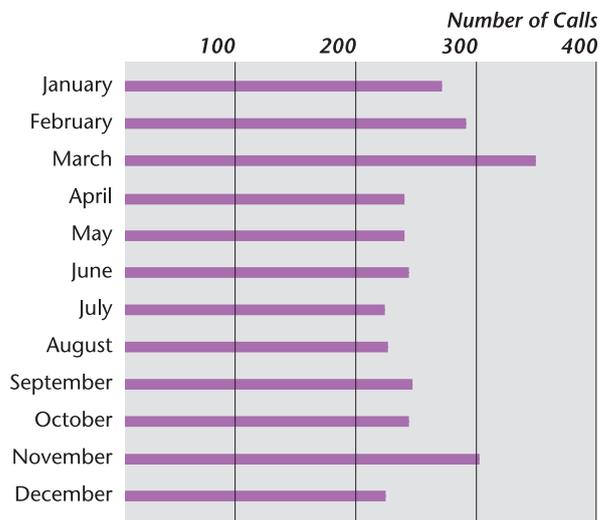
This table refers to the number of genuine counselling calls made to the DRCC by hour of call.

5

Contacts with the 24 hour Helpline *Jan 2007 – Dec 2007*

Month of Call

This graph shows the number of first time calls made to the DRCC by month.



6

Volunteer Services

Accompaniment to Sexual Assault Treatment Unit

In this period, our trained volunteers attended the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit with **320** victims. In addition, our volunteers carried out court accompaniments with **39** victims of sexual violence or abuse, and **3** accompaniments to Garda Stations during that period.

Outreach Awareness Talks

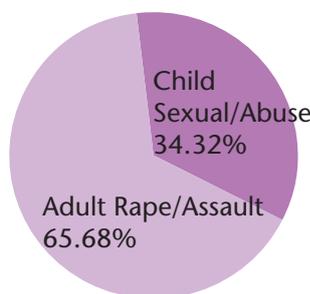
Our trained Outreach Volunteers delivered **44** Outreach awareness talks, **32** in second level schools and **12** to youth or community groups.

7

Analysis of Violence/ Abuse experienced by callers in addition to rape or childhood sexual abuse

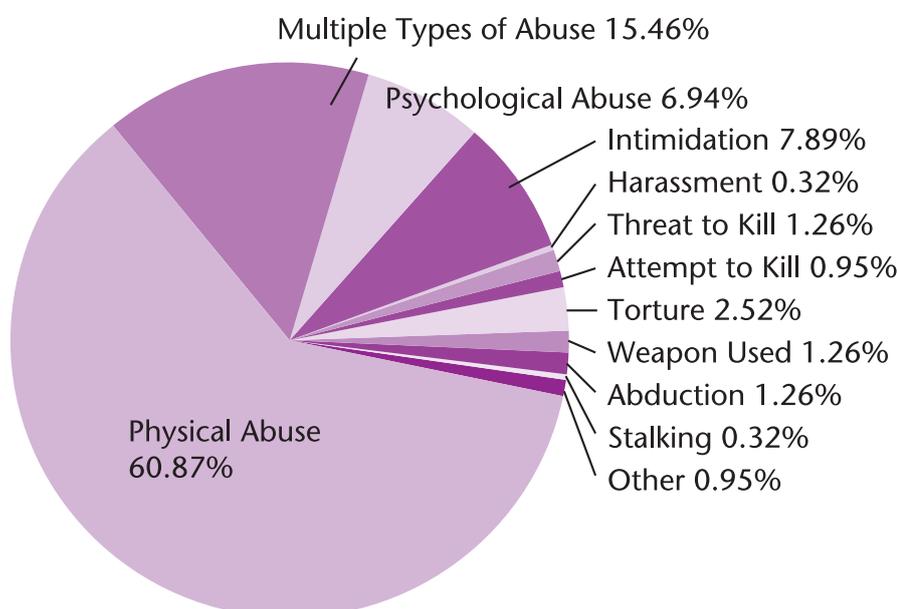
472 (4.65%) from the total of genuine callers (10,155) reported experiencing other types of violence along with the main type of abuse.

This breaks down as:



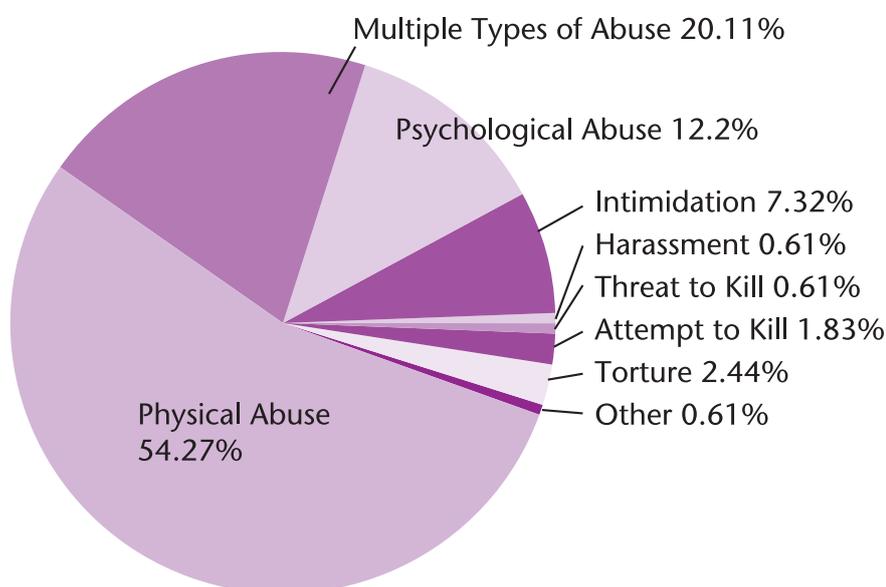
Violent incidents reported by callers who also experienced adult rape/sexual assault

Where known, the types of violence experienced were:



Violent incidents reported by callers who also experienced child sexual abuse

Where known, the types of violence experienced were:



Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Client Appointments Summary

In 2007, twelve therapists, working as two teams, offered a six-day counselling service from Monday to Saturday, in the DRCC on Leeson Street. In addition, two therapists offered 14 sessions per week in the Outreach Counselling Service in Coolock. A half-day service per week was also provided to the Dóchas Centre, at the National Women’s Prison. Two therapists worked in a new Outreach service in Tallaght on Saturdays.

- A total of **4,930 individual appointments** were made available by the Therapy Team in 2007.
- **Of these 3,834 individual client sessions were delivered** in 2007. Allowing for cancellations and ‘no-shows’ deducted, this represents a take-up rate of **77.8%**.
- Of the 3,834 completed sessions, **31.04% (1,190) were crisis appointments for men and women** who had experienced a recent rape or sexual assault i.e. within the previous 12 months.
- **68.18% (2,614) were assessment appointments** for *past* rape and sexual assault. i.e. which occurred outside the previous 12-month period.
- 30 sessions (0.78%) were offered to family members and supporters, with the clients consent.
- In addition to the 3,834 individual therapy sessions, usually of one hour’s duration, **540** hours of group therapy client hours were delivered in 2007.

Thus, a total of 4,374 individual and group client hours were delivered in 2007.

Group Therapy Summary

Participation in group therapy or workshops is offered to clients who have been in one-to one counselling for some time. Groups and workshops are normally facilitated by two staff therapists. Six therapists facilitated groups in 2007 and two others took part in an offender rehabilitation programme in Arbour Hill.

TYPE OF GROUP	HOURS PER SESSION	DURATION	PARTICIPANTS	TOTAL CLIENT GROUP THERAPY HOURS
CSA Process Group	3 hours	8 weeks	8 clients	192
Rape Recovery Group	2.5 hours	8 weeks	6 clients	120
Men’s Group	3 hours	8 weeks	7 clients	168
Family Systems Workshop	6 hours	1 day	10 clients	60

Total: 540

540 client group therapy hours were completed in 2007.

In addition two therapists provided a half-day input on a Sex Offender Programme in Arbour Hill Prison for 9 participants.

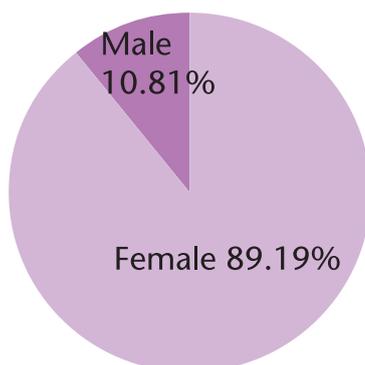
9

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service *Jan 2007 – Dec 2007*

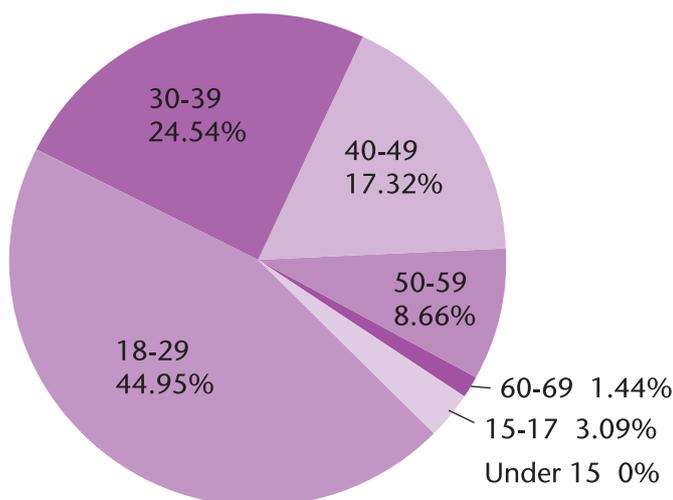
Number of Clients Seen in the DRCC
(including long term and crisis service)

CLIENTS	NUMBER
Number of clients seen	592

Gender of Client Using the Counselling Service



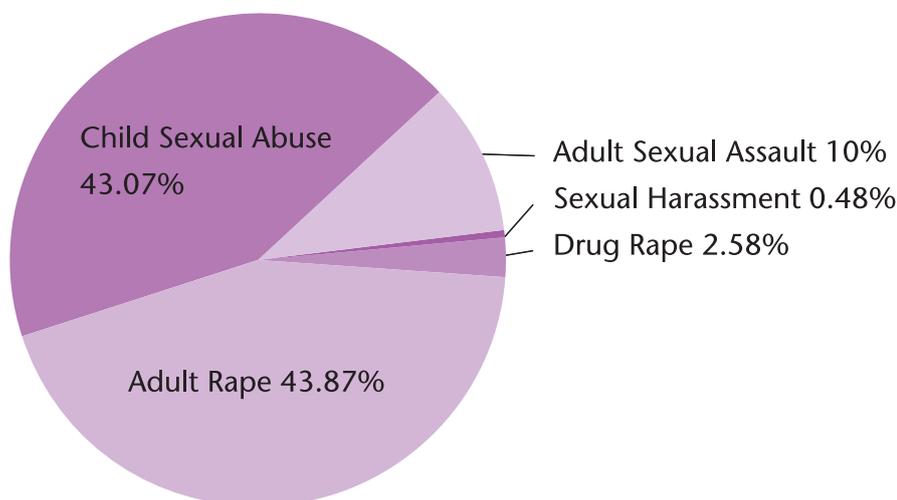
Age of Client using the counselling service, where known



10

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Breakdown by Type of Abuse, where known



7.72% of clients disclosed that they experienced both adult rape and past child sexual abuse.

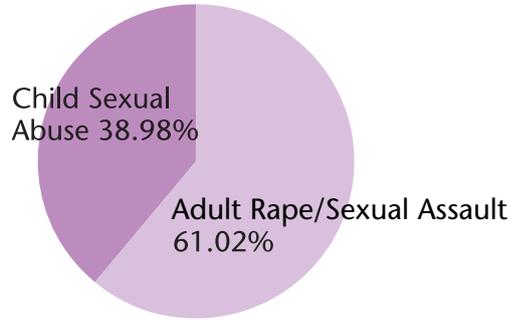
11

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

177 of clients (32.54%) reported experiencing other types of violence along with the main type of abuse.

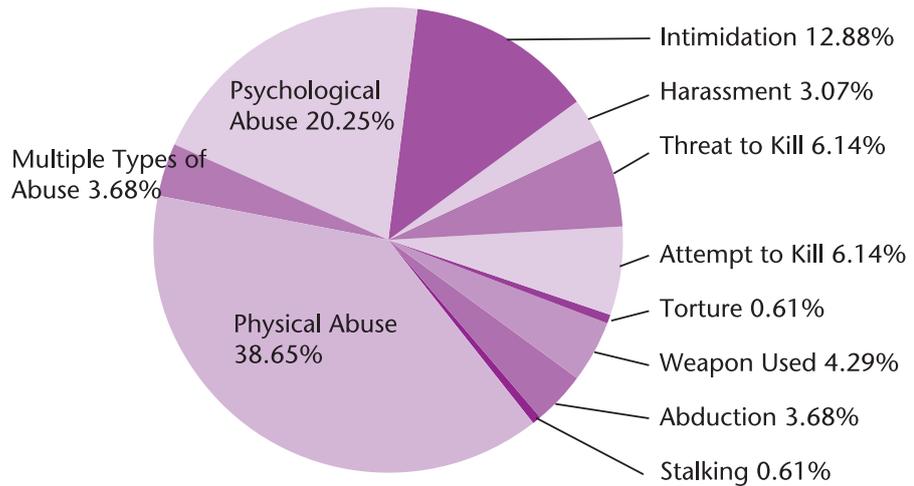
This breaks down as:

Analysis of additional types of violence and abuse experienced by clients, along with rape, sexual assault or childhood abuse



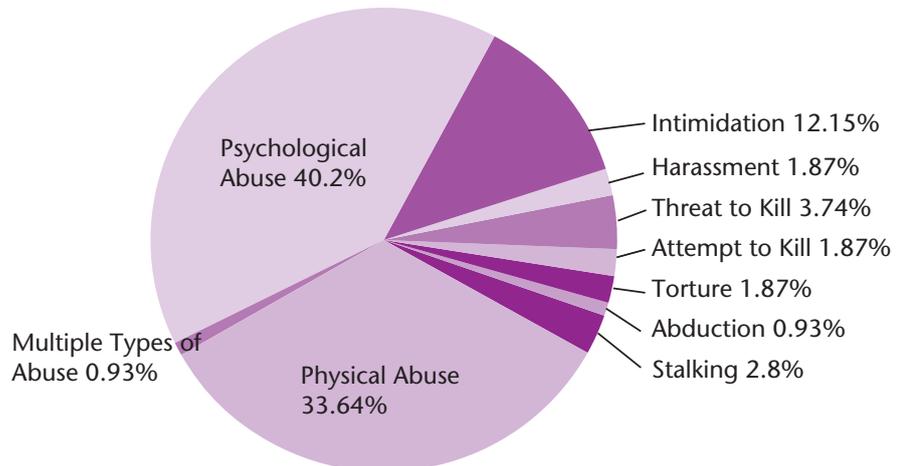
Violent incidents reported by clients who also experienced adult rape/sexual assault

Where known, the types of violence experienced were:



Violent incidents reported by clients who also experienced child sexual abuse

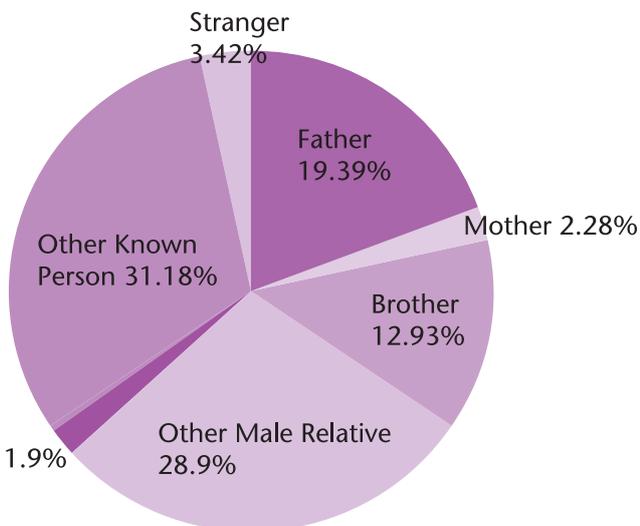
Where known, the types of violence experienced were:



12

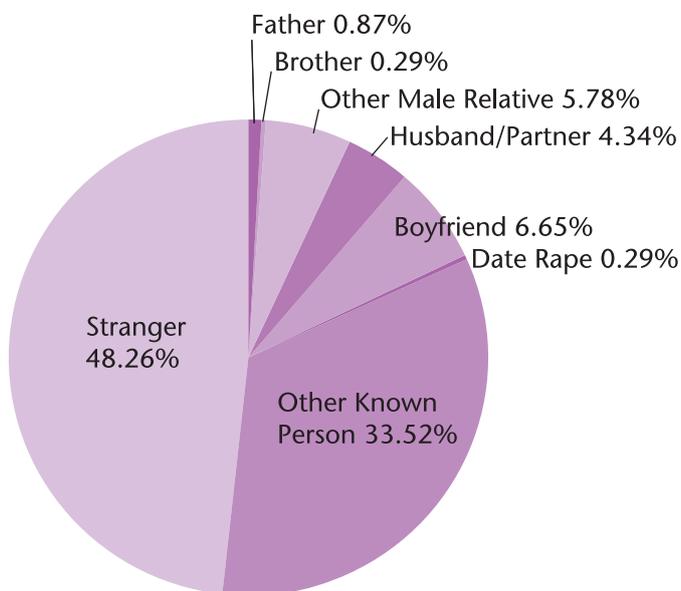
Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Relationship Between Victim and Offender, where known



Child Sexual Abuse

Adult Rape / Sexual Assault



13

Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Pregnancy

Of the 318 female clients who were at risk of pregnancy after rape/sexual assault, 23 (7.23%) said they became pregnant.

OUTCOME OF PREGNANCIES	NUMBER
Became pregnant, baby kept	8
Became pregnant, baby fostered	0
Became pregnant, baby adopted	1
Became pregnant, pregnancy terminated	8
Became pregnant, miscarried	3
Became pregnant, outcome unknown	3

It is worth noting that many clients were not at risk of pregnancy for various reasons, including use of contraceptives, being beyond risk of pregnancy due to age, or being male, for example.

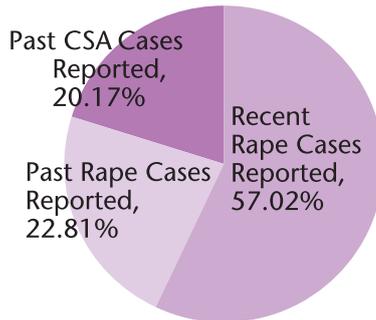
Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

Statistics provided in this section relate to 336 clients who commenced therapy in the DRCC in 2007, where the reporting status was known. It is worth noting that reporting and convictions in this context refer to clients seen by our service in the year 2007, although the reports and convictions may have occurred in the previous years.

Reporting to Gardaí

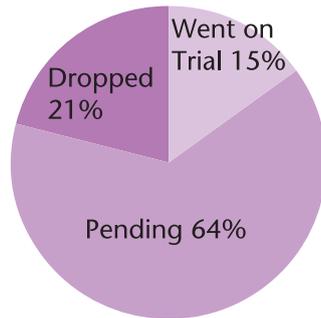
Of the 336 cases where the reporting status was known, 114 cases were reported to the Gardaí. 9 cases were tried, resulting in 7 convictions.

Cases Reported



Recent or past rape accounted for 80% of the 114 cases reported to the Gardaí, while child sexual abuse cases accounted for 20% of reports.

Outcome



Outcome information was known for 61 of the 114 cases reported, as in the diagram.
21% Dropped
15% Went on Trial
64% Pending

Percentage of all* cases reported to Gardaí: **34%**
Percentage of total* CSA cases reported: **18%**
Percentage of total* rape/sexual assaults reported: **43%**

* Refers to the 336 where reporting status was known, 126 of which related to childhood sexual abuse and 210 to adult rape and sexual assault.

Clients who experienced adult rape/sexual assault were more likely to report to the Gardaí than clients who had experienced childhood sexual abuse.

Factors Affecting Rape Reporting

Time interval

Recent rape/sexual assault cases reported	57%
Past rape/sexual assault reported	23%

Clients who sought help for recent rape or sexual assault were almost two and a half times more likely to report to the Gardaí, than clients who had experienced past rape or sexual assault.

Victim / Offender relationship

Clients were more likely to report rape or sexual assault to the Gardaí if the assailant was a stranger rather than someone known to them.

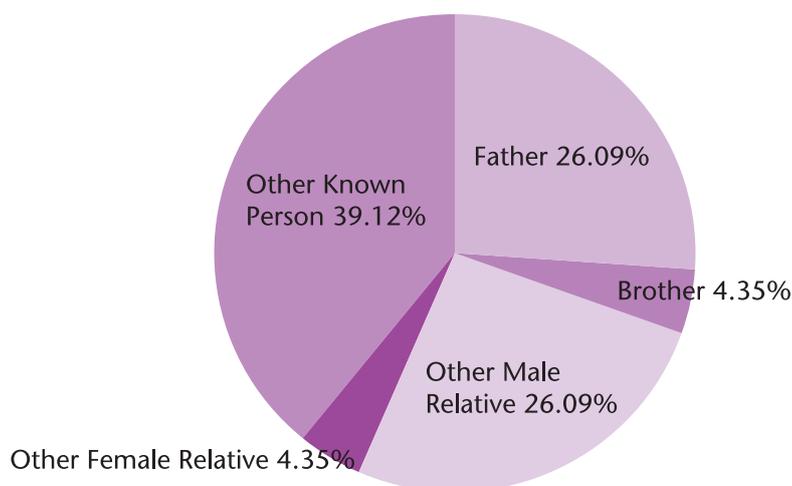
53% of clients raped or sexually assaulted by strangers reported to the Gardaí, while 47% of those raped or sexually assaulted by someone they knew reported.

15

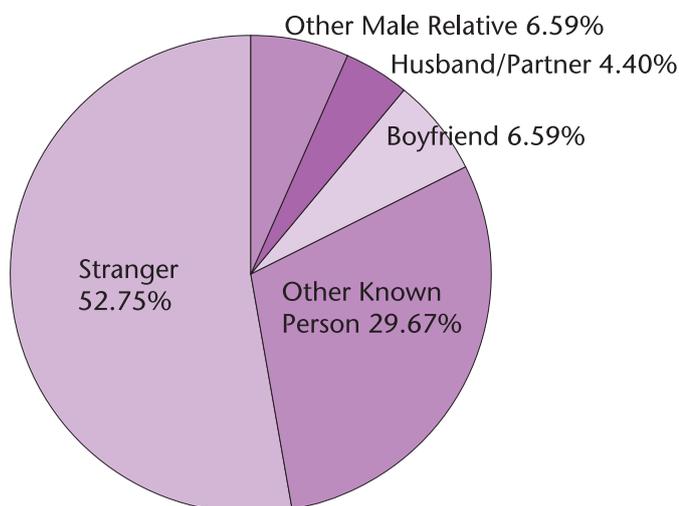
Counselling and Psychotherapy Service
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

In cases reported to the Gardaí, relationship between the victim and the offender, where known

Child Sexual Abuse



Adult Rape / Sexual Assault



16

Education and Training Department
Jan 2007 – Dec 2007

93 days of training were delivered

1,679 professionals and volunteers took part in training programmes

73 school students attended awareness raising programmes

2,392 participant days were provided

The Education and Training Department provides training for professionals and volunteers on working with issues of child sexual abuse, the aftermath of rape and sexual assault, counselling skills and approaches and on preventing and dealing with bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace.

Participants in 2007 included counsellors, psychotherapists, Gardaí, prison officers, youth workers, addiction staff, psychologists, refuge staff, staff of services for immigrants, staff of local authorities, teachers, staff in services for people in homelessness and student welfare officers.

SUPPORT THE DRCC

Join one of our Volunteer Teams. We usually recruit for our volunteer teams twice a year. You can phone or email us for further information.

• • •

Join the *Friends of the Rape Crisis Centre* to help us organise our regular fundraising activities and explore new ideas and events. We are always looking for new and innovative ideas.

• • •

Make a donation, whether that's a one-off contribution or you prefer to set up a monthly standing order with your bank.

• • •

Support one of our regular events with some friends. Maybe some of the current fund-raising events appeal to you as corporate entertainment?

Give us a call at: **01 661 4911**
or email us at: **fundraising@rcc.ie**

• • •

We are here to listen – Your help will make a difference to those who seek our services.

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE LIMITED

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

Profit and Loss Account

for the year ended 31st December 2007

	2007 €	2006 €
INCOME	2,106,297	1,767,578
OVERHEADS	1,992,414	1,617,795
SURPLUS / - DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	113,883	149,783
GOVERNMENT GRANTS AMORTISED	16,012	16,012
	129,895	165,795
BALANCE FORWARD AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	667,712	501,917
BALANCE FORWARD AT END OF YEAR	797,607	667,712

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 28th May 2008

Balance Sheet

as at 31st December 2007

	2007 €	2006 €
ASSETS EMPLOYED		
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	241,077	249,443
CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepaid expenses and receivables	-	1,125
Building account	850,000	-
Cash at bank	342,216	944,383
	1,192,216	945,508
CREDITORS		
(Amounts falling due within 1 year)	-449,866	-332,393
NET CURRENT ASSETS	742,350	613,115
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES	983,427	862,558
REPRESENTED BY:-		
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	185,820	194,846
SURPLUS ON PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	797,607	667,712
	983,427	862,558

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 28th May 2008

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE LIMITED

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds

for the year ended 31st December 2007

SOURCES / APPLICATIONS OF FUNDS	2007 €	2006 €
FUNDING OF ACTIVITIES		
Surplus / - Deficit for the year	129,895	165,795
Add back: Items not involving the use of funds:-		
Depreciation	27,168	27,648
Government grant amortised	-16,012	-16,012
	141,051	177,431
PURCHASE OF FIXED ASSETS		
Government grant received	6,986	
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	129,235	161,436
FINANCED/APPLIED AS FOLLOWS:-		
MOVEMENTS IN WORKING CAPITAL		
Movement in receivables	-1,125	-
Movement in cash at bank	247,833	197,202
Movement in creditors	-117,473	-35,766
	129,235	161,436

Anne Conlon, Director
 Brendan Spring, Director
 28th May 2008

Auditor's Report to the Members

I have audited the financial statements above and opposite in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the statement of the company's affairs at 31st December 2007, and of its results and state of affairs for the year then ended, and give in the requisite manner the information required by the Companies Acts 1963 to 1990. I have obtained all the information and explanations considered necessary for the purposes of my audit. In my opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Dermot J Keogh FCA
 REGISTERED AUDITOR
 28th May 2008