

## Assess Your Knowledge

*Answers to the Domestic and Sexual Violence in the Workplace Online Quiz*

1

### What percentage of employed battered women is harassed at work by abusive partners?

➔ 50 Percent

Some abusive partners may try to stop women from working by calling them frequently during the day or coming to their place of work unannounced. Research indicates that about 50 percent of battered women who are employed are harassed at work by their abusive partners.

U.S. Gen. Accounting Office, GAO/HEHS-99-12, Domestic Violence: Prevalence and Implications for Employment Among Welfare Recipients (1998), available at <http://www.gao.gov/archive/1999/he99012.pdf>.

2

### What percentage of abuse offenders used workplace resources at least once to express remorse or anger, check-up on, pressure, or threaten the victim?

➔ 75 Percent

According to a 2004 Maine study "[a]mong the significant findings reported by offenders: 78 % of [abuse] offenders used workplace resources at least once to express remorse or anger, check-up on, pressure, or threaten the victim. 74 % [of abuse offenders] had easy access to their intimate partner's workplace, with 21% of offenders reporting that they contacted her at the workplace in violation of a no contact order. 48% of [abuse] offenders had difficulty concentrating at work, with 19% of offenders reporting a workplace accident or near miss from inattentiveness due to pre-occupation with their relationship. 42% of [abuse] offenders were late to work."

Kim C. Lim et al., Maine Department of Labor and Family Crisis Services, Impact of Domestic Violence Offenders on Occupational Safety & Health: A Pilot Study (2004), available at [http://www.state.me.us/labor/labor\\_stats/publications/dvreports/domesticoffendersreport.pdf](http://www.state.me.us/labor/labor_stats/publications/dvreports/domesticoffendersreport.pdf).



## The victims in 80 percent of rapes or sexual assaults committed in the workplace are:

### ➔ Female

Women are victims of 80 percent of rapes or sexual assaults in the workplace. Men are the majority of victims of nonfatal workplace violence for all crimes except rape and sexual assault.<sup>1</sup> Female workers are also at risk for nonfatal violence. In 2003, women were victims in 31 percent of workplace assaults.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Detis Duhart, "Violence in the Workplace, 1993-99," (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001), 3, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/vw99.pdf> (accessed October 8, 2009).

<sup>2</sup> Anne B. Hoskins, "Occupational Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities among Women," Monthly Labor Review (October 2005): 35, <http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2005/10/art4full.pdf> (accessed September 9, 2009).



## What is the leading cause of fatal work injuries for women in the United States?

### ➔ Homicide

Homicide is the third leading cause of death on the job for all workers in the United States, and the leading cause for women.<sup>1</sup> In 2009, homicide accounted for 26 percent of all fatal work injuries among female workers.<sup>2</sup> [Firearms related incidents of violence account for a small percentage of all crimes of violence that occur in the workplace, but such crimes have the highest potential for lethality. With the addition of a firearm, in an instant an assault can turn deadly and end in multiple homicides.] For additional information see Firearms Fact Sheet, <http://www.workplacesrespond.org/learn/the-facts/firearms-and-workplace-violence>.

<sup>1</sup> Loomis, Dana, "Preventing Gun Violence in The Workplace," CRISP Report: Connecting Research in Security to Practice, Alexandria, VA: ASIS International Foundation, Inc. (September 8, 2008):1-34.

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries," 11 (2009).



## What percentage of females with developmental disabilities has experienced sexual assault?

➔ 83 Percent

Eighty-three percent of females and 32 percent of males with developmental disabilities have experienced sexual assault.<sup>1</sup> Forty nine percent of victims with developmental disabilities will experience abuse 10 or more times.<sup>2</sup> For additional information see Domestic and Sexual Violence Survivors with Disabilities

<sup>1</sup> Johnson, I., Sigler, R. Forced Sexual Intercourse Among Intimates, Journal of Interpersonal Violence 15(1) (2000).

<sup>2</sup> Valenti-Hein, D., Schwartz, L. The Sexual Abuse Interview for Those with Developmental Disabilities (1995).



## What percentage of United States workplaces does not have a formal program or policy that addresses workplace violence?

➔ More than 70 Percent

More than 70 percent of United States workplaces do not have a formal program or policy that addresses workplace violence. Programs or policies related to workplace violence are more prevalent among larger private establishments or governments.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2006. Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, 2005. Washington, DC. Available at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/osnr0026.pdf>.



## What industry experiences the highest rate of worker homicides?

➔ Retail

Retail industries have both the largest number and the highest rate of worker homicides. The transportation and public administration sectors also have high homicide rates, but the actual numbers are smaller than those for retailers because the number of employees is not as large.

Hartley, D. M., Biddle, E. A., (2005). Societal cost of workplace homicides in the United States, 1992-2001. American Journal of Industrial Medicine, 47, 518-527.



**About 1 in 8 stalking victims misses work as a result of their victimization. How much time is missed by the majority of those who lose work time?**

➔ 5 days

About 1 in 8 employed stalking victims lost time from work because of fear for their safety or because they needed to get a restraining order or testify in court. More than half of these victims lost 5 days or more from work.

Baum, Katrina, Catalano, Shannan, Rand, Michael and Rose, Kristina. 2009. Stalking Victimization in the United States. U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics. Available at <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/stalking-victimization.pdf>.



**Men are much more likely than women to be victims of on-the-job intimate partner homicide.**

➔ False

Women are much more likely than men to be victims of on-the-job intimate partner homicide. Spouses, boyfriends/girlfriends and ex-boyfriends/ex-girlfriends were responsible for the on-the-job deaths of 321 women (89.4%) and 38 men (10.6%) from 1997-2009, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2010. Occupational Homicides by Selected Characteristics, 1997-2009. Available at [http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/cfoi/work\\_hom.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/cfoi/work_hom.pdf).



## What are common forms of stalking in the workplace?

- ➔ All of the above (E-mails/Instant messaging, Gifts and Driving through the parking lot looking for the victim's car)

Within the workplace, stalking victims are commonly harassed via letters, e-mails, gifts, and phone calls. Common workplace stalking behaviors also include driving through the parking lot looking for the victim's car, and watching for the victim to enter and leave the workplace each day. If the stalker works within the same organization as the victim (internal), behaviors may extend to monitoring the victim's workstation, leaving gifts on the victim's desk, or taking "souvenirs" from the victim's belongings. The internal workplace stalker often has the ability to observe many of the workplace social interactions of the victim, and in some cases may even attempt to gain access to confidential personnel files to obtain more information about his/her target.

Beatty, Gregorie Beatty. (2002) Guidebook to provide information and recommendations for effective response to workplace stalking, Section 4: Stalking in the Workplace, p.28 Available at: [http://www.doc.sc.gov/victim\\_services/WorkplaceStalking.doc](http://www.doc.sc.gov/victim_services/WorkplaceStalking.doc).