

# **“They have themselves to blame”**

**The read thread in the lives of women who have been  
raped**

**„My Body My Own” – sexual violence among youth**

Sibiu, May 14th 2014

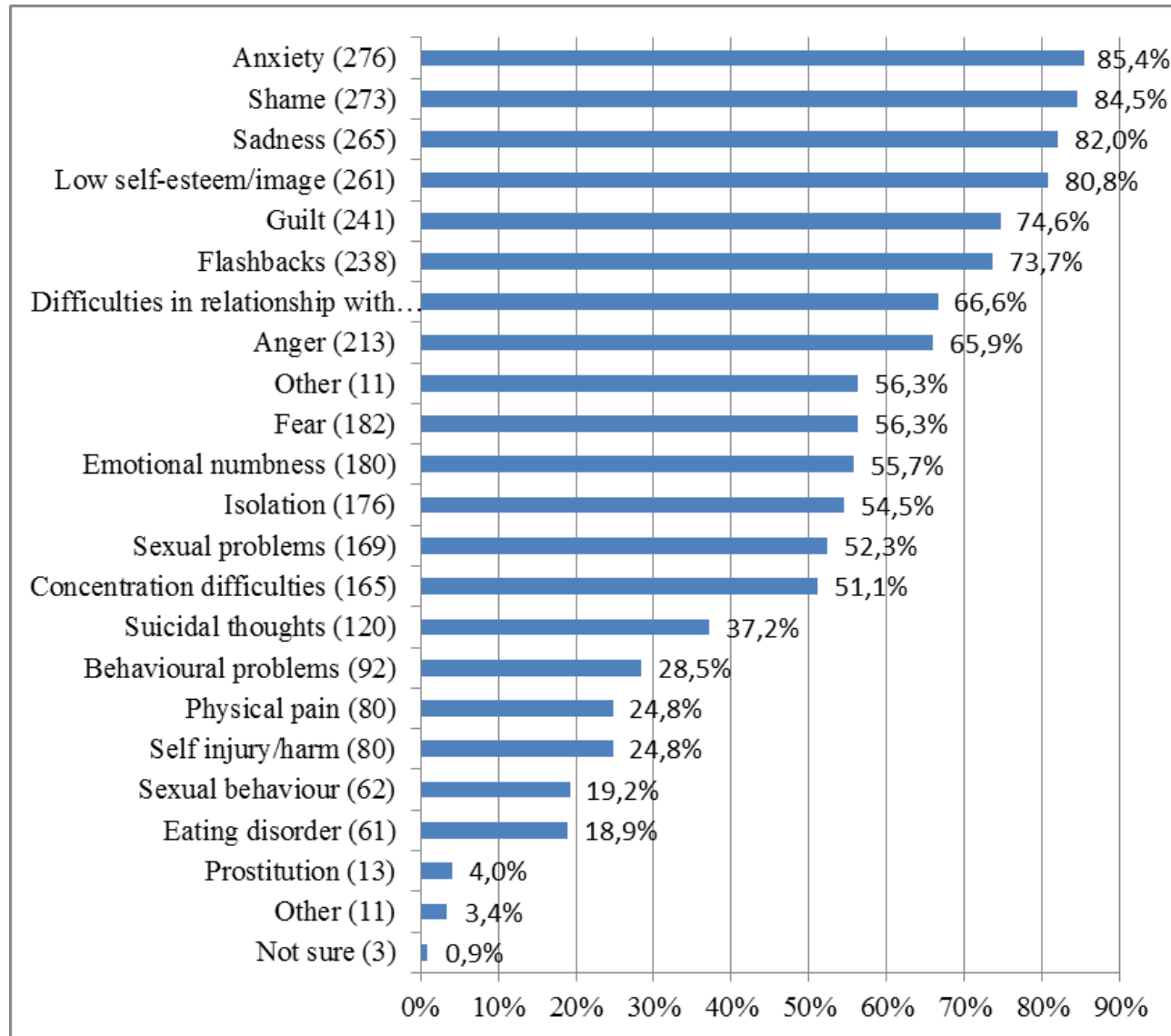
Guðrún Jónsdóttir, Spokeswoman of Stigamot

# The public opinion towards raped women

(Opinion pool in UK 2005, by Amnesty International)

- One third; women who flirt bear part of, or the whole responsibility.
- One third think the same about women who are drunk
- One forth; provocatively dressed women can thank them selves, at least partly.
- 15%; women with rumour of being promiscuous have some responsibility
- 8%; promiscuous women have the whole responsibility if they are raped.

# The most common consequences of violence at Stigamot 2012



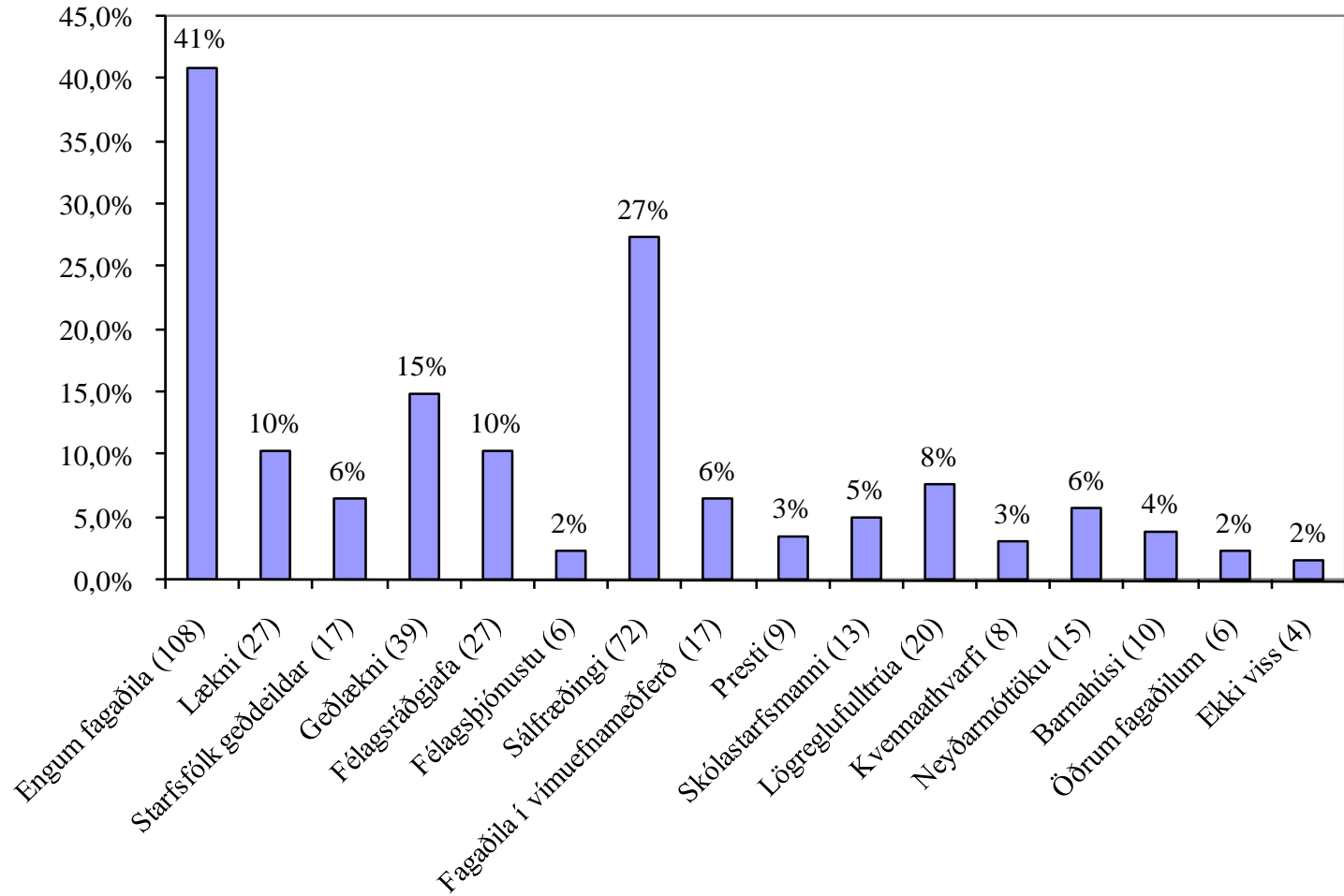
# What do the Sigamot women think?

An e-mail from the every day life at Stígamót:

*”Good morning. I want to ask about your work. Can anyone come and talk to somebody at Stigamot?*

*Even though the person was drunk when she was raped?’*

# Where have our people got help before they came to Stigamot 2012





# The hidden agenda, the narrow focus

By the time they reach eighteen,




one of them will have been subjected to sexual abuse.

**Z**  
ZERO TOLERANCE

FROM FLASHING TO RAPE – MALE ABUSE OF POWER IS A CRIME  
For Information Help and Advice ring : 620950

From three to ninety three,




women are raped.

**Z**  
ZERO TOLERANCE

HUSBAND, FATHER, STRANGER – MALE ABUSE OF POWER IS A CRIME  
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She lives with  
a successful businessman, loving father  
and respected member of the community.



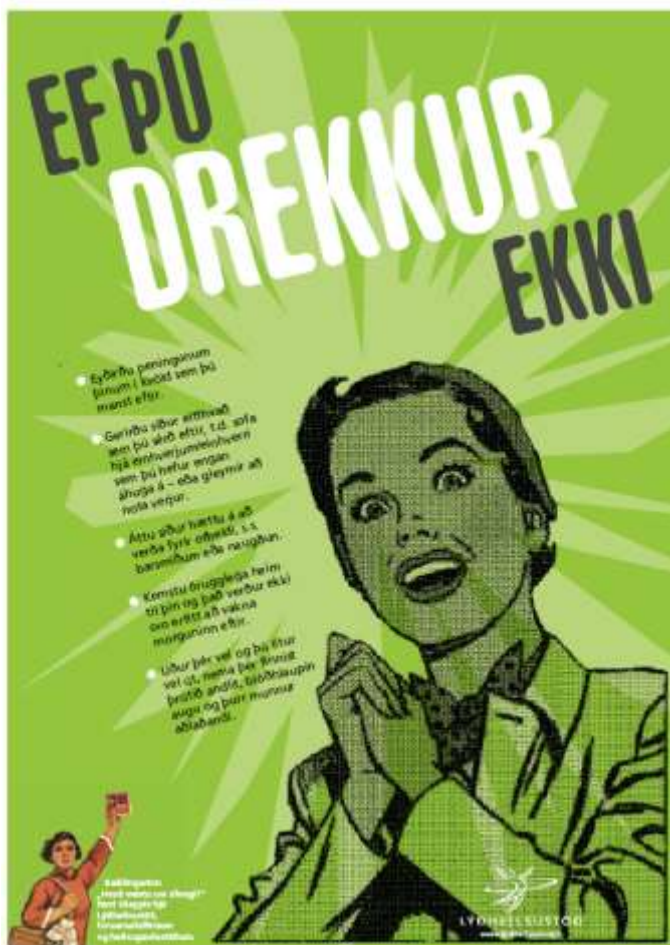
Last week he hospitalised her.

**Z**  
ZERO TOLERANCE

EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, SEXUAL – MALE ABUSE OF POWER IS A CRIME  
For Information Help and Advice ring : 620950

# From Iceland's Health Organisation:

Aimed at young people to prevent them from drinking alcohol (April 2009)



## EF ÞÚ DREKKUR EKKI

- Eyðirðu peningunum þínum í kvöld sem þú manst eftir.
- Gerirðu síður athvöð sem þú skib eftir, t.d. sofa hjá einhverjum/öðrum sem þú hefur engan áhuga á – eða gleymir að nota verjur.
- Attu síður hættu á að verða fyrir ofbeldi, s.s. barnmáttum eða nauðgun.
- Kemstu örugglega heim til þín og það verður ekki ómóttuð að vakna morguninn eftir.
- Líður þér vel og þú lítur vel út, nema þér finnst þrúðið andlit, blóðhlaupin augu og þurr munnur aðlaðandi.

Stofnun  
Landlæknisráðs Íslands  
Lifun og heilbrigði  
Lifun og heilbrigði

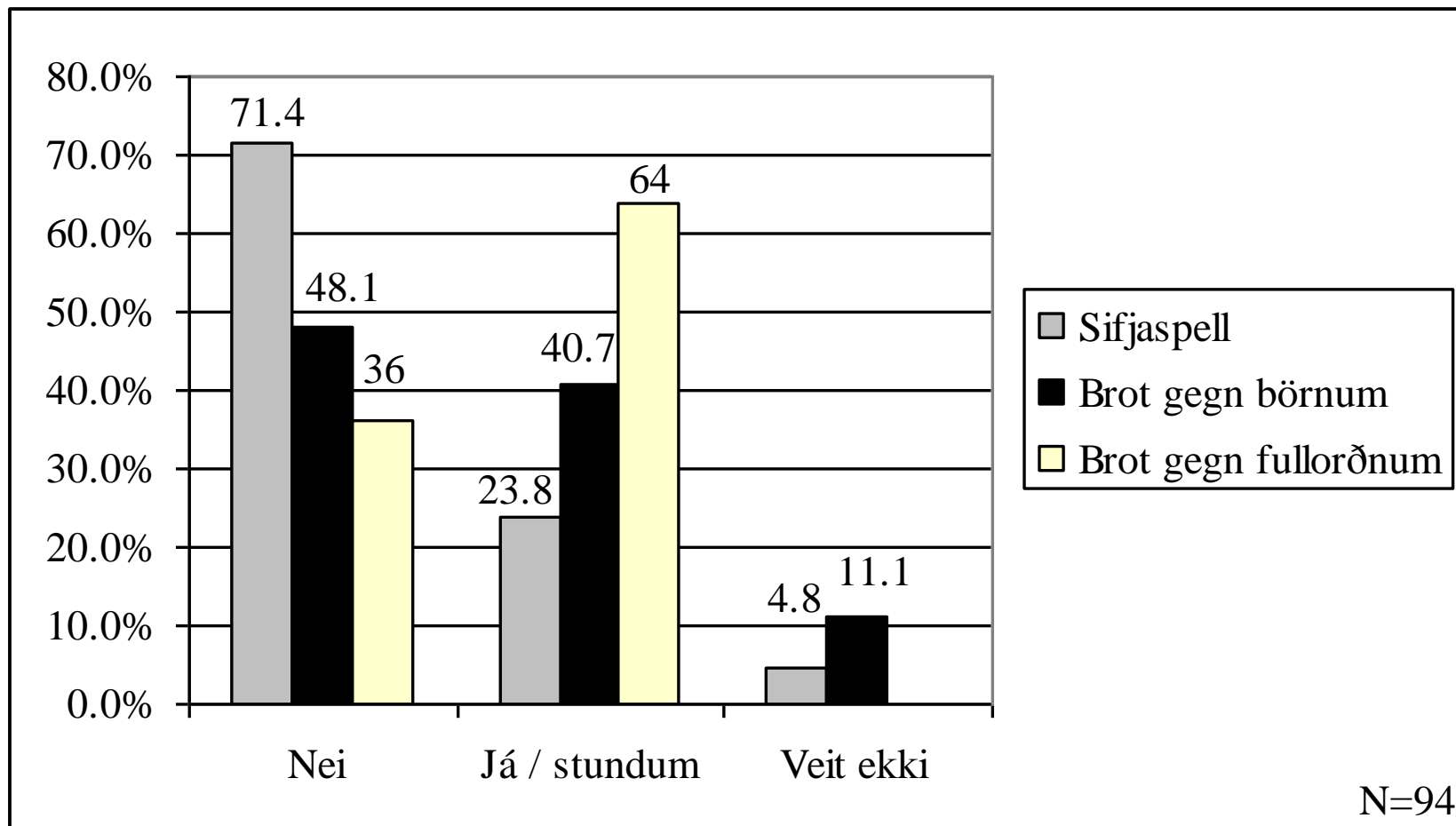


## EF ÞÚ DREKKUR EKKI

- Eyðirðu peningunum þínum í kvöld sem þú manst eftir.
- Gerirðu síður eitthvað sem þú sérð eftir seinna, t.d. sofa hjá einhverjum/einverri sem þú hefur engan áhuga á – eða gleymir að nota verjur.
- Kemstu örugglega heim til þín og það verður ekki svo erfitt að vakna morguninn eftir.
- Attu síður hættu á að verða fyrir ofbeldi.
- Líður þér vel morguninn eftir og litur vel út, nema þér finnst þrúðið andlit, blóðhlaupin augu og þurr munnur aðlaðandi.
- Ertu betur á þig komin/n líkamlega. Afengisdrykkja skemmir vöðva sem þú þarfnast í íþróttum eða í líkamsræktinni.
- Kemstu hjá því að æla.



# The connection between use of alcohol and violence for rapists (HM og KE 2006)



# What has the police got to say?

## Chief of police department for sexual crimes

16.08.2010 DV

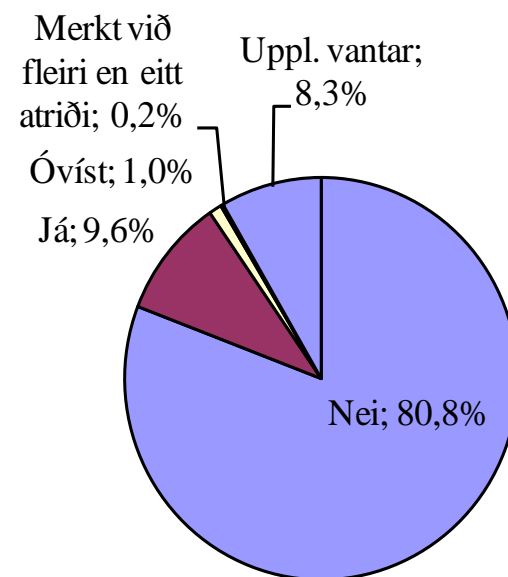


- Those cases are often connected to heavy use of alcohol, and no one is to blame but those who put themselves in harm's way. It is difficult, how common it is, that people always point at someone else, in an effort to hold them responsible. People should maybe more often turn the focus on themselves and take the responsibility.

# Reported cases 2012

„Everything is reported nowadays“ The State attorney Aug. 2011

	Fjöldi	Hlutfall
Nei	388	80,8%
Já	46	9,6%
Óvíst	5	1,0%
Merkt við fleiri en eitt atriði	1	0,2%
Uppl. vantar	40	8,3%
Alls	480	100%



# Women's reasons for not reporting rape

(H.M. Og K.E 2006)

Reasons:	Crime against a child			
	Incest	Rape	Total	
I was ashamed	<b>44.10%</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>85.00%</b>	65.80%
I thought it was my fault	29.40%	47.4%	<b>75.00%</b>	46.60%
I did not dare to describe it	11.80%	10.5%	35.00%	17.80%
I was afraid of revenge	11.80%	15.8%	30.00%	18.10%
I was afraid of the social consequences	2.90%	<b>47.4%</b>	10.00%	16.40%
I was afraid of physical consequences	5.90%	5.30%	<b>40.00%</b>	15.10%
The case is past statute of limitation	<b>41.20%</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	15.00%	31.50%

# Amnesty for perpetrators?

Report from the State Prosecutors Office 2007, 2 x five year periods  
similar all over Europe

## 2002 -2006

714 Rapes at Stigamot

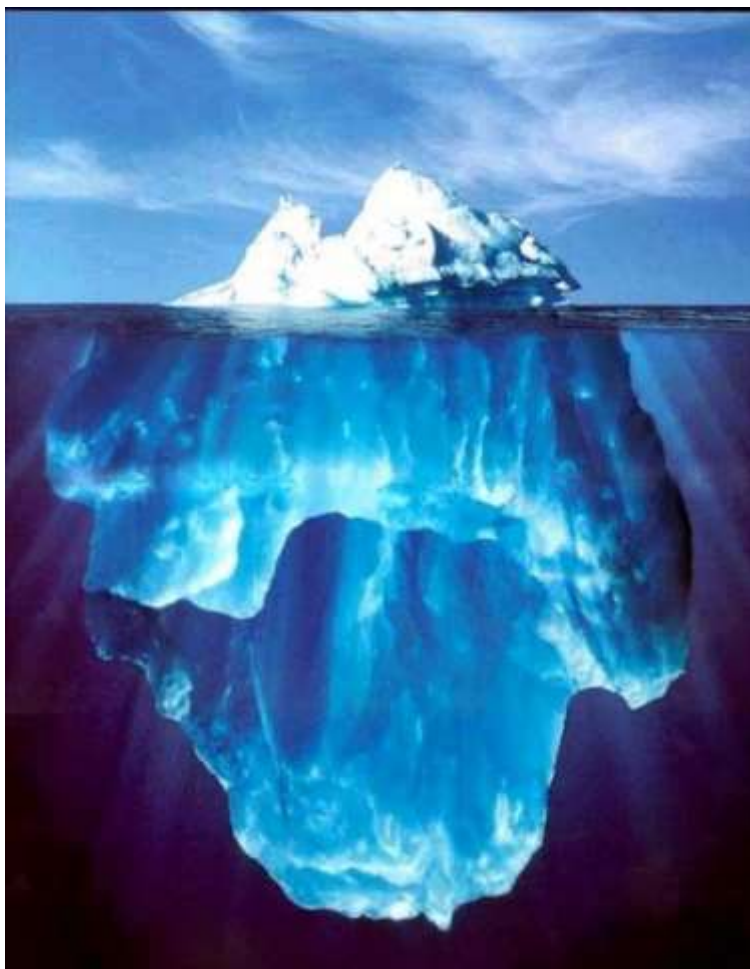
- 156 cases to prosecutors
- 105 dismissed
- 51 prosecutions
- 24 convictions in Municipal court
- The top 8 cases a year 14 convictions í Supreme court
- Most 3 per year

## 1997-2001

408 Rapes at Stigamot

- 80 cases to prosecutors
- 55 dismissed
- 25 prosecutions
- 15 conviction in Municipal court.
- Most 4 per year
- 9 convictions í Supreme court
- Most 3 per year

# “The alleged rapes”



## 2002 -2006

- 714 rapes at Stígamót,
- 617 at Rape Crises Unit = 1331
- Total number is unknown
- 156 to the prosecutors
- 105 dropped
- 51 prosecutions
- 24 sentences in county court
- Most 8 pr. year (2006)
- 14 sentences in Supreme court
- Most 3 a year



# Stereotypes and men's violence against women



- Myths and clichés about gender based violence, about the perpetrators and their victims, are not innocent ignorance, they are misleading and harmful
- So are silencing and invisibility
- The stereotypes promote the misconception that women and children are to bear the shame and guilt
- It stops them from seeking help and report the violence
- The myths justify the violence and minimize the perpetrators responsibility
- They promote the perpetrators “innocence” and prevent them from being reported or sentenced
- It will cost unpopularity to fight them. But it has to be done if we want to succeed and women are to be taken seriously



# We should change the agenda

- A holistic view,
- Statistics should include perpetrators, our employers
- Pictures unveil the level of consciousness
- So does use of words “violence against women”, “domestic violence”
- Eliminate women’s shame, guilt and low self esteem
- Preventive work should be aimed at boys and men in a positive way
- For every victim of violence, there is at least one perpetrator – that should be made visible
- The perpetrators are our real employers in the shelter movement
- Rape can never be the victims fault



# Greetings from Stigamot

