

## WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

**The “recent”( and, to me, unfortunate) DoD decision to open military combat roles to women will not change the basic near-term sociological problem of “Women In The Military”as presented here.**

**A Quick Summary... quick notes from the following 100 references:**

- While a few years ago *shocking* statistics showed that 1 in 5 women in college (20%) were raped and President Obama announced he's putting together a task force to stop the crisis of sexual assaults on college campuses, few realize that a Veteran Administration study of female veterans revealed that no matter what military branch, 30% of these women had experienced similar situations during active duty, but few “reported” these offenses, one reason being that they’d have to report the abuse to their abuser.

**President Obama just announced that he is taking major action against sexual assault by creating a presidential task force to fight rape on college campuses.**

Having the President on “our side” is huge at a moment when sexual assault on college campuses has reached an epidemic level. Right now, 1 in 5 women will be assaulted or raped during college.

For over a year now, the UltraViolet community has been taking action together to tackle rape culture and stand up for survivors. Together with our allies, we've helped bring the epidemic of sexual assault on college campuses into the spotlight and called on the Administration to address it.

Presidential commissions have a mixed record--some have faded into historical footnotes, while others have changed the course of our country's history.

- Since there are hidden sanctions against those military women that report sexual abuse of any kind, many Pentagon personnel believe that 30% figure (of *reported* abuses) is VERY CONSERVATIVE and could well be between 50% and 60%., or MORE.
- Women have been prosecuted for attempting to protect themselves, then assigned to work for the same individuals that abused them.
- A ver4y senior Army sergeant is acquitted in a sexual abuse case where he admitted he was guilty.
- “Command Rape” is a commonly-known term in all branches (note the first bullet), where those in a command situations take advantage of those in the lower ranks.

... and on and on

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## **1. A Rape a Minute, a Thousand Corpses a Year: Hate Crimes in America (and Elsewhere)**

Thursday, 24 January 2013 10:39 By Rebecca Solnit, TomDispatch | News Analysis

<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/14110-a-rape-a-minute-a-thousand-corpses-a-year-hate-crimes-in-america-and-elsewhere>

Protesters on Sunday, December 21 in Delhi protest for justice for Jyoti Singh Pandey. (Photo: ramesh\_lalwani / flickr) Here in the United States, where there is a reported rape every 6.2 minutes, and one in five women will be raped in her lifetime, the rape and gruesome murder of a young woman on a bus in New Delhi on December 16th was treated as an exceptional incident. The story of the alleged rape of an unconscious teenager by members of the Steubenville High School football team was still unfolding, and gang rapes aren't that unusual here either. Take your pick: some of the 20 men who gang-raped an 11-year-old in Cleveland, Texas, were sentenced in November, while the instigator of the gang rape of a 16-year-old in Richmond, California, was sentenced in October, and four men who gang-raped a 15-year-old near New Orleans were sentenced in April, though the six men who gang-raped a 14-year-old in Chicago last fall are still at large. Not that I actually went out looking for incidents: they're everywhere in the news, though no one adds them up and indicates that there might actually be a pattern.

There is, however, a pattern of violence against women that's broad and deep and horrific and incessantly overlooked. Occasionally, a case involving a celebrity or lurid details in a particular case get a lot of attention in the media, but such cases are treated as anomalies, while the abundance of incidental news items about violence against women in this country, in other countries, on every continent including Antarctica, constitute a kind of background wallpaper for the news.

## **2. Fw: Despite his admission, US Army Command Sergeant Major (E-9) acquitted in sex case**

## **3. AF: 31 Victims So Far in Sex Scandal**

Associated Press| by Lolita C. Baldor and Paul J. Weber, Jun 29, 2012

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2012/06/29/af-says-31-victims-so-far-in-sex-scandal.html?ESRC=airforce-a.nl>

WASHINGTON -- At least 31 female trainees have been identified as victims in a widening sex scandal targeting a dozen instructors at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, the Air Force revealed

Thursday, providing new details in an investigation that has rocked the service's training command.

Six of the 12 instructors under investigation for misconduct face charges ranging from rape to adultery. A senior Air Force commander said nine of those instructors were in the same squadron, briefing reporters at the Pentagon at the same time that one of the accused appeared in a Lackland courtroom.

#### **4. AF Changes Policies After Sex Scandal**

Paul J. Weber, Associated Press| Oct 03, 2012

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2012/10/03/lawmaker-af-changes-policies-after-sex-scandal.html?ESRC=airforce-a.nl>

AUSTIN, Texas -- The Air Force is responding to a sex scandal at its training headquarters by reducing instructors' working hours and cracking down on even those who swear at recruits, a lawmaker said Tuesday.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said she was encouraged policy changes at Lackland Air Force Base following a tour and meetings with commanders but remained concerned with whether the changes will stick. She said the goal is to reverse a culture of intimidation that left some trainees afraid to speak up.

#### **5. Air Force Chief Pleads Guilty to Sexual Misconduct**

Associated Press, January 25, 2011

<http://www.military.com/news/article/air-force-chief-pleads-guilty-to-sexual-misconduct.html?ESRC=airforce.nl>

MASCOUTAH, Ill. - A senior Ohio Air Force base official pleaded guilty on Monday to sexual misconduct and adultery, blaming extramarital affairs he had with married female subordinates and inappropriate sexual advances he made toward others on getting "caught up in a cycle of sin."

Chief Master Sgt. William Gurney was the senior enlisted man at the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, when allegations of sexual impropriety surfaced in 2009.

#### **6. Air Force Sexual Assault Hotline**

Week of October 29, 2012

<http://www.military.com/military-report/air-force-sexual-assault-hotline?ESRC=miltrep.nl>

Airmen, separated and still serving, who graduated from basic military training and technical training during the past 10 years were recently sent an email message about an activated sexual assault hotline. The hotline is for any Airman who is a victim of sexual misconduct. The released email encourages the recipient to share any known information regarding any incident of sexual assault, sexual harassment, or unprofessional relationships that occurred in basic military training and technical training. Reports can be made anonymously. For more information, call the Air Education and Training Command (AETC) team, 24/7, at DSN 487-0008 or (210) 652-0008.

### **7. Alleged sex assaults by drill sergeant the latest in a long line during military training**

By Dan Lamothe, May 30, 2014

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/alleged-sex-assaults-by-drill-sergeant-the-latest-in-a-long-line-during-military-training/2014/05/30/32a142ec-e767-11e3-afc6-a1dd9407abcf\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/alleged-sex-assaults-by-drill-sergeant-the-latest-in-a-long-line-during-military-training/2014/05/30/32a142ec-e767-11e3-afc6-a1dd9407abcf_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

The alleged sexual assault of numerous female trainees by an Army drill sergeant in Missouri has underscored two persistent points of contention in the military: whether the Pentagon has done enough to vet troops who oversee introductory training, and whether men should supervise female trainees at all.

The questions arise anew after the latest set of allegations against a U.S. service member responsible for training subordinate female troops. Army Staff Sgt. Angel M. Sanchez faces a possible court-martial for numerous alleged actions, including forcing recruits to perform oral sex and raping a female soldier while in Afghanistan between March 2011 and March 2012. He appeared at a pretrial hearing on the base that concluded on Wednesday.

### **8. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE 43:262–273 (2003)**

Factors Associated With Women's Risk of Rape in the Military Environment

Anne G. Sadler, R.N., PhD, 1\_ Brenda M. Booth, PhD, Brian L. Cook, DO, MSc, and Bradley N. Doebbeling, MD, MSc

**Background:** Health hazards specific to women workers have not been adequately documented. This study assessed military environmental factors associated with rape occurring during military service, while controlling for pre-military trauma experiences. **Methods:** A national cross-sectional survey of 558 women veterans serving in Vietnam or in subsequent eras was obtained through structured telephone interviews.

### **9. America's universities: where you're all too likely to be sexually assaulted**

How many more victims have to speak out before US universities and the federal government take meaningful action?

Sofie Karasek, theguardian.com, Tuesday 4 March 2014 08.30 EST

[http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/04/sexual-health-sex?CMP=ema\\_565](http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/04/sexual-health-sex?CMP=ema_565)

You are more likely to be sexually assaulted if you attend university than if you do not  
Photograph: Christopher Thomond

Last Wednesday, 31 students filed two federal complaints against the University of California, Berkeley for failing to prevent, investigate, or discipline assailants in cases of sexual violence and harassment. I was one of the students. While our individual stories are unique, our experiences of sexual assault are all too common at universities across the United States.

My second semester at Berkeley, I was sexually assaulted on an off-campus trip with a student organization. I had never been involved in the group before that weekend in February 2012, whereas, my assailant was a leader in the group and older than me.

## **10. Amid Criticism, Pentagon Is Seeking Overhaul of the Court-Martial System**

By CHARLIE SAVAGE, Published: April 8, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/09/us/politics/pentagon-to-ask-congress-to-overhaul-court-martial-system.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130409&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/09/us/politics/pentagon-to-ask-congress-to-overhaul-court-martial-system.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130409&_r=0)

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's request to Congress comes after scrutiny of the military's handling of sexual assault cases.

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon announced Monday that it would ask Congress to overhaul the court-martial system used to prosecute the nearly 5,000 service members annually accused of crimes, scaling back the power of senior commanders to overturn convictions and dismiss charges.

The proposal comes amid sharp criticism from advocacy groups and Congress over how the military has handled a series of sexual assault cases, including a decision by an Air Force commander, Lt. Gen. Craig A. Franklin, to dismiss the conviction of Lt. Col. James Wilkerson, who was found guilty in November of aggravated sexual assault and sentenced to one year in military prison.

## **11. Armed Forces Network**

STOP airing Rush Limbaugh

Armed Forces Network (afrtops1@dma.mil),

When the DoD has been proven to be having significant trouble with MST within the military, allowing someone such as Limbaugh to spout the garbage that he has, can only ADD to the disrespect women in uniform face, historically and even today.

Our entire military depends on troops respecting each other—women and men. There is no place on military airwaves for sentiments that undermine that respect. Many of our female troops use birth control, and for Limbaugh to say they are “sluts” and “prostitutes” is COMPLETELY unacceptable.

I would far rather my tax dollars SUPPORT servicewomen and women veterans on this network, rather than denigrating them. STOP airing Rush Limbaugh's radio program.

Don Chapin

Capt., USAF, Ret'd

## **12. Army Chaplain Gets Six Months in Sex Case**

Military.com| by Richard Sisk Jun 24, 2013

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2013/06/24/army-chaplain-gets-six-months-in-sex-case.html?ESRC=dod.nl>

The wave of sexual assaults and harassment that the high command has described as a "crisis" for the military has now reached into the Chaplains Corps.

At Fort Bliss, Tex., last week, Maj. Geoffrey Alleyne, a chaplain and 24-year Army veteran, was sentenced by a court-martial jury to six months in jail for repeatedly groping a civilian employee at the West Texas base.

Following the conviction and sentencing the victim in the case went public to charge that her long-standing complaints about Alleyne's attempts to fondle and kiss her were initially ignored by base officials and other chaplains. "He might have been sentenced and going to jail but I lost," Michelle Ten Eyck told KFOX 14 news in El Paso, Texas.

Ten Eyck said her experience led her to believe that the military justice system is incapable of dealing with the wave of sexual assaults, harassment and unwanted sexual contacts. She said that legal authority in sex abuse cases should be taken out of the chain of command.

### **13. Army drill sergeant accused of numerous sex assaults in Afghanistan and Missouri**

By Dan Lamothe, Published: May 28

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/army-drill-sergeant-accused-of-numerous-sex-assaults-in-afghanistan-and-missouri/2014/05/28/07fbb4c2-e69b-11e3-a86b-362fd5443d19\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/army-drill-sergeant-accused-of-numerous-sex-assaults-in-afghanistan-and-missouri/2014/05/28/07fbb4c2-e69b-11e3-a86b-362fd5443d19_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

An Army staff sergeant is accused of sexually assaulting several female soldiers since 2011, including at least one while he was deployed to Afghanistan and others more recently while he served as a drill sergeant, according to military officials and court documents.

The accusations are detailed in a charging document filed against Staff Sgt. Angel M. Sanchez, who appeared at a pretrial hearing at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri on Wednesday, a proceeding that could lead to a court-martial later this year. Sanchez has served at the base since August, training new soldiers with the 14th Military Police Brigade.

### **14. Army's top sex-crimes prosecutor faces groping allegation**

By Craig Whitlock, Thursday, March 6, 10:07 AM

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/armys-top-sex-crimes-prosecutor-faces-groping-allegation/2014/03/06/50d5bad8-a552-11e3-84d4-e59b1709222c\\_story.html?tid=up\\_next](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/armys-top-sex-crimes-prosecutor-faces-groping-allegation/2014/03/06/50d5bad8-a552-11e3-84d4-e59b1709222c_story.html?tid=up_next)

The Army is investigating its top sex-crimes prosecutor on allegations that he groped a female lawyer at a sexual-assault conference in 2011, Army officials disclosed Thursday.

Lt. Col. Joseph Morse, who supervises 23 other special-victims prosecutors for the Army, was recently placed under criminal investigation after the female lawyer reported the alleged 2011 incident, officials said. News of the case was first reported Thursday by Stars and Stripes, a newspaper that covers military affairs.

Morse has not been charged in the case, but the revelation is the latest blow to the Pentagon as it struggles to cope with what some leaders have acknowledged is an epidemic of sexual assaults in the ranks.

### **15. Broken Military Justice**

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD, Published: October 8, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/09/opinion/broken-military-justice.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20131009&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/09/opinion/broken-military-justice.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20131009&r=0)

The abusive grilling last month of a female midshipman in a case involving three former United States Naval Academy football players provided further evidence that the military's handling of sexual assault complaints is seriously flawed.

The woman, who has accused the three athletes of raping her at an alcohol-fueled "yoga and toga" party, was interrogated for about 30 hours over several days. Defense lawyers asked her questions that were irrelevant to the alleged crime and unlikely to be allowed in civilian courts, like whether she wore a bra.

#### **16. Camp Victory getting ready to close (a notorious sexual abuse base – Item # 40)**

Camp Victory, the U.S. military headquarters in Iraq, getting ready to close

By the end of the year, the U.S. military presence at the sprawling Baghdad base known as Camp Victory will become a thing of the past, as the remaining 24,000 troops depart.

By Annie Gowen, Published: Sep 12 | Updated: Thursday, Sep 15, 2011

At CAMP VICTORY, Iraq — An unlikely quiet hangs over Camp Victory these days, broken only by a rare blast of rocket fire.

This base — the headquarters of the U.S. military in Iraq — was once a city unto itself, teeming with 46,000 troops and four-star generals plotting their next moves from Saddam Hussein's old palaces.

In a few short months, the American military presence here will be history; the tanks, weapons, computers and personnel all shipped out; the gates locked and the keys turned over to the Iraqi government.

Already, only 24,000 troops remain on the base, and the amenities that once made this the most American of outposts in Iraq — the Cinnabon, Subway and Burger King kiosks, as well as the PXs that sold everything from microwaves to thong underwear — are rapidly closing.

A sign tacked up recently in the restroom near one of the last remaining mess halls reads, "Due to the drawdown the maid has been fired. Therefore clean up after yourself!!"

"This whole place is becoming a ghost town," said Lt. Col. Sean Wilson, a public affairs officer for the Army, who lives on base. "You get the feeling you're the last person on Earth."

Like so many before them, several of the troops charged with the historic task of shutting down Camp Victory are just marking their time before their tour ends and they ship out. Others, however, are keenly aware of their role in this, the finale of the U.S. occupation here.

## **17. CDC: Nearly 1 in 5 women have been raped (versus 1 in 3 in the military)**

By Elahe Izadi September 5, 2014

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2014/09/05/cdc-nearly-1-in-5-women-have-been-raped/?tid=hpModule\\_9d3add6c-8a79-11e2-98d9-3012c1cd8d1e&hpid=z13](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2014/09/05/cdc-nearly-1-in-5-women-have-been-raped/?tid=hpModule_9d3add6c-8a79-11e2-98d9-3012c1cd8d1e&hpid=z13)

An estimated 19.3 percent of women have been raped at one point in their lives. That's according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which Friday released results from a 2011 survey.

Additionally, nearly 2 percent of men have been raped; nearly 44 percent of women and 23 percent of men have experienced some other form of sexual violence; and 15 percent of women and nearly 6 percent have men have been stalked.

Sexual violence other than rape includes sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact and non-contact unwanted sexual experiences.

"A substantial proportion of U.S. female and male adults have experienced some form of sexual violence, stalking, or intimate partner violence at least once during their lifetimes," the CDC report notes. "Consistent with previous studies, the overall pattern of results suggest that women, in particular, are heavily impacted over their lifetime. However, the results also indicate that many men experience sexual violence, stalking, and, in particular, physical violence by an intimate partner."

## **18. Combat Vet Says Gender Bias Led To Untreated PTSD**

by Terry Gildea, March 21, 2010

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=124500733>

According to recent VA statistics, PTSD and depression are the top disability claims among America's female veterans — many of whom served in Iraq and Afghanistan. But many of them have trouble proving that they saw combat — a key to getting treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Right: Staff Sgt. Marti Ribeiro interviews an Army sergeant while embedded with a combat unit in Afghanistan.

## **19. Conduct Unbecoming of the US Army**

Anonymous, New America Media, Commentary, Posted: Dec 03, 2009

[http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view\\_article.html?article\\_id=72a3b616dda6193f17ac290aad0b6f48](http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view_article.html?article_id=72a3b616dda6193f17ac290aad0b6f48)

Editor's Note: A soldier is betrayed first by her friend and comrade, then by her command. "Anonymous" recounts her determination to prevail over evil and indifference for the Veterans Workshop, a New America Media writing project for combat veterans.

"Administrative discharge."

The words stung, like I had just been slapped or spit upon. I couldn't follow the rest of the lieutenant colonel's words. Only that the man who raped me was being given an honorable discharge.

## **20. Documentary film 'The Invisible War' takes on military sexual assault 'epidemic'**

Director Kirby Dick and producer Amy Ziering share details from their documentary, "The Invisible War," which looks into the thousands of rapes and sexual assaults in the military. Wes Moore joins the Morning Joe panel to continue the conversation.

By Rebecca Ruiz, June 21, 2012,

<http://www.source.ly/10Pk7#.T-UJhMXNIIE>

[http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2012/06/21/12304042-documentary-film-the-invisible-war-takes-on-military-sexual-assault-epidemic#comments](http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/06/21/12304042-documentary-film-the-invisible-war-takes-on-military-sexual-assault-epidemic#comments)

In "The Invisible War," a new documentary on sexual assault in the military, service people repeatedly share a version of the same story. Subject after subject describes a harrowing assault, the intimidation and retaliation that often followed, and the failure of an institution to hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes.

"It was uncanny, chilling and disturbing," Amy Ziering, a producer for the film, told msnbc.com. "I would do interview after interview and these women who never met each other and served in different branches would tell almost identical stories."

## **21. DOD: Reported sexual assaults up at 3 academies**

December 27, 2011, 8:16 PM

[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201\\_162-57348990/dod-reported-sexual-assaults-up-at-3-academies/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201_162-57348990/dod-reported-sexual-assaults-up-at-3-academies/)

A groundsman cleans off the Indian Warrior Tecumseh statue at Tecumseh Court on the grounds of the US Naval Academy as tourist and cadets pass by in Annapolis, MD, August 12, 2010. (JIM WATSON/AFP/Getty Images)

(AP) ANNAPOLIS, Md. - The number of reported sexual assaults at the nation's three major military academies rose overall in the latest academic year from one year earlier, according to a report released Tuesday by the Pentagon.

The Defense Department's "Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies" for academic year 2010-2011 found there were 65 reports of sexual assault involving cadets and midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Air Force Academy. That was up from 41 reports of sexual assaults in the prior academic year.

## **22. DOD under fire for farming out sex-assault survey**

By DARREN SAMUELSON | Updated: 4/29/14 5:40 PM EDT

<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/04/new-military-sexual-assault-survey-questioned-106148.html>

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand raises complicate concerns over the new survey. | Getty

The Defense Department is contracting out a high-profile survey on sexual assaults, raising alarm with a top Senate critic that the changes will obscure the military's work in cleaning up its ranks.

Pentagon officials confirmed Tuesday they've entered into a deal with the RAND Corp. to take over the biennial study of gender issues for active duty military members — and those results will be sent to President Barack Obama by the end of the year. The last version of that report counted an estimated 26,000 unwanted sexual contacts in 2012 and gave victim advocates a powerful data point as they pushed Congress and the White House to make major changes to the military justice system.

## **23. Female Soldiers Treated 'Lower Than Dirt'**

By Rose Aguilar, AlterNet

Posted on July 14, 2006, Printed on February 11, 2009

<http://www.alternet.org/story/38942/>

U.S. Army Specialist Suzanne Swift will spend her 22nd birthday tomorrow confined to the Fort Lewis base in Washington, where she is awaiting the outcome of an investigation into allegations that she was sexually harassed and assaulted by three sergeants in Iraq.

Swift says the sergeants propositioned her for sex shortly after arriving for her first tour of duty in February 2004. She remained in Iraq until February 2005. "When you are over there, you are lower than dirt; you are expendable as a soldier in general, and as a woman, it's worse," said Swift in a recent interview with the Guardian.

#### **24. Female Vets Struggling to Get Treatment for PTSD**

Jean Elle for NBC News, Published on Monday, April 13, 2009

<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2009/04/13-3>

The war in Iraq has been now been raging for six years.

It's the first war where women in the U.S. military are in combat roles.

Even years after serving in Iraq, female veterans are still adjusting to civilian life.

At a women's veterans art show in San Francisco vets say the six year anniversary of the war brings back painful memories.

"The 6 year anniversary has me thinking about the friends that I lost. And the friends that I still have who have been forever scared by the war," said Iraq war veteran Lindsey Rousseau-Burnett.

Many of the women we talked to say they are getting psychiatric help from the Veteran's Administration.

#### **25. Feminist Human Rights vs the Conning of Patriotism**

by Kathleen Barry, December 29, 2010

<http://www.ontheissuesmagazine.com/cafe2/article/130>

Although more women are joining the military than ever before and some are seeing combat, women's primary role, as far as the military is concerned, is patriotic. Not just any kind of patriotism is expected of women; they are expected to eagerly send their sons and husbands and lovers and partners and fathers off to combat.

Then women are to turn away and not see what actually occurs in combat. Under cover of sacrificing their lives for the United States of America, their loved ones are killing randomly, without remorse, otherwise known as murder. That is how they are trained, actually brainwashed.

## **26. Fundamentalist Christian leader blames me for Air Force Academy rape epidemic**

by Mikey WeinsteinFollow for Mikey Weinstein Fri Aug 08, 2014 at 02:25 PM PDT

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2014/08/08/1320142/-Fundamentalist-Christian-leader-blames-me-for-Air-Force-Academy-rape-epidemic?detail=email#>

"Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad." - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

As founder and president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF), a civil rights organization founded in 2005 to combat unconstitutional proselytizing in the U.S. Armed Forces, I don't shock easily. However, a recent, truly SHOCKING allegation and charge by the American Family Association's "Director of Issues Analysis" Bryan Fischer has parachuted well beyond the realm of error, landing roughly along the porous frontier separating blithering idiocy from criminal insanity. This fundamentalist Christian monster is a liar and I will prove it.

## **27. General's promotion blocked over her dismissal of sex-assault verdict**

By Craig Whitlock, Published: May 6, 2013

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/generals-promotion-blocked-over-her-dismissal-of-sex-assault-verdict/2013/05/06/ef853f8c-b64c-11e2-bd07-b6e0e6152528\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/generals-promotion-blocked-over-her-dismissal-of-sex-assault-verdict/2013/05/06/ef853f8c-b64c-11e2-bd07-b6e0e6152528_story.html)

An Air Force general has run afoul of Congress for granting clemency to a convicted sex offender without any public explanation, the latest case to raise fundamental questions about how the military justice system handles sex crimes.

(Anonymous/AP) - This undated photo released by the U.S. Air Force, shows Lt. Gen. Susan Helms.

The case is the second this year in which a three-star Air Force general has raised lawmakers' hackles by effectively pardoning an officer found guilty of sexual assault, a crime many experts see as a growing problem in the military.

## **28. Hagel orders retraining of sex-assault prevention officers: Army sergeant investigated**

By Craig Whitlock, Published: May 14, 2013

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/hagel-orders-retraining-of-sex-assault-prevention-officers-army-sergeant-investigated/2013/05/14/38473bc8-bcf9-11e2-9b09-1638acc3942e\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/hagel-orders-retraining-of-sex-assault-prevention-officers-army-sergeant-investigated/2013/05/14/38473bc8-bcf9-11e2-9b09-1638acc3942e_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Tuesday evening ordered the armed services to immediately “re-train, re-credential and re-screen” tens of thousands of military recruiters and sexual-assault prevention officers as the revelation of another sex-crime scandal rocked the Pentagon.

Hagel’s order came in response to the Army’s disclosure Tuesday that a sergeant first class responsible for handling sexual-assault cases at Fort Hood, Tex., had been placed under criminal investigation over allegations of abusive sexual contact and other related matters.

Investigators are also scrutinizing allegations that the sergeant may have forced a subordinate into prostitution, according to a U.S. official familiar with the case.

### **29. ‘It’s pride in who I represent’**

Medford's Heather Bessey is the first known Southern Oregon woman to become a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart

By Paul Fattig, Mail Tribune, Saturday March 19, 2010

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100319/NEWS/3190323>

Right: Iraq war veteran Heather Bessey, shown with her 3-year-old son, Bobby, is the first Southern Oregon woman to join the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Medford resident Heather Bessey shrugged off her recent discovery of a small metal shard just under the surface of her skin near the base of her left thumb

"It's nothing — it's working its way out," she observed.

The shrapnel came from an enemy mortar round that exploded near the Army's Camp Anaconda, some 60 miles north of Baghdad, on the night of July 3, 2003. Bessey was struck by sharp shards of metal from her head to her toes.

"They've taken more scar tissue out of the one on the whole left side of my head," she said. "But all that seems to have done is just given me even worse migraines."

### **30. Help for Veterans Twice Betrayed**

Editorial, February 23, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/24/opinion/sunday/help-for-veterans-twice-betrayed.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130224&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/24/opinion/sunday/help-for-veterans-twice-betrayed.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130224&r=0)

This month, Representative Chellie Pingree, Democrat of Maine, and Senator Jon Tester, Democrat of Montana, introduced a bill that would make it easier for veterans to receive benefits

for disabilities linked to sexual assault in the military. The bill is named for Ruth Moore, a Navy veteran who has been outspoken about what she calls her double betrayal.

The first was being raped, twice, by a supervisor when she was a teenager on her first Navy assignment in the 1980s — assaults that she says have brought her a lifetime's worth of suffering, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, a suicide attempt and homelessness.

### **31. House Veteran Affairs Hearing: VA Backlog**

June 19 2009

<http://www.servicewomen.org/?tag=military-ptsd>

Excerpt from Statement of Rachel Natelson, Esq.:

"Among the most pervasive stressors experienced by military women are incidents of sexual assault and harassment. The prevalence of sexual assault in the military is hardly news, and has been the subject of a number of recent Congressional hearings and Pentagon reports. By some accounts, nearly a third of female veterans report episodes of sexual assault during military service, while 71 to 90 percent report experiences of sexual harassment. These experiences are closely associated with PTSD in a variety of studies; in fact, military sexual assault is a stronger predictor of PTSD among women veterans than combat history.[3] Likewise, studies indicate that sexual harassment causes the same rates of PTSD in women as combat does in men.[4]

### **32. How One Colonel Is Tackling Military Rape The Right Way**

One Air Force colonel's in-your-face approach might be part of the solution to combating rape in the military

By Lt. Col. Robert Bateman on February 25, 2014

<http://www.esquire.com/blogs/politics/military-focus-on-serial-rapists-022514>

There are days when I am slightly inclined to think that the United States Air Force is, at best, not quite evil. Most days I think that those who wear light blue are evil. Forgive me. I am an infantryman of the United States Army, and for at least the better part of three decades I have swallowed the Kool-Aid of my service that the USAF is just one slight step removed from the anti-deity of your choice.

This even extended into my education and then perceptions as a professor at West Point, where we cast stones at our USAF Academy counterparts. See, at West Point we are very much about

academic rigor. This is why you see some of the harshest criticisms of the US Army in the past coming from the faculty of the Department of History at West Point. We are trained, essentially, as contrarians. Our contemptuous attitude, academically, towards the USAF is that, "We write history. They write propaganda and then add footnotes."

### **33. In Debate Over Military Sexual Assault, Men Are Overlooked Victim**

By JAMES DAO, June 23, 2013 228 Comments

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/24/us/in-debate-over-military-sexual-assault-men-are-overlooked-victims.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130624&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/24/us/in-debate-over-military-sexual-assault-men-are-overlooked-victims.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130624&r=0)

Daniel Acker for The New York Times

A scrapbook made by Gregory Helle, who says he was raped by another soldier in Vietnam. Sexual assault has emerged as one of the defining issues for the military this year. Reports of assaults are up, as are questions about whether commanders have taken the problem seriously. Bills to toughen penalties and prosecution have been introduced in Congress.

Richard H. Ruffert in Fort Worth. He said a female boss in an Army reserve unit forced him to have sex with her.

But in a debate that has focused largely on women, this fact is often overlooked: the majority of service members who are sexually assaulted each year are men

### **34. In rural India, rapes are common, but justice for victims is not**

By Simon Denyer, Published: January 8, 2013

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/in-rural-india-rapes-are-common-but-justice-for-victims-is-not/2013/01/08/c13546b4-58d6-11e2-88d0-c4cf65c3ad15\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/in-rural-india-rapes-are-common-but-justice-for-victims-is-not/2013/01/08/c13546b4-58d6-11e2-88d0-c4cf65c3ad15_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

Mustafa Quraishi/AP - Members of women's organizations gathered in October to condemn the rising instances of rape and violence against women in the state of Haryana, India.

BANWASA, India — The teenage girl was overpowered by four men at a railway crossing near this village and bundled into a car. For five days she was kept, imprisoned and naked, in a windowless outhouse on nearby farmland and raped repeatedly.

Despite its brutality, the September incident merited just a few lines in a domestic news-agency story about a string of such crimes in the northern state of Haryana. It was headlined simply: "Four more rape cases."

Thousands of Indians have taken to the streets in recent weeks to protest the rape of a young woman on a moving bus in New Delhi. But in rural areas just a few hours' drive from India's capital, where police and activists say rapes are common and increasing, such incidents draw scarcely any attention, let alone outrage.

### **35. Jeffrey Krusinski Air Force Officer In Charge Of Sexual Assault Prevention Program Arrested For Alleged Sexual Assault**

Posted: 05/06/2013 4:58 pm EDT | Updated: 05/07/2013 9:41 am EDT

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/06/jeffrey-krusinski-arrested\\_n\\_3225155.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=mostpopular#slide=more254679](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/06/jeffrey-krusinski-arrested_n_3225155.html?utm_hp_ref=mostpopular#slide=more254679)

The Air Force officer in charge of the military branch's sexual assault prevention program was arrested for sexual assault, ARLNow reported Monday.

Stars and Stripes confirmed that Lt. Col Jeffrey Krusinski, the chief of the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program, was arrested early Sunday in Arlington, Va.

The police press release reads:

On May 5 at 12:35 am, a drunken male subject approached a female victim in a parking lot and grabbed her breasts and buttocks. The victim fought the suspect off as he attempted to touch her again and alerted police. Jeffrey Krusinski, 41, of Arlington, VA, was arrested and charged with sexual battery. He was held on a \$5,000 unsecured bond.

### **36. LaVena Johnson: Raped and Murdered on a Military Base in Iraq**

by David A. Love posted on Saturday, 31 January 2009

<http://www.laprogressive.com/war-and-peace/lavena-johnson-raped-and-murdered-on-a-military-base-in-iraq/>

LaVena Johnson

Have you heard about the story of LaVena Johnson? Well, maybe you should read on.

LaVena Johnson, a high school honor student, decided to enlist in the Army in order to pay for college. On July 19, 2005, after serving eight weeks in Iraq, she was killed, just eight days short of her 20th birthday.

Private Johnson – she was posthumously promoted to Private First Class – was found dead on a military base in Balad, Iraq, in a tent belonging to military contractor KBR, a spinoff and former

subsidiary of Halliburton , Dick Cheney's company. She was the first woman from Missouri to be killed in Iraq or Afghanistan.

### **37. Manhattan VA Hospital helps women**

Alarmed by the number of female veterans who have been sexually assaulted during tours of duty in the military, Dr. Nancy Lutwak has launched a female-only emergency room at the Manhattan VA Hospital to treat their posttraumatic syndrome and help them heal.

By Heidi Evans / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, Published: Sunday, August 26, 2012

<http://www.nydailynews.com/life-style/health/manhattan-va-hospital-helps-women-article-1.1145089>

Susan Watts/Daily News

Nancy Acevedo Walz, 53, (left), a victim of military assault, hugs Dr. Nancy Lutwak of the Women's Health Emergency Department inside VA hospital in Manhattan.

Dr. Nancy Lutwak is a woman on a mission.

Alarmed by the number of female veterans who have been sexually assaulted during tours of duty in the military, she has launched a female-only emergency room at the Manhattan VA Hospital to treat their posttraumatic syndrome and help them heal.

### **38. Men Sexually Assaulted in the Military Speak Out**

Baltimore Sun | Dec 20, 2013

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2013/12/20/men-sexually-assaulted-in-the-military-speak-out.html?ESRC=dod.nl>

BALTIMORE -- Brian Lewis figures he could have dealt with the rape.

It's the Navy's response to the attack that still haunts the Baltimore native.

Lewis, the son of a Defense Department civilian who commanded his JROTC battalion in high school, sailed through three years in the Navy and three months aboard the submarine tender USS Frank Cable.

Then, one night on shore in Guam, he was taken out to dinner by a higher-ranking shipmate, a man who had a wife and children. After the meal, he says, his dinner partner pulled out a knife, threatened his life, and sodomized him.

A friend reported the attack, and Lewis was visited by a senior officer on the Cable. He says the officer ordered him not to cooperate with Navy investigators.

Lewis says he did as he was told. The investigation stopped dead. There was no court-martial. His attacker was never punished.

That outcome is typical for male victims of military sexual assault, a Baltimore Sun analysis of hundreds of cases found.

### **39. Military academies report increase in sexual assaults**

By Ernesto Londoño, Published: December 2, 2012

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/military-academies-report-increase-in-sexual-assaults/2012/12/21/301493d2-4bb7-11e2-b709-667035ff9029\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/military-academies-report-increase-in-sexual-assaults/2012/12/21/301493d2-4bb7-11e2-b709-667035ff9029_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

The nation's three elite military colleges reported a record number of sexual assault cases this year, according to a Defense Department report issued Friday, prompting calls inside and outside the Pentagon for more aggressive steps to reverse the trend.

Military officials argued that the increase could be reflective of a changing culture that makes victims increasingly willing to report the crimes, but senior Defense officials and activists said the cases are nevertheless an unacceptable blemish at institutions that groom the country's most promising leaders in uniform.

### **40. Military Hides Cause of Women Soldiers' Deaths**

Marjorie Cohn | Bush on Trial for Crimes against Humanity [

Marjorie Cohn | Abu Ghraib General Lambastes Bush Administration [

t r u t h o u t | Report By Marjorie Cohn, Monday 30 January 2006

<http://www.truth-out.org/article/military-hides-cause-women-soldiers-deaths>

In a startling revelation, the former commander of Abu Ghraib prison testified that Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, former senior US military commander in Iraq, gave orders to cover up the cause of death for some female American soldiers serving in Iraq.

Last week, Col. Janis Karpinski told a panel of judges at the Commission of Inquiry for Crimes against Humanity Committed by the Bush Administration in New York that several women had

died of dehydration because they refused to drink liquids late in the day. They were afraid of being assaulted or even raped by male soldiers if they had to use the women's latrine after dark.

#### **41. Military Rape Stats And Article From VFP**

Re: VFP // stats and article, military rape

Don Chapin, September 3, 2009 3:45:20 PM

When I first saw the VFP email yesterday I was a bit sceptical because of the wording being used, i.e., "1/3 of women were raped," The referenced article is downright SOLID, with a large number of references, yet nowhere (that I can see) does it say that "33% (1/3) of women were raped."

We can't let an emotional reaction get in the way of what has been researched so well. This report is quite definitive in the numbers. The number of complete interview participants was 506, out of a total of 558 interviews (i.e., 52 partial interviews) of 640 potential subjects consenting to the interviews. Of these (not knowing what data was used from the 52 partial interviews),

79% reported sexual harassment,

54% reported unwanted sexual contact,

30% reported attempted or completed rape. Apparently, of these,

37% reported repeated rapes, and

14% had been gang raped.

I would strongly suggest we stay with the wording in the report and not get "called" by recruiters for inaccurate fear-mongering (they'd be technically correct)... the numbers and resultant negative effects are bad enough, in themselves, to get attention and they agree with our previously assembled Power Point presentation (15th slide, 3rd bullet at [http://www.rv-vfp156.org/ClassroomPresentation\\_Part2.ppt](http://www.rv-vfp156.org/ClassroomPresentation_Part2.ppt)).

Hey Gents and Ladies:

Great ideas between Emmet and Daniel here, thanks guys. There's no reason not to proceed right now on pretty much any/all of the proposals in Em's email below.

Quick sidebar, though, as we can I'd kind of like to research and confirm the rather long study linked to Emmet's VFP post below, which is at <http://www.veteransforpeace.org/files/pdf/Sadler%20Military%20Environment.pdf>.

The article is fully referenced and likely but sadly accurate. However, for credibility's sake and before we install such claims permanently at rv-vfp156.org, we do want to make sure they are complete and factual. Especially for our STMR program, we want to be honest in how we connect and associate them to topics, so as to avoid ever stepping backwards in our credibility. For example, when I tell people one in three of all female enlistees ends up raped, it seems the response is disbelief. What's needed is simultaneous confirmation, short and ttp.

#### **42. Military RAPE: One in three women, one in four men**

By Catholic Online (NEWS CONSORTIUM), 10/24/2011, Catholic Online (www.catholic.org), [http://www.catholic.org/national/national\\_story.php?id=43361](http://www.catholic.org/national/national_story.php?id=43361)

Morally repugnant epidemic must be swiftly stopped.

According to at least one peer-reviewed study, one in three women is raped during their term of US military service. If true, this is an astounding statistic, and an ongoing national tragedy that must be stopped.

Servicewomen (and men) offer us their lives, we owe them the dignity and respect they deserve.

WASHINGTON DC (Catholic Online) - Now, a civil lawsuit is being brought against former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, charging that under their leadership the military failed to adequately and effectively investigate and prosecute rapes and sexual assaults within the ranks.

#### **43. Military Sex Assault Reports Jump by 50 Percent**

Associated Press | Dec 27, 2013 | by Lolita C. Baldor

WASHINGTON - The number of reported sexual assaults across the military shot up by more than 50 percent this year, an increase that defense officials say may suggest that victims are becoming more willing to come forward after a tumultuous year of scandals that shined a spotlight on the crimes and put pressure on the military to take aggressive action.

A string of high-profile assaults and arrests triggered outrage in Congress and set off months of debate over how to change the military justice system, while military leaders launched a series of new programs intended to beef up accountability and encourage victims to come forward.

According to early data obtained by The Associated Press, there were more than 5,000 reports of sexual assault filed during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, compared to the 3,374 in 2012. Of those 2013 reports, about 10 percent involved incidents that occurred before the victim got into the military, up from just 4 percent only a year ago. That increase, officials said, suggests that confidence in the system is growing and that victims are more willing to come forward.

#### **44. Military sexual assault survivors storm Capitol Hill**

Jared Serbu, reporter, Federal News Radio, Wednesday - 5/9/2012, 9:30am ET

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/?nid=394&sid=2858344>

The day before a key House committee was set to mark up next year's Defense authorization bill, hundreds of veterans who suffered through sexual assaults while they were in uniform made a trip to Capitol Hill Tuesday, demanding, among other things, more prosecutions of perpetrators and better services for survivors.

Draft language in the huge annual Defense bill the House Armed Services Committee will begin work on this morning includes several provisions designed to improve the military's prevention and response on sexual assault issues, including one that would require sexual assaults to be prosecuted by a special court martial panel overseen by an officer of the rank of at least captain or colonel.

But advocates for survivors and their allies on Capitol Hill say Congress needs to go much further.

"If you want to know who I am, I'm the pissed-off congressman from Iowa," one such ally, Rep. Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) said as he began remarks to a half-day summit organized by the Service Women's Action Network (SWAN) Tuesday morning.

Angry, Braley said, because while DoD officials proclaim that sexual assault is unacceptable, there were still nearly 3,200 cases in the military last year; about 1 percent more than in 2010. He said DoD's leadership needs to be as angry about the issue as he is, and as survivors are

#### **45. Military's response to rapes, domestic abuse, falls short**

Reforms lag despite numerous scandals, recommended solutions

Amy Herdy and Miles Moffeit, Denver Post Staff Writers

Posted: 11/18/2003 01:00:00 AM MST, Updated: 05/17/2005 09:48:32 PM MDT

Scandal after scandal, time after time, experts inside and outside the military have pointed out shortcomings in how the armed forces handle cases of domestic violence and sexual assault.

They have offered solutions, pleaded for changes.

And, a nine-month Denver Post investigation found, the military's response to suggestions and criticisms has fallen short or fallen flat.

Many of the warning signs have been glaringly public.

After a naval aviation convention in 1991 where more than 100 officers sexually assaulted and harassed dozens of women, investigations were undermined and no one was convicted. Experts called for more aggressive punishment of offenders. But today, leniency is still the rule, as military leaders continue to choose administrative punishments twice as often as criminal prosecution for those accused of sexual assault and domestic violence.

#### **46. More Men Than Women Were Victims Of Sexual Assault In Military Report Finds**

By Hayes Brown May 1, 2014 at 3:48 pm

<http://thinkprogress.org/world/2014/05/01/3433055/dod-men-mst/>

"More Men Than Women Were Victims Of Sexual Assault In Military, Report Finds"

The latest report from the Pentagon on military sexual assaults, due to be released on Thursday, shows a rise in the number of assaults reported in the armed services. But military officials fret that the number of men coming forward remains lower than it should.

According to the numbers in the new document, whose preliminary data was reported in December, the last year has shown a fifty percent increase in the amount of military servicemembers that informed their superiors that they were sexual assaulted. Rather than a troubling sign, officials believe that this shows a shift towards reported assaults matching up more closely with the number that researchers believe actually take place. The report released today is conducted annually and is different from the survey conducted every two years and released in 2013 that estimated 26,000 instances of sexual assault took place over the course of 2012.

#### **47. More women vets are homeless but housing scarce**

ERIC TUCKER and KRISTIN M. HALL The Associated Press, Sun, Apr. 8, 2012

[http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/nation/20120408\\_ap\\_morewomenvetsarehomelessbuthousingscarce.html#ixzz1rZrnGNq9](http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/nation/20120408_ap_morewomenvetsarehomelessbuthousingscarce.html#ixzz1rZrnGNq9)

In this photo taken Friday, March 9, 2012, homeless veteran Misha McLamb, 32, talks in her transition home in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington. The Navy aircraft specialist who helped keep fighter jets flying during a career that took her to the Persian Gulf is barely getting by after a series of blows that undid her settled life. "I wasn't a loser," McLamb says. "Everybody who's homeless doesn't necessarily have to have something very mentally wrong with them. Some people just have bad circumstances with no resources." (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

#### **48. Nearly 1 in 5 US women have been victims of sexual assault, CDC finds**

Report on women's health also finds that a quarter of women say they have been violently attacked by a partner

guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 14 December 2011 20.51 GMT Associated Press

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/dec/14/1-in-5-women-report-sexual-assault#history-link-box>

As many as 29 million women say they have suffered severe and frightening physical violence from a boyfriend, spouse or other intimate partner. Photograph: Garry Weaser

A new survey released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Wednesday marked the beginning of a new annual project to look at how many women say they've been abused.

#### **49. One Drop in Military Sexual Violence**

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD Published: July 10, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/11/opinion/one-drop-in-military-sexual-violence.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130711&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/11/opinion/one-drop-in-military-sexual-violence.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130711&_r=0)

The Navy is reporting surprising success in a program to get sailors at Naval Station Great Lakes, near Chicago, to stop raping their comrades. Sexual assaults have been epidemic at the station, where about 40,000 recruits complete boot camp each year. But crimes at the station's Training Support Center, where about 16,000 sailors receive specialized training, and where most of the assaults occur, have fallen about 60 percent over two years.

#### **50. One in five women in college sexually assaulted: an update on this statistic**

By Glenn Kessler December 17 at 6:00 AM

The Phi Kappa Psi fraternity house at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va., which was the subject of a discredited Rolling Stone article alleging a gang rape at the house (AP Photo/Steve Helber)

“We know the numbers: one in five of every one of those young women who is dropped off for that first day of school, before they finish school, will be assaulted, will be assaulted in her college years.”

–Vice President Biden, remarks on the release of a White House report on sexual assault, April 29, 2014

“It is estimated that 1 in 5 women on college campuses has been sexually assaulted during their time there — 1 in 5.”

–President Obama, remarks at White House, Jan. 22, 2014

This is an update of an article that originally appeared on May 1, 2014. It now has a Pinocchio rating.

Reports of sexual assault on college campuses spurred the White House early in 2014 to launch a task force to examine the issue. The group’s report was issued on April 29, and the first sentence of the report echoes what both the president and vice president have asserted in public: “One in five women is sexually assaulted in college.”

Where does this oft-repeated statistic come from? We dug into the data so you don’t have to.

## **51. Our servicewomen**

FROM:[Jeanne Shaheen](mailto:Jeanne.Shaheen)

TO:[donchapin38@yahoo.com](mailto:donchapin38@yahoo.com)

[Message starred](#)

Thursday, November 29, 2012 10:12 PM

Don,

Every day, more than 400,000 servicewomen risk their lives in defense of our country and our ideals. For that, they should be honored.

Tragically, right now, they're being denied respect, care, and basic dignity. Each year, an estimated 19,000 of our service members, who make the greatest sacrifice anyone can make, are victims of sexual assault. And yet they are denied insurance coverage for abortions even in cases

of rape and incest.

**We can't let this continue.**

My amendment to give these women the coverage they deserve is in the Senate version of the National Defense Authorization Act. The final vote could come as soon as this week and we have to make sure it's not blocked.

I'm joining with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand to stand up for our servicewomen and make sure our voices are heard loud and clear. Will you join us?

**[Click here to show your support for the Shaheen Amendment and speak out to protect the rights of women who fight for this country to make their own medical decisions.](#)**

These women don't ask for accolades or praise. They go and fight for us because it's the right thing to do. Now, it's our turn to fight for them.

**52. Panel Wants Women in Combat Arms**

Military.com|by Bryant Jordan, March 08, 2011

[http://www.military.com/news/article/panel-wants-women-in-combat-arms.html?  
ESRC=airforce.nl](http://www.military.com/news/article/panel-wants-women-in-combat-arms.html?ESRC=airforce.nl)

In 2005, Army Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester became the first woman since World War II to earn a Silver Star.

A Pentagon commission is recommending that ground combat units be open to female troops, arguing women are already engaged in combat and that keeping them out of operational career fields puts them at a disadvantage when it comes to promotion.

The recommendation by the Military Leadership Diversity Commission has been expected since early January, when a draft version of the report was released. Opening combat arms to women was only one of 20 recommendations made by the commission. The report also presses for a military force that more closely reflects the country's demographics.

**53. Peace Corps Gang Rape: Volunteer Says U.S. Agency Ignored Warnings**

ABC News Investigation Finds More Than 1,000 Rapes, Sexual Assaults Since 2000

By ANNA SCHECTER and BRIAN ROSS, Jan. 12, 2011

<http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/peace-corps-gang-rape-volunteer-jess-smochek-us/story?id=12599341>

More than 1,000 young American women have been raped or sexually assaulted in the last decade while serving as Peace Corps volunteers in foreign countries, an ABC News 20/20 investigation has found.

In some cases, victims say, the Peace Corps has ignored safety concerns and later tried to blame the women who were raped for bringing on the attacks.

#### **54. Pentagon grapples with sex crimes by military recruiters**

By Craig Whitlock, May 12, 2013

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/pentagon-grapples-with-sex-crimes-by-military-recruiters/2013/05/12/d082ec1c-b97e-11e2-bd07-b6e0e6152528\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/pentagon-grapples-with-sex-crimes-by-military-recruiters/2013/05/12/d082ec1c-b97e-11e2-bd07-b6e0e6152528_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

Military recruiters across the country have been caught in a string of sex-crime scandals over the past year, exposing another long-standing problem for the Defense Department as it grapples with a crisis of sexual assault in the ranks.

In Alaska, law enforcement officials are fuming after a military jury this month convicted a - Marine Corps recruiter of first-degree sexual assault in the rape of a 23-year-old female civilian but did not sentence him to prison.

#### **55. Petraeus Quits; Evidence of Affair Was Found by F.B.I.**

By MICHAEL D. SHEAR, November 9, 2012

[http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/10/us/citing-affair-petraeus-resigns-as-cia-director.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20121110&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/10/us/citing-affair-petraeus-resigns-as-cia-director.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20121110&r=0)

(Page 12: Woman Linked to Petraeus Is a West Point Graduate and Lifelong High Achiever, page 14: Former aides wonder: Did Petraeus stumble in unfamiliar terrain? And page 16, Gen. Petraeus's affair tarnishes seemingly idyllic marriage)

WASHINGTON — David H. Petraeus, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency and one of America's most decorated four-star generals, resigned on Friday after an F.B.I. investigation uncovered evidence that he had been involved in an extramarital affair.

#### **56. PTSD can strike those even on the periphery of combat**

Mail Tribune, Paul Fattig, February 06, 2011

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110206/NEWS/102060324>

Although U.S. military policy does not officially allow women in combat, many who served in Iraq and Afghanistan experienced battlefield conditions.

Bullets and bombs don't differentiate between men and women, experts say.

"Women in combat are just as vulnerable to PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) as men," explained psychologist Judith Emerson, associate chief of staff for mental health at the Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics in White City. "PTSD is an anxiety disorder, but it is one of the more treatable disorders."

### **57. Rape rampant in US military**

Statistics and soldiers' testimonies reveal a harrowing epidemic of sexual assault in the US military.

Dahr Jamail, Last Modified: 24 Dec 2010 20:34 GMT

<http://english.aljazeera.net/indepth/features/2010/12/2010122182546344551.html>

Earlier this year a house subcommittee held a hearing focused on sexual assault and violence against women in the military and at the academies [Getty]

Sexual assault within the ranks of the military is not a new problem. It is a systemic problem that has necessitated that the military conduct its own annual reporting on the crisis.

A 2003 Air Force Academy sexual assault scandal prompted the department of defense to include a provision in the 2004 National Defense Authorization Act that required investigations and reports of sexual harassment and assaults within US military academies to be filed. The personal toll is, nevertheless, devastating.

### **58. Rape victims say military labels them 'crazy'**

By David S. Martin, CNN, Sat April 14, 2012

<http://www.source.ly/10NEA#.T4rrktmqYRJ>

Stephanie Schroeder, Anna Moore, Jenny McClendon and Panayiota Bertzikis say they were raped and then discharged from the military.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

Women accuse military of using psychiatric diagnoses to oust sexual assault victims

"I couldn't trust my chain of command to ever back me up," says an alleged victim

3,191 military sexual assaults reported in '11: "Unacceptable," says defense secretary

Pentagon is assessing its training for sexual assault prevention and response

Editor's note: CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta will report further on allegations of sexual assault in the military Saturday and Sunday April 21 and 22, 2012, at 7:30 a.m. ET on "Sanjay Gupta MD" on CNN.

### **59. Recruiter Sexual Abuse: Friendly Fire at Home?**

By Aimee Allison, AlterNet, Posted on July 24, 2007, Printed on February 11, 2009

<http://www.alternet.org/story/57378/>

A typical poster in the new Army Strong campaign shows three soldiers in full battle gear, faces grim and determined. The middle soldier is a woman

More money than ever is being spent to convince girls to join the military. I was one of them. The promise of school tuition and job training was attractive to me at the time, but it was just a small part of what it meant to enlist in "this man's army."

### **60. Report: U.S. Military Sexual Assault Victims Threatened With Violence, 'Friendly Fire'**

by Emily Crockett, Federal Policy Reporter, RH Reality Check, May 20, 2015 - 8:52 am

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/article/2015/05/20/report-u-s-military-sexual-assault-victims-threatened-violence-friendly-fire/>

Human Rights Watch released a report on the horrors of retaliation as the United Nations urged the United States to do more to prevent military sexual assault. (Shutterstock)

The rampant problem of sexual assault in the U.S. military has drawn international attention this week, with one country charging that military commanders shouldn't be in charge of prosecuting sexual assault cases.

The United Nations addressed the issue for the first time in a report Monday, the same day that international advocacy group Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a damning report on the retaliation that sexual assault survivors say they face from commanders and military peers after they report their crime.

## **61. Reported Sexual Assaults in Military Increase**

By REUTERS, Published: December 27, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/28/us/reported-sexual-assaults-in-military-increase.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20131228](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/28/us/reported-sexual-assaults-in-military-increase.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20131228)

The number of sexual assaults reported across the United States military rose by about 50 percent in the 2013 fiscal year compared with 2012, the Defense Department said Friday. Preliminary data showed there were slightly more than 5,000 reports of sexual assault during the year. The latest numbers were released a week after President Obama ordered military leaders to review the problem.

## **62. Reports of Military Sexual Assault Rise Sharply**

Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, right, preparing to speak on Wednesday about a military bill.

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER, Published: November 7, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/07/us/reports-of-military-sexual-assault-rise-sharply.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20131107](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/07/us/reports-of-military-sexual-assault-rise-sharply.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20131107)

WASHINGTON — Reports of sexual assault in the military increased sharply during the last fiscal year, new Pentagon figures showed Wednesday, just weeks before a defense bill with provisions to tackle the problem is expected to reach the Senate floor.

There were 3,553 sexual assault complaints reported to the Defense Department in the first three quarters of the fiscal year, from October 2012 through June, a nearly 50 percent increase over the same period a year earlier. Defense Department officials said the numbers had continued to rise.

## **63. Research Identifies Suicide Rate Among Young Women Veterans Almost 3X That of Civilians OHSU, PSU Research Identifies Suicide Rate Among Young Women Veterans More Than Twice That of Civilians**

12/01/10 Portland, Ore.

[http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/about/news\\_events/news/2010/2010-12-01-high-suicide-rate-a.cfm](http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/about/news_events/news/2010/2010-12-01-high-suicide-rate-a.cfm)

Young women veterans are nearly three times as likely as civilians to commit suicide, according to new research published by researchers at Portland State University (PSU) and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU).

The paper, “Self-Inflicted Deaths Among Women With U.S. Military Service: A Hidden Epidemic?” appears in the December 2010 issue of Psychiatric Services, a journal published by the American Psychiatric Association. This work is the first general population study of current suicide risk among women who’ve served in the U.S. military.

#### **64. Retreat focuses on women veterans**

Sanctuary One pilot program has room for 16 vets in need of emotional healing

Mail Tribune, By Paul Fattig, January 30, 2009

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090130/NEWS/901300333>

Also, go to <http://sanctuaryvf.org/>

The Sanctuary for Veterans & Families is a non-profit initiative that provides advocacy, support, and Sanctuary Weekends for women veterans, wives of veterans, and their loved ones. “A nation that does not take care of its veterans has got no business whatsoever making new ones.” . Stacy Bannerman, After Half a Year on the Hill: What I Know For Sure, April, 2007

RUCH — A \$5,000 grant recently awarded to the nonprofit Sanctuary One at Double Oak Farm in the upper Applegate Valley will be used to offer retreats for veterans and their families. The Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation grant will serve as seed money for the facility's first veterans' project, a three-day retreat for women veterans beginning April 10, said sanctuary director Stacy Bannerman.

#### **65. Sex assaults in the military: An epidemic that is being ignored**

By Sally Quinn, May 16, 2013

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/sex-assaults-in-the-military-an-epidemic-that-is-being-ignored/2013/05/16/d129ddfe-be5d-11e2-9b09-1638acc3942e\\_story.html?wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/sex-assaults-in-the-military-an-epidemic-that-is-being-ignored/2013/05/16/d129ddfe-be5d-11e2-9b09-1638acc3942e_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines)

Can you believe that there were some 26,000 incidents of sexual assault in the military last year? That’s an astounding average of more than 70 per day.

That Pentagon estimate is based on anonymous surveys and sampling research. I’m sputtering with outrage over these numbers.

Last week, President Obama addressed the issue bluntly. “The bottom line is, I have no tolerance for this,” he said. “If we find out somebody’s engaging in this stuff, they’ve got to be held accountable, prosecuted, stripped of their positions, court martialed, fired, dishonorably discharged. Period.”

## **66. Sexual Assault Permeates US Armed Forces**

Shocking Report On Frequent Attacks, Low Rate Of Investigation, Prosecution

March 17, 2009 | CBS Evening News: by Katie Couric

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/03/17/eveningnews/main4872713.shtml?tag=topStory;topStoryHeadline>

(CBS) They've become an integral part of modern warfare - 200,000 active duty women serving alongside their band of brothers.

Jessica was one of those women. Born into a military family, at 24 she enlisted in the Army. Following basic training she was posted half a world away at Camp Humphreys in South Korea. She was assigned to an Apache helicopter maintenance crew, one of three women in a unit of 60 men. Jessica worked hard to blend into a very macho world, CBS News anchor Katie Couric reports.

## **67. Sexual Assault Resource Page**

[http://www.veteransforpeace.org/Sexual\\_assault\\_resource\\_page.vp.html](http://www.veteransforpeace.org/Sexual_assault_resource_page.vp.html)

If you are sexually assaulted, it is not your fault. Don't be afraid to ask for help or support. Help is available. You can call these organizations:

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or 1-800-787-3224 (TDD)

National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Organizations

U.S. Military Violence Against Women - <http://usmvaw.com>

Women Organizing Women - <http://www.vetwow.com>

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network - <http://www.rainn.org/>

The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. Among its programs, RAINN created and operates the National Sexual Assault

Hotline at 1.800.656.HOPE . This nationwide partnership of more than 1,100 local rape treatment hotlines provides victims of sexual assault with free, confidential services around the clock. The hotline helped 133,000 sexual assault victims in 2004 and has helped more than 900,000 since it began in 1994.

## **68. Sexual Assaults and Military Justice**

Editorial Published: March 12, 2013, To hear from the editorial page editor, Andrew Rosenthal, follow @andyrNYT.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/13/opinion/sexual-assaults-and-military-justice.html?src=recg>

A Senate Armed Services subcommittee is scheduled to hold a hearing on sexual assaults in the military on Wednesday, the first Senate hearing on the issue in nearly a decade. There will certainly be a lot to talk about.

The Pentagon estimates as many as 19,000 service members are assaulted annually, but only a small fraction of the incidents — 3,191 in 2011 — get reported and about 10 percent of those cases proceed to trial. In all, around 1 in 3 military women has been sexually assaulted, a rate twice as high as the civilian rate. And veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of rape or other sexual trauma have a hard time collecting veterans' disability benefits. During the 2011-12 academic year, the nation's three elite military academies reported a record number of sexual assault cases, according to the Defense Department.

## **69. Sexual Assaults in Military Raise Alarm in Washington**

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER, May 7, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/08/us/politics/pentagon-study-sees-sharp-rise-in-sexual-assaults.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130508&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/08/us/politics/pentagon-study-sees-sharp-rise-in-sexual-assaults.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130508&_r=0)

WASHINGTON — The problem of sexual assault in the military leapt to the forefront in Washington on Tuesday as the Pentagon released a survey estimating that 26,000 people in the armed forces were sexually assaulted last year, up from 19,000 in 2010, and an angry President Obama and Congress demanded action.

The study, based on a confidential survey sent to 108,000 active-duty service members, was released two days after the officer in charge of sexual assault prevention programs for the Air Force was arrested and charged with sexual battery for grabbing a woman's breasts and buttocks in an Arlington, Va., parking lot.

## **70. Sexual Violence Against Women in the US Military: The Search for Truth and Justice**

Thursday, 14 July 2011 12:20 John Lasker

<http://towardfreedom.com/women/2474-sexual-violence-against-women-in-the-us-military-the-search-for-truth-and-justice>

towardfreedom.com | Jul 14th 2011 12:20 PM <http://towardfreedom.com/women/2474-sexual-violence-against-women-in-the-us-military-the-search-for-truth-and-justice>

An investigation into the alleged suicide of US Army Private Lavena Johnson points to a larger story of sexual violence against women in the military.

Do you know the story of US Army Private Lavena Johnson and her alleged suicide? If you get most of your news from the mainstream media, probably not, considering the mainstream media has mysteriously covered from her story of how a loving and happy 19-year-old suddenly killed herself in 2005 while serving in Iraq.

### **71. Speaking Out: US Military Sexual Violence and Trauma Against Women**

John Lasker, Tuesday, 15 March 2011 19:48

<http://www.towardfreedom.com/home/americas/2320-militaryviolenceagainstwomen>

Former US Marine Carri Leigh Goodwin (1/5/89-2/28/09, picture at right) was like many young Americans from Alliance, a small town in Ohio. She was self-reliant, teaching herself to play guitar at 15. She wanted more out of life than the limited opportunities offered in her home town.

So like many teenagers from the American heartland with limited career prospects, the 18-year-old joined the military, seeking to earn the military's most sought after benefit, college tuition. She also confided to her family that enlisting would help her escape the traps that plagued her small, rural community; namely alcoholism and drug abuse

Yet what she soon discovered, as many female U.S. soldiers have before her, is the unexpected cost of seeking military-sponsored tuition: being sexually assaulted or harassed by a fellow soldier.

### **72. Study Sex assault complaints in military have leveled off in past three years**

By Larry Shaughnessy, CNN Pentagon Producer, Fri April 13, 2012

<http://www.cnn.com/2012/04/13/us/military-sexual-assaults/index.html>

STORY HIGHLIGHTS Pentagon says the steady numbers show that victims have more confidence to report crimes

"Sexual assault has no place in his department," Defense Secretary Leon Panetta says

Panetta plans to introduce new steps to combat sex assault

Washington (CNN) -- Reports of violent sexual crimes against U.S. troops have leveled off in the military since 2009, according to a new study released by the Pentagon on Friday.

### **73. The battle after the war**

Record number of women veterans seek assistance locally

Mail Tribune, Paul Fattig, February 06, 2011

Right: Sheila Quimby is one of a dozen female inpatients living at the Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics in White City. Mail Tribune / Julia Moore Julia Moore

April Rettmann often has to muster all her inner strength to avoid panic.

Never mind that the catalyst for her anxiety is something most folks would shrug off, such as heavy traffic on the freeway or a crowded elevator.

Women veterans, as well as their male counterparts, who need help are urged to call 888-HLP-4-VET. The helpline will connect them to resources intended to help them through a crisis, as well as to provide long-term benefits.

"Sometimes just driving a car can trigger it," said Rettmann, 31, an Army veteran and private first class in the Oregon Army National Guard.

"Being close to other people on the road is a problem — so are honking horns," added the longtime Rogue Valley resident. "Fireworks are also pretty bad. And I can't stand to be in a crowd now."

To fight the panic, she may slowly draw and release deep breaths, or verbally remind herself that she is no longer in harm's way.

### **74. The Great Shame**

By BOB HERBERT, Op-Ed Columnist, NYTimes, Published: March 20, 2009

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/21/opinion/21herbert.html?  
\\_r=2&adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1250805616-CmvWZxm2PJLDVLI2IKy/3Q](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/21/opinion/21herbert.html?_r=2&adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1250805616-CmvWZxm2PJLDVLI2IKy/3Q)

I had a conversation several weeks ago with a former Army officer, a woman, who had been attacked in her bed a few years ago by a superior officer, a man, who was intent on raping her.

The woman fought the man off with a fury. When she tried to press charges against him, she was told that she should let the matter drop because she hadn't been hurt. When she persisted, battalion officials threatened to bring charges against her.

"They were talking about charging me with assault," she said, her voice still tinged with anger and a sense of disbelief. "I'm no longer in the Army," she added dryly.

### **75. The Message That Saved A Military Sexual Assault Survivors Life**

molly.otoole@huffingtonpost.com, Posted: 09/24/2013 7:46 am EDT

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/24/military-sexual-assault\\_n\\_3815141.html?ir=World](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/24/military-sexual-assault_n_3815141.html?ir=World)

When Jeremiah Arbogast entered the home of his former boss, a Marine staff sergeant, he was wearing a body wire hooked up by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, which was listening from a nearby car.

"I need to know what happened," Arbogast told the staff sergeant in 2001. "I need to get help. I can't get help if I don't know what happened."

The man began to coolly list everything he had done to Arbogast, recounting his rape.

"I don't know what possessed him to just be like, 'I did this, this and this, and that's that,'" Arbogast said. "No remorse, no nothing." Arbogast got his rapist's full confession on tape, but the process severely traumatized him -- again.

### **76. The Military's Dirty Secret**

Editorial, Published: December 30, 2012

[http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/31/opinion/the-militarys-dirty-secret.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20121231&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/31/opinion/the-militarys-dirty-secret.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20121231&r=0)

Pentagon officials have long declared their determination to eradicate the military's notorious culture of sexual violence. To judge from data made public in the last couple of months, they have a long way to go.

For Op-Ed, follow @nytopinion and to hear from the editorial page editor, Andrew Rosenthal, follow @andyrNYT.

Sexual assaults at the three military academies are at a record high, according to a December Defense Department report — 80 reported assaults for the 2011-12 academic year, up from 65 the year before and the third straight year that the number has risen. The report also found that 51

percent of academy women and 10 percent of men who answered a survey in the spring said they had been sexually harassed during the previous year. Twelve percent of women and 2 percent of men reported experiencing “unwanted sexual contact.”

### **77. The Pentagon deliberately misled Congress on sex assault cases. Do lawmakers care?**

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) front, with, from left, Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), alleged rape victim Samantha Jackson, and Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), at a news conference on Capitol Hill Tuesday. (Manuel Balce Ceneta/ASSOCIATED PRESS)

By Kirsten Gillibrand May 26 at 7:24 PM

Kirsten Gillibrand, a Democrat from New York, is a member of the U.S. Senate.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-pentagon-deliberately-misled-congress-on-sex-assault-cases-do-lawmakers-care/2016/05/26/de14d118-2129-11e6-9e7f-57890b612299\\_story.html?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl\\_headlines](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-pentagon-deliberately-misled-congress-on-sex-assault-cases-do-lawmakers-care/2016/05/26/de14d118-2129-11e6-9e7f-57890b612299_story.html?wpmm=1&wpisrc=nl_headlines)

Three years ago, during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing at the height of a contentious debate about sexual assault in the military, one of our nation’s highest-ranking military officials — the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff — blatantly misled Congress to defeat a policy reform. The question now is: Does Congress care?

### **78. The Womens War**

By SARA CORBETT, NYT, March 18, 2007, Editors' Note Appended Concerning the Randall narrative

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/18/magazine/18cover.html?pagewanted=all>

Suzanne Swift Just before she was to leave for her second tour in Iraq, she told her mother: "I can't do this. I can't go back there."

On the morning of Monday, Jan. 9, 2006, a 21-year-old Army specialist named Suzanne Swift went AWOL. Her unit, the 54th Military Police Company, out of Fort Lewis, Wash., was two days away from leaving for Iraq. Swift and her platoon had been home less than a year, having completed one 12-month tour of duty in February 2005, and now the rumor was that they were headed to Baghdad to run a detention center. The footlockers were packed. The company's 130 soldiers had been granted a weekend leave in order to go where they needed to go, to say whatever goodbyes needed saying. When they reassembled at 7 a.m. that Monday, uniformed

and standing in immaculate rows, Specialist Swift, who during the first deployment drove a Humvee on combat patrols near Karbala, was not among them.

### **79. There's No Quick Fix for Veterans - Maggie Martin (2).doc** **There's No Quick Fix for Veterans**

Maggie Martin, Posted: 04/13/11 08:25 PM ET

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/maggie-martin/no-quick-fix-for-veterans\\_b\\_848421.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/maggie-martin/no-quick-fix-for-veterans_b_848421.html)

It has been nearly five years since I left the Army and still my time in the service is fresh in my mind. I think about my deployments every single day without fail. I have friends and family, responsibilities and passions that keep me moving, but the time I spent in the Army and in Iraq are what continue to define me.

Right: Maggie in DC for Operation Recovery Campaign launch

Many current and former service members feel the same way. The act of participating in war casts a shadow over everything else in life. Facing high stress and danger for so long makes it tremendously difficult to leave the military and rejoin civilian society. Day-to-day concerns seem trivial compared to the life or death urgency of military situations. When I first came home, I would become furious at how easily everyone in this country can carry on virtually ignoring the fact that we are at war.

### **80. Trauma Sets Female Veterans Adrift Back Home**

By PATRICIA LEIGH BROWN, February 27, 2013

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/28/us/female-veterans-face-limbo-in-lives-on-the-street.html?ref=politics>

LOS ANGELES — In the caverns of her memory, Tiffany Jackson recalls the job she held, fleetingly, after leaving the military, when she still wore stylish flats and blouses with butterfly collars and worked in a high-rise with a million-dollar view.

Two years later, she had descended into anger and alcohol and left her job. She started hanging out with people who were using cocaine and became an addict herself, huddling against the wind on Skid Row here.

“You feel helpless to stop it,” she said of the cascade of events in which she went from having her own apartment to sleeping in seedy hotels and then, for a year, in the streets, where she joined the growing ranks of homeless female veterans.

## **81. US Army Assaults Its Biggest Fan**

By David Swanson, October 25, 2011 1:58 PM

<http://warisacrime.org/content/us-army-assaults-its-biggest-fan>

One of the most valuable benefits of putting political action into the form of nonviolent encampments is that we learn each other's stories as we occupy our public parks and squares. Here's a story from the October 2011 occupation in Freedom Plaza, Washington, D.C. There are many more, and we'd like to hear yours when you join us.

Aristine Maharry is 29 years old and now lives in Freedom Plaza. She grew up in a very military family, with members of her family having participated in every major U.S. war going back to the war for independence, and with members of every generation having joined the military.

Maharry's family did not encourage her to aspire to a military career, but -- as in many such stories I've heard -- actions spoke more loudly than words. Maharry was proud of her father's military experience. She hoped from a very young age to join the U.S. Army. She grew up playing at army with her half-brothers. They would flip the couch on its side and toss pretend grenades. She loved the board game Risk. The biggest holiday in Aristine's family was the Fourth of July. She doesn't say she bled red white and blue. She says she bled green, Army green. She wanted to serve her country and other people.

## **82. US Army General Charged With Sex Crimes**

Michael Biesecker and Lolita C. Baldor, Associated Press| Sep 26, 2012

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2012/09/26/us-army-general-arrested-on-sex-charges.html?ESRC=airforce-a.nl>

FORT BRAGG, N.C. - An Army brigadier general who served five combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan has been charged with forcible sodomy, multiple counts of adultery and having inappropriate relationships with several female subordinates, two U.S. defense officials said Wednesday.

The defense officials spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to provide details on the case.

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair faces possible courts martial on charges that include forced sex, wrongful sexual conduct, violating an order, possessing pornography and alcohol while deployed, and misusing a government travel charge card and filing fraudulent claims.

Sinclair, who served as deputy commander in charge of logistics and support for the 82nd Airborne Division in Afghanistan, was sent home in May because of the allegations, the officials said. Since he returned to the U.S., Sinclair has been assigned as a special assistant to the commanding general of 18th Airborne Corps. Often when general officers are under investigation they are temporarily assigned as special assistants to more senior officers or commanders.

### **83. Veterans Day 2011 Focus: Women vets and service members**

FROM: IVAW

Monday, November 7, 2011 2:58 PM

Take Action for Veterans Day!

Sign up here to help with our postcard campaign targeting Fort Hood Commander Campbell.

Donate to off-set costs of postcard mailings.

Dear Don,

Veterans Day 2011: A focus on Women veterans' and service members' right to heal

This Friday is Veterans Day, and IVAW's Operation Recovery campaign will be highlighting the experiences of women veterans and service members. Of the approximately 2 million who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, about 200,000 are women. Women service members and veterans face many of the same challenges that others in the military community face, but their experience is compounded by the institutionalized sexism and gender discrimination of the military and the VA system.

What women veterans and service members are experiencing:

Approximately 40% of active duty women have children, but military childcare is not meeting the current need and there are limited mental health services to help military mothers and their children.

Many VA medical centers are not women-friendly, and half of the nation's VA medical centers do not have a gynecologist on staff.

1 in 3 women veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who were diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress also reported Military Sexual Trauma. Those women reporting MST were 4 times more likely to develop Post Traumatic Stress than those not reporting MST. (MST also affects men. In FY 2010, the 45.7% of veterans who screened positive for MST were men.)

While the Veterans Benefits Administration approves 53% of all claims related to Post Traumatic Stress, it accepts far fewer claims — only 32% — when the PTS is related to sexual trauma.

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- While the Veterans Benefits Administration approves 53% of all claims related to Post Traumatic Stress, it accepts far fewer claims — only 32% — when the PTS is related to sexual trauma.

- Prosecution rates for sexual predators in the military is low; in 2010 less than 21% of cases went to trial. Of these, only 53% were convicted.
- Women veterans are twice as likely to become homeless as women who never served in the military. In the last ten years, the number of women veterans who have become homeless has doubled. Most of them are under age 35.
- It is harder for women veterans to find a job after the service. 14.7% of women veterans are unemployed.

### **85. Veterans Testify on Rapes and Scant Hope of Justice**

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER, Published: March 13, 2013

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/14/us/politics/veterans-testify-on-rapes-and-scant-hope-of-justice.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130314&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/14/us/politics/veterans-testify-on-rapes-and-scant-hope-of-justice.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130314&_r=0)

Witnesses at a Senate panel investigating sexual assault in the military were, from left, Anu Bhagwati of the Service Women's Action Network; BriGette McCoy, who was raped when she was 18 while with the Army in Germany; Rebekah Havrilla, a former Army sergeant who was raped by a superior officer; and Brian K. Lewis, a former Navy petty officer who was raped by a superior. Christopher Gregory/The New York Times

### **86. Volunteers: Peace Corps mistreats victims of rape, sexual assault**

Former volunteers, parents of victims and agency's director to testify at House hearing

msnbc.com , May 11, 2011, [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42988397/ns/us\\_news-life/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42988397/ns/us_news-life/)

The House Foreign Affairs Committee is holding a hearing Wednesday to examine the handling of sexual violence and other crimes against Peace Corps volunteers after a number of victims publicly complained about the agency's conduct.

Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Florida, chairwoman of the committee, cited reports of "gross mismanagement of sexual assault complaints," according to The New York Times.

The hearing follows an investigative report by ABC News revealing that hundreds of women had been raped or sexually abused while serving in the Peace Corps overseas.

### **87. While at War, Female Soldiers Fight to Belong**

By BENEDICT CAREY, MAY 24, 2015

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/25/health/while-at-war-female-soldiers-fight-to-belong.html?emc=edit\\_th\\_20150525&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=65263693&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/25/health/while-at-war-female-soldiers-fight-to-belong.html?emc=edit_th_20150525&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=65263693&r=0)

Courtney Wilson relaxing last fall in a park in Madrid, two months after finishing her contract with the Army. Credit James Rajotte for The New York Times. The day's work was in full swing, the men in the platoon needed a break, and one of them began imitating his leader's style of walking. Head down, elbows flapping, legs flying forward, he soon had the other soldiers laughing and calling out modifications:

### **88. Why Recent Child Rape Case Against Trump Should Not Be Ignored: Victim Has A Witness**

By DaisiesArePretty

Wednesday Jun 29, 2016 • 2:42 PM PDT

### **89. Women at Arms**

Living and Fighting Alongside Men, and Fitting In

By STEVEN LEE MYERS, NYTimes, August 17, 2009

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/17/us/17women.html?fta=y>

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARHORSE, Iraq — There is no mistaking that this dusty, gravel-strewn camp northeast of Baghdad is anything other than a combat outpost in a still-hostile land. And there is no mistaking that women in uniform have had a transformative effect on it. They have their own quarters, boxy trailers called CHUs (the military's acronym for containerized housing units, pronounced "chews").

### **90. Women at war: Sexual violence in the US military**

BBC News, last updated at 09:45 GMT, Tuesday, 16 February 2010

<http://source.ly/10s94>

Right: Helena Merriman reports on a woman whose experience of sexual assault, while serving in the US Air Force in Afghanistan, turned her into a campaigner for the welfare of service women.

Marti Ribeiro was born into a military family.

Her grandfather and father were both in the Air Force - and all her life she had wanted to join the armed forces.

I put my weapon down and walked away to smoke a cigarette and that was when I was attacked. Marti Ribeiro. After she finished school she joined the Air Force Reserves and a few years later, in March 2003, she was deployed to Iraq.

While she loved her job as a public affairs specialist, from the time she arrived she was routinely harassed and called Air Force Barbie.

## **91. Women in the ranks**

By Carolyn Davis, Philadelphia Inquirer, Dec. 10, 2009

<http://www.philly.com/inquirer/magazine/78944387.html>

There are more in the military than ever before, not infrequently coming under fire. Yet the homefront keeps calling.

Deborah Samson would be brimming with envy over Marine Lance Cpl. Ryann Campion's current tour of duty in Afghanistan.

In 1782, enraged that women were not allowed to fight the British in the Revolutionary War, Samson used the identity of her deceased brother Robert Shurtliff, cutting her hair and dressing in men's clothing to join the Continental Army. She became a heralded soldier - and the first woman to fight for her country.

Campion's enlistment required no such extraordinary efforts. A few years ago, the 19-year-old from Hatboro merely walked over to Marine recruiters near a local car show as they challenged passersby to try a pull-up bar.

## **92. Women In War: 'I've Lived Out There With The Guys'**

Women In War: 'I've Lived Out There With The Guys'

by Rachel Martin, February 21, 2011

<http://www.npr.org/2011/02/21/133818218/women-in-war-ive-lived-out-there-with-the-guys>

Part 1 in a series.

During the past 10 years, the roles women play in the military have changed. More than 200,000 women have served in the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and many of them have found themselves in direct ground combat situations, despite a Pentagon policy that's designed to prevent that from happening.

"This will be the first generation of veterans where large segments of women returning will have been exposed to some form of combat," Joint Chiefs Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen said last year. "And I know what the law says and I know what it requires, but I'd be hard pressed to say that any woman who serves in Afghanistan today or who's served in Iraq over the last few years did so without facing the same risks of their male counterparts."

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### **94. Women Vets: A Battle All Their Own**

By Barry Yeoman, November 9, 2013 – 5:05 AM – 20 Comments

<http://www.parade.com/225844/barryyeoman/women-vets-a-battle-all-their-own/>

While female service members confront the same problems as male veterans, they also face distinct struggles as women. Meet two brave women on their emotional journey from the front lines back home.

Stacy Keyte, with son Caleb, now 9, returned home from Iraq in 2006.(Richard Foulser for Parade)

When Stacy Keyte was deployed to Iraq in 2005, her life as a young wife and mother had just begun to take shape. She had a 15-month-old son, Caleb, a happy boy who loved dancing around the living room with his mom; and Keyte and her husband, Charles, both members of the Texas Army National Guard, had started looking for a new home. But the day after closing on a house in Waxahachie, Tex., Charles was called up, too, to train other guardsmen to patrol the U.S.-Mexico border. Putting their family life on hold, the young parents entrusted Caleb to his father's best friend's mother as they went off separately to serve their country.

### **95. Womens' Rights are Human Rights**

Tue, March 8, 2011 8:51:33 PM

From: IVAW <webmaster@ivaw.org>

Dear Don,

Happy Women's History Month!

In honor of International Women's Day and Women's History Month, Iraq Veterans Against the War honors those women who are organizing to end the wars, and all women who have paved the way before us.

We also want to use this month as a platform to raise awareness about the particular ways war and militarism impacts women, and thereby, our larger community. As a start, today we launched an internal petition within IVAW condemning Military Sexual Trauma (MST). MST is defined by the military as "any lingering physical, emotional, or psychological symptoms resulting from a physical assault of a sexual nature, or battery of a sexual nature."<sup>1</sup> This encompasses a range of experiences, from sexual harassment to unwanted sexual contact (including stalking and rape), and both women and men in the military can experience it. See IVAW's Statement on Military Sexual Trauma and share it with your friends.

#### **96. References on Sexual Assault and Rape of Women in the Military**

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Helen Benedict, "The Private War of Women Soldiers," Salon.com, March 7, 2007 ([http://www.salon.com/nesw/feature/2007/03/07/women\\_in\\_military](http://www.salon.com/nesw/feature/2007/03/07/women_in_military))

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Suzanne Goldenberg, "I Reported the Rape, then Watched My Career Implode,"

Salon.com, October 25, 2004

([http://archive.salon.com/news.feature/2004/10/25/female\\_assault\\_victims/](http://archive.salon.com/news.feature/2004/10/25/female_assault_victims/)) Your search for "http://archive.salon.com/news.feature/20..." returned no results.

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Cathy Hong, "When Will the U.S. Military Tackle the Problem of Sexual Assault?"  
Salon.com, May 18, 2004 ([http://archive.salon.com/mwt/feature/2004/05/18/miitajay\\_assault](http://archive.salon.com/mwt/feature/2004/05/18/miitajay_assault))

## **97. Women to be allowed to serve on subs in 2012**

**By RUSS BYNUM**

**The Associated Press**

**(Mail Tribune article on page 5A, April 30, 2010)**

KINGS BAY NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE, Ga. — The first U.S. women allowed to serve aboard submarines will be reporting for duty by 2012, the Navy said Thursday as the military ordered an end to one of its few remaining gender barriers.

The cramped quarters and scant privacy aboard submarines, combined with long tours of up to 90 days at sea, kept them off-limits to female sailors for 16 years after the Navy began allowing women to serve on all its surface ships in 1994.

There were some protests, particularly from wives of sub sailors, after the military began formulating a plan last fall. But it received no objections from Congress after Defense Secretary Robert Gates notified lawmakers in mid-February that the Navy intended to lift the ban. The deadline for Congress to intervene passed Wednesday.

Rear Adm. Barry Bruner, who led the Navy's task force on integrating women onto submarines, brushed aside questions from reporters about the potential for sexual misconduct or unexpected pregnancies among a coed crew.

"We're going to look back on this four or five years from now, shrug our shoulders and say, 'What was everybody worrying about?' " said Bruner, the top sub commander at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base in coastal Georgia, where the announcement was made.

The first group of women will consist entirely of officers assigned to guided-missile attack submarines and ballistic-missile submarines.

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## **99. Center for Women Veterans**

**25 Frequently Asked Questions from Women Veterans** The most frequently asked questions from women veterans, along with the answers, can now be found on the Center's website [www1.va.gov/womenvet/](http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/). "These 25 questions are the ones we hear most often," said the Director of the Center for Women Veterans. "Too many women veterans don't know that they are eligible for the full range of VA benefits. Too many are unaware of special programs for them." The Director of the Center for Women Veterans notes that the information will be helpful to male veterans as well. Topics include services available to women veterans; information about gender-specific services (including Pap smears, mammography, and prenatal and child care), evaluations for nursing home care, and employment options for women veterans.

## **100. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE 44:110 (2003)**

Factors Associated With Women's Risk  
of Rape in the Military Environment.

Am J Ind Med 43:262–273, 2003.

Anne G. Sadler, Brenda M. Booth, Brian L. Cook, and Bradley N. Doebbeling

In the Abstract, Results section, p 262, the rate of rape should be 30% not 28%. The same error appears in the Discussion section, p 272, second paragraph: "The rate of rape found in our research (28%) . . .". The rate should be 30%.