



Our Collective Work Is Making a Difference

Yes. Our collective work has been making a difference and here are some of the ways in which it has made a difference.

- Intimate partner homicides overall have been steadily falling.
 - Most of that reduction has been in the number of men killed by female intimate partners.
 - While the number of women killed has also declined, the proportion of women killed by an intimate partner remains high in comparison to men (45% of women killed are killed by an intimate partner; 5% of men) and has been increasing.¹
 - BUT the decline in homicide rates overall may not be true for rural communities. One study of homicide between 1980 and 1999 found that rates of intimate partner murder were considerably higher and increased dramatically in rural communities while rates were falling elsewhere.²
- The overall rate of intimate partner violence declined by 64% between 1994 and 2010: from 9.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 and older to 3.6 per 1,000³
- Intimate partner violence declined by more than 60% for both males and females. BUT, most intimate partner violence continues to be perpetrated against women.⁴
- Rape and sexual assault has fallen significantly, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey: 63% between 1993 and 2010; from 2.6 per 1,000 to 1.0 per 1,000
- VAWA funding is associated with reductions in both rape and aggravated assault.⁵

¹ Alexia Cooper and Erica L. Smith, *Homicide Trends in the United States, 1980-2008*, Bureau of Justice Statistics, November 2011.

² Adria Gallup-Black, *Rural Trends in Family and Intimate Partner Homicide: 1980-1999*, report to National Institute of Justice, 2004.

³ Shannon Catalano, *Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2010*, Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report, November 2012 (data from National Crime Victimization Survey).

⁴ *Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2010*.

⁵ Rachel Boba and David Lilley, "Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Funding: A Nationwide Assessment of Effects on Rape and Assault," *Violence Against Women*, February 2009.