**Experiences with Sexual Violence Among People with Disabilities in Indiana**

Results from the 2021 Indiana Disability Justice’s Community Strengths, Needs, and Desires Assessment

**TEXT ONLY VERSION**

**Experiences During Adolescence**

* Abusive Relationships
	+ Over half of the respondents (including 55% of women and 33% of men) reported having an intimate relationship in adolescence that “hurt me more often than not.”
* Unwanted Touching
	+ 63% of respondents reported that someone touched them “in a private area” during adolescence in a way that made them uncomfortable or upset.
	+ 20% of men were unsure whether they had this experience.
* Coerced Sex
	+ Nearly half of the respondents reported that “someone convinced me to have sex when I didn’t really want to” during adolescence and 17% were unsure if they have experienced this.

**Experiences During Adulthood**

* Disrupted Intimacy
	+ 30% of respondents reported that at least once, someone had prevented them from engaging in sexual activity with a partner.
* Unwanted Touching
	+ 60% of all respondents indicated that someone had touched their genitals/private areas when they did not want to be touched.
	+ Half of the respondents reported that someone had told them to touch that person’s genitals despite the respondent not wanting to do so.
* Unwanted Comments
	+ 2/3rd of respondents (including 85% of women) reported that someone had commented on their body in an upsetting way.

*Transparency and Important Notes About This Survey*

This survey is not peer-reviewed research and is not representative of people with disabilities in Indiana, but it is statistically significant. Data regarding gender is weighted but data regarding age is not.

This survey received 41 responses by participants living in 17 counties (including 9 out of 10 INSILC districts). Among those who disclosed their demographic data, participants included:

- 22 women, 6 men, and 2 non-binary people

- People aged from ranges 18-25 up to 76-85

- 26 white people, 2 Native Americans, 1 Black person, 1 Latinx person, 1 Asian or Pacific Islander person, and 1 multiracial person

- 23 straight people, 7 LGB/SGL people, 1 asexual person, and 1 questioning person

- People raised in mainline and evangelical Christianity, Catholicism, Judaism, and atheism.

Participants included people with cognitive and developmental disabilities (9), chronic illnesses (13), physical disabilities (12), sensory disabilities (9) [including Blind and/or Deaf participant], psychiatric disabilities and neurodivergence (21).