

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime



The Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center

**Your Primary Source
for Information
About
Victims of Crime**

Office for Victims of Crime

OVC

Advocating for the Fair

Treatment of Crime Victims

The Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center

Established by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC) is your primary source for crime victim information. Whether you are drafting policies on domestic violence, searching for up-to-date research on child abuse, investigating a story on hate crime, or seeking statistics on the extent and nature of victimization in the United States, you can turn to OVCRC. Highly trained information specialists answer your questions by utilizing OVC and other DOJ publications, national and regional victimization statistics, a comprehensive criminal and juvenile justice library, and OVCRC's well-established network of victim advocates and organizations.

Office for Victims of Crime

Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center

Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000

1-800-627-6872

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday, eastern time

National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)

World Wide Web: <http://www.ncjrs.org>

Office for Victims of Crime

World Wide Web: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>

OVCRC Resources

As a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), OVCRC has direct access to the most comprehensive criminal justice library in the world—the NCJRS Research and Information Center. The NCJRS collection contains the latest research findings, statistical reports, program descriptions, and evaluations on victim issues published by public and private sources, including the Federal Government. OVCRC acquires more than 500 new documents for the NCJRS collection each year, covering such topics as:

- Victims' Rights
- Victim Compensation
- Victim Services in Indian Country
- Family Violence
- Violence Against Women
- Hate and Bias-Related Violence
- Crimes Against the Elderly
- Civil Legal Remedies
- Mental Health Services for Crime Victims
- Multicultural Issues
- International Victim Issues
- Media Issues
- Victims of Juvenile Offenders
- Survivors of Homicide Victims
- Child Victims
- Victims of Drunk Drivers

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In addition to these resources, OVCRC has developed a vast network of agencies, organizations, and individuals who serve the needs of crime victims. Through this network, OVCRC information specialists will direct you to resources that can address your concerns, such as a victim/witness coordinator in a local prosecutor's office, an expert studying the psychological effects of victimization, or a grassroots organization involved in protecting victims of domestic violence.

Accessing Victim Information Electronically

Information concerning crime victims is now available from OVCRC 24 hours a day through the Internet and Fax-on-Demand. The NCJRS **World Wide Web** Justice Information Center (JIC) menus provide information and publications from all Office of Justice Programs (OJP) agencies—the Office for Victims of Crime, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Bureau of Justice Assistance—as well as from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Many of these publications are available in a format that allows you to download full text and graphics. Announcements about current publications and developments in criminal justice also are published in the free **Justice Information (JUSTINFO) Electronic Newsletter** distributed on the 1st and 15th of every month.

For more information and help with online services, first-time users can send an e-mail message to: **look@ncjrs.org**. If you require technical assistance or have specific questions on criminal and juvenile justice topics, you can e-mail your query to **askncjrs@ncjrs.org**. Additionally, selected publications can be obtained through the **Fax-on-Demand System**. Call 1-800-627-6872 and follow the instructions to receive a listing of available publications.

OVCRC Products Working for You

Whether you are a crime victim, a victim advocate, a law enforcement officer, a legislator, a student, or a member of the general public, you can depend on OVCRC's publications and products.

Publications

OVCRC distributes victim-related publications produced by Office of Justice Programs agencies and the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Most of these publications are free. These include OVC documents, Bureau of Justice Statistics data reports, National Institute of Justice research publications, Bureau of Justice Assistance program descriptions and evaluations, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention bulletins, and Office of National Drug Control Policy drug-related crime fact sheets.

OVCRC data base searches

OVCRC provides three data base search products of the NCJRS document collection for a nominal fee.

- **Topical Searches** are prepackaged document summaries that offer a representative sample of key materials on victims and other criminal justice issues.
- **Topical Bibliographies** list up to 200 document citations with summaries, including subject and title indexes, and are more comprehensive than Topical Searches.
- **Custom Searches** identify citations corresponding to user-specified areas of interest and other parameters. They contain up to 400 citations and include bibliographic information and content summaries. Custom Searches are available in hard copy printouts or on IBM-PC compatible diskettes.

Specialized products

- **Information Packages** containing data and research summaries on specific victim issues, relevant OJP documents, a reading list, and contact referrals.
- **Fact Sheets** summarizing new issues affecting victims and their service providers.
- **Videos** providing information that can be used as a training tool for victim service providers and allied professionals.

OVCRC outreach

In keeping with its primary purpose—to increase awareness of crime victims’ needs and to improve services to them—OVCRC maintains a close alliance with victim service professionals. As part of its outreach efforts, OVCRC staff attend national, State, and local conferences and display free literature at the OVCRC exhibit. In addition, OVCRC provides publications and resource materials for training workshops, seminars, and conferences upon request.

Become a vital part of OVCRC’s user network.
Call, write, or e-mail us today.

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askncjrs@ncjrs.org

To offer comments and suggestions
tellncjrs@ncjrs.org
