



Research In the News

Questions
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the Article ?

DATA ON RAPE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION DIFFICULT TO COMPARE

Most data available for the European Union (EU) nations, of which there are 28, are relatively easy to compare. But information on rape and domestic violence is different. In fact, most individual EU member states that do collect such data often have generally relied on police reports, not on surveys. As such, countries that are working hard to improve conditions for rape victims and victims of IPV tend to have increasing rates of victimization because more victims are willing to come forward. As such, comparing the true magnitude of victimization for these crimes across EU countries is virtually impossible.

1. How would the different cultures across countries affect how survey researchers could ask questions to estimate the prevalence of rape and other sexual assault victimizations?
2. Would cultural difference affect the way individuals respond to these types of surveys across countries? How so? Is it possible to compare estimates of rape and IPV across countries?