

Recidivism Studies References

Fear of sex disregards government data that confirms the sex offender population has one of the lowest recidivism rates of any category. We've had this data for decades, yet our legislators continue to be "tough on crime" by lying to the public and feeding on our fear of ourselves.

[Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010](#)

Among all released inmates, an estimated 1.7% were arrested for rape or sexual assault.

Durose, Matthew R., Alexia D. Cooper, and Howard N. Snyder.

Http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4986. Rep. no. NCJ 244205.

Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2014. *Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) - Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010*.

Bureau of Justice Statistics, 22 Apr. 2014. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

This contrasts with robbers (70.2%), burglars (74%), larcenists (74.6%), motor vehicle thieves (78%), selling stolen property (77.4%), possessing, using or selling illegal weapons (70.2%). (paraphrase)

Wright, Richard Gordon. "2." *Sex Offender Laws: Failed Policies, New Directions*.

New York: Springer Pub., 2009. 39. Print.

[Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from Prison in 1994](#)

Within the first 3 years following their release from prison in 1994, 5.3% of released sex offenders were rearrested for a sex crime. 3.5% were reconvicted for a sex crime within the 3-year followup period.

Durose, Matthew R., Patrick A. Langan, and Erica L. Schmitt. *Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) - Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from Prison in 1994*. Rep. Bureau of Justice Statistics, 16 Nov. 2003. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

Finally, legislators and other policymakers should adopt evidence-based policies to create offender-specific control or treatment methods that are not over-inclusive. Doing so, however, would require them to recognize that many of the widely-held beliefs regarding sex offenders are not based on empirical proof, but rather are myths. Only when policymakers reject commonly-held myths about sex offenders will effective control policies be designed and implemented.

Galeste, Marcus A., Henry F. Fradella, and Brenda Vogel. "Sex Offender Myths in Print Media: Separating Fact from Fiction in U.S. Newspapers." *Western Criminology Review* 13.2 (2012): 4-24. *Sex Offender Myths In Print Media*. Sonoma State University. Web. 11 Nov. 2013.