

ching out

Profile describes Manhattan serial rapist

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Though most rapes are committed by people who know the victim, there are several reports of unknown rapists, including a suspected serial rapist, in Manhattan.

Since Oct. 1, 2000, seven reported rapes have been attributed to the Manhattan serial rapist. The last reported rape took place Aug. 7.

Kristen Kendrick, graduate student in sociology, wrote her thesis on the community effects of the Manhattan serial rapist. She said she looked through reports of rapes in the Manhattan Mercury and Collegian related to the rapist and police reports over several months to make conclusions.

She said the rapist, from what she found in the information, attacks his victims in the early morning hours between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. She said most of the rapes took place in apartment complexes, with several reportedly happening in upper-level apartments. She said the first six rapes took place in the north part of town near Snyder Family Stadium in the early morning. Also, she said the Aug. 7 rape was the only one that took place in the east part of town.

She said the reports suggest the rapist targets college-aged women who are alone in their homes at the time of the attack. She also said the first six victims are white.

Kendrick said the rapist usually wears all black clothing, including a long-sleeved T-shirt, pants, boots,

- ### PREVENTING RAPE
- Know your sexual intentions and limits.
 - Communicate those limits firmly and directly.
 - Speak up, leave or go for help if you feel threatened.
 - Make sure men know drinking, dressing provocatively and going to their room does not always indicate willingness for sex.
 - Drink in moderation.
 - Don't go to a party alone.
 - Avoid falling for pickup lines.
 - Trust your instincts.
 - Avoid men who show no respect for women.
 - Be aware of date-rape drugs.

Source: K-State Women's Center

gloves and a face mask. She said the Aug. 7 rape differed from others because the victim said the rapist was wearing a gray pull-over shirt and khaki pants.

She said the serial rapist's specific actions are unknown to the public because the Riley County Police Department does not discuss specific actions.

"Understandably, the information available is limited because the RCPD or any other police department cannot reveal certain sensitive information, and the copycat phenomenon could be of concern as well," Kendrick said.

The police department does reveal possible physical characteristics of the rapist. Kendrick said the

RAPIST | Director thinks more than 400 rapes occur at K-State

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rapist is generally described as a white male in his late 20s to early 30s. He is 5'9" to 6'0", 180 pounds with a medium build and broad shoulders. She said more recent descriptions suggest he is between 200-220 pounds with blue eyes.

"His description has changed little over the years, but it can be difficult to recognize the rapist because he wears a mask," she said.

Last month, a sketch was posted on a *Facebook.com* group, claiming the man in the sketch was the serial rapist. Students in the group accused a man of looking like the sketch and released his personal information.

The sketch, released by the RCPD, was of a man the police wanted to question. According to an Aug. 27 Collegian article, RCPD detective Carla Swarz said the man in the sketch is not a suspected rapist.

Swarz and Kendrick said people should not be hesitant to tell the police they know a person who matches the description of a person of interest or a suspect, though.

"None of us want to believe that someone we know could be the rapist, but that is part of why it has been difficult to catch him," she said. "Violent serial offenders often easily blend into the community."

The serial rapes account

for a very small portion of rapes in Manhattan. This number does not include unreported rapes. Mary Todd, director of the K-State Women's Center, said 10-20 percent of rapes are not reported.

Many of these rapes take place close to campus in places like apartments, bars and fraternity houses. Todd said according to a report from the U.S. Department of Justice, studies have shown that a campus of K-State's size averages about 412 rapes a year.

"I really believe that number is not inflated because so many people don't report rape," she said.

Todd, who offers assistance and advice to any rape victim, said the number of people who come to talk to her as rape victims has doubled every year over the past four years.

One of the most alarming types of rape, Todd said, is the growing popularity of using date-rape drugs. She said there are even patterns of date-rape drug use in Manhattan bars.

Todd said many rapes happen to women who have been drinking.

"It's two factors," she said. "First, rapists target women who are vulnerable, and intoxication makes them vulnerable. Second, an intoxicated woman may feel she can trust everyone because all night everybody had been so nice to them."

Though Todd said most

rapists cannot be identified beforehand, many show similar characteristics and actions.

One of the most recognizable rapist type is the wolf in sheep's clothing, also known as power assertive rapists. She said they are charming and clever.

"They impress people when they meet them, and they are clever, but they actually don't have loyalties to anyone," she said. "They plan ahead and what they want is to feel stronger."

Other common types of rapists are anger-retaliation rapists, who try to humiliate and punish women; opportunity rapists, who look to take advantage of rape situations, especially during other crimes; and sadistic rapists, who try to afflict serious harm to women.

Todd said women are not the only people who need to take actions against rape. Men can and should look for possible rapists.

"If you're a man of integrity, you wouldn't want to do something you would be ashamed of later in life," she said.

Todd said men possibly can see signs better than women, especially in their friends. She also said men can take more actions to stop other men.

"If a man does not respect women with friends, don't expect him to be different alone," said Todd.