

# Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network

The **Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network** (**RAINN**) is an American nonprofit anti-sexual assault organization, the largest in the United States.<sup>[1]</sup> RAINN operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline, as well as the Department of Defense (DoD) Safe Helpline, and carries out programs to prevent sexual assault, help survivors, and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice through victim services, public education, public policy, and consulting services<sup>[2]</sup>.

RAINN was founded in 1994 by Scott Berkowitz. Tori Amos was the organization's first spokesperson.<sup>[3][4][5]</sup> Christina Ricci is the current national spokesperson and a member of its National Leadership Council.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)

<b>Founded</b>	1994
<b>Location</b>	Washington, D.C., United States
<b>Area served</b>	United States
<b>Key people</b>	Scott Berkowitz Regan Burke Christina Ricci Tori Amos
<b>Website</b>	www.rainn.org (http://www.rainn.org/)

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## National Sexual Assault Hotline

The National Sexual Assault Hotline is a 24-hour, toll-free phone service that routes callers to the nearest local sexual assault service provider. More than 1,000 local partnerships are associated with RAINN to provide sexual assault victims with free, confidential services.<sup>[7]</sup> In the summer of 2006, RAINN received its one millionth caller<sup>[8]</sup> and it has helped over 2.5 million visitors since 1994<sup>[9]</sup>. Since 2008, RAINN has provided anonymous, on-line crisis support through its National Sexual Assault Online Hotline via instant messaging.<sup>[10]</sup>

Professional wrestler and writer Mick Foley is a member of RAINN's national leadership council and has worked as a volunteer on its online hotline. He became involved with the charity through his friendship with Tori Amos, his favorite musician.<sup>[11]</sup> During a 15-month period ending in April 2011, Foley logged more than 550 hours talking to victims online. The same month, he offered to mow anyone's lawn who donated up to a certain amount to the organization, saying, "If you want to help survivors of sexual assault, or just want to see a big guy with long hair mowing your lawn in front of your friends, please take part..."<sup>[12][13][14]</sup>

## RAINN Day

Every year, RAINN sponsors RAINN Day, a campaign geared toward raising awareness and educating students about sexual violence, bystander intervention, and recovery resources on college campuses. It used to be held in September<sup>[15]</sup>, but as of 2018 will be held in April to coincide with Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM).<sup>[16]</sup>

# Controversy

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In 2014, RAINN attracted controversy for its criticism of the phrase rape culture in its recommendations to a White House task force for addressing sexual assault on college campuses.<sup>[17][18][19]</sup>

## See also

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- List of anti-sexual assault organizations in the United States
- Post-assault treatment of sexual assault victims
- Rape in the United States

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## External links

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- [Official website \(http://www.rainn.org/\)](http://www.rainn.org/)
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