

# The Trial of Rape

UN Multi-Country study

For survivors of violence, societal, legal, and institutional policies and practices can act as barriers to justice

**“It was difficult for me to explain to male police officers. I was raped by men and I had to tell the story to men?”**

**- a female survivor -**





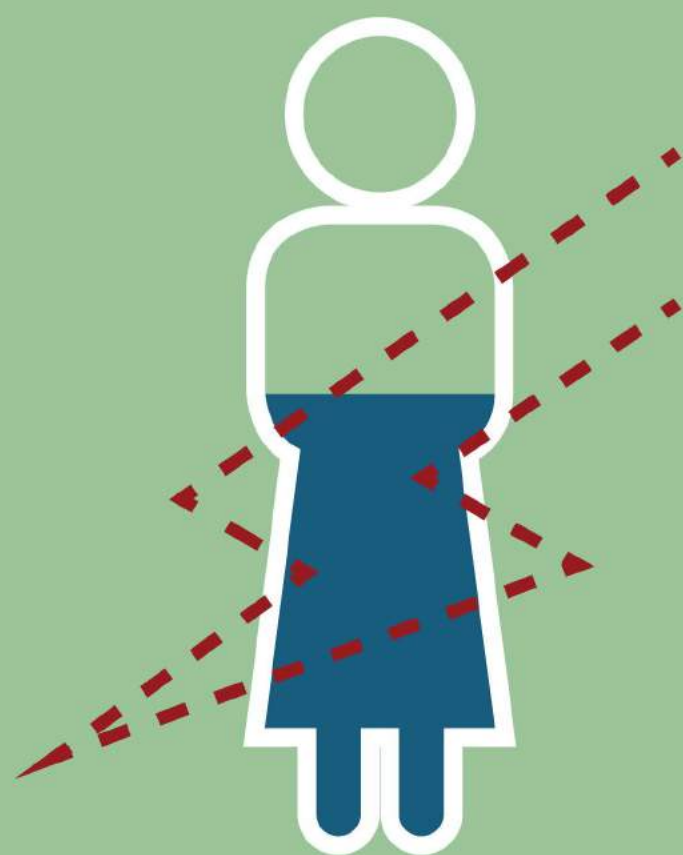
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**Myth** | “Real rape” involves physical injury

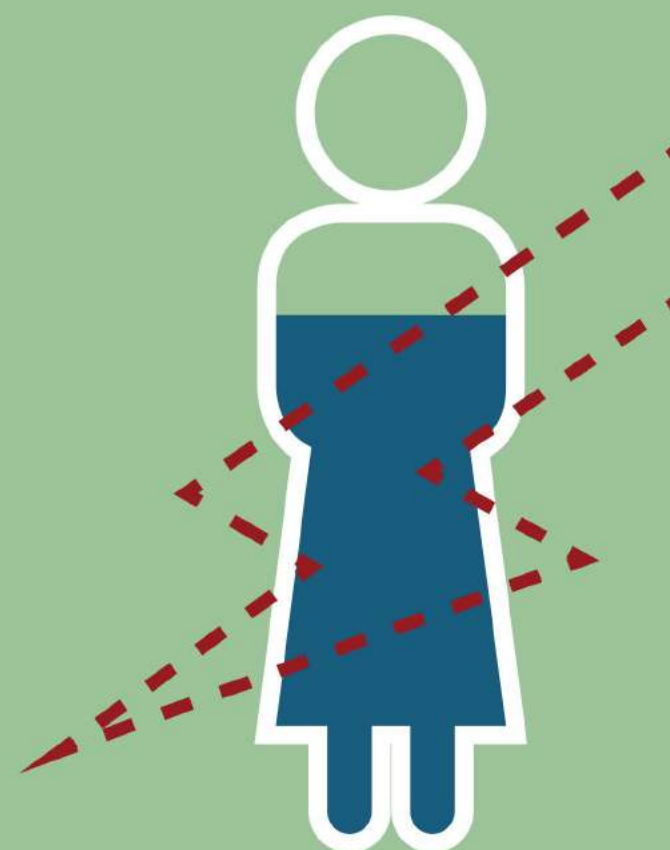
**Findings** | The majority of cases had no record or documentation of physical injury

## Thailand



68% of victims had no visible signs of injury

## Viet Nam



76% of victims had no visible signs of injury



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**Myth** | Rape and sexual violence are problems when they happen to ‘good’ or ‘innocent’ women

**Findings** | These beliefs are held by a number of criminal justice providers in Thailand and Viet Nam

“The first question (they asked was), ‘Why didn’t you simply accept compensation from him (the offender)? ...why were you asking for so many things?’ I thought that was an insult. It was me who was raped and I had to be the one who understands and compromises?”

- a female rape survivor -



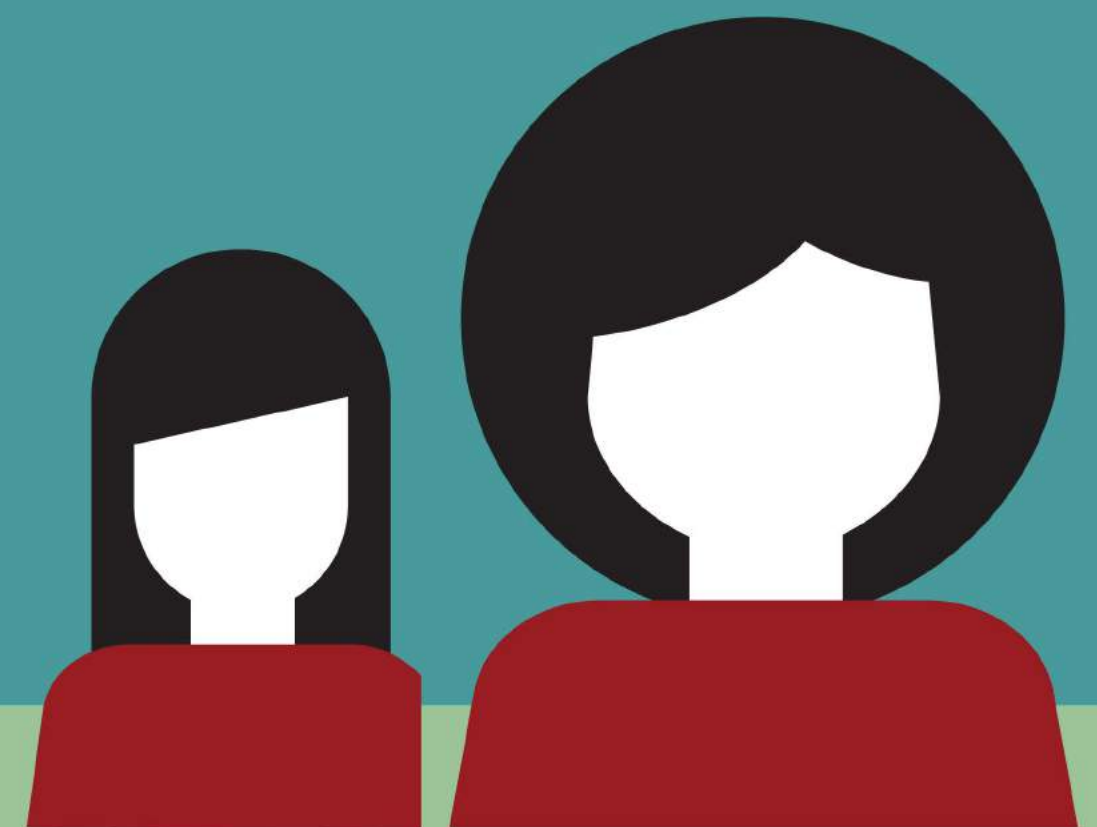


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## Legal and institutional factors influence attrition

The case file analysis found one victim who had to go to the police station more than 10 times before her case could proceed. Throughout the process, she said, the police tried to mediate and settle her case against her will. She was told to accept the money and drop the case because, “after all, he (the offender) is the father of your baby.”





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To protect women's human rights and end violence against women, the study recommends to:

- **Prioritize safety**
- **Train skilled responders**
- **Focus on quality services**
- **Coordinate services among justice actors and other response actors**





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Reasons for attrition are found at all stages of the criminal justice process

