

***La Polyvictimisation des Jeunes:  
Résultats d'une Étude Populationnelle Américaine***

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# Need for Comprehensive Epidemiology

- Understand full burden on children
- See inter-relationships among victimizations
- Identify highest risk children
- Track trends
- Appreciate developmental patterns
- Compensate for gaps



**JvQ**

**Juvenile Victimization  
Questionnaire**

# JVQ Modules

## ✓ Module A: Conventional Crime

- Robbery
- Personal Theft
- Vandalism
- Assault with Weapon
- Assault without Weapon
- Attempted Assault
- Kidnapping
- Bias Attack

## ✓ Module B: Child Maltreatment

- Physical Abuse by Caregiver
- Psychological/Emotional Abuse
- Neglect
- Custodial Interference/Family Abduction

## ✓ Module C: Peer & Sibling Victimization

- Gang or Group Assault
- Peer or Sibling Assault
- Nonsexual Genital Assault
- Bullying
- Emotional bullying
- Dating Violence

## ✓ Module D: Sexual Victimization

- Sexual Assault by Known Adult
- Nonspecific Sexual Assault
- Sexual Assault by Peer
- Rape: Attempted or Completed
- Flashing/Sexual Exposure
- Verbal Sexual Harassment
- Statutory Rape & Sexual Misconduct

## ✓ Module E: Witnessing & Indirect Victimization

- Witness to Domestic Violence
- Witness to Parent Assault of Sibling
- Witness to Assault with Weapon
- Witness to Assault without Weapon
- Burglary of Family Household
- Murder of Family Member or Friend
- Witness to Murder
- Exposure to Random Shootings, Terrorism or Riots
- Exposure to War or Ethnic Conflict

# National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence (NATSCEV)

- ✓ Survey conducted January 2008- May 2008
- ✓ National RDD sample of 4549 children age 0-17
- ✓ Telephone interviews with 2454 caregivers of children age 0-9
- ✓ Telephone interviews with 2095 youth age 10-17
- ✓ Respondents promised confidentiality and paid \$20 for participation
- ✓ Oversample of minorities and low income
- ✓ Interviews completed with 71% of eligible respondents contacted (63% with oversample of minorities and low income)

# NatSCEV JVQ Additions

## ✓ Community Crime Exposure

- Family/friend Sexual Assault
- Family/ friend Robbed
- Family/friend Gun Threat

## ✓ Internet Victimization

- Internet Harassment
- Internet Sexual Victimizations

## ✓ Family Abuse Exposure

- Parents Threaten Other Parent
- Parents Break Objects
- Parents Push Other Parent
- Parents Slap, Choke, Beat Up
- Any Teen or Grown-up Fight in Household

## ✓ School Violence Threat

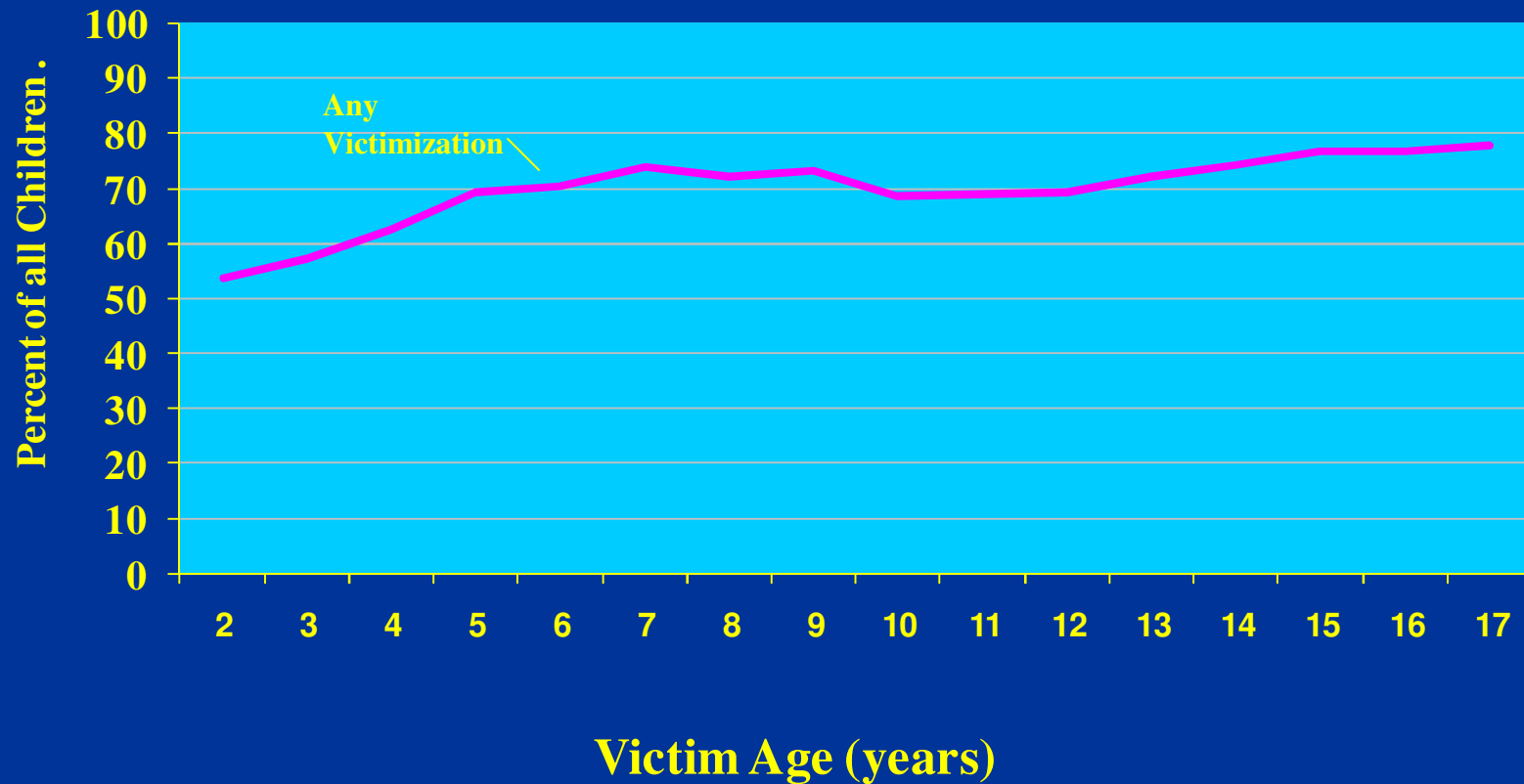
- Threaten School Bomb or Attack
- School Vandalism

# Responding to Children at Risk

	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>% of Flagged Cases</b>
% of cases that were flagged	6%	n/a
% flagged that were referred to clinician	1%	17%
% clinician referred out	<1%	63%

<b>Reasons for referral to clinician (could &gt;1):</b>	<b>#</b>
Physical abuse	33
Neglect	17
Suicidal ideation	17
Sexual assault/abuse	6
General psych functioning	1

# Any Past Year Victimization by Victim Age

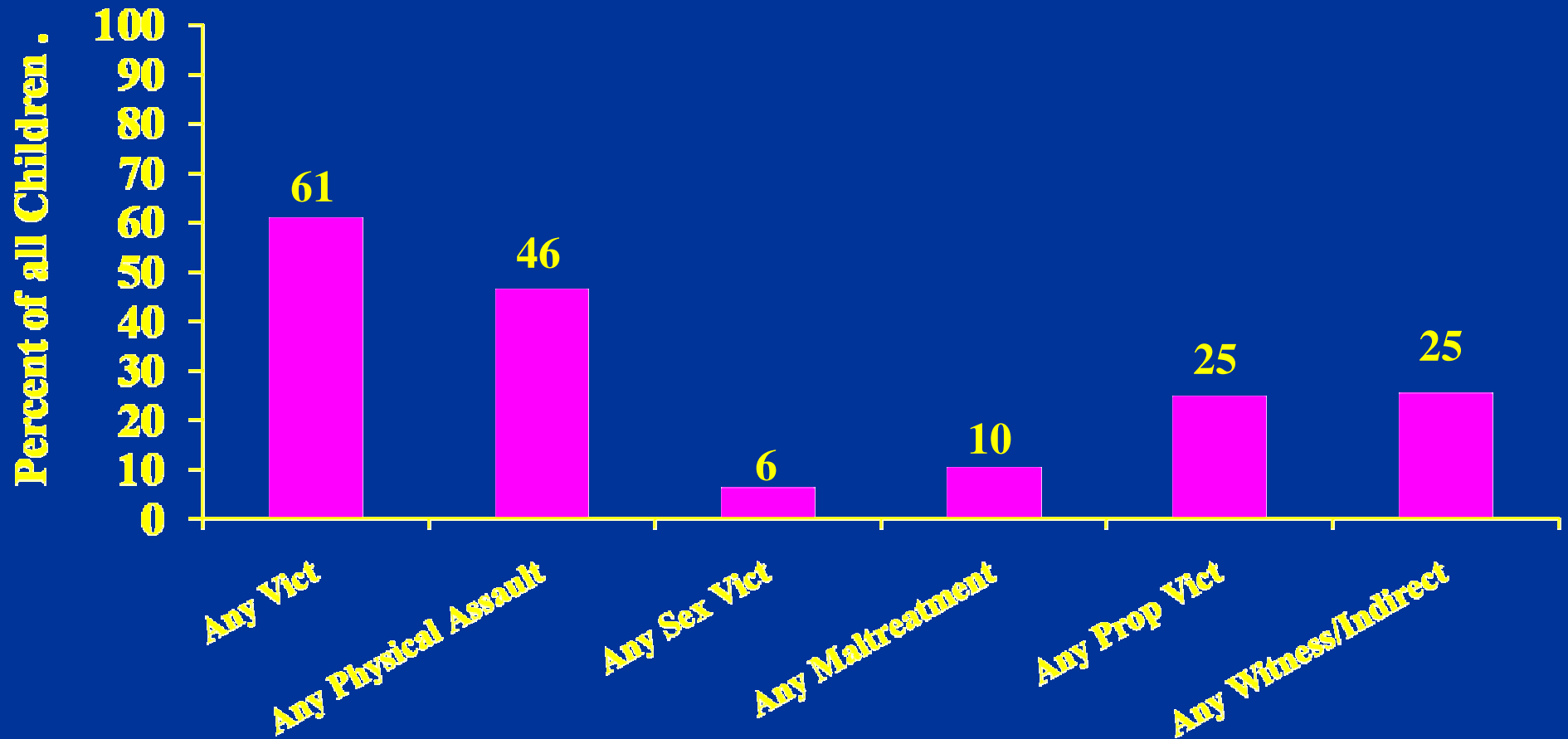


3-year running average

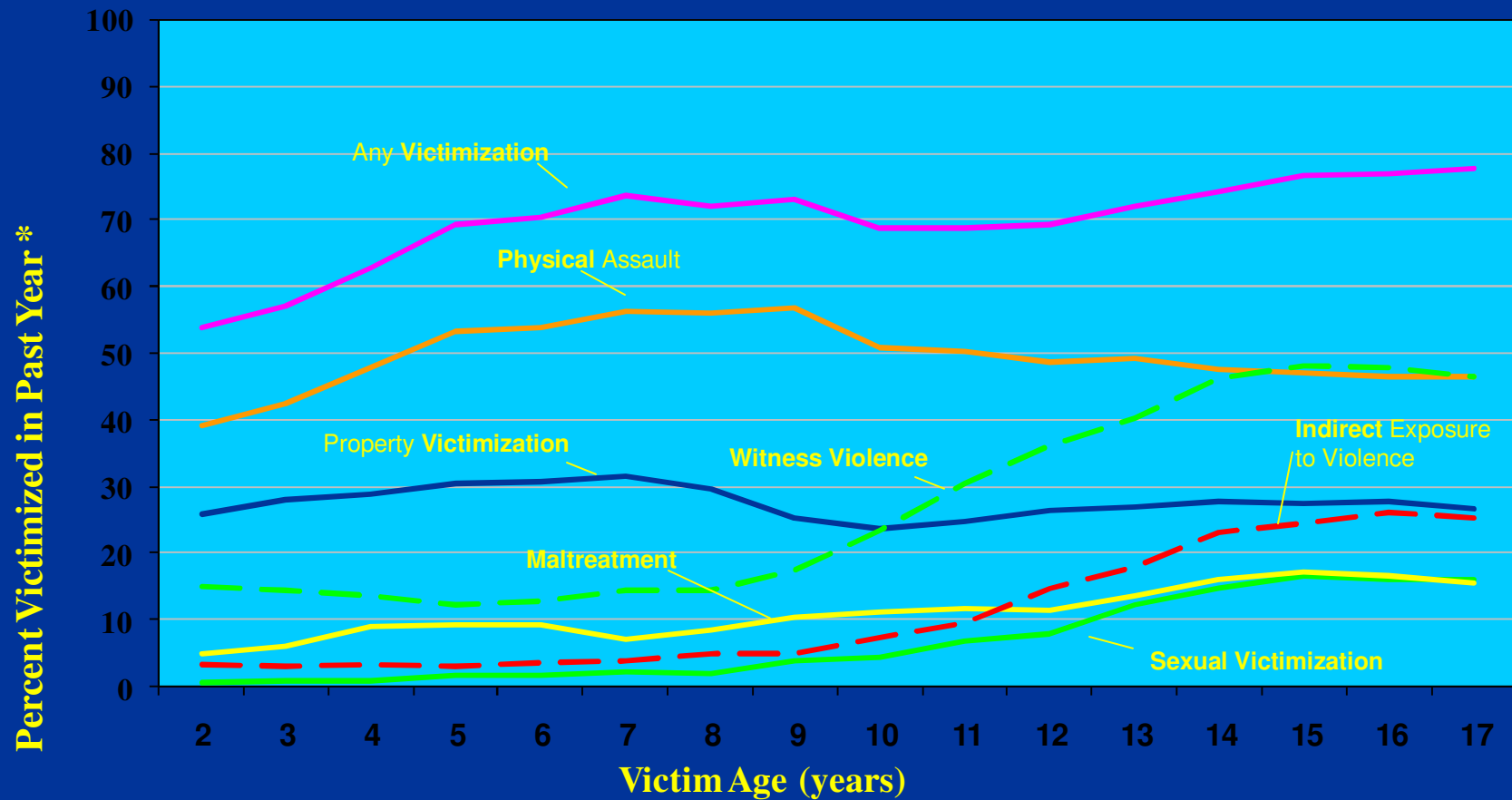
# Victimization in Last Year

## Total and Selected Aggregates

(Children 0-17, N=4549)



# Major Victimization Types by Victim Age



3-year running average

# Assaults and Bullying

VICTIMIZATION TYPE (within the past year)	All ages %
<i>Any physical assault</i>	<b>46.3</b>
Asslt w weapon	5.4
Asslt w injury	10.2
Asslt no injury	36.7
Attempted asslt	7.2
Kidnap, attempt/complete	0.5
Asslt by gang, group	1.9
Asslt by sibling	29.0
Asslt by peer, no sibling	17.6
Genital asslt	5.0
Dating violence	1.4
Threatened	8.9
Bias attack	1.7
Bullying	13.2
Teasing, emotional bully	19.7
Internet Harassment	1.8

Victim Age				
0-1 Yrs %	2-5 Yrs %	6-9 Yrs %	10-13 Yrs %	14-17 Yrs%
<b>17.9</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>46.9</b>
<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>0.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>18.8</b>
<b>17.4</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>32.4</b>
<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>
	<b>1.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>
<b>15.4</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>18.6</b>
<b>1.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>26.5</b>
	<b>1.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>
			<b>1.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>
	<b>3.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.1</b>
	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>
	<b>19.1</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>8.0</b>
	<b>13.5</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>15.8</b>
	<b>0.0~</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>

# *Physical Assaults, Bullying and Teasing in the Past Year*

- ✓ 46% of the sample reported a physical assault
- ✓ 10% reported an assault-related injury
- ✓ 13% reported bullying and 20% reported being teased and harassed
- ✓ Boys have higher rates of most assault and bullying victimizations
- ✓ Physical assaults with no injury and bullying highest among elementary school age children (6-9)
- ✓ Other assault categories and dating violence highest among teenagers
- ✓ Assault perpetrators most often juvenile acquaintances and siblings

# Sexual Victimization

VICTIMIZATION TYPE (within the past year)	All Ages %
<i>Any sexual victimization</i>	<b>6.1</b>
Sex assault	1.8
Rape, completed	0.2
Rape, attempt/completed	1.2
Sex asslt, known adult	0.3
Sex asslt, adult stranger	0.3
Sex asslt, w peer	1.3
Flashing, w peer	2.2
Flashing, w adult	0.4
Sex harassment	2.6
Statutory sex offense	0.1
Internet sex solicitation	1.5

Victim Age				
0-1 Yrs %	2-5 Yrs %	6-9 Yrs %	10-13 Yrs %	14-17 Yrs %
	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>16.3</b>
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.3</b>
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.9
0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.7
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>4.0</b>
	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>
	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.2
	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>
			0.0	0.6
	<b>0.0~</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>

## *Sexual Victimizations in the Past Year*

- ✓ 6% of the sample reported a sexual victimization
- ✓ 2% sexual assault; 1% completed or attempted rape
- ✓ Sexual victimizations highest among female teenagers
- ✓ Adult perpetrators responsible for 15% of total sexual victimizations and 29% of sexual assaults
- ✓ Most sexual victimizations perpetrated by acquaintances

# Maltreatment

VICTIMIZATION TYPE (within the past year)	All Ages %
<i>Any maltreatment</i>	<b>10.2</b>
Physical abuse	4.4
Sex asslt, known adult	0.3
Psych/emotional abuse	6.4
Neglect	1.5
Custod interfer/fam abduct	1.5

Victim Age				
0-1 Yrs %	2-5 Yrs %	6-9 Yrs %	10-13 Yrs %	14-17 Yrs %
<b>2.2</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>16.6</b>
<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>
0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.9
	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>
0.6	1.7	1.2	1.5	1.9
1.0	1.4	1.1	2.4	1.6

## *Child Maltreatment in the Past Year*

10% of sample reported some form of child maltreatment

- ✓ Emotional abuse most common
- ✓ Rates similar for boys and girls (except sexual abuse)
- ✓ Rates lowest for pre-school age children

# Property Victimizations

VICTIMIZATION TYPE (within the past year)	All Ages %
<i>Any property victimization</i>	<b>24.6</b>
Robbery, w non-sibling	4.8
Vandalism, w non-sibling	6.0
Theft, w non-sibling	6.9

Victim Age			
2-5 Yrs %	6-9 Yrs %	10-13 Yrs %	14-17 Yrs %
<b>27.8</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>27.6</b>
<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>13.0</b>

## *Property Victimizations in the Past Year*

25% of the sample reported property victimizations

- ✓ 5% experienced robbery, 7% theft, and 6% vandalism by non-siblings
- ✓ Boys have higher rates of property victimizations
- ✓ Most often perpetrated by juvenile acquaintances

# Witnessing/Indirect Victimizations

VICTIMIZATION TYPE (within the past year)	All Ages %
<i>Any witness or indirect</i>	<b>25.3</b>
Any witness family asslt	9.8
Witness partner asslt	6.2
Witness physical abuse	2.1
Witness other family asslt	3.1
Witness asslt in community	19.2
Witness murder	0.5
Exposure to shooting,	5.3
Exposure to war	0.7
<i>Any indirect exp to fam asslt</i>	<b>10.3</b>
Indirect exposure family asslt	0.8
Indirect exp to community viol	9.7
Household theft	7.1
School threat of bomb or attack	5.1

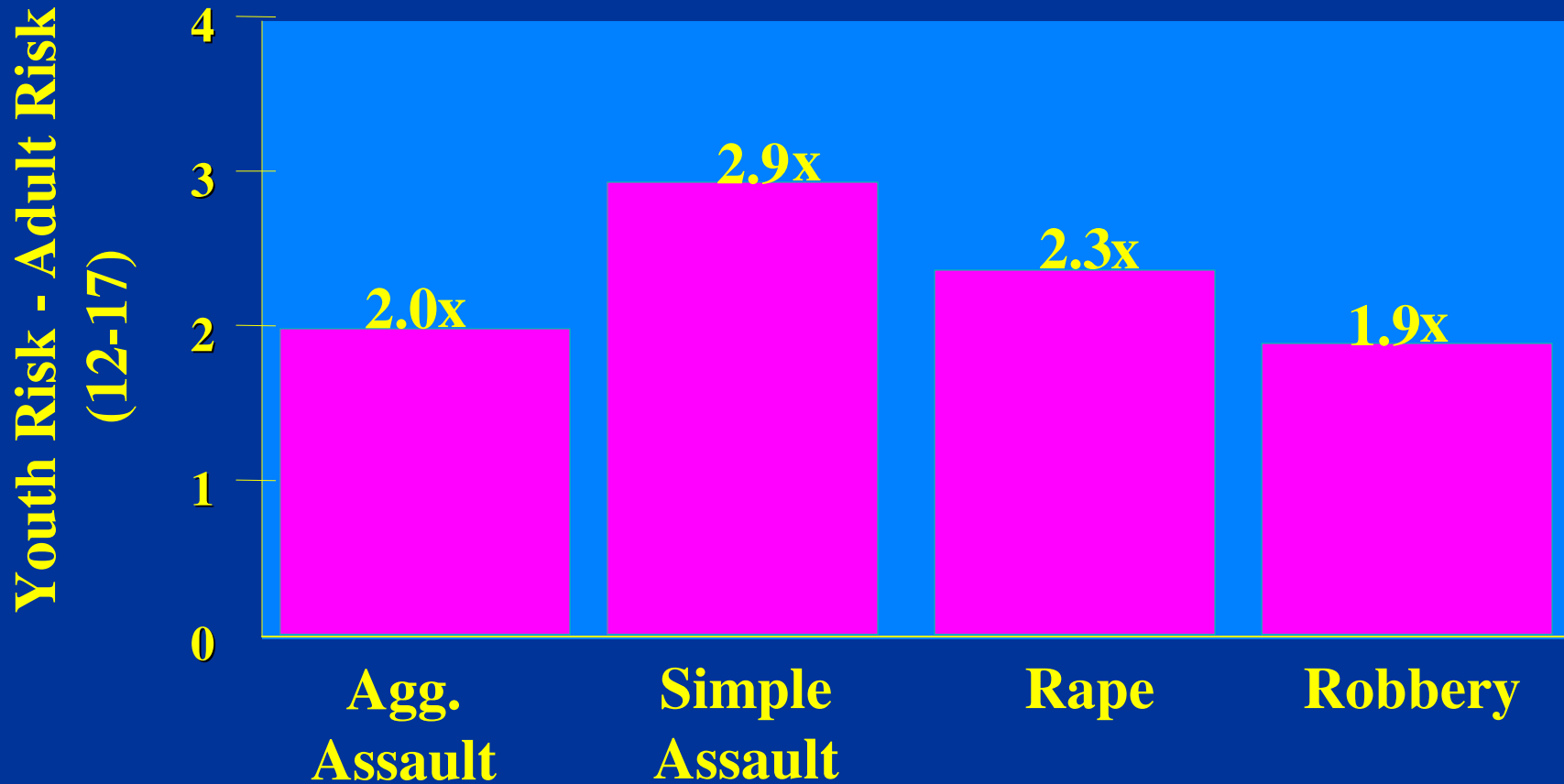
Victim Age				
0-1 Yrs %	2-5 Yrs %	6-9 Yrs %	10-13 Yrs %	14-17 Yrs %
<b>10.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>47.6</b>
<b>7.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>4.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>
<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>5.2</b>
	<b>5.8</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>42.2</b>
0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.3
<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>
	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>25.3</b>
	0.3	0.6	1.2	1.2
	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>24.5</b>
	5.8	6.3	7.1	8.8
	<b>0.8~</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>15.4</b>

## *Witnessed and Indirect Victimization in the Past Year*

25% of the sample witnessed or was indirectly exposed to victimization

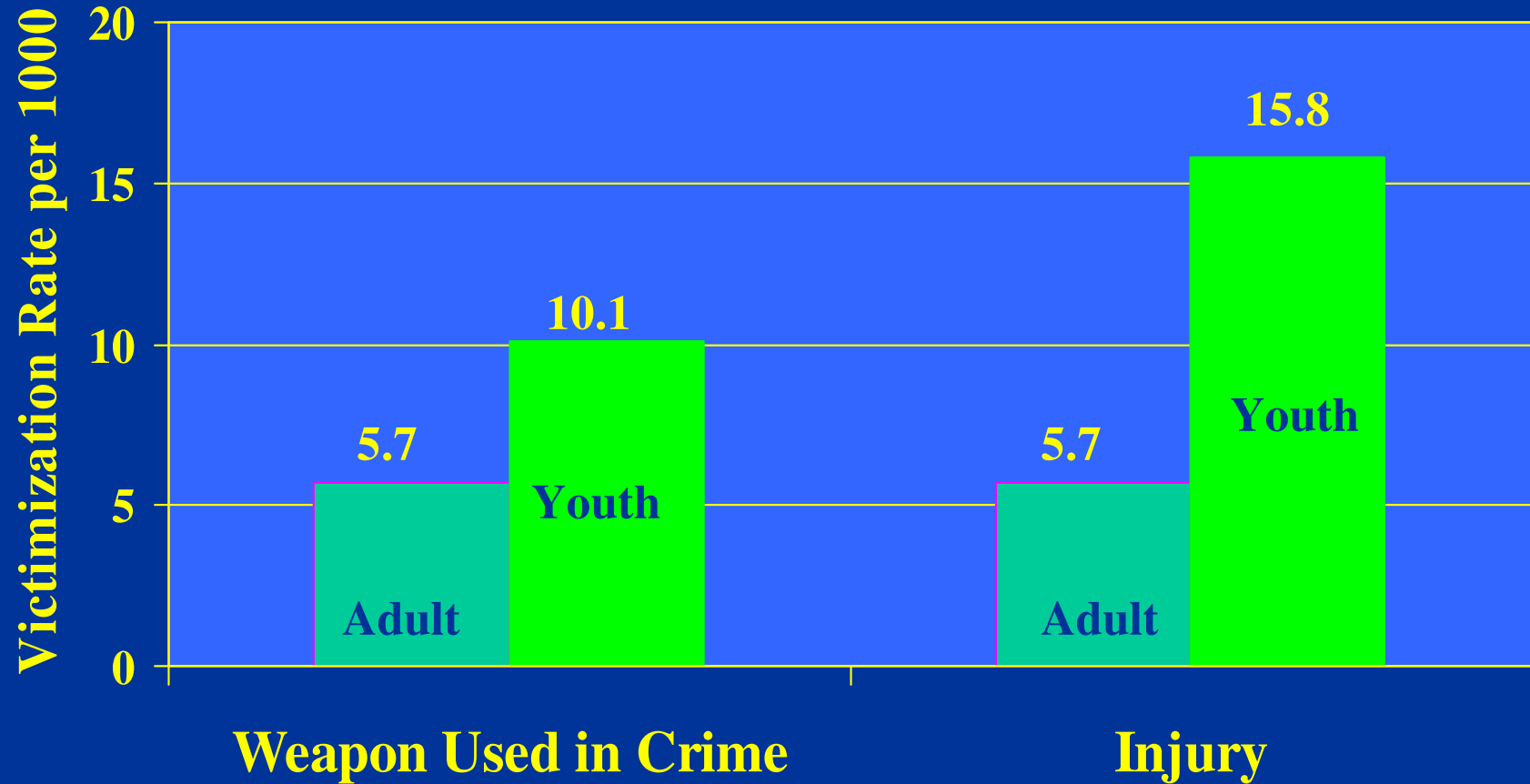
- ✓ Most common is witnessing family or community assault
- ✓ Most frequent among teenagers (except witnessing domestic violence)

# Children More Victimized than Adults, General Crime



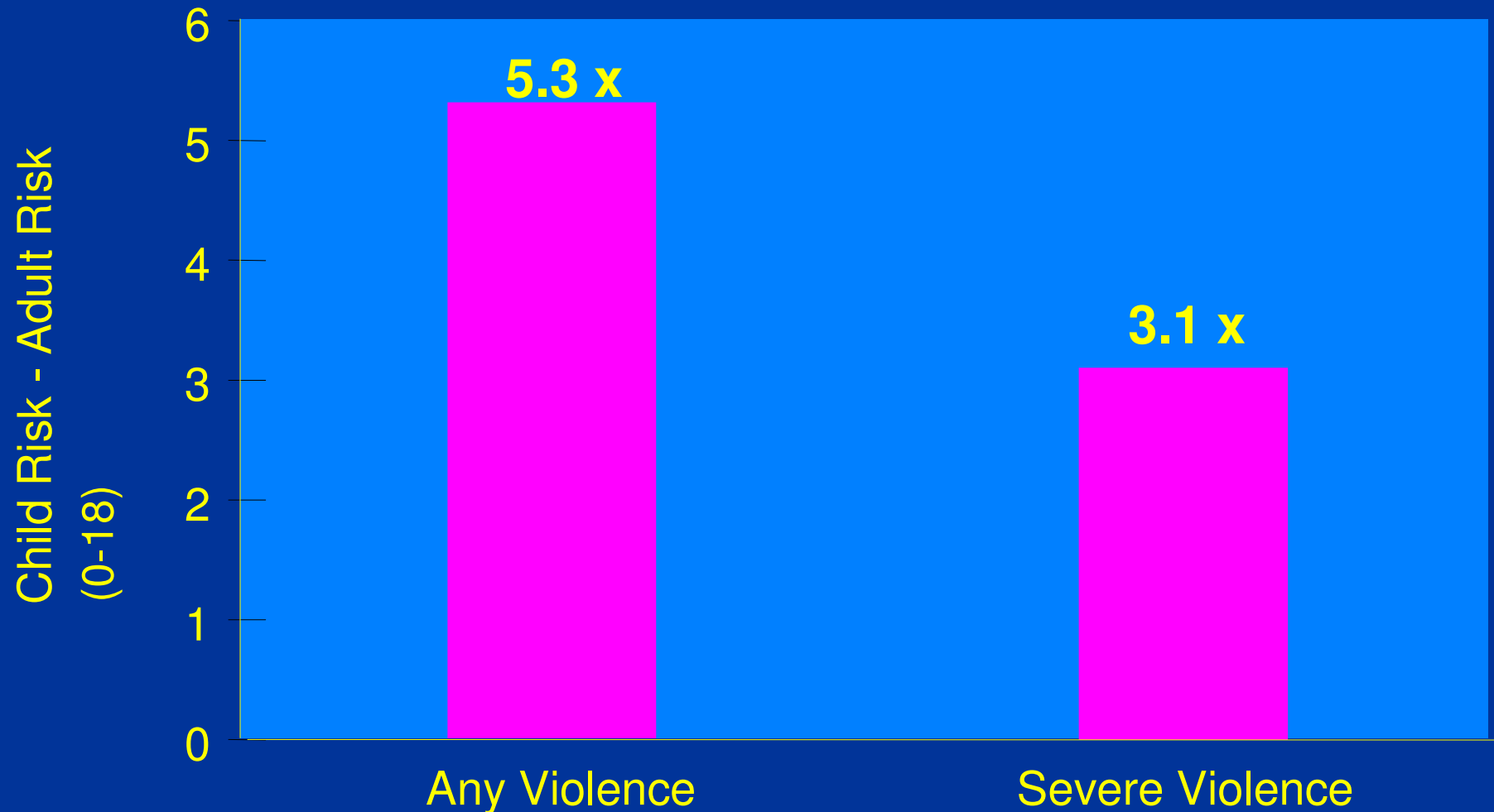
National Crime Victimization Survey, 2000

# Youth Have More Serious Crime Victimization



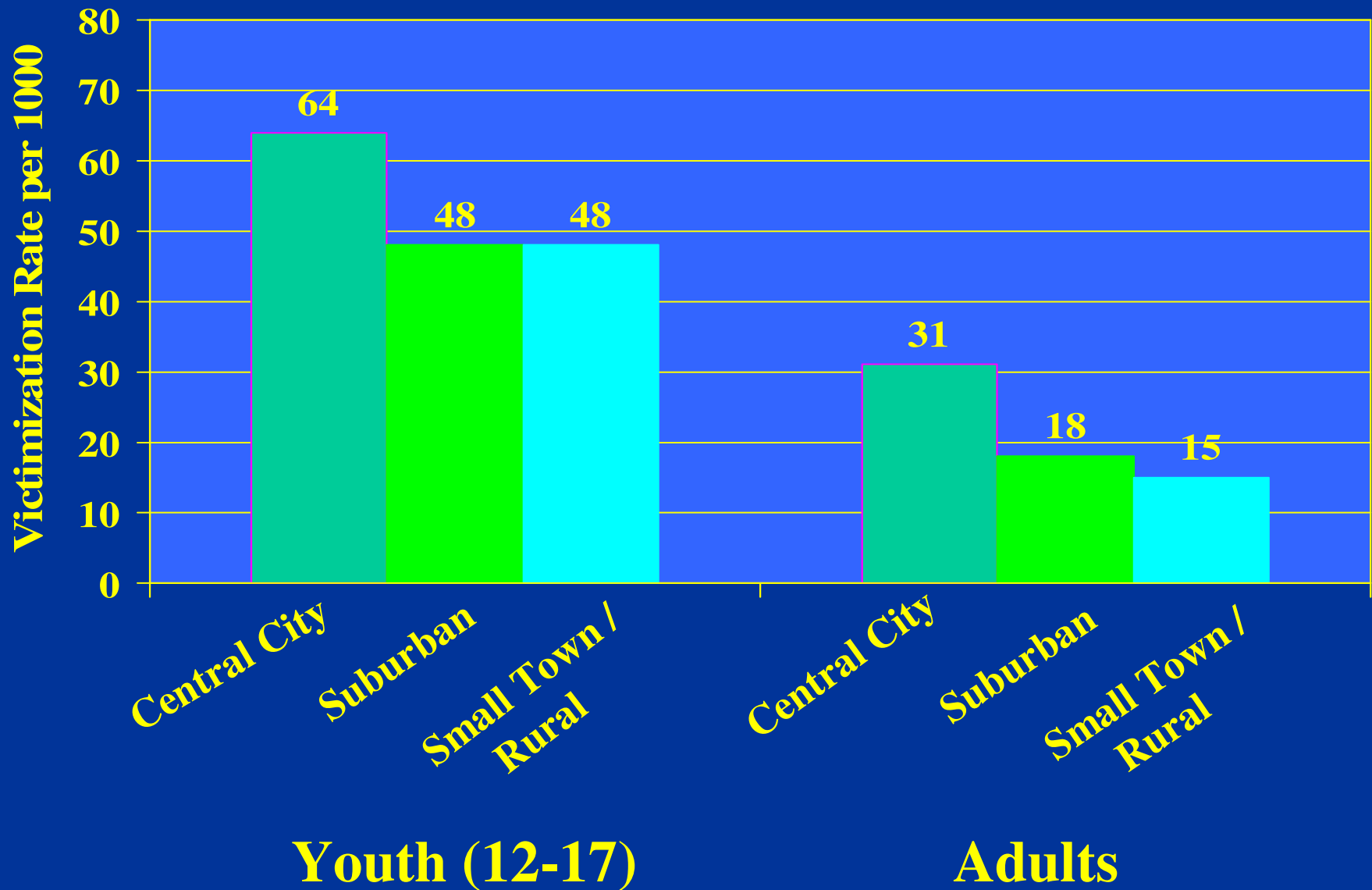
National Crime Victimization Survey, 2001

# Children More Victimized than Adults, Family Violence



National Family Violence Survey, 1975

# Rural Youth More Victimized than Urban Adults



# Why are Children So Victimized?

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- Smallness, inexperience, dependency, fewer conflict resolution strategies
- Weak norms and sanctions, limited protections
- Risky activities, capacity for self-control
- Lack of choice over associates

# Victimization Trends, 2003 to 2008

VICTIMIZATION	2003 Rate (%) (n=2,027)	2008 Rate (%) (n=4,067)
<b>ANY PHYSICAL ASSAULT</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>49.6</b>
Assault with Weapon <sup>a</sup>	6.0	5.1
Assault without Weapon <sup>a</sup>	16.9	14.9
Attempted Assault <sup>a</sup>	8.8	7.9
Kidnapping <sup>a</sup>	0.6	0.6
Bias Attack <sup>a</sup>	1.9	1.9
<b>ANY PROPERTY VICTIMIZATION</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>30.5</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Personal Theft</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>11.6</b>
Vandalism	14.9	14.2
<b>Burglary of Family Household</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>ANY MALTREATMENT</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>11.1</b>
Physical Abuse by Caregiver <sup>a</sup>	3.4	4.2
<b>Psychological/ Emotional Abuse</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Neglect	1.4	1.6
Custodial Interference/ Family Abduction	1.7	1.5

<sup>a</sup> Screeners included in Any Physical Assault

Victimizations with significantly different rates ( $p < .01$ ) shown in bold.

# Victimization Rates, 2003 and 2008 (cont).

VICTIMIZATION	2003 Rate (%) (n=2,027)	2008 Rate (%) (n=4,067)
<b>ANY PEER-SIBLING VICTIMIZATION</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>52.7</b>
Gang or Group Assault <sup>a</sup>	2.6	2.2
<b>Peer or Sibling Assault <sup>a</sup></b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>38.4</b>
Nonsexual Genital Assault <sup>a</sup>	5.4	5.5
<b>Bullying</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>
Emotional Bullying	24.9	22.0
Dating Violence <sup>a</sup>	1.1	1.4
ANY SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION	8.0	6.7
<b>Any Sexual Assault</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Sexual Assault by Known Adult	0.3	0.2
Non-specific Sexual Assault	0.3	0.3
Sexual Assault by Peer	1.2	0.6
Rape: Attempted or Completed	2.1	1.3
Flashing/ Sexual Exposure	3.2	3.0
Verbal Sexual Harassment	3.8	2.9
<b>Sex with Adult</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Screeners included in Any Physical Assault

Victimizations with significantly different rates ( $p < .01$ ) shown in bold.

# Victimization Rates, 2003 and 2008 (cont).

<b>VICTIMIZATION</b>	<b>2003 Rate (%)</b>	<b>2008 Rate (%)</b>
	(n=2,027)	(n=4,067)
ANY WITNESS FAMILY VIOLENCE	4.0	5.1
Witness to Domestic Violence	3.3	3.3
<b>Witness of Parent Assault of Sibling</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>
ANY EXPOSURE COMMUNITY VIOLENCE	29.7	24.8
<b>Witness to Assault with Weapon</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Witness to Assault without Weapon</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>17.9</b>
Murder of Family Member or Friend	2.9	3.5
Witness to Murder	0.4	0.5
Exposure to Random Shootings, Terrorism, or Riots	5.5	5.7
Exposure to War or Ethnic Conflict	0.3	0.7

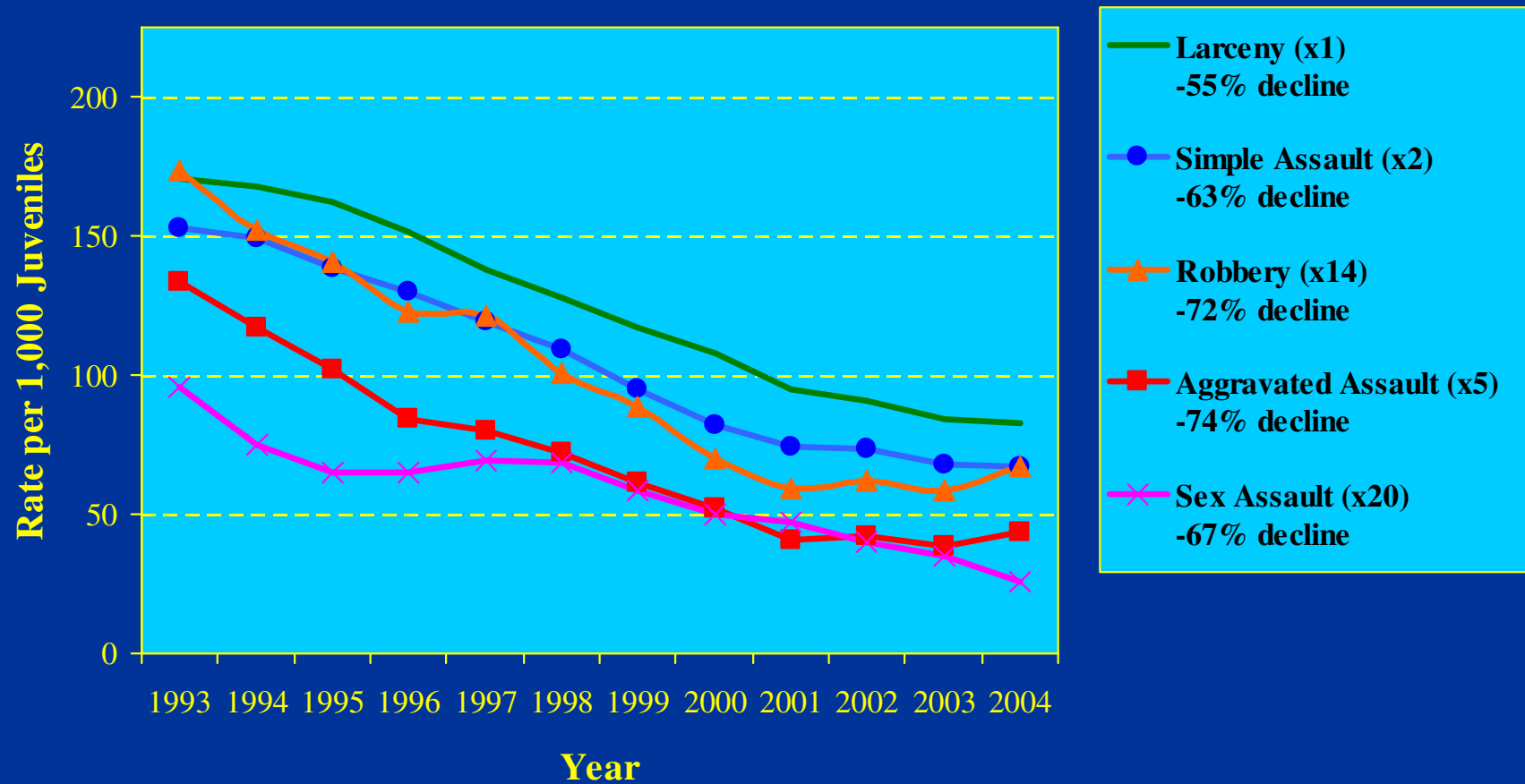
<sup>a</sup> Screeners included in Any Physical Assault

Victimizations with significantly different rates ( $p < .01$ ) shown in bold.

# Trend Summary

- Declines: physical assault, sexual assault, peer and sibling victimization, incl physical bullying, psychological abuse, exposure to community violence, theft.
- No decline: physical abuse and neglect by caretakers
- Increase: robbery, witnessing caretaker abuse of sibling

# Juvenile Victimization Trends, 1993 – 2004 (NCVS)



Age 12 – 17 years; 3 year averages.

# Possible Mechanisms

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- ✓ Economic improvement
- ✓ Increased agents of social intervention
- ✓ Psychopharmacology
- ✓ Increased incarceration and prosecution

# Odds Ratios for Occurrence of Other Victimization Type Given One Victimization Type

PAST YEAR VICTIMIZATION	Any Physical Assault	Any Sexual Victimization	Any Maltreatment	Any Property Victimization	Any Witness Violence	Exposure to Violence
Any Physical Assault		5.0	4.1	2.7	2.5	2.2
Any Sex Victimization	1.8		2.9	2.2	2.2	3.2
Any Maltreatment	1.8	3.3		2.1	2.4	2.7
Any Property Victimization	1.8	3.5	2.9		2.4	2.9
Any Witness Violence	1.7	3.1	3.3	2.4		3.2
Any Indirect Exp to Viol	1.4	3.5	2.6	2.1	2.3	

# Poly-victimization

Earlier work :

- examined past year exposure to multiple forms of victimization

Current research:

- considers lifetime exposure
- expanded the types of victimizations assessed (including internet victimization and witnessing family violence)
- Larger nationally representative sample

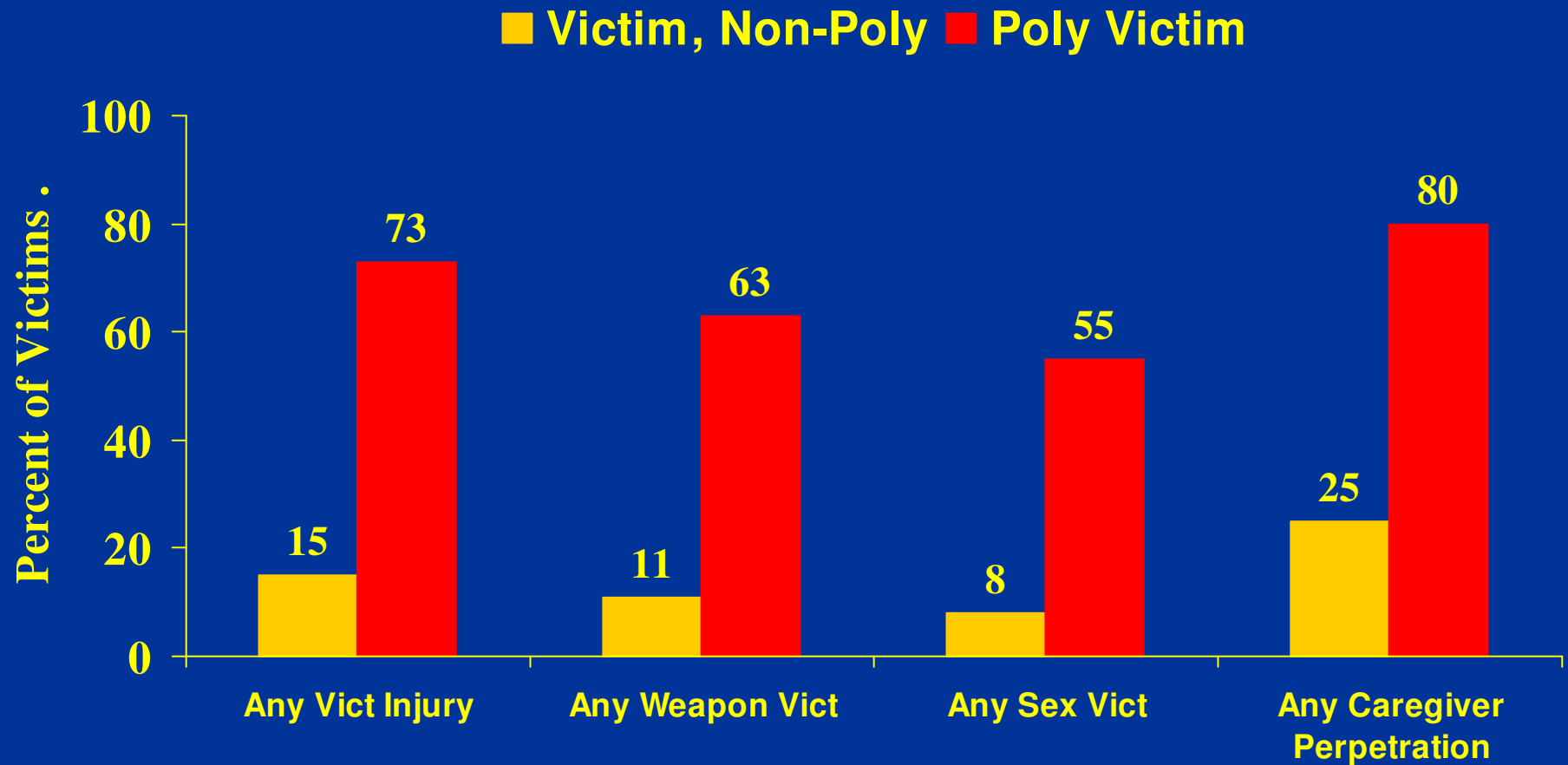
# Measurement

- Poly-victimization:
  - Summary of 37 different victimization types
  - Poly-victim group = 11+ different types of victimizations in child's lifetime (top 10% of sample)
- Trauma Symptoms:
  - Standardized aggregate score of anger, depression, anxiety, and PTSD items of shortened TSCC (10-17 year olds) and TSCYC (2-9 year olds)

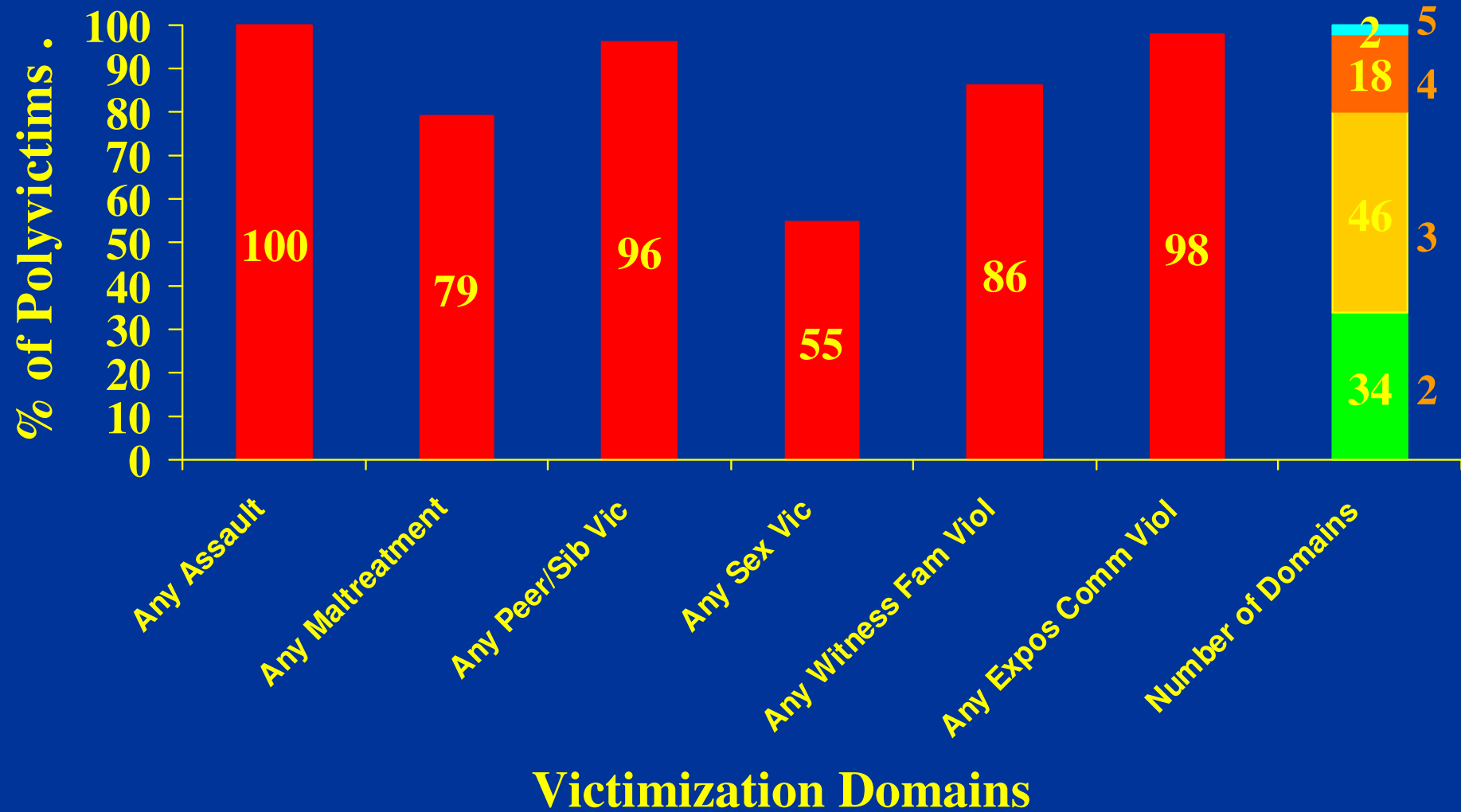
# Table 1. Demographic Characteristics by Victimization Group

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Non-victim (0 types)</b>	<b>Victim (1-10 types)</b>	<b>Poly-victim (&gt;10 types)</b>
<b>Age Group</b>			
2-5 Years	<b>40.6 %</b>	<b>21.9 %</b>	<b>5.4 %</b>
6-9 Years	<b>24.1 %</b>	<b>27.9 %</b>	<b>12.6 %</b>
10-13 Years	<b>22.1 %</b>	<b>27.1 %</b>	<b>21.2 %</b>
14-17 Years	<b>3.2 %</b>	<b>23.1 %</b>	<b>60.8 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	<b>52.4 %</b>	<b>47.8 %</b>	<b>47.8 %</b>
Male	<b>47.6 %</b>	<b>52.2 %</b>	<b>52.2 %</b>
<b>Socio-economic Status</b>			
Low	<b>24.8 %</b>	<b>14.9 %</b>	<b>17.2 %</b>
Middle	<b>62.9 %</b>	<b>69.5 %</b>	<b>74.4 %</b>
High	<b>12.3 %</b>	<b>15.6 %</b>	<b>8.4 %</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, non-Hispanic	<b>52.3 %</b>	<b>62.2 %</b>	<b>53.9 %</b>
Black, non-Hispanic	<b>15.1 %</b>	<b>14.5 %</b>	<b>23.6 %</b>
Hispanic, Any Race	<b>26.1 %</b>	<b>17.4 %</b>	<b>12.3 %</b>
Other Race, non-Hispanic	<b>6.3 %</b>	<b>5.4 %</b>	<b>8.9 %</b>
<b>Family Structure</b>			
Two Parent Family	<b>73.1 %</b>	<b>64.2 %</b>	<b>36.0 %</b>
Step-parent or Partner Family	<b>6.8 %</b>	<b>10.0 %</b>	<b>20.2 %</b>
Single Parent Family	<b>17.5 %</b>	<b>21.1 %</b>	<b>32.8 %</b>
Other Adult Caregiver	<b>2.7 %</b>	<b>4.7 %</b>	<b>11.1 %</b>

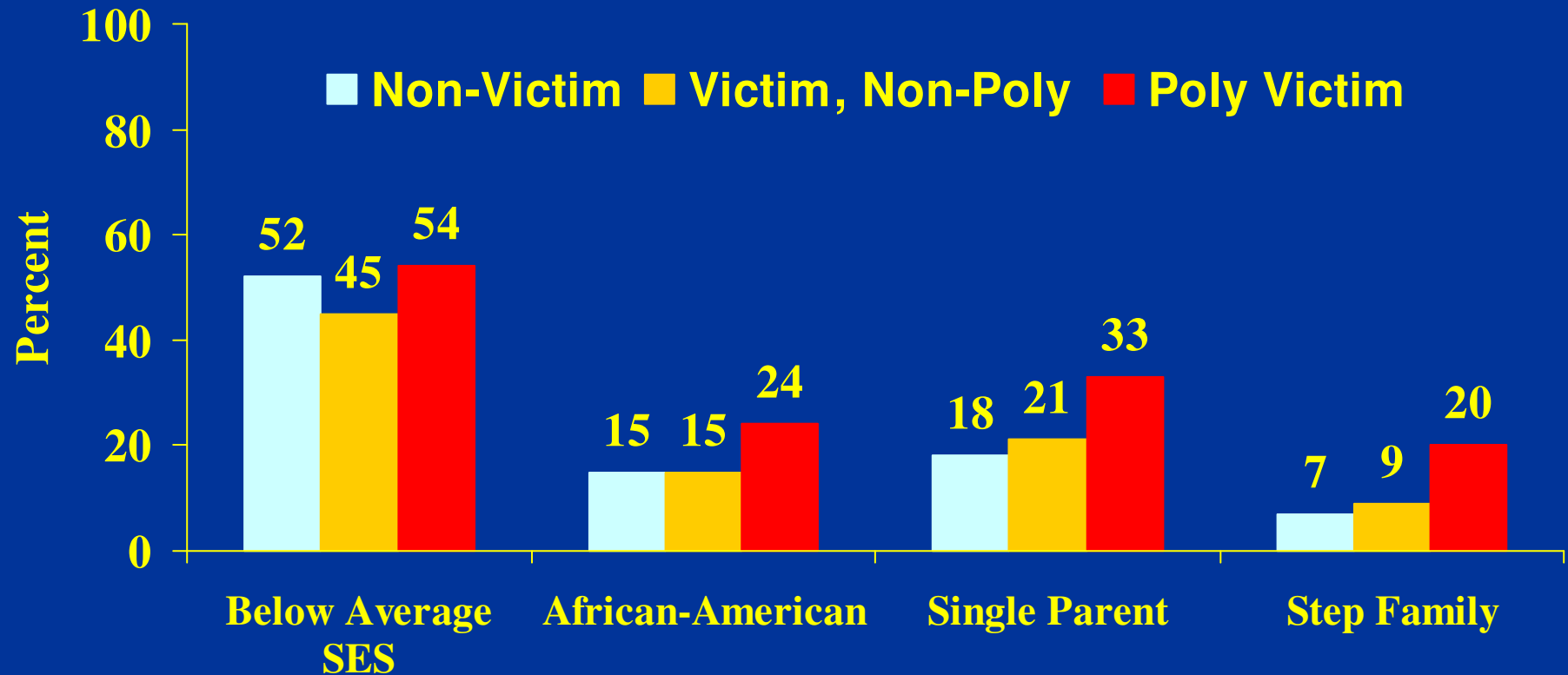
# Seriousness of Poly-victims' Victimization Experiences



# Polyvictims' Domains of Victimization



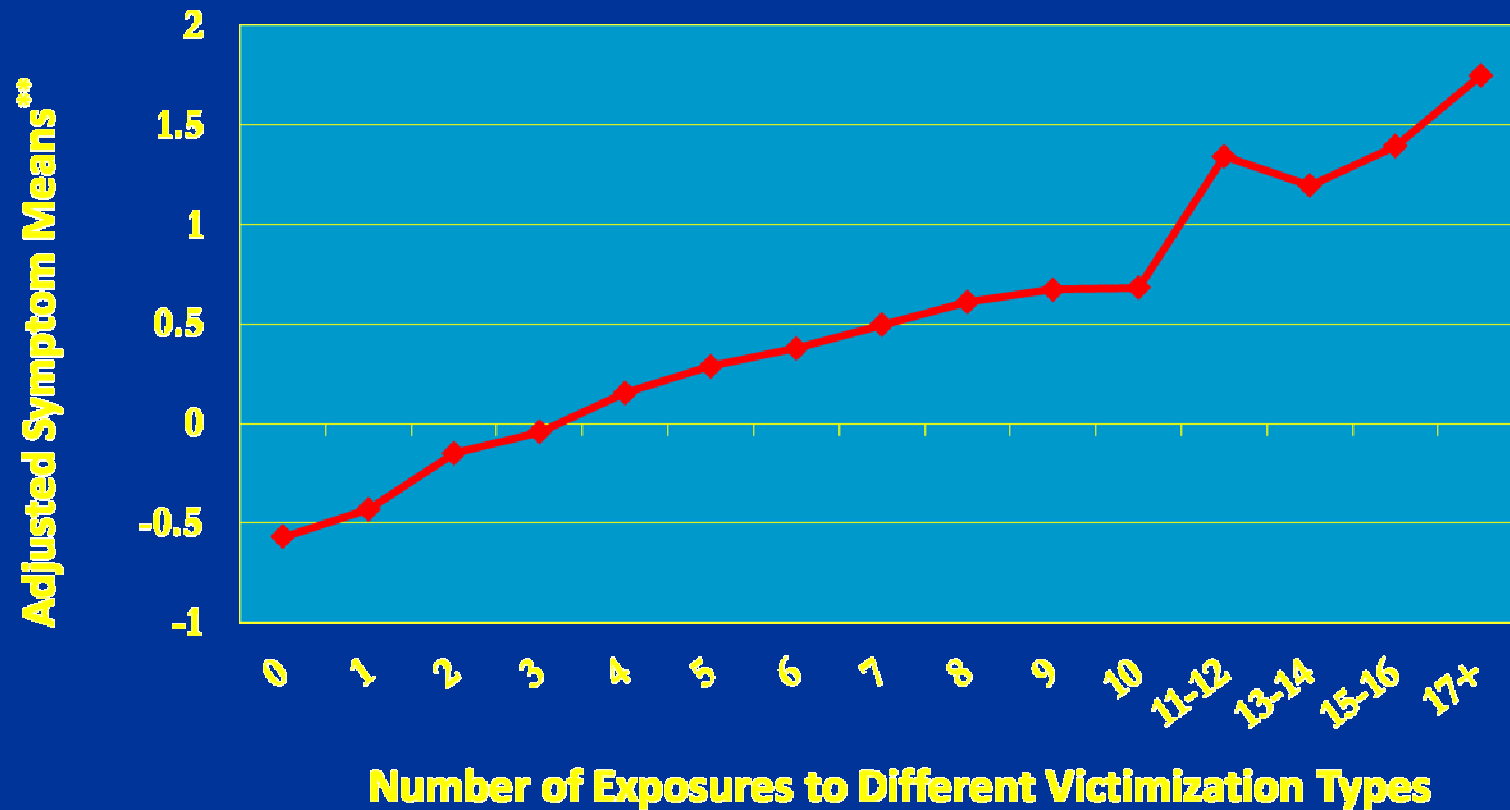
# Characteristics of Polyvictims



# Table 1: Exposure to Specific Victimization Types by Victimization Level

<u>Victimization Type:</u>	<u>Victims (1-10 scnr)</u>	<u>Poly-Victims (&gt;10 scnr)</u>
Physical Assault	73.3 %	100.0 %
Property	47.0 %	93.6 %
Maltreatment	18.2 %	78.6 %
Peer-Sibling	79.2 %	96.1 %
Sexual Victimization	7.8 %	55.4 %
Sexual Assault	3.0 %	22.9 %
Witness Family Violence	20.4 %	85.7 %
Exposure to Community Viol	51.4 %	97.5 %
Physical Abuse	6.1 %	51.2 %
Bullying	26.0 %	59.9 %

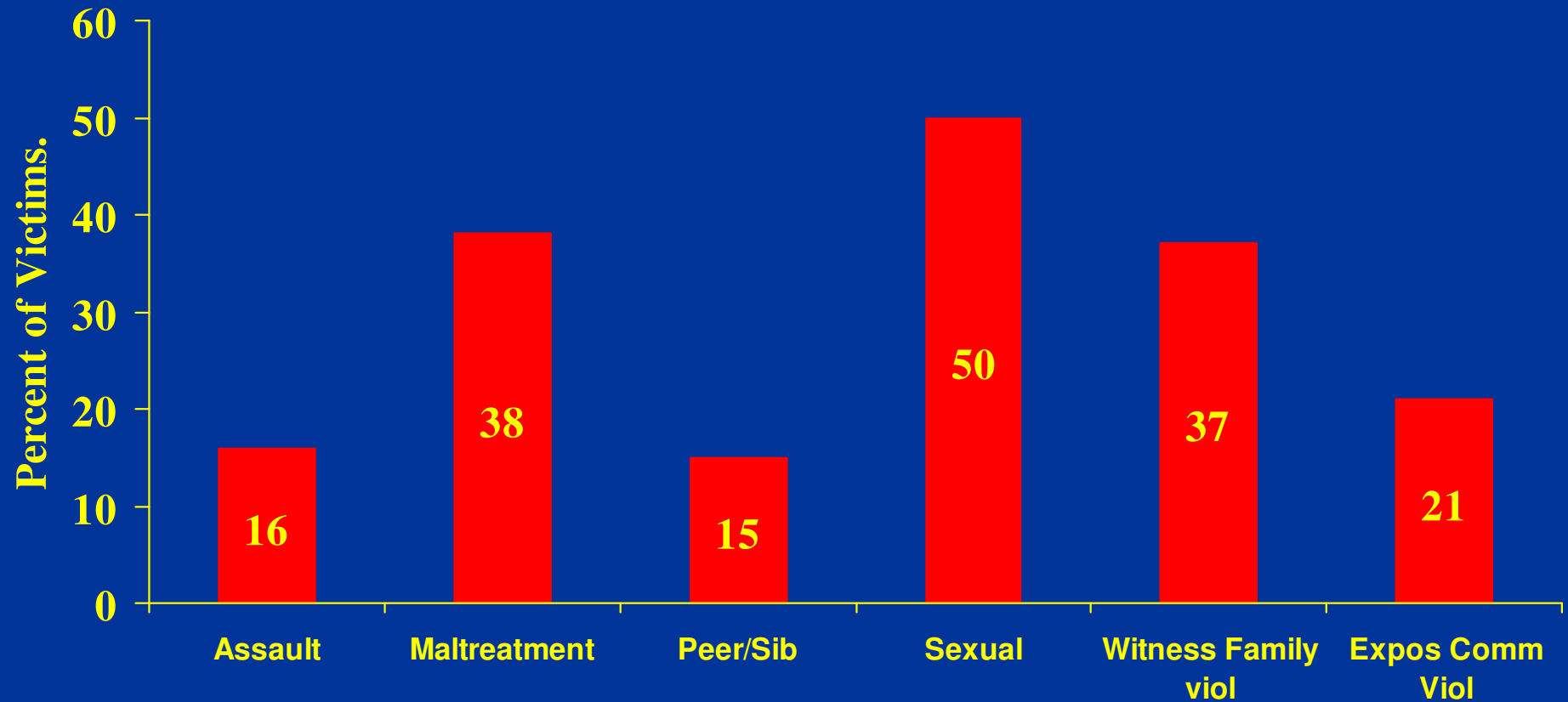
# Figure 1. Trauma Symptom Levels by Total Number of Victimization Types\*



\* cases with 11+ victimizations aggregated due to smaller Ns.

\*\* mean standardized symptoms scores at different numbers of victimization types, controlling for demographic variables

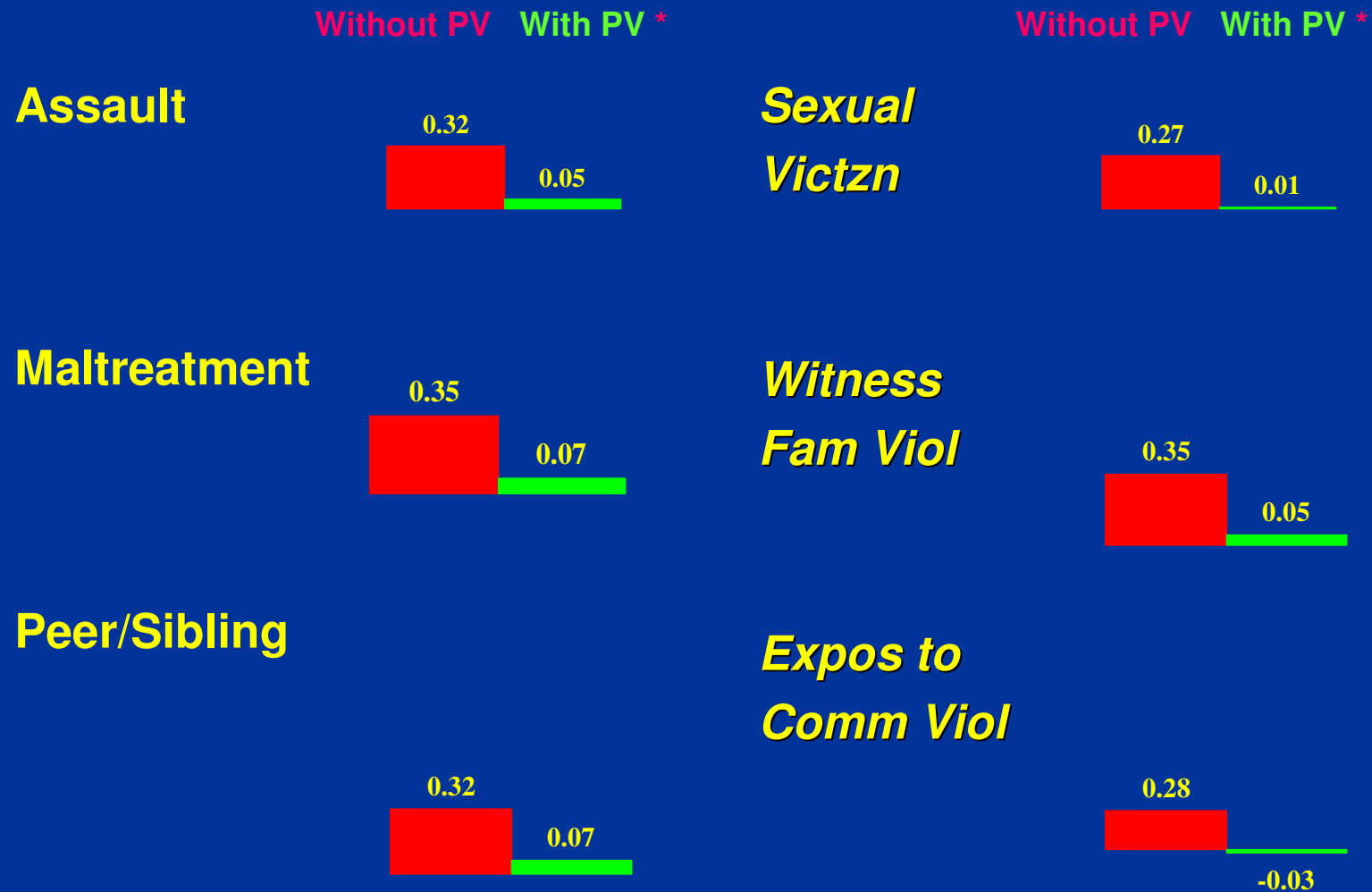
# Polyvictims as a Proportion of Victims of Particular Types of Victimization



# Table 3: The Effect of Poly-victimization on Trauma Symptoms

<i>Measure</i>	Trauma Symptoms	
	b (s.e.)	Beta
Poly-Victimization (PV)	.13 (.003)	0.57 **
Any Physical Assault		
model without PV	.67 (.031)	0.32 **
model with PV	.10 (.034)	0.05 **
Any Maltreatment		
model without PV	.88 (.039)	0.35 **
model with PV	.18 (.042)	0.07 **
Any Peer-Sibling Victimization		
model without PV	.67 (.032)	0.32 **
model with PV	.15 (.033)	0.07 **
Any Sexual Victimization		
model without PV	.88 (.052)	0.27 **
model with PV	.02 (.052)	0.01
Any Exposure to Family Violence		
model without PV	.04 (.037)	0.35 **
model with PV	.12 (.041)	0.05 **
Any Exposure to Community Violence		
model without PV	.56 (.034)	0.28 **
model with PV	-.06 (.035)	-0.03

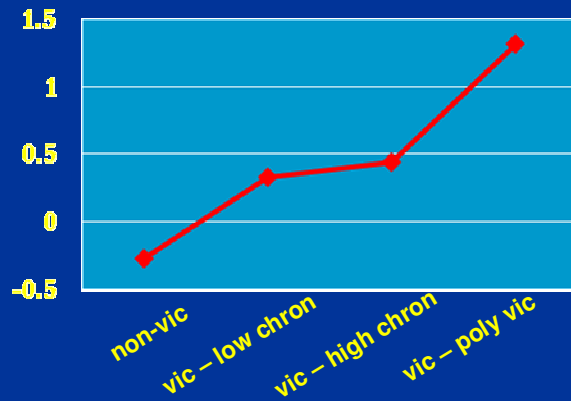
# Polyvictimization (PV) Swamps Effects of Individual Victimizations on Trauma



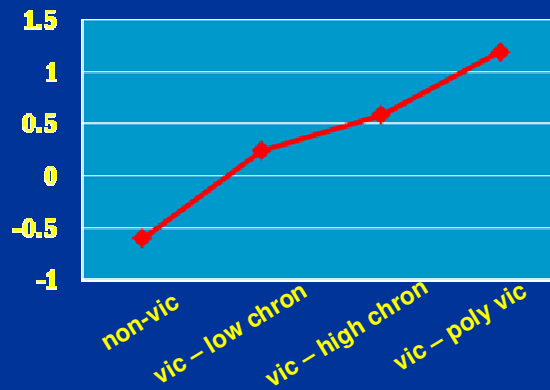
\* Standardized Regression coefficient, controlling for age, gender, race, ethnicity, SES, family structure.

# Figure 2: Trauma Symptom Scores across Victim Groups

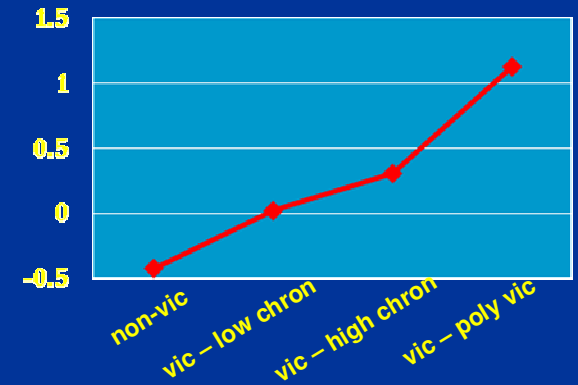
## Property Victims



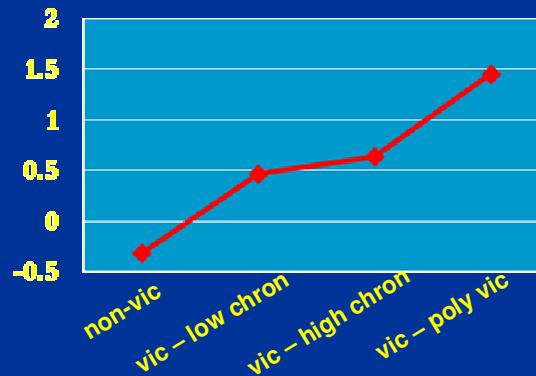
## Maltreatment Victims



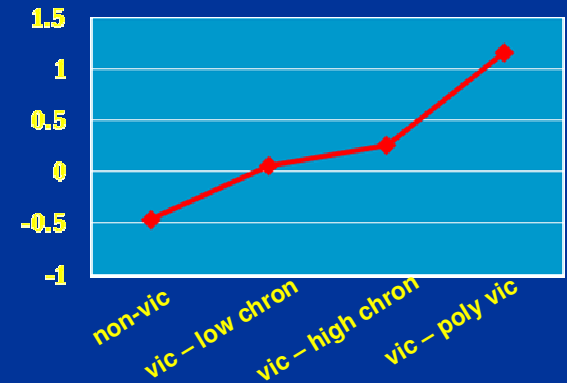
## Peer-Sib Victims



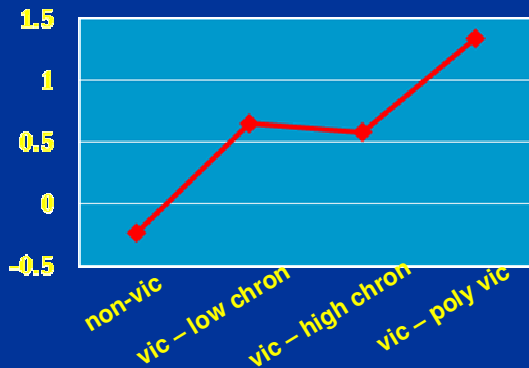
## Witness Family Viol Victims



## Witness Community Viol Victims



## Sexual Victims



# Summary of Findings

## Poly-victims:

- Often come from disadvantaged groups
- Comprise a large portion of all children who experience individual types of victimization
- Are often exposed to victimization from multiple contexts or sources

## Summary of Findings, cont

- Poly-victimization is more highly related to trauma symptoms than experiencing repeated victimizations of a single type
- Lifetime poly-victimization accounts for most of the effect of individual victimization types

# Victimization: Event or Condition

## Event

- ✓ Focus on event characteristic
- ✓ Trauma concept/ Rape prototype

## Condition

- ✓ Focus on child and context
- ✓ Stressors, Protective factors, coping

# Discussion

Why the powerful effect of poly-victimization?

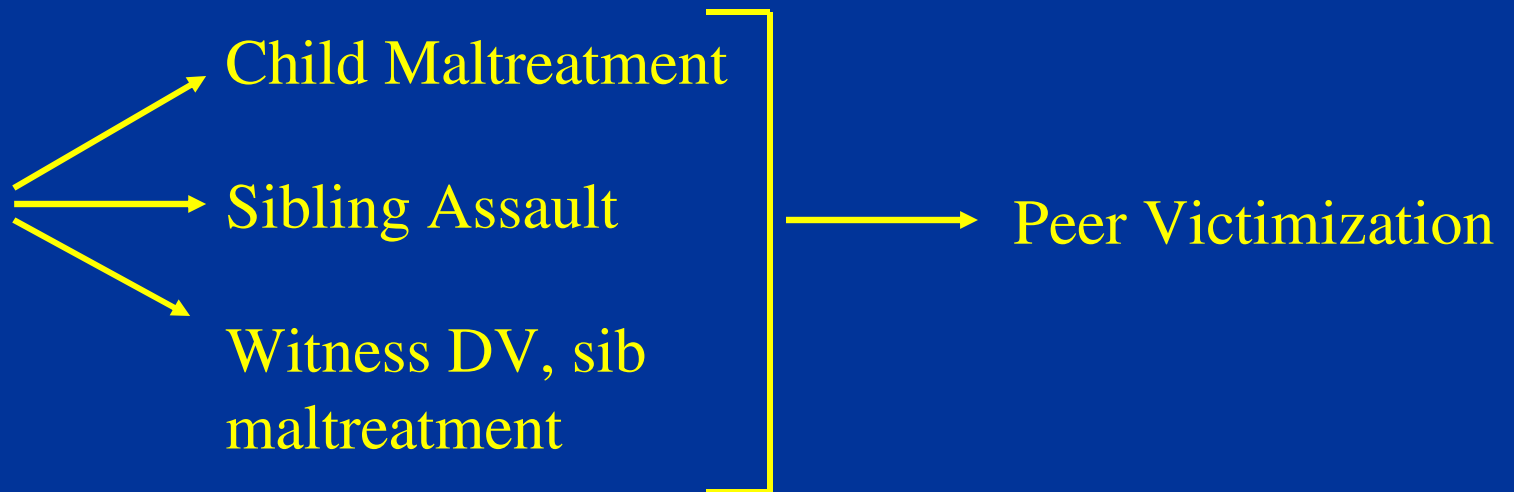
- Represents a condition of victimization rather than a set of events
- Threats to safety, stability, nurturance in multiple life domains (home, school, community)
- Damages resources (social support, coping, self concept) that help buffer the impact of victimization

# Pathways to Poly-victimization

- Dangerous neighborhoods
- Dysfunctional/Violent Parents
- Family adversity
- Existing child mental health problems or disabilities

# Pathway 1: Dangerous Families

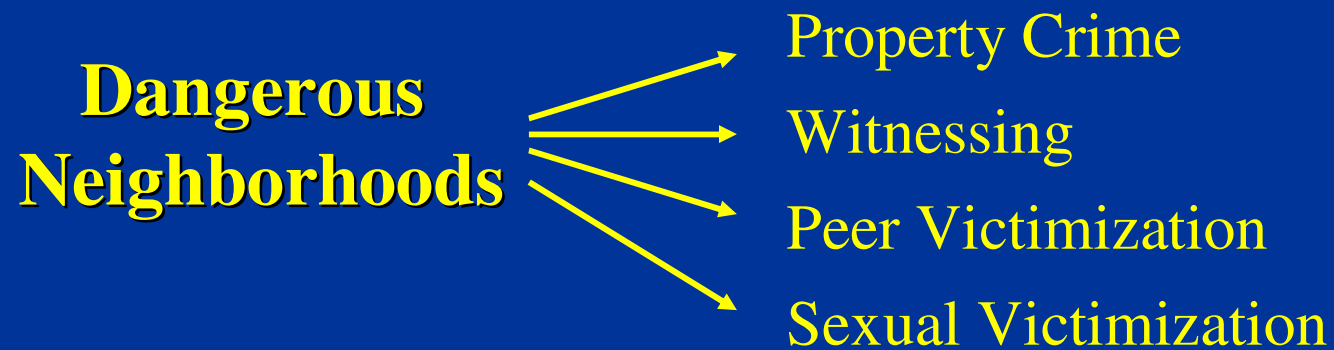
**Violent  
Parents**



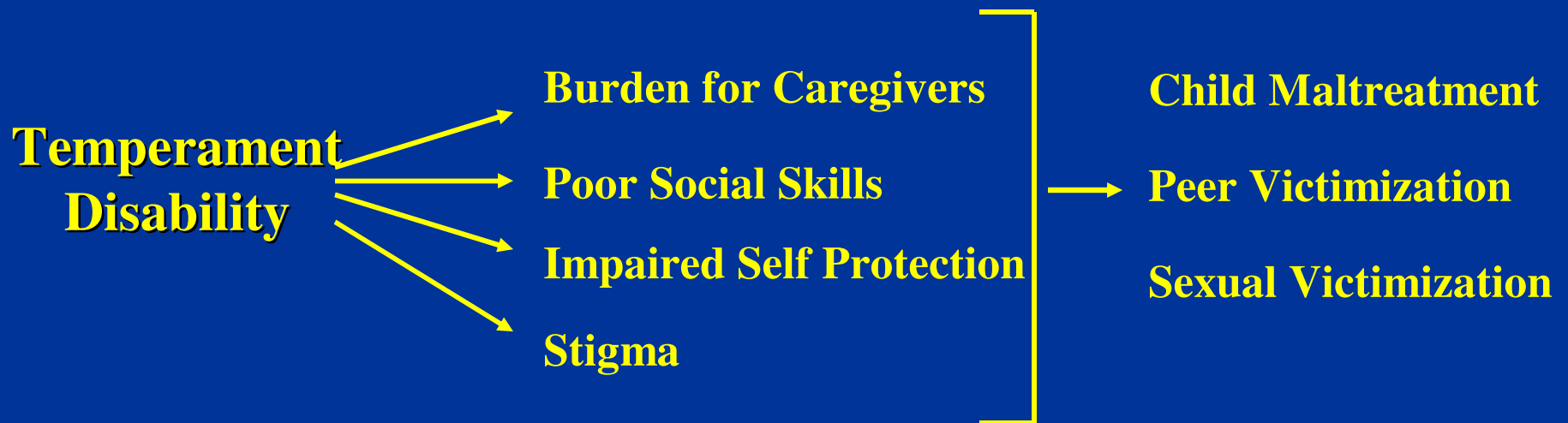
## Pathway 2: Family Problems



# Pathway 3: Dangerous Neighborhoods



# Pathway 4: Temperament, Disability, Trauma & Mental Health Problems



# Poly-Victim “Pathways” Component Variables

## ✓ **Dangerous Family**

- frequent parent-parent arguments, frequent parent-child arguments, family violence, maltreatment

## ✓ **Family Problems**

- job loss or unemployment
- money problems
- family drug/alcohol problems
- parents separated or divorced
- parent/caregiver trouble with police
- parent/caregiver in prison
- homelessness

## ✓ **Dangerous Neighborhood**

- large city, school violence, neighborhood violence
- moved to worse neighborhood

## ✓ **MH Problems & Symptoms**

- anger/aggression items (tantrums, fights, hitting, throwing)
- depression items (sadness, crying, lonely)
- anxiety items (nervous, jumpy, scared, worrying)

# Predictions\* of Poly-Victimization Onset

*Onset vs. Non-Onset (n=768)*

	<b>Odd's Ratio</b>
Dangerous Community	1.25*
Dangerous Family	1.46**
Family Problems	1.30**
Symptom Score	1.46**

\* Adjusted for Child age

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01

# Predictions\* of Poly-Victimization Onset

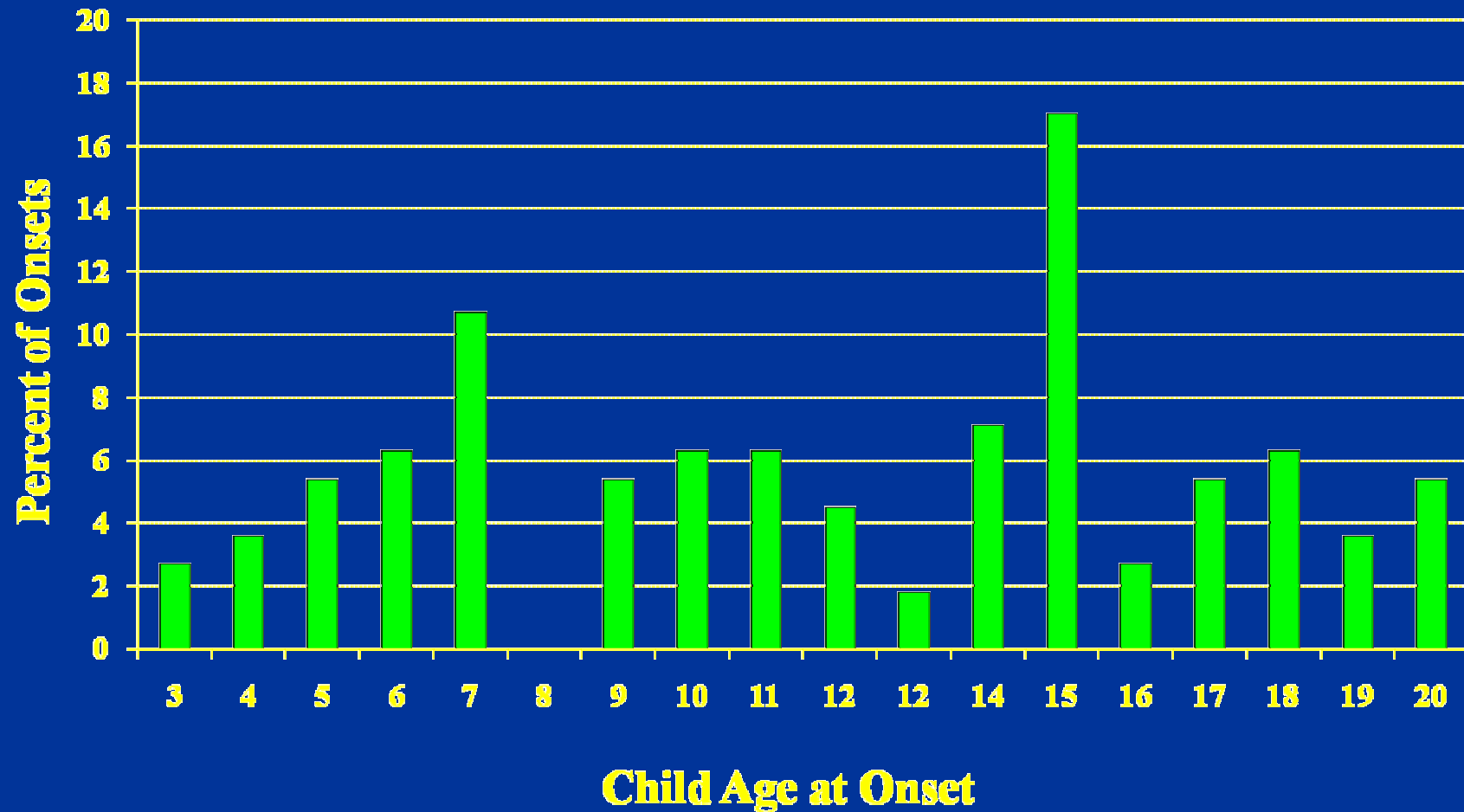
*Onset vs. Non-Onset  
by Age Group*

	<b>2-9 years</b> <i>(n=384)</i>	<b>10-17 years</b> <i>(n=384)</i>
Dangerous Community	1.34	1.28*
Dangerous Family	1.34	1.60*
Family Problems	1.03	1.59***
Symptom Score	1.80***	1.13

\*Adjusted for Child age

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\*  $p < .001$

# Poly-Victimization Onset By Age



# Assessment Issues about Poly-victimization

- Need to assess a broader range of victimizations
- Important to identify the most highly victimized youth
- Early vs. later onset
- Combination with aggression and delinquency

# Intervention Issues

- Treatment approaches should address multiple victimizations
- Utility of providing training across victimization intervention specialties
- Mixture of symptom alleviation and skill development
- Multiple intervention contexts (schools, police, family court, child protection)

# Key New Knowledge

- New estimates not previously available
- Estimates over full span of childhood
- How many kids suffer from some exposure
- How many kids suffer from multiple exposures
- Increased risk created by any exposure
- Mostly declining trends



# International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference

## Call for Abstracts

July 11 -13, 2010

Sheraton Harborside Hotel • Portsmouth, New Hampshire  
For more information and to submit your abstract online:

<http://www.unh.edu/frl/conferences>

**Deadline: February 27, 2010**

**FAMILY RESEARCH LABORATORY & CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN RESEARCH  
CENTER**