

2-The Daily Collegian Monday, Feb. 13, 1984

## Convicted rapists returning to society need help

Director of Sex Offender Program says that without psychological treatment, most will rape again

By TAMMY LINGG  
Collegian Staff Writer

The majority of rapists who are jailed and then returned to society without any psychological treatment will rape again, said the director of the Sex Offender Program for the Connecticut Department of Correction at Somers State Prison.

In a seminar last Thursday sponsored by the Centre County Court, A. Nicholas Groth said giving the sex offender as much attention as his victim is important because of the chance that he will commit another crime. Rape is a behavioral problem that can be treated but not cured, he said.

Therefore, it is no solution to simply jail a person convicted of rape and let him out after he serves his sentence. But it has been only in the last eight years that attention has really been focused on the offender.

"As people became more aware of and more attentive to the needs of the victims, lots of questions began to be raised about the dynamics of the offender," he said.

Groth said the major myth that exists about rape is that men rape because they are sexually aroused.

"A man isn't raping out of sexual desire any more than an alcoholic is drinking because he is thirsty," Groth said.

He said cases of sexual abuse of infants and the elderly can hardly be attributed to sexual arousal. Rape is mostly a stress-related crime.

Groth said the controversy involving surgical castration, in which the testicles are removed and replaced with a sponge to avoid physical deformity,

is really a useless issue because he knows of no doctor who would perform that kind of surgery. He said the American Medical Association warned doctors that they could be sued in the future for performing that kind of surgery. In any case, Groth said, the procedure does not achieve permanent results since men can be injected with artificial hormones.

He said the chemical Depo Provera, a synthetic female hormone, should be looked at as a component in treatment, but not as an alternative to it. In many cases it has no effect on the user. The chemical works to calm aggressive behavior in men. However, he said it works like an appetite suppressant in that it only helps those who really want to quit their pattern of rape. If they do not want to quit, then no amount of the drug will stop them.

In his studies of sexual offenders, Groth has identified three categories into which rapes can be classified, each involving a different type of aggression. Power rapes, the most common kind, come from the offender's desire to obtain the power he finds lacking in his life. Victims of violent anger rapes find themselves the brunt of all of their attacker's frustrations. Sadistic rapes, which usually receive the most attention by the media, are those in which the offenders receive erotic pleasure from their aggression.

Groth said that although power rapes are planned, the rapist uses only as much force as is necessary to gain control of the victim. He may carry a weapon but he usually intends to use it only to intimidate the victim. He said murder is rare in these rape cases and usually occurs only when the

rapist fears he could be identified. The problem for the victim of power rape is that she usually shows no physical signs of the attack. In many cases the victim is too intimidated to try fighting the attacker, Groth said.

"Cooperation is not consent," he said. "These often get blurred."

Because they receive no obvious physical injuries, these victims often do not generate as much sympathy as victims of the other categories of rapes. Many find their stories doubted, so they can sustain more psychological damage than victims of the other types of rape, Groth said.

He said victims of an anger rape are dealt with more sympathetically by authorities. These women carry clear evidence of physical abuse. About 60 percent of these victims are strangers to the attackers, he said. They just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The attacker has usually experienced some stress recently which triggers all of his pent-up frustrations. He vents his frustrations on the victim, even if she is not the source of them, Groth said.

Victims of sadistic rapists often share common traits, Groth said. Examples would be that the victims may have blonde hair or they may all be school teachers. The most common group targeted by these kinds of rapists are prostitutes, he said.

These kinds of rapes, like power rapes, are premeditated. The victims are usually kidnapped and then raped. Often they are murdered and mutilated, but not always. Sometimes the rapist only acts out their bondage fantasies by tying their victims up.

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## Correction

Because of a reporting error, it was incorrectly stated in Friday's Daily Collegian that the banquet

being held Wednesday in conjunction with National Engineers Week begins at 7:30 p.m. The event begins with a cash bar cocktail hour at 6:30 p.m.

## Roses, songs ready for Valentine's Day

The Penn State Singers will celebrate a traditional Valentine's Day with Elizabethan madrigals, love waltzes and a concert version of Purcell's tragic love opera "Dido and Aeneas" at 8 tomorrow night in Schwab Auditorium. The concert, directed by Raymond Brown, is free, and students with sweethearts will be able to purchase red roses for \$1.75 at the door.

The different pieces use various styles and numbers of voices. Johannes Brahms' lulling "Liebslieder

Waltzes" features 16 chorus members. Four members sing the acappella madrigals "Looks are Barbed Hooks" and "My Mistress Sings No Other Songs," while the full choir will join in for Daniel Pinkham's "A Wedding Cantata," a piece with text based on the songs of Solomon.

"Dido and Aeneas" will fill the second half of the concert. This tragic love story about Dido, queen of Carthage, and the Trojan prince, Aeneas, is based on Vergil's Aeneid and is one of the few operas written in English.

## Winter Week wrestles with dorm doldrums

By KAREN HAGLE  
Collegian Staff Writer

Activities ranging from ice cream socials to a program on "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex" will be available to students in three dorm areas this week.

South Centre and Pollock-Nittany Residence Halls governments each plan winter weeks with agendas of activities designed to give dorm students a break from the long winter months and from studying.

Debra Zuech, president of Centre Halls Residence Association, said Winter Week in Centre will provide an outlet for students to take advantage of winter season activities.

The Centre Halls Winter Week began Friday night with a semi-formal at the Holiday Inn Penn State. Movies and cartoons were shown last night and will be shown again tonight.

Also during the week programs on career development issues, off-campus living issues and massaging will be offered. In addition, a dating game with East Halls residents, late night ice skating, a game of "Assassin" and a coffee-house are planned.

Pollock-Nittany began Winter Week yesterday with an ice cream social. Also planned is a program on "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex," all-night movies, a coffeehouse and a Hawaiian Luau Dance.

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