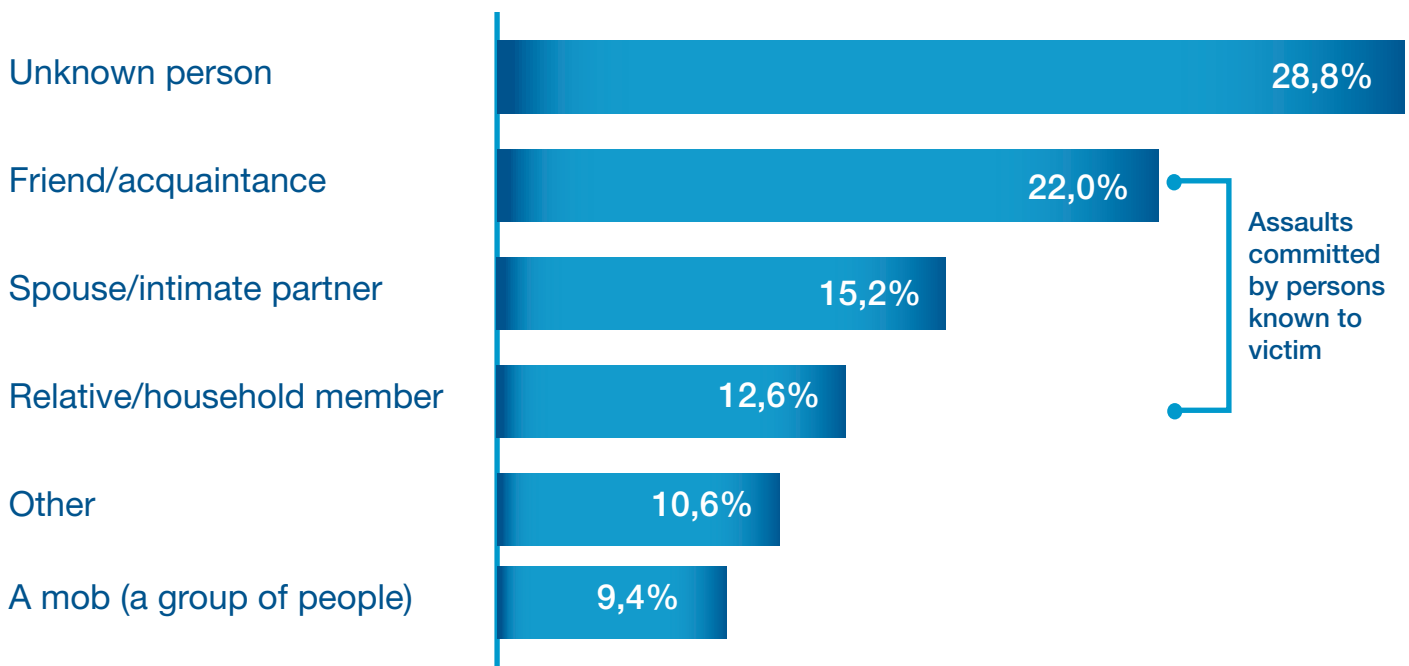


Message from DVC Learning and Teaching

In my view gender based violence whether at home , in the workplace, in the lecture hall, in the residence or at CPUT is no different in its form, size or intensity. It's impact is as serious and damaging to all those affected. Stats SA in the Governance, Public Safety and Justice Survey 2018/19 highlighted that almost 50% of assaults were committed by someone close such as a friend or acquaintance, a spouse or intimate partner, a relative or household member.

Almost 50% of the assaults were committed by someone close such as a friend or acquaintance (22%), a spouse or intimate partner (15%), a relative or other household member (13%). About 29% of the assaults were committed by unknown persons.

Percentage of assaults committed by a specified perpetrator, 2018/19



You can make the change at CPUT through very definitive actions:

I came across some very useful information from The Violence Preventative initiative of the Government of Newfoundland who recommends the following to stop the violence:



- 1. Talk to someone:** If you are the victim or are witness to violence, tell someone. It can be anyone you trust, such as a friend, parent, teacher, coach, brother/sisters, or a room mate.



- 2. Violence and abuse should not be ignored:** Remember that many acts of violence and abuse are against the law. Challenge the condoning of violence against women



3. Do something and make the difference: If you witness any form of violence or abuse, you should immediately do something. Indicate to the culprit that what he is doing is wrong and criminal. Learn more you can do this by reading more widely, attending seminars and lectures or even talking to your peers.

pressurised to join in with the group. Any form of violence is wrong so do not engage in any part of it because others are.



5. Do not allow yourself to be dis-empowered: Offenders act violently or abusively to gain power. By distancing yourself any form of violence you disempower the perpetrator and create hope and encouragement to the victim.



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6. Violence and abuse does not earn you respect: Many confuse their physical power or action over others to mean respect that they have earned. Alcohol and drug abuse is often a source of irresponsible behaviour.

7. Be a companion: Help the person who is being abused by inviting them to participate in school activities. This will take away the feeling of being alone. Be a friend and a pillar to someone in distress. You may not be an expert or experience in dealing with the situation however being there makes all the difference .

8. Reinforce the point: Comfort the person who was hurt and make it known that what happened was not fair or deserved.

9. Keep calm: Try not to respond to violence with anger. Anger can make things worse.



10. Consent must be understood. Your version of consent may be very different to how others interpret it. Understand this very carefully and if you are unsure ask and respectfully ask again.

Best wishes

Prof. R Balkaran
Deputy Vice Chancellor: Learning & Teaching