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The Rape Crisis Network Ireland (RCNI) National Rape Crisis Statistics and Annual Report (2009) is a vital resource to researchers, practitioners, and policy makers in our collective efforts to end sexual violence against women, men, and children. One of the most difficult challenges for rape crisis centers is knowing whether the hard work of staff and volunteers is making a difference. The national data organized by RCNI is critical because it provides the kind of information necessary for long-term planning and evaluation. We need know the who's, the how's, the when's, and the what's in order to develop effective services for survivors and to move forward with prevention initiatives. The RCNI data answer these questions and can be used to guide planning efforts in order to make the most of limited resources. Frankly, I wish similar data were available in the United States as it would be an invaluable resource to my work as a sexual assault researcher and consultant to policy makers.



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