



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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Release Date: September 2007

Programme No. 1088

Length: 4'07"

Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

## SEXUAL ASSAULT OF YOUNG GIRLS IN HAITI

### VIDEO

### AUDIO

STREET VIOLENCE

(NATSOT)

#### NARRATION

UN peacekeepers root out gangs which fight for turf in many areas of the Caribbean nation of Haiti. (6)

PROTESTS / STILLS

The change of government in 2004 brought a complete breakdown of law and order. Violence spread throughout the streets of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. (8.5)

PEOPLE IN STREET / WOMEN  
AND GIRLS

Alongside the violence has come a dramatic increase in rapes. Last year, 5,000 cases were reported. Some of the victims were as young as two years old. (10)

LAURENCEAU ON CAMERA

LAURENCEAU: (English) F

*"We observed that especially with the crisis, the political crisis... every time there is a political problem there is an increase in rapes."* (7.5)

NARRATION

Barbara Laurenceau is Deputy Representative of the UN Population Fund in Haiti. (4.5)

LAURENCEAU ON CAMERA

LAURENCEAU: (English) **F**

*"We saw in 2004, for example, a huge increase in reported cases of rape, especially with young girls."* (7)

NARRATION

LEA / WATERFRONT

And no one knows this better than 12-year-old Lea. Just two hours before we met her, Lea was swimming alone down by the beach not far from home when two men snatched her. (10.5)

LEA: (French Creole) **F**

LEA ON CAMERA

*"...I swam and as I was coming out two men raped me."* (6)

NARRATION

HEALTH INSTITUTE

Lea's cousin – who herself was raped only a week earlier – rushed her to this local health centre... one of the few in Port-au Prince. (8)

LEA: (French Creole) **F**

LEA ON CAMERA

*"My head hurts. I cried."* (3)

NARRATION

Lea is examined for evidence of rape and is then immediately seen by a counsellor. Many of the victims show signs of trauma says therapist, Irdnie Christophe. (7.5)

CHRISTOPHE: (French) F

CHRISTOPHE ON CAMERA

*"...the first thing they think is that the aggressor wants to infect those who are not already infected with HIV."* (8.5)

NARRATION

HEALTH CENTRE/ARREST

Access to treatment is steadily improving...  
...and as more suspects are arrested, the chances of getting justice have increased. (8)

LEA: (In French Creole) F

LEA ON CAMERA

*"...the police showed up. The fatter one, the police had time to catch him. They took him away."* (10)

NARRATION

RAPE MARCH

Before 2005, even though rape was illegal, the law was vague and was ignored. Offenders received little or no punishment. (8.5)

Some victims settled with rapists for a lump sum payment of up to \$400. (4.5)

But now all that has changed with pressure from advocacy groups says Dr. Marjorie Joseph, forensic expert. (6.5)

JOSEPH: (In French) F

JOSEPH ON CAMERA

*"We no longer talk about assault against morals but now sexual assault."* (4.5)

NARRATION

Today rape is punishable by 10 years to life in

PRISONERS / PLACARDS

prison and convictions are increasing. This is evident at Haiti's National Penitentiary. (9)

Inmate number 247 is serving a 7-year sentence for rape. (4)

PRISONER NO. 3 ON CAMERA

PRISONER #3: ( In French Creole) **M**  
*"We found the young girl, took her hostage, we spoke to her, then raped her, and killed her...."*  
(6.5)

POLICE & PEACEKEEPERS

NARRATION  
Improved security and efforts by UN peacekeepers to drive out gangs will offer protection for young girls like Lea. (7)

LEA AT CENTRE

Fortunately for her, she was able to get preventive treatment at the health centre within 72 hours of the incident and tested negative for HIV. She must return in three months to be retested. (11)

GOING HOME

Now, Lea must deal with the emotional scars of rape. The process will be painfully slow but there's new hope that justice might eventually be served. (9)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4)