East Area Rapists... Fear Grips Serene Neighborhoods

J. R. Young

Fear grips the serenity of the East Area as a rash of rapes has brought terror to the neighborhood. Police have been called to many houses and businesses in the area to investigate reports of sexual assault. Residents are worried about their safety and are demanding action from the police department.

The city of Sacramento has been on high alert, with police officers patrolling the streets and keeping a close watch on any suspicious activity. The community has come together to support each other and to demand justice for the victims.

The recent spate of rapes has caused a great deal of concern among families and people of all ages. Many residents have expressed their fear and have called for stronger measures to be taken to prevent further attacks.

The police department is investigating each case with the utmost seriousness, and they are working tirelessly to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Residents are encouraged to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to the police immediately. The city of Sacramento is united in its commitment to maintaining a safe and secure community for all.

By J. R. Young
East Area Rapist

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Cordova resident said she heard nine Carmichael women were raped by the same man. Other rumors have him "breaking down front doors and tearing down windows."

And yet some of the area's residents were completely unaware of the violent crimes.

To quell some of the rumors and to discuss protective measures, two meetings were held last week in the Del Dayo School which attracted an unprecedented 500 persons.

A community meeting also was held in Rancho Cordova, the hardest hit area, last Sunday, with another one scheduled Saturday afternoon at the Cordova Gardens School.

And by request, the Rape Crisis Clinic has set up four workshops to teach women self-defense tactics.

Jill Bradshaw first heard about the attacks from her neighbors.

"I realized I was frightened while I was routinely cleaning the garage," she said. "I went inside the house and got a gun" to keep by her side.

Despite her fear her feelings soon gave way to anger. Anger that she and her neighbors are being forced to lock themselves inside their own homes. Anger that she cannot clean her garage without fear of attack.

"The women in her community have decided they will fight back."

"We're not going to stay locked behind these doors," she said of her decision to organize community meetings so residents could discuss ways of protecting themselves.

The women on her block have arranged car patrols to scan the neighborhood. Men are paying close attention to strange persons and cars in the area while they drive to work. Some neighbors have worked out SOS signals with each other.

Some merchants in the Rancho Cordova area have offered dead bolt locks at discount prices and several men are installing them for women who live alone.

"Locks are being used more than ever in the wealthier Del Dayo area, one woman said. "I am one who usually keeps my doors open. Now I make sure everything is locked."

"We're getting a burglary alarm put in, like a lot of friends. It's all a direct result of what has been happening. But the waiting list at some companies is as long as five weeks because of the sudden demand."

Several Rancho Cordova residents said they had handguns which they would not hesitate to use against an intruder.

Many mothers are keeping closer tabs on their children during the day and teaching them to be more cautious when answering the door or speaking to strangers on the telephone.

"I have conditioned my daughter — if anything ever happens to me — to immediately run out of the house and across the street to the neighbor's," said one Rancho Cordova woman.

"Her friend, who also has a daughter, asked, "But how much do you tell them? You don't want to build on a fear, but maybe I should go into it further. I just don't know how detailed to get."

The children are very aware that something is troubling their parents, added a Del Dayo woman. "We're being forced to explain these things to kids even if we don't want to."

"And my son came home the other day and said, "I think what you are most afraid of, Mom, is being raped. That's kind of heavy."

"Men, too, are taking protective measures. The husbands are not sleeping well, either," said a Del Dayo woman.

And in Rancho Cordova "at first the men seemed to be a little stand-offish," said Mrs. Bradshaw. Only one of the 35 persons who attended the meeting was a male.

"Because rape has been swept under the cover so long," she added, "our men didn't know how to handle it when it started happening near us. They've always been told that no woman is really raped.

"But the women are scared out here — really scared. Everybody is paranoid. We're going to inform our men. We're hoping they will come out to the meetings and see the fear in the women and work with us."

"Maybe when he (the rapist) sees that we are not going to be terrorized, that we are going to get our men organized and face him, by God, he'll think twice before attacking another woman."

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32.50 SWEATERS
imported pullovers...

27.50 SPORT SHIRT
long sleeve, designer

22.50 WOOL SHIRTS
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