



helping women through the law

# From Report to Court

A handbook for adult survivors of sexual violence (third edition)

**From Report to Court** provides information and support to people who have experienced sexual violence, as well as to their families, friends and the organisations that support them. **From Report to Court** also sets out the relevant law and the obligations the different agencies in the criminal justice system have towards survivors of sexual violence. This revised edition has been fully updated to cover all stages of the legal process, including:

- The Sexual Offences Act 2003 and, in particular, the non-consensual sexual offences of rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault and causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent.
- The decision to report an offence to the police and an overview of the investigative process.
- The decision to charge, the role of the Crown Prosecution Service and what happens at trial including giving evidence at court and the verdict.
- The medical, legal and support options available to a survivor of sexual violence.

“**From Report to Court** is an essential guide for victims of rape or sexual assault. It provides clear and accessible information which will assist survivors who are going through the criminal justice system and represents a major step forward towards gaining victim confidence in this difficult area.”

Dave Gee MBE, Rape Advisor to ACPO and the Home Office

“Every survivor of sexual violence should get a copy of **From Report to Court**. It is the only book that provides impartial, clear information about all the stages in the criminal justice process. No other publication covers such a broad range of issues relevant to survivors and those who support them.”

Sheila Coates MBE, South Essex Rape and Incest Crisis Centre (SERICC)

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Rights of Women

52-54 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8RT

Admin line: 020 7251 6575 Textphone: 020 7490 2562

Fax: 020 7490 5377

Email: [info@row.org.uk](mailto:info@row.org.uk)

Website: [www.rightsofwomen.org.uk](http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk)

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