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This issue of Network describes the variety of means by which children, adolescents, and adults - men and women alike - are pressured to have sexual relations that they do not want. Nonconsensual sex may be a major contributing factor to such reproductive health problems as unintended pregnancy and its complications, as well as HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Transmission of these infections will persist - despite common STI/HIV prevention approaches of emphasizing sexual abstinence, faithfulness in relationships, and condom use - as long as nonconsensual sex remains widespread. Reproductive health providers are often particularly well placed to detect sexual coercion and to care for its predominantly female victims. But experts have called for more rigorous evaluation of provider interventions to determine how they affect clients' health or exposure to further violence. Some experts have also called for financial support and rigorous evaluation of prevention initiatives that address the root causes of nonconsensual sex.

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