



NCSF Consent Counts Survey

An Internet survey was undertaken by The National Coalition for Sexual Freedom to gauge respondents' views on consent in a BDSM context. This survey was posted on Survey Monkey linked from the NCSF website, and lasted from July 9th through October 22nd, 2012.

There was a total of 5,667 respondents with at least 3,932 (70.8%) responding to every question. This is a comparatively low response percentage and may reflect dissatisfaction with the survey questions, especially the request for name/email address. However, the sample of respondents who did answer every question is considered very large for a survey of this type. The data analyst is Chelsea Heaven. The report was written by Susan Wright and Judy Guerin.

Findings of note are highlighted in red.

Summary

Perhaps the most significant conclusion to be drawn from the responses to the survey is that the respondents overwhelmingly recognize the importance of consent. All of the basic questions concerning the importance of consent show 84% agreement or higher:

- A person can revoke consent at any time (95.9%)
- Consent should be an ongoing discussion in a relationship (94.25%)
- Consent is not valid when coerced (93.6%)
- One should ask a "slow" person about his/her ability to consent (91.3%)
- The existence of a relationship contract does not mean that a submissive/slave cannot withdraw consent given in that context (87.4%)
- Clear, overt consent must be given before a scene (84.9%)
- The BDSM community needs more consent education (85.6%)

However, there is less consensus about the issue of consent when the question relates to an ongoing scene where consent was originally given:

- Consent obtained in the middle of a scene may be invalid because it results from elevated endorphins (72.4%)
- Explicit consent should be obtained in the middle of a scene where the nature of the scene is changed (66.5%)
- A person of sound mind can consent to a scene in which no safeword or safe sign is allowed (48%)

There is also significant disagreement as to the need for and role of consent in an ongoing BDSM relationship:

- The ability to revoke consent depends on the nature of a relationship (Yes-40%; No-56.5%)
- Status of a relationship is a factor in determining ability to consent (Yes-60.9%)

When it comes to what the law should be, the kinky peoples' views diverge substantially from the current position of the courts and from what NCSF believes may be achievable in our Consent Counts project:

- Even where consent was not given, there should be no prosecution unless injury is severe (21.4% agree; 65.1% disagree; 12.7% undecided)
- Above a certain degree of injury, there should be prosecution even where consent was given (43.5% agree; 48% disagree; 17.4% no opinion)

When asked what types of harm can be consented to, the members of our communities have opinions that, on balance, are consistent with how we have thought we would have to define "serious injury" under the Model Penal Code. High percentages believe that consent is appropriate for such things as branding (81%) and long captivity (61.9%).

Not surprisingly, large percentages of respondents view the general society as hostile to BDSM. 95% think it is important that the public be better educated about BDSM. But there is a significant group that seems to like the rebel or outlaw status of the BDSM practitioner, as shown by the 27.3% who said "no" to the question whether they would like to see the BDSM communities accepted by society.

The survey responses tend to confirm the criminality issues that NCSF is addressing are significant for our constituency. Significant percentages know of BDSM prosecutions in their community (19%), personally feared prosecution (28%) and were concerned that no community resources are available to help them in the event of arrest or prosecution (62%). The survey also supports NCSF's emphasis on education about the law on BDSM and consent, with 59% stating they are not aware of the law in their area.

With respect to RACK and "safe, sane and consensual," 92.6% agreed that "Any person who engages in BDSM should become informed about how to play in ways that are "safe, sane and consensual." However the general comments included over one hundred references to RACK and/or acknowledgement of risk and criticism of safe, sane and consensual.

Additionally, 30.1% of respondents indicated that they had a pre-negotiated limit violated and 14.9% had experienced having a safe word or safe sign ignored. The aggregate total is 33%: 1 in 3 kinky people have experienced a consent violation, further emphasizing the need for greater education.

Demographics

1. "What is your age?" Out of 4,852 respondents:

| | | |
|-------|------|-------|
| <19 | 57 | 1.2% |
| 19-24 | 681 | 14.0% |
| 25-35 | 1455 | 30.0% |
| 36-50 | 1703 | 35.1% |
| 51-69 | 920 | 19.0% |
| 70+ | 36 | .7% |

2. "Do you live in the US?" Out of 4,861 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| Yes | 4031 | 82.9% |
| No | 830 | 17.1% |

3. "How did you hear about this survey?" Out of 4,057 respondents:

| | | |
|--------------|------|-------|
| FetLife | 2915 | 71.9% |
| Friend | 366 | 9.0% |
| NCSF Website | 331 | 8.2% |
| Twitter | 316 | 7.8% |
| Facebook | 226 | 5.6% |
| Group | 225 | 5.5% |

4. "How long have you been in the BDSM scene/community?" **51.5% of the respondents have been in the BDSM scene for less than 5 years.** Out of 4,861 respondents:

| | | |
|------------------|------|-------|
| Less than 1 year | 693 | 14.3% |
| 1-3 years | 1109 | 22.8% |
| 3-5 years | 701 | 14.4% |
| 5-10 years | 856 | 17.6% |
| 10-15 years | 641 | 13.2% |
| 15-20 years | 425 | 8.7% |
| 20+ years | 436 | 9.0% |

5. Cross tabulating “How long have you been in the scene?” and “How old are you?” The “bulge” in participation in the scene takes place in the 24-50 age ranges. Out of 4,852 who answered both questions:

| | >19 old | 19-24 | 25-35 | 36-50 | 51-69 | 70+ | totals |
|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------|
| >1 year | 23 3.3% | 178 25.7% | 255 36.8% | 177 25.6% | 57 8.2% | 2 0.3% | 692 |
| 1-3 years | 27 2.4% | 336 30.4% | 391 35.3% | 250 22.6% | 101 9.1% | 2 0.2% | 1107 |
| 3-5 years | 3 0.4% | 113 16.1% | 245 35.0% | 240 34.2% | 95 13.6% | 5 0.7% | 701 |
| 5-10 years | 2 0.2% | 50 5.8% | 336 39.3% | 331 38.7% | 133 15.5% | 4 0.5% | 856 |
| 10-15 years | 0 0% | 2 0.3% | 179 28.0% | 304 47.6% | 153 23.9% | 1 0.2% | 639 |
| 15-20 years | 2 0.5% | 0 0% | 47 11.1% | 242 57.3% | 125 29.6% | 6 1.4% | 422 |
| 20+ years | 0 0% | 2 0.5% | 2 0.5% | 159 36.6% | 256 58.9% | 16 3.7% | 435 |

6. In the following tables, 74% of respondents said they weren’t comfortable speaking to their family about their BDSM activities. That’s higher than the results of the 2008 and 1998 Violence & Discrimination surveys which found that 60% and 62% respectively weren’t out to their family or coworkers.

I can speak comfortably to my family about my BDSM activities. Out of 4,347 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 945 | 21.7% |
| Disagree | 3217 | 74.0% |
| No Opinion | 185 | 4.3% |

I can speak comfortably to coworkers about my BDSM activities. Out of 4,328 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 727 | 16.8% |
| Disagree | 3252 | 75.2% |
| No Opinion | 349 | 8.1% |

Key Findings on Consent Violations

1. “Have you ever had a pre-negotiated limit violated in a BDSM scene or relationship?” Of 4,115 respondents (1,552 missing):

| | | |
|-----|-------|-------|
| No | 2,878 | 69.9% |
| Yes | 1,237 | 30.1% |

2. “Have you ever negotiated a safeword or safesign with a partner who then ignored it during play?” Of 4,110 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|-------|-------|
| No | 3,498 | 85.1% |
| Yes | 612 | 14.9% |

3. According to the following table, 490 individuals answered yes to both a consent limit violation and a safeword violation. That is 11.8% of the 4,104 participants that responded to both questions. **A total of 33% respondents had a pre-negotiated limit violated and/or a safeword or safesign ignored.**

| | No limit violation | Yes limit violation | Total |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------|
| No safeword violation | 2749 | 743 | 3492 |
| Yes safeword violation | 122 | 490 | 612 |
| Total | 2871 | 1233 | 4104 |

4. Cross tabulating all 5,667 responses for “How long have you been in the BDSM scene?” with “Have you ever had a pre-negotiated limit violated?” **The percentage of limit violations rise for the first 5 years then level off at 1 out of 3 people.** Out of 5,667 respondents:

| | No limit violation | Yes limit violation | Missing |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Less than 1 year | 69% | 10% | 21% |
| 1-3 years | 61% | 21% | 12% |
| 3-5 years | 57% | 27% | 16% |
| 5-10 years | 57% | 30% | 13% |
| 10-15 years | 56% | 32% | 12% |
| 15-20 years | 55% | 33% | 12% |
| 20+ years | 56% | 33% | 11% |

5. Cross tabulating “How long have you been in the BDSM scene?” and “Have you had a pre-negotiated limit violated?” As a percentage within “Have you ever had a pre-negotiated limit violated?” out of 4,106 respondents who answered both questions:

| | >1 year | 1-3 years | 3-5 years | 5-10 years | 10-15 years | 15-20 years | 20+ years |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| No (% within limit violated) | 16.6% | 23.4% | 13.8% | 17.0% | 12.5% | 8.1% | 8.6% |
| Yes (% within limit violated) | 5.8% | 19.0% | 15.4% | 20.5% | 16.5% | 11.4% | 11.5% |
| Total (% within limit violated) | 13.3% | 22.1% | 14.3% | 18.1% | 13.7% | 9.1% | 9.4% |

6. Cross tabulating “Have you ever had a pre-negotiated limit violated?” and “Do you live in the U.S.?” **The percentages are exactly the same, which indicates consent violations are not a national/cultural phenomenon.** Out of 4,106 respondents who answered both questions:

| | Not in the U.S. | Yes in the U.S. |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| No (% within limit violated) | 457 (15.9%) | 2418 (84.1%) |
| Yes (% within limit violated) | 196 (15.9%) | 1035 (84.1%) |
| Total (% within limit violated) | 653 (15.9%) | 3453 (84.1%) |

7. Have you participated in a group discussion on consent? Out of 5,610 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 2330 | 41.5% |
| Yes | 3280 | 58.5% |

8. Cross tabulating “Have you participated in a group discussion about Consent?” and “Have you had a pre-negotiated limit violated?” **Nearly 72% of those who did suffer a limit violation also participated in a group discussion on consent—however we don’t know if the discussion took place after the limit violation or before.** Out of 4089 respondents who answered both:

| | No Consent Discussion | Yes Consent Discussion |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| No (% within limit violated) | 1212 (42.3%) | 1651 (57.7%) |
| Yes (% within limit violated) | 344 (28.1%) | 882 (71.9%) |
| Total (% within limit violated) | 1556 (38.1%) | 2533 (61.9%) |

Key Findings on Views on Consent

1. “It is essential to know the age of consent in your state and, before BDSM play with any person who appears to be young, to ask about and verify that person’s age.” **This is the largest percentage of respondents that answered the same for any question – 96.3%.** Out of 4,094 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,943 | 96.3% |
| Disagree | 52 | 1.3% |
| No Opinion | 99 | 2.4% |

2. “A person can revoke consent to an activity at any time.” Out of 4,100 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,930 | 95.9% |
| Disagree | 134 | 3.2% |
| No Opinion | 36 | .9% |

3. “Consent should be an ongoing discussion in every relationship.” Out of 4,088 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,853 | 94.2% |
| Disagree | 132 | 3.3% |
| No Opinion | 103 | 2.5% |

4. “Consent is not valid if it is obtained from someone under threat of removal of the relationship, housing, financial support or contact with loved ones.” Out of 4,110 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,848 | 93.6% |
| Disagree | 171 | 4.2% |
| No Opinion | 91 | 2.2% |

5. “Any person who engages in BDSM should become informed about how to play in ways that are “safe, sane and consensual“.” Out of 4,098 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,796 | 92.6% |
| Disagree | 147 | 3.6% |
| No Opinion | 155 | 3.8% |

6. “If I am invited to play with a submissive who seems mentally “slow,” I have an obligation to inquire about the submissive’s ability to give consent.” Out of 4,096 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,740 | 91.3% |
| Disagree | 121 | 3.0% |
| No Opinion | 235 | 5.7% |

7. “When a submissive enters a relationship contract, they have given up the right to revoke any consent they have given in that contract.” Out of 4,098 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 371 | 9.1% |
| Disagree | 3,582 | 87.4% |
| No Opinion | 145 | 3.5% |

8. “Our local BDSM communities and presenters have an obligation to provide education about consent.” Out of 4099 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,565 | 87.0% |
| Disagree | 228 | 5.5% |
| No Opinion | 306 | 7.5% |

9. “Do you think the BDSM community needs more education about the issue of consent?” Out of 3,932 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 565 | 14.4% |
| Yes | 3367 | 85.6% |

10. “I have an ethical obligation to intervene to prevent injury when I see a scene that is clearly not consensual.” Out of 4,091 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,496 | 85.5% |
| Disagree | 254 | 6.2% |
| No Opinion | 341 | 8.3% |

11. “Before starting a “scene” it is essential that the submissive party give a clear, overt expression of informed consent.” Out of 4089 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,473 | 85.0% |
| Disagree | 364 | 8.8% |
| No Opinion | 252 | 6.2% |

12. “If a person is impaired by drugs or alcohol, informed consent cannot be given.” Out of 4,098 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,438 | 83.8% |
| Disagree | 419 | 10.3% |
| No Opinion | 241 | 5.9% |

13. "In any BDSM scene, it is essential to have a "safe word" or other signal that requires that the scene be terminated." Out of 4,100 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,423 | 83.5% |
| Disagree | 499 | 12.2% |
| No Opinion | 178 | 4.3% |

14. "The main difference between abuse and BDSM is mutual consent." This indicates 1 in 5 believe that consent alone doesn't define BDSM. Out of 4,100 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 3,358 | 81.9% |
| Disagree | 614 | 15.0% |
| No Opinion | 128 | 3.1% |

15. "Consent obtained after a renegotiation in the middle of a scene may be invalid because the bottom's judgment may be impaired due to the release of endorphins and adrenaline." Out of 4092 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 2,964 | 72.4% |
| Disagree | 768 | 18.8% |
| No Opinion | 360 | 8.8% |

16. "Explicit consent should be obtained during a scene when changing the level of activity. For example, when moving from flogging to genital contact." Out of 4087 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 2,676 | 65.4% |
| Disagree | 1,053 | 25.8% |
| No Opinion | 358 | 8.8% |

17. "Regardless whether or not consent was given, there should be no prosecution of BDSM conduct unless truly serious injury is caused." Out of 4080 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 873 | 21.4% |
| Disagree | 2,687 | 65.9% |
| No Opinion | 520 | 12.7% |

18. "The ability to revoke consent depends on the dynamic of the relationship." Out of 4,091 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 1,471 | 35.9% |
| Disagree | 2,310 | 56.5% |
| No Opinion | 310 | 7.6% |

19. “There is a certain level of physical injury that, even if consent was given, should be prosecuted as BDSM based assault.” Out of 4083 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 1,458 | 35.7% |
| Disagree | 1,914 | 46.9% |
| No Opinion | 711 | 17.4% |

20. “Assuming they are of legal age and sound mind, a person should be able to give their consent for someone to do the following things to them: No Use of Safewords or signs.” Out of 4,025 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| Agree | 1,933 | 48.0% |
| Disagree | 1,751 | 43.5% |
| No Opinion | 341 | 8.5% |

21. “What factors should be considered in determining someone's ability to give consent?” Out of 4,029 respondents:

| | Yes | No |
|---|-------|-------|
| Mental state of the bottom at moment of consent | 94.4% | 5.6% |
| Age | 90.0% | 10.0% |
| Mental Capacity | 95.6% | 4.4% |
| Knowledge and experience of activity | 87.2% | 12.8% |
| Alcohol/Drug Use | 93.2% | 6.8% |
| Relationship status | 60.9% | 39.1% |
| Status in the community | 85.5% | 14.5% |
| How long they have been involved in BDSM | 61.3% | 38.7% |

Key Findings on Perceptions of BDSM

1. “Do you think it is important to educate the general public about the difference between safe, sane and consensual BDSM and abuse?” Out of 3,980 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 203 | 5.1% |
| Yes | 3777 | 94.9% |

2. “People who are not in the BDSM lifestyle generally feel that there is something wrong with people who participate in BDSM activities.” Out of 4,355 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 3673 | 84.3% |
| Disagree | 407 | 9.3% |
| No Opinion | 275 | 6.3% |

3. “People who are not in the BDSM lifestyle are generally accepting of the BDSM lifestyle.” Out of 4,357 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 583 | 13.4% |
| Disagree | 3585 | 82.3% |
| No Opinion | 189 | 4.3% |

4. “People who are not in the BDSM lifestyle are generally afraid of the images of BDSM they might see.” Out of 4,351 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 3377 | 77.6% |
| Disagree | 570 | 13.1% |
| No Opinion | 404 | 9.3% |

5. “People who are not in the BDSM lifestyle generally believe that BDSM activities are abusive.” Out of 4,345 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Agree | 3362 | 77.4% |
| Disagree | 590 | 13.5% |
| No Opinion | 393 | 9.0% |

6. “Would you like to see the BDSM community accepted by mainstream society?” Out of 4,347 respondents:

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| No | 1188 | 27.3% |
| Yes | 2225 | 51.2% |
| No opinion | 934 | 21.5% |

7. “What service providers do you feel most need education about BDSM?” Out of 3,907 respondents:

| | | |
|----------------------------|------|-------|
| Law Enforcement | 3916 | 90.0% |
| Medical Professionals | 3164 | 81.0% |
| Mental Health Counselors | 3086 | 79.0% |
| Prosecutors | 2898 | 74.2% |
| Media | 2868 | 73.4% |
| Judges | 2856 | 73.1% |
| Social Service Providers | 2847 | 72.9% |
| Domestic Violence Shelters | 2840 | 72.7% |

Key Findings on the Law and BDSM

1. “Are you aware of any situations in your community in which a person or group in the BDSM community has been prosecuted or arrested for BDSM-related behavior?” Out of 4,652 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 3752 | 80.7% |
| Yes | 900 | 19.3% |

2. “Are you personally concerned with being criminally prosecuted for BDSM activities?” Out of 4,663 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 3359 | 72.0% |
| Yes | 1304 | 28.0% |

3. “In the case of arrest or raid surrounding BDSM activities, do you have resources in your community that could help you?” Out of 4,471 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 2773 | 62.0% |
| Yes | 1698 | 38.0% |

4. “Are you aware of the current laws in your area that could be used to prosecute BDSM activities?” Out of 4,830 respondents:

| | | |
|-----|------|-------|
| No | 2862 | 59.3% |
| Yes | 1968 | 40.7% |

5. “Other general comments/questions/concerns?”

Some general observations:

- Most of the comments that were made preferred RACK to SSC and/or acknowledged that SSC is inadequate and that risk is part of BDSM, even when mild. This is in contrast to the 92.6% who agreed in response to the question: “Any person who engages in BDSM should become informed about how to play in ways that are “safe, sane and consensual.” (#5 under Key Findings on Views on Consent) Please note that this question was worded “safe, sane and consensual” and there were numerous comments “complaining” about this wording.
- Respondents who were M/s, consensual/non-consent expressed concern about NCSF “pushing” SSC—and pointed out that some of our survey questions included this language.

- The question about extreme activities, including “death,” is skewed because “in a BDSM context” was not included on this question. Most respondents were pro assisted suicide or right to die and responded favorably, even though they opposed death as part of a consensual BDSM scene.
- Comments included statements on the need to define what a scene is and define various relationship dynamics as part of NCSF’s consent statement.
- Future surveys should allow comments for most sections and include an “I don’t know” option.

Here are the statistics on the comments:

768 comments were included. This is the breakdown by category.

1. Mention of RACK-81
2. Mention of Risk-14
3. Mention of SSC-124
4. Mention of long term relationships vs. casual scenes-23
5. Mention of M/s-26
6. Mention of Consent/non-consent-32
7. Mention of Communication/Negotiation-28
8. Mention of death/right to die/assisted suicide-33
9. References to 50 Shades of Grey-14
10. Those who volunteered or need a response-18
11. Those who thought the survey was inadequate or NCSF is full of “bs”-49

6. “Please describe any situations in your community in which a person or group in the BDSM community has been prosecuted or arrested for BDSM-related behavior.” Out of 703 respondents who commented on this question:

113 False accusations vs. reported assault (both are included in this number)

85 Pro-domme arrests

40 Events/clubs

64 Arrests for consensual BDSM

This section is hard to analyze because so many of the comments are too vague to determine if charges were actually filed. The comments involving false accusations vs. reported abuse includes a fair number of cases that were reported to the police. Events/clubs doesn’t include private parties. For the arrests for consensual BDSM, none of the numerous comments were included that mentioned Paddleboro, San Diego Six, Marcus, Jovanovich, Bagley, Spanner,

the anal fisting porn case in the UK, the Brown case in Canada or cases resulting in death. Not all of the arrests were DV or assault related, and include public indecency/disorderly conduct for public scenes and other charges.

The following are the comments referenced in the stats:

12 About a dozen years ago, a sex demonstration at a club was broken up by police who attempted to, but failed to charge the establishment for criminal behavior.

18 Ex-fiancee and Myself were involved in a bdsm relationship and when the relationship fell apart she claimed rape.

19 It was years ago, charges were prosecuted but decision was not guilty.

23 1. Alleged non-consent during a scene at a public event...bottom claimed she had safeworded...no one, including dungeon monitors, could confirm. Ultimately, no charges laid. 2. Charge of sexual assault causing bodily harm - top and bottom had long-standing relationship, had consented to breath play and anal play in past; top rendered bottom unconscious; when she regained consciousness, she was being anally penetrated by a dildo; 3 months later, during custody fight, incident came to attention of law authorities; charges laid; prosecution sought to have the fact that unconsciousness resulted 'bodily harm' - and argued that one cannot consent to same; judge convicted of simple sexual assault - on basis that bottom could not consent to anal penetration while unconscious. Sentence 6 months. Appeals all the way to Supreme Court dismissed.

24 It may not fall under the heading of BDSM-related, but there was non- consensual sexual contact during a BDSM scene which was reported/prosecuted.

26 friend who was a pro got busted. Also, have heard of child custody issues where children were taken away from parent. (I'm most worried about my professional activity)

30 Married couple arrested in florida for ssc sex act

32 An abduction scene had a witness, several parties went to jail.

33 Various professionals have been prosecuted for prostitution.

36 Very well respected and careful top prosecuted for kidnap. Bottom freaked while playing.

37 Young lady consented to playing a rape scenario with her long time boyfriend

40 2 different prodømmes, on in 1980s, one in 1990s, were arrested but not convicted of prostitution.

43 Upon breaking up a female submissive charged her dominant with assault, after the fact.

44 how about the opposite an actual case of rape where the cops in their infinite wisdom thought the M/s relationship was just hard play & didn't arrest the rapist so he is still out and about in the community

48 A person accused another of rape, it went to trial and the accused was found not guilty.

54 Police raids on private parties where 2 individuals were arrested for "attempted assault" and "indecent exposure".

- 55 in PHL - several pro-dommes were arrested.
- 57 Police exit interviewed male subs coming from a house where a FemDom was providing services. Neighbors had complained of a lot of traffic on a previously quiet residential street.
- 58 A 30 yr old Dominatrix was training a minor as her sexual slave...
- 59 I was arrested after being reported to the police as having participated in BDSM behavior. The instance witnessed was my restrained to a cross and being flogged. Both me and my Master were arrested. His charge was L & L Battery. mine was L & L exhibition (we were in a backyard at the time and though there were tarps up one of the neighbors cut a hole and was peeking through)
- 61 they was doing a flogging scene outside , someone called the cops.. They both was arrested and had to go to court
- 64 canning resulted in DV charge
- 69 I have a friend on the sex offenders registry because of activities her TPE master commanded her to do involving under aged pornographic materials. I am also aware of several pro Dommies who have been in court for prostitution. I am aware of one case where a womans children were taken away over photos her ex husband had of her at a kinky camp out.
- 71 Arrests for consensual impact play, arrests for professional domination/submission
- 75 Pro Domme arrested for her activities after neighborhood complaints, despite specious grounds for arrest. Charges ultimately dropped, but after considerable financial cost
- 81 One person played with a younger person (who lied about their age) and engaged in some lighter S/M as well as humiliation play for an entire weekend. When the young submissive came home their parent say bruises and freaked out. The sub then first claimed to have been raped but then agreed that she had been giving her consent to everything that had happened prior to the weekend and had been excited about it. Court dismissed the case.
- 85 A friend who is a Pro Domme was arrested for prostitution
- 93 A submissive gave permissions to a Dom for impact play including the leaving of heavy bruising. After this, their relationship disintegrated and the submissive, still wearing bruises, went to the police to report domestic abuse. The Dominant party was arrested but since then all charges have been dropped.
- 95 People I don't know personally have been prosecuted for doing rope suspension in clothing, in the presence of their child, but I have heard they won their case.
- 98 A woman and man earlier this year did a kidnapping scene in a car where the woman could be plainly seen in the back of a car, it made the news, I believe they were charged and arrested.
- 102 A Domme in a city near me that ran a dungeon for profit in her home was arrested and closed down.
- 103 Woman contacted a Top and arranged a series of meetings and then laid a complaint against the to[p of physical damage to her person. Eventually judge decided complainant was completely unreliable and dismissed the case,
- 113 "bungalow dominatrix" XXX, had her dungeon raided and was charged. Quite some time ago

- 114 Prostitution for paid BDSM activities, death from breath play
- 118 A Pro-Domme was arrested for Prostitution
- 124 My leather brother and his wife fought "endangerment of a minor" charges for hosting a demo in their house. It is noteworthy that a) the children were not in the house at the time, and b) the authorities were alerted as a retaliatory act by a former member of the local group.
- 126 Approximately 10 years ago, two individuals were charged with assault after police witnessed a consensual act of BDSM. The purported victims made statements to the police that the acts were consensual and refused to testify for the prosecution.
- 131 A person used bruises recieved during play to falsify a claim of assault.
- 135 Consensual relationship, floggings and spankings. Sub turned jealous over another partner and then filed a domestic violence complaint.
- 138 A girl claimed lack of consent, a guy was arrested because someone saw the bruises on his partner
- 140 several years ago a private club was raided
- 141 someone got arrested and charged with bodily harm and rape after his sub retracted her consent and pressed charges when he left her
- 142 A friend of mine was raped beaten and held captive by a Dom she is trying to press charges against him but the police fucked it up so bad we dont know she will have a case
- 144 A woman working as a professional dominatrix was prosecuted for prostitution. It was about 12 years ago.
- 145 my former partner was arrested on battery charges for participating in paddling activities with a submissive female
- 161 persons arrested during busts of bathhouses and domme's dungeon (all since closed)
- 162 Past play partner has described an "unstable" female play partner he had that ultimately "went bad." Ended in a restraining order on him from the girl. Personally I don't think the guy is a threat, having had multiple sexual/BDSM encounters and never having felt threatened myself.
- 168 clubs being closed down, people being fired from their jobs
- 169 Club was raided by police for allegedly facilitating prostitution
- 170 The submissive partner in a D/s scene claimed she was raped by the dominant partner.
- 174 Guy was arrested for body mods and hooking for hanging even with consent.
- 177 Friend was arrested for domestic violence because his submissive kneeled to him in his back yard and he was lightly slapping her face (which was her kink of public humiliation and it was not a "beating" as defined by a man punching a woman in the face). Neighbors called the cops and video recorded them in their own back yard.
- 182 Our country is VERY conservative. I know someone who got accused of rape and went to jail for it even if both parties already admitted it was with consent (the girl had bruises on her body). That's all because our government and society condemns any kind of kinks.

- 188 a person was accidentally asphyxiated during a session with a pro-Domme
- 190 This person had BDSM paraphernalia and combine with other articles was accused of stalking his ex wife with intent to kidnap his dtr. That was not the case.
- 198 consensual flogging/beating, police called by neighbors. subjects fell within the perimeters of the domestic violence laws. Written up,no initial arrest by officers. Detectives arrested later with the mind set "let the courts figure it out"
- 204 Spousal abuse allegation forced onto a couple due to Canadian law about pressing charges even when woman doesn't want them pressed.
- 206 Some friends have had the police charge them and refuse to believe that their partner's marks were consensual.
- 209 the master and his sub were walked in on by the sub's sister. the sister took her to the hospital and had her committed for minor 'injuries' consisting of rope marks. the sister pushed the doctor to commit the sub under a 72hr suicide watch. she then prosecuted the master while the sub was under suicide watch (she used it to convinced the jury that her sister was disturbed - and therefore couldn't consent). the master plead guilty so as to not bring the case to court. he got 20yrs in prison for rape and forcible sodomy.
- 214 Running a house of prostitution, assault and battery, lewd conduct, stalking
- 216 A Domme was arrested a number of years ago, i believe it was based on Prostitution charges.
- 217 Next day remorse I suppose. Cold feet to the endorphin rush. A group of us were watching. She consented and enjoyed her scene. The next day when marks showed up, was a different story all together.
- 218 Two people, a mistress and a sub, made a video of a play session. After the relationship ended, the sub went to the police with the video tape and claimed that it was abuse, and not consensual.
- 223 Man arrested for tying his girlfriend too tightly and causing her serious harm.
- 224 A politician, a friend of a close friend, was prosecuted for having fisting porn in his inbox. He was cleared, but he was still taken to court...
- 225 a storeowner I know was put in jail for selling sex toys and a client of hers as well for carrying a sex toy
- 228 Dungeons raided on prostitution charges (XXX, XXX)
- 232 Closing of XXX
- 235 Friend was doing a consensual non-consent (play rape) roel play with his wife and the neighbors called the police after hearing her scream, he was arrested and held for 72hours until charges were dropped. A while back there were several play parties "raided" in St. Louis. It's my understanding that it was a rouge inspector who conducted these and I believe no was charged formally but it drove a lot of public play events underground and was one of the reasons a XXX was not held and XXX became very restrictive.
- 239 play space was shut down. reason given was building codes after a complaint about the space was called in. there were never any code issues with inspectors until the complaint was put it that it was a kinky place. the space had been used for multiple years for this purpose up until then.

- 241 A couple had a club. Neighbors harassed them. finally charged with being an unlicensed liquor establishment because they provided drinks (free of charge mind you) at their location.
- 244 A local couple received 3 years for possessing BDSM images of each other.
- 246 A BDSM club got shut down in my town
- 251 A couple driving around town with the female in bondage (rope). Concerned citizens notified police who arrested the couple. Charges were dropped in court.
- 252 A local party organizer was arrested for having a naked party next to a school without sufficient privacy screening.
- 254 a submissive female got bad at her "dom" and pressed charges
- 256 One in particular where a "cutter" ended up in jail for performing consensual castrations.
- 257 an acquaintance was arrested for 'sodomy' she wore a strap on at a play party and used it on her bottom. someone was offended and called the cops.
- 261 It happened about 10 years ago, but in my local area. A group was having BDSM parties in their private home and asking guests to donate money toward the supplies for the party. It also happened that some people at the party were having sex (penetration occurred). The party was raided and everyone involved was arrested. I don't know where it went from there.
- 267 Some people organized a BDSM scene that included a kidnapping play.. Neighbors heard of it and called the cops. Two men got arrested, even though the lady explained it was a consensual non-consensual game. The lady's family decided to sue the guys.
- 269 assault allegations between a couple of sado-masochists that got out of hand.
- 270 Assault and sexual assault for rough sex and for bondage
- 271 I know of two individuals who are incarcerated for domestic violence and assault charges (one for sexual slavery) who were charged due to nonconsensual partners pressing charges for BDSM related behavior.
- 273 A professional dominatrix being charged with prostitution
- 274 Ignoring of safeword led to a sexual assault, he was arrested but never charged
- 275 accusations of abuse between sub and dom
- 277 domestic violence claimed after a play session
- 278 XXX, Las Vegas, shut down after city delayed licensing for the venue and ultimately ordered closure for not having the very license that it delayed.
- 279 dungeons closed down
- 280 Couple acting out a consensual abduction scenario were charged with disorderly conduct and their names publicized.
- 287 Read an article in a local newspaper a few years ago about a mistress who was being charged for

prostitution out of her house.

288 The person I know was in a relationship with a man who was accused of assault on a third partner, who claimed she had withdrawn consent for the activities. The person I know was accused of aiding the assault.

290 man arrested for bestiality and rape

291 someone charged with assault

292 A couple were prosecuted for domestic violence because of "rough" sex that left marks

293 Raid on XXX bar

294 The incident involving XXX akaXXX. I knew him from BDSM chatrooms and his webpage.

295 A professional Domme was arrested, sent to trial and I believe was found to be not guilty of the charges against her.

297 A woman running a dungeon was arrested and charged with a variety of crimes a few years ago. A couple of people in the dungeon were arrested for assault and the like

301 It came out of an accusation made by a submissive of what happened at a party, in this case she was trying to cover up that she was involved in an extramarital affair.

303 The story as far as I know: There was a relationship between a Dominant male and vanilla woman. When they were in love she consented to BDSM play involving pain and humiliation. When they broke up she reported him to the police for domestic violence showing them bruises. In my personal opinion I think he should have been more careful about making sure that she was not being felt like she had to say yes or he would leave her, but I also think that she should have made her boundaries clear.

305 I have friends who used to attend play parties that got raided. I have several friends who have been accused of prostitution.

306 There was a ProDomme who was busted and shut down when I was early in the scene, perhaps 2007 or earlier?

308 I have heard (secondhand) of a 'Dominant' who was brought up on charges of abuse. This case was successfully prosecuted with the aid of the bdsm community, as the person in question was being rightly prosecuted in this case. Several people i know gave testimony.

310 A Columbus dominatrix severely injured a client and was rightfully prosecuted.

311 Master in local ms couple was arrested for domestic violence - I am quite certain it was a legitimate DV case, but the slave recanted and charges were dropped.

312 M/s, S/m relationship. She is the top/sadist, he is the bottom/masochist. They had been playing. Then got into an argument. She hid his car keys. He called the police to compel her to give back his car keys. The police asked about the visible bruises on his legs. He told them that it was consensual given/received. They arrested her for abuse.

313 Well-known figure in the scene was arrested/prosecuted, and was employed by the government.

- 314 married couple into BDSM arrested at a swingers club raid for alleged lewd and lascivious conduct. Charges were later dropped, but they lost their jobs as teachers.
- 315 Case here with a woman who ran "foot fetish" parties was arrested for prostitution.
- 319 A planned kidnap scene
- 320 The Malmoe case where a 32 year old dom got prosecuted after some private scene play with a 16 years old (age of consent in Sweden is 15, and she had lied saying she was 18). When she later got questioned about her bruises, she had panicked and cooked up a rape story. While the police quite quickly could rule out the rape story, they found out that she had been in contact with another person (the 32 year old). As assault is prosecutable here without the "victim" wanting to press charges, a prosecutor used this case in her personal crusade. The 32 year old was acquitted from the charges.
- 321 women charged with operation of a bawdy house for providing bdsm services
- 322 raids on bathhouses raids on fet parties
- 323 Local man arrested but not convicted of battery, after being reported by neighbour who noticed bruising on his partner.
- 324 Pro domme arrested, suspected of prostitution
- 326 Assault for ignoring a safe word when doing knife play where the Dom cut the submissive
- 327 They were not arrested, but a local SE MI dungeon was displayed on the news which affected the organization and the individuals involved.
- 338 Stillwater, MN, pro domme was arrested on prostitution-related charges.
- 342 A member of the XXX beat his girlfriend with a dowel; years ago, local kinksters raped Japanese students.
- 343 A friend was arrested for spanking his date 3 days after the fact. Her consent at the time matter for naught. It was the bruising that mattered and her accusations.
- 345 prosecution of a Dom for supposedly mentally molding a girl into a slave. Two years probation.
- 352 A couple who played at a party had the party raided and everyone was arrested. A woman forgot to call her safe buddy, the police came to the tops house, saw the tied up woman, and arrested the top.
- 355 Mistress XXX in OC,
- 356 A slave accused her Master of domestic violence, stating that it was not consensual.
- 357 Physical abuse. A party was raided when neighbors complained about the noise. A girl said she was nonconsensually touching her.
- 358 In playsituations where you meet online and agree to a playsession. I know at least two cases of hospitalizing, and one case of falsely accused for abuse after an agreed upon session
- 359 restraining orders for consensual acts that were later described to police as non- consensual
- 361 A professional dominatrix was prosecuted in the Stillwater WI area. I believe they used zoning laws to

prosecute as she was working out of a house in a residential area.

369 I have several close friends who have been involved in incidents but in other states. Paddelboro for example and another Domme incident in New Jersey. Nothing immediately local to my area here in Florida.

372 Prostitution- pro-domme located too near to a LEO. Rape/Unlawful Sexual Contact, Assault

375 Guy had a restraining order put upon him after his long time girlfriend found him having an affair. Claimed she was scared for her life citing their Ms relationship and that he threatened to harm her.

377 Female Domme, charging for services in a residential area

379 A sub called the law on a DOM she was playing with. showed them old marks but I don't know the details.

381 I heard about the XXX being raided a few years back.

382 I'm familiar with the big raid on The XXX, a local leather bar, which happened a few years ago. The cops illegally searched and arrested several people.

395 The person was charged with assault

396 A submissive was in a car accident and had to go to the hospital. Her accident could not account for all of her bruises and abrasions and so she was harassed continually while she was in pain and awaiting treatment until she gave up the name and story of the 'abuse'. The Dominant was arrested and the community scattered. This was quite a while ago but it happened in the Buffalo NY Area.

398 submissive claims abuse after negotiated consent

402 neighbor complaint, police responded In CA no one has to press charges for Domestic Violence. The police took him in even though she was telling them she had given consent and wanted the play

403 Pro-domme was prosecuted for her business

405 1. The San Diego 6 2. Two Professional Dominants in Los Angeles arrested for Prostitution. - I don't know if the claims were valid or not.

406 A local BDSM venue called "The XXX" was shut down for a time. It since has reopened with full permits and such to operate as an educational facility.

410 An unstable couple broke up, she filed a restraining order against him claiming domestic abuse (including that he forced her to wear a "dog collar"). I was nearly called as a witness since I made the collar. The relationship was consensual to the best of my knowledge.

420 brick and mortar business, alcohol bar in front, BDSM in back. Police raided bar for saling to someone under 21yo, people in back were arrested for either violent and sexual assault or not reporting that they witnessed the assaults. 97 plead guilty to lesser charges, 17 found guilty of sex crimes and now on Sex Offender Registry, business closed and owners banned from future licenses.421 They are rare, but a couple of the DV type issues I've heard of.

422 Pro domme arrested for prostitution

423 There was a situation where a couple (who were known for extremely violent play) got into a fight and the man punched the woman in the face and broke her jaw. The man was prosecuted, but there were a lot of

questions flying around about whether it started out as consensual, and whether she was "asking for it" in their previous activities.

426 In 2002, two BDSM clubs in Chicago were shut down and fined by the City of Chicago Department of Revenue for business license and tax violations. One of the clubs faced periodic challenges from the city over a number of years.

427 After a female passed away, her brother found some of her pictures on fetlife and accused her husband of abuse.

430 I am vaguely aware of certain incidents involving "pro dommes" in my area. I cannot recall specifics at the moment.

431 A professional dominatrix was arrested and charged with various crimes.

432 Friend was accused of rape for consensual play. Charges dismissed.

434 a man was prosecuted on ground of kidnapping a young lady who was supposed in a relationship with this man. the man spent time in jail, but when it came time for the trial, the young lady didn't show up for the trial and charges were dropped

435 group consensual activity. charges were filed, I think ""prostitution"

438 Ben Senter was accused of rape by a woman he had been doing scenes with for 6 years. He was acquitted. There have been other cases, but this was the worst

440 Slave filed charges of illegal imprisonment after master began another relationship

441 while back someone was arrested for being a prodomme and had prostitution laws used as the basis. was a while ago.

443 Local club accused of 'Operating a Common Bawdy House' (whorehouse, I suppose); although no sex was allowed on premises, accuser easily convinced authorities otherwise.

444 Group party at a home. Police came in and harassed people at the home. Some were arrested (charges later dismissed) for prostitution (no money was being exchanged....bogus charge). Cars were impounded.

446 I do not recall a name, but a woman was running a dungeon within her family home.

448 Members of the community in Greenville, SC have been arrested for soliciting, prostitution or sexual assault when asked by undercover police about their nightly intents, even when not offering to include the officer or exchange money.

452 Master accused falsely of having children at his demo party. It was dismissed.

453 A pro Domme was arrested but never officially convicted. But her name and photos were in all the newspapers

454 A friend was arrested because his ex-submissive claimed that the relationship was abuse. The case just got dropped in June.

455 This was several yyears ago, I don't remember much except that we were fundraising to cover legal costs...

- 456 pro-domme dungeons being shut down by the police.
- 459 Pro Domme houses have been set up so they could be shut down. A person had his kids taken away because of his BDSM activities. A guy got arrested for using his slaves to work on his computer.
- 462 i'm mainly thinking of the past few years' legal attacks on pro dommes in nyc; these are attacks on BDSM activities as well as on sex work.
- 463 False accusations of abuse in which "rough sex" was used as supporting evidence. "Pro Domme" and financial exchanges labelled as prostitution. Sanitation charges being leveled despite conduct occurring in privately owned space with suitable precautions being observed.
- 468 Recently acquitted gay man charged with possession of "extreme" pornographic images (anal fisting) although anal fisting is not an illegal act
- 469 A man was arrested for having used a cane and a ruler on a girls buttocks and labia, creating bruises, a consensual act. He was acquitted.
- 472 Several years ago, one guy in the DC area kidnapped an underage girl (from PA, I think) and brought her to his house in VA; he is now in prison. Though I hadn't met him, he had been to many BR events and was known to some of the people I know. Also, a woman in our community accused a play partner of rape ~2 years ago; the case went to trial and he was found not guilty. I don't know either party very well.
- 474 A kinky breakfast was shut down by the law some time back.
- 475 A local BDSM House was Closed, XXX. No actual details known. A group of men were charged with abuse in relation to holding a young woman as a slave and video taping her and selling the tapes, torturing her....it made headlines and they were prosecuted
- 477 The persecution of the XXX as being a sex club.
- 478 I've heard of particular people in the NYC scene repeatedly assuming that consent given once is consent given permanently. I've heard claims that various people penetrated bottoms playing with them, with hands, objects or genitals, against the bottoms' express consent, or without the bottom's implied consent. I've recently heard of two abusers accusing their victim of abusing them, to further harm their victim.
- 480 Individual hosting parties was accepting donations, and was prosecuted on the grounds of running a sex club in a residential area.
- 483 arrested for domestic violence, and disorderly conduct. What I see more than anything however are people losing custody of their children.
- 484 Several pro-dommes (some of my direct acquaintance, some not) have been prosecuted. There are high profile cases such as Jovanovic which *might* be the prosecution of BDSM (and *might* be the prosecution of assault and rape).
- 486 Several pro-domme dungeons have been shut down by police within the
- 488 Some guy in Brooklyn had charges dropped against him that he had raped a woman that he'd asked to come to Brooklyn to be his live-in submissive.
- 489 Several divorces involving child custody disputes, one Domestic dispute arrest despite mutual consent

- 491 Raids on dungeons in NYC in 2008.
- 495 I'm a pro domme, so I'm referring to situations where other pros have been arrested. I am unaware of this happening with 'civilians'.
- 496 not arrested, but in NYC a lawyer lost her job after being outed as a domme, and XXX was forced to leave their location rather than take their chances defending themselves in court
- 498 I have heard some incidents (3 total) of people engaging in BDSM activity not strictly adhering to consensual activity or pre-agreed negotiations during a session and those who have been violated have sought to bring this to light within the legal system. I have not heard favorable outcomes for those cases however, usually because I have heard that the legal system did not follow through in a satisfactory way. Most often I have heard the legal system default to a stance of not being able to carry forward based on the they said - they said nature of these incidents which occurred in the BDSM community which is already "a gray area."
- 502 entirely sex work related - foot fetish parties being raided, arrests of workers in dungeon spaces
- 504 Several years ago, Miss XXX, a local pro domme was exposed by local news media.
- 508 Play party at a dungeon in hickory nc was "raided"
- 511 Woman had man arrested for rape
- 514 Kinkster with criminal record (which was largely unknown to the community) committing a "new" crime.
- 515 XXX raped several women (7 to 12) in the Dallas Area and has flaunted the fact for going on 2 years as a pretend BDSM player, mentor under Master XXX and XXX Owner XXX and spiritual advisor under the group XXX also at XXX. He continued to commit these rapes (actually intentionally infecting unsuspecting and non consenting women with Herpes 2 virus. I personally know one of the women and have been directly involved in the fact finding mission for XXX.
- 517 Friends in UK prosecuted for desired physical activity. Friends in Canada having children removed by Child Protective services because of "Domestic Violence" in the home (which was really consensual behavior done when minors were not under the roof, usually at play parties). Friends in Canada and USA who were arrested and tried due to false allegations by willing partners when third parties found out and the third parties insisted that it was rape or the equivalent.
- 518 A friend was doing an abduction/rape scene and was spotted putting his "victim" in the back seat of his car, bound and gagged. He was arrested for false imprisonment. Charges were eventually dropped.
- 519 Bondage in public, with clothing on
- 521 I heard from my uncles about a gay BDSM club in a city that was raided by police, in which "prisoners" were "freed" from the club, and many people there were arrested.
- 523 Top arrested for sexual assault, reported by longtime partner
- 525 A person in the community was accused of rape, he is presumed innocent until guilty.
- 527 1) False accusations of non-consensual BDSM by 2 colluding ex-girlfriends. Proven false by video tape, etc. but not till after accused jailed - denied bail due to "dangerous" characterization of Dom/Top fetish activity 2) False accusation by casual date of non-consensual mildly BDSM sex (fisting, insertion of toys, plastic clothespin play). Accused denied bail based on Crown characterization of him as a danger due to enjoying rough sex.

531 Domestic violence call by neighbor. Angry ex. Emergency room call to the police. Seen through a window by a passing cop car.

535 It was a prodomme situation, so I don't know if it counts. In the late 80s in San Francisco a prodomme was contacted by a "novice" to do a spanking session. When she put him naked over her lap and spanked him once, the vice knocked on the door and arrested her for prostitution. It was thrown out of court.

536 My former owner lost custody of her child based on her BDSM activities (that her ex also participated in) as well as her "allowing" me (a known lesbian) to care for the child. A former D/s couple had a fight- she claimed abuse, he was charged, she eventually dropped charges and returned to him, but the damage was done as far as his reputation.

538 Illegal operation of a BDSM oriented bawdy house - (no membership).

540 Couple fooling around on Valentine's Day had her naked and bound in the back of the Subaru as he drove around town. People called 911 to report a kidnapped woman. They were quite embarrassed when police caught up to them. They were charged with Disorderly Conduct (vs a sex crime). Charges were eventually dropped.

541 a lady called in on a partner and declared the BDSM activities were not consensual.

542 pro domme in an area not zoned for business

543 a guy allegedly held a prostitute captive and did bdsm with her without her consent.

546 A woman in our community was arrested for being a Pro Domme.

549 A member of my community was prosecuted for rape. Most of the community supported the prosecution and viewed the offender as a predator

550 Woman was arrested for prostitution

552 pro domme and dungeon busts a few years ago

554 I was arrested for domestic violence but not charged. This involved a 5 day stay in a local prison

555 Arrested for pro-dom services as prostitution

556 Friend of a friend that was the defending attorney in California for several people who were having to defend their activities as consensual.

558 I work with sex workers, and the laws of what constitutes prostitution and what constitutes professional domination are at best, useless. There is only spotty and flawed case law, and so the lines are unclear. I know people who have been arrested for prostitution for basic BDSM-related activities, and I think it's dire for the community to acknowledge (as opposed to ignore) this area of kink and the law.

560 neighbors overhearing scene and calling in domestic violence; club raids

561 I have vague recollections about reading an account of a man in Nashville being arrested for assault due to consensual BDSM play. I also had an experience where a medical professional saw bruises left on me by my dominant and wanted to report him for domestic abuse. As we are not married and I refused to give his name she couldn't pursue it, but it was a scary moment.

563 pro domme busted for prostitution

565 The Atlanta XXX incident

567 Atlanta club several years back.

569 I've just heard about play spaces getting shut down for 'health code violations.' I don't know any specifics.

571 Rape -- in this case - it really was rape.

572 Currently in court? Man accused of holding someone against their will and forcing them to prostitute, etc.

573 I am not aware of an instance in Thunder Bay, but I am aware of both instances in which people have been charged for sexual assaults which were part of consensual BDSM in relationships which later soured, and instances in which prosecution was not initiated because the defendant argued that the accuser was simply upset over a failed relationship. There need to be clearer understandings of consent for legal professionals, in order for there to be some degree of safety.

577 Raid on Pro Domme establishment, resulting in 3 arrests.

578 Dom/sub scenario where sub used safe word but Dom continued and she filed rape charges the next day.

579 A pro domme a few years ago was charged in the accidental death of a client.

582 Operating as a pro-domme in residential Stillwater, MN (next to a goddam middle school)

583 A long time ago a scene went wrong. It was sorted out and resolved.

584 There was a bar in Nashville who hosted a play party/fetish night. The bar was shut down by police and photos of what was simply erotic body painting were published.

585 Hazy on details, but an apparently consensual incident was prosecuted a few years ago.

587 A community member decided to do Pro-domme work and got busted for prostitution.

588 Sex workers are routinely arrested for BDSM practices, so I am thinking of times when that has happened.

589 A local community member was publicly outed by a large and powerful circle of friends who were close to the victim(s) as a predator. It rocked our community with bewilderment, doubt, fear, anger, and anxiety. Lots of armchair psychology was conducted, many went into lockdown, some factions were formed, and it was an all-round ugly situation. The line of consent is not clean-cut, but neither is it "thin", or "fuzzy". It is a thick line, along which you may stand in many places but which has definite falling-off points.

591 ProDomme harrassed on suspicion of prostitution

593 a Dom was arrested on rape charges/a mother had her children removed from her care.

598 Couple was holding weekly play parties and charging admission. It was found out that their 9 year old daughter was in the residence (though not involved in any way) during some of these events. The father was arrested.

601 Near Mass/Rhode Island border a mistress was arrested/prosecuted for some misadventure in bdsm scene

but it was a long time ago and i am hazy on details. Also in metro Boston Area several years ago there was a fatality during play and the dominants tried to hide the body.

602 A guy was running a bdsm bed and bath, in a house in Collierville, TN and was busted for it

603 A friend of mine and his partner were trying it out at home - they usually went to a scene club in Seattle - and police were called by their neighbor, who claims to have seen it through a window (though he is known for being homophobic, so I still don't buy that story). My friend was arrested and charged with 3rd degree assault. He didn't have to do any jail time, since his partner didn't press charges, but he spent a couple nights in jail and paid a fine.

610 rumor of a case on the east coast for which a Top had been charged with A&B by his bottom days after a scene

619 Someone was injured during knife play at a local club, and the top was arrested.

621 a female complained to the police and the male was charged but later she dropped charges

622 Professionals have been arrested.

623 Friend was arrested after breaking up with his fiancé; fiancé used the BDSM nature of the relationship to file violent sexual abuse charges.

624 It is rare that I hear about this in San Francisco. In the greater Bay Area I am familiar with three cases - two that had more to do with domestic violence than BDSM (though the individuals identified as BDSM oriented). The third involved a legal case where one of the members claimed assault and battery. The case came down to poor/non-existent discussions of consent.

626 A submissive complained because she said she was caned above her limit, 2 of the 3 charges were withdrawn, with the last one, the Dom had the charge dismissed.

627 I've just heard about people from the local group having issues when going through a divorce. The BDSM aspect of their relationship was used as a weapon.

630 there have been instances of alleged rape and battery

631 It was technically more of a prostitution-related arrest, but a community member was a pro-domme and got arrested for running it out of her home.

633 couple were arrested for domestic violence and male was also charged with assault

634 A young "Dom" tied up this totally brand-new female submissive and didn't get her consent before having sex with her. He had such rough sex she was bleeding and had to be taken to the hospital.

636 Couple a Portland, OR who were playing in public on their anniversary or St V's Day were arrested but it was reduced to community service as no crime was committed.

638 Pro-Dommes have been arrested for engaging in BDSM Some individuals have been arrested or had BDSM used against them in domestic situations

639 Consensual slavery prosecuted as non consensual got involved.

644 a dominant was arrested on DV charges after a play party

- 645 Role-playing (consensual) rape scenario where 3rd party called the police.
- 648 About 15 years ago an improperly licensed dungeon was raided. Many people were interviewed but the only arrests were other non related outstanding warrants.
- 649 A woman charged a man with abuse after a play session he was convicted and the trial outed several of the community members.
- 650 Several years ago a woman working as a professional dominatrix for pay, was prosecuted for prostitution, even though there was not sex involved.
- 653 Male tied up girlfriend when she was naked and drove her around in his van. No tinted windows. Was reported by a concerned citizen, located and both arrested.
- 654 My memory of the details is hazy, but about 10-11 years ago, I recall hearing about a scene going bad and the bottom making a criminal complaint. IIRC, she dropped the charges a week or so later, having had some time to process her feelings & consult with other bottoms in the local scene. I didn't personally know either party.
- 656 A friend was accused of date rape.
- 657 Incidents of alleged criminal sexual assault. Admitted false accusations of criminal sexual assault.
- 658 Mistress of a domination house was arrested for soliciting, but the location was not zone for business
- 660 XXX in Chandler was closed allegedly for running a business in a residential area. It was the only way they could find to close down a place of adult sexual activity including swinging and BDSM.
- 661 Mistress XXX's arrest in SC in 2006 ish.
- 662 A man ignored beat his submissive partner severely and nonconsensually after they had a fight. He was arrested and convicted and sentenced to several years in prison.
- 663 That is difficult to discuss as I do not have permission from the people involved. Two situations, one involving being heard by the neighbors and domestic abuse investigation, the other involved someone running a BDSM club being arrested for running a house of prostitution.
- 664 A friend of mine was arrested following his neighbors calling police after hearing BDSM-related noises from his home. He was released when it became clear that his partner was a fully consenting individual in the events described by neighbors.
- 666 The story, as I was told, was that a Professional Domme was set up by another prominent person in the BDSM community. Her client was persistently asking for an illegal act, which she refused to do. The cops arrived shortly after, and now she has a charge on Her record. Unfortunately I am not aware of specific details on what actually took place, but it definitely raises my level of concern.
- 668 When they went after the Pro Doms in NYC
- 669 BDSM Club arrests
- 670 Sub in handcuffs in rear of hatchback car
- 671 A wife caught cheating accused her husband of rape after hiding video evidence that the activity was

consensual. She had bruises and marks that were used as evidence in the arrest.

672 Professional domination situations.

675 Ex partner call the police after they got upset with each other and claimed being abused

676 A man whose partner accused him of assault after a consensual impact play session. A club that was fined and then shut down for hosting play parties.

677 Pro dommes being arrested in sweeps.

678 Community member set up pro-Domme business in a residential area. She and her partner were arrested, but I do not know what the outcome was.

684 One woman was forced to shut down her public dungeon due to repeated raids from the fire department because someone called in fire code violations. She was not given time to modify and comply with fire code before being shut down.

687 I am currently working with a case in which a young man was raped by a female dominant after they had agreed to BDSM activities. Because they had not established a safe word, and she told him that she did not want a safe word, there was no way for him to tell her to stop. The State of North Carolina does not see him to be a victim and has thrown out his case that he was raped.

688 A submissive sued her Dominant for rape and assault, even though she never safeworded or verbally withdrew consent.

690 Pro Dommes - this is more of an issue of how the law sees professional domination as prostitution

693 Paid prostitute for rough sex, charges filed days later because of bruises.
relationship ended. submissive complained to police about abuse

699 A former slave turned in her former Master and new slave. The new Fem slave had a teen aged child CPS got involved the state tried to charge him with sexual misconduct with a minor as well, that was thrown out

702 Female sub got jealous of male top, for playing with another sub, charged top with assault.

[1/11/2013]

NCSF * 822 Guilford Ave #127 * Baltimore, MD 21202

www.ncsfreedom.org

consent@ncsfreedom.org