

My story began in 1989 when I trusted a man that I would have never believed would put a drug in my drink without my knowledge so that he could use my body for his sick disgusting pleasures. He insisted that I have two drinks and within a few minutes I became dizzy and disoriented. He asked me to sit with him, as I sat, he began stroking my hair and talking to me. This was my last moment of consciousness. My next memory was waking up at home. In November of 2014 my husband informed me that several women had accused my assailant of drugging and sexually assaulting them. When I reported the facts to the police they took my statement and referred me to Detective Shane of the LVMPD Sexual Assault Unit who informed me that the statute of limitations prevents him from pursuing any investigation of this crime.

I sat in Detective Shane's office and cried as I realized no one would be able to help me. I will never see justice and I didn't do anything wrong. If I had any idea of what had happened, I would have filed a report 25 years ago. When I told my family about the oddness of my visit with my assailant, I couldn't figure out what had happened nor did I suspect he would have hurt me. I now understand that the law prevents a victim in my circumstances from seeking justice, and when I need the judiciary system to support me I am stuck with, "you should have reported it sooner". Why would the law want to prevent me from seeking justice?

I do not understand what purpose it serves to limit the time frame in which a victim has to report a sexual assault. I see no other purpose then to protect an assailant.

So who is protecting the victim? When the nature of a sexual crime is to dominate and overpower a victim it is difficult for a victim to feel safe when exposing details of the assault when we feel as though we have lost power over our own body and feelings. My assailant has assaulted over 30 women and he continues to walk free. He has methodically planned and refined his routine for drugging and assaulting women. I have read through statements online from women who have described situations where he had rendered them unconscious before he sexually assaults them. When he is finished he kicks her out the door or has one of his drivers take her home so that she can second-guess what has happened to her.

The law is on his side, because the drugs will prevent her from remembering a clear picture of the assault and he only has 4 years to wait before he is free and clear of any charges. How do you justify this assailant walking free, just because women were too scared to report the truth about their situation, they needed time.

Sexual assault is a crime that causes long term damage. Reporting the violation is extremely difficult to do and cannot be tethered to a time limit. This law needs to change to allow victims the opportunity for healing and justice. No one expects veterans to recover from P.T.S.D. within 4 years.

I feel that I have had the strength to be here today and to talk with you because I believe you will understand and you will empathize with the victims of sexual assault. Changing this law protects the victims, and I know you want to protect us because it's

the right thing to do. If your mother who nurtured you, or your wife who supported you or your daughter who **you** swore to protect were standing before you and had been assaulted, you would understand their pain and your choice would be simple. A vote to abolish the statute of limitations is what we need. Please give me and countless other victims a day in court. You have the power to help all of us. I urge you to use that power for the greater good, and the good is to empower the victims so they can become survivors.