

## A CUTTING EDGE LEGAL CLINIC AND ADVOCACY CENTER

The Justice Project Against Sexual Harm (JusticePASH) is devoted to legal and political advocacy *for survivors of sexual assault*, including exploitation through sex trafficking and prostitution.

JusticePASH works for individual assault survivors within the criminal justice system and in civil courts, and advocates for the development of law and policy that *will eradicate rape and sexual exploitation*.

Our work has been featured in local and national media (check our website at [www.justicepash.org](http://www.justicepash.org)), and in the Chicago Tribune and the Sun-Times.

### LEGAL WORK:

- We represent survivors seeking justice in criminal court, sometimes because Police or Prosecutors refuse to investigate, are directly hostile to victims, or trivialize rape by charging it as “misdemeanor battery.” Some of our clients need representation to protect their rights, and some just need a lawyer who can help them navigate the criminal system and represent their interests to the State.
- **By standing with survivors and holding rapists accountable, we help victims regain control over their life.** We sue perpetrators and other responsible parties directly, using traditional laws and new ones like the Civil No Contact Order Act, the Gender Violence Act, and the Predator Accountability Act.
- By hitting abusers with financial consequences, we put the cost of rape where it belongs. Since only a small fraction of men rape, and since everyone *can refrain* from rape, we believe that most rapists just haven’t yet been deterred properly. Our legal work is based on the all-American premise that money is influential, and our belief that when rape becomes associated with severe financial consequences, would-be rapists will be deterred from engaging in sexual abuse.

### POLICY WORK:

- Leading the charge in Illinois to expand the Federal definition of trafficking to better reflect the real experiences of its victims and tactics of sex traffickers.
- Creating a protocol with the Cook County Sheriff’s Office to increase prosecutions of domestic sex traffickers and utilize their assets towards restitution of their victims.
- Organizing a diverse coalition of Illinois organizations and survivors to advocate for the reform of prostitution laws to ensure that traffickers and customers are prosecuted and prostituted individuals are provided with social services and alternatives to arrest and incarceration.
- Working with area rape crisis centers to put political pressure on Cook County’s Criminal Justice System to better serve and respond to survivors of sexual assault and increase prosecutions of rapists.

As a result of cutting-edge laws, many of which were developed by JusticePASH founders—Illinois is uniquely positioned to show how civil law can play a critical role in reducing and deterring rape *by holding abusers accountable for their acts and by transferring the costs of rape from victim and society to those parties who engage in and profit from sexualized inequality and abuse*.

**WITH YOUR HELP, JUSTICEPASH WILL LEAD THE WAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL REMEDIES AND POLITICAL ADVOCACY FOR SURVIVORS OF RAPE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.**

“Jane Doe” came to us terrified and distraught because the acquaintance who raped and threatened to kill her was charged with “misdemeanor battery” and released.

We convinced the State’s Attorney to charge him with felony sexual assault. He is now serving a three year sentence in state prison.

Our client sent us this note: “Thanks again from the bottom of my heart... If I actually had any money I would write up a will and leave everything to JusticePASH. You are amazing.”