

Lefkowitz's "The Boys Next Door"

A group of high school athletes raped a 17-year-old retarded girl in Glen Ridge, N.J.

The athletes were the center of attention at their school and had been allowed to engage in serious misconduct, including abusive behavior toward women, for years without serious consequences. "They believed their status as athletes entitled them to dominate and humiliate women. By mistreating women—and getting away with it—they demonstrated their power." Most of the clique had little experience dealing with women as equals.

A study of gang rapes on campuses showed they often involve elite students, whose elevated status makes them above suspicion, discourages them from moral reflection, and makes them feel entitled.

After the incident, over 40 people had heard about the rape but failed to report it. The town rallied around the athletes and blamed the victim, who was called a "slut."