**The Tsar in winter**

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**VIEWPOINT**

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In 2000, there were 23,213 victims of rape in Russia, but in 2009, the number was down to 16,467. This is a 30% drop, and it is partly due to the absolute decline in the population. There are fewer potential victims, so there are fewer people to be raped. It’s also partly due to the spread of education and information about safe sex: how to protect the自我 from harmful practices.

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