

## Sexual Harassment at School

- Schools have a duty to respond to and protect students from sexual harassment that happens on school grounds or happens off-site but affects people at school.
- Make sure you notify your school's Title IX Coordinator of any incident of sexual harassment. If you think your school has failed to appropriately respond to an incident of sexual harassment, you can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.

## Sexual Harassment at Work

At work, sexual harassment can come from a supervisor, co-worker, or non-employees such as vendors or customers. If you were sexually harassed at work and your supervisor did not stop more harassment from happening, you can file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

## Where to get help

### National Sexual Assault Hotline:

1-800-656-4673

**www.KnowYourIX.org** – Information for individuals who have experienced sexual harassment or sexual assault.

### **www.OurGenderRevolution.org**

Our Gender Revolution is a project of the  
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# Sexual Harassment



# What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct made on the basis of a person's sex, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity. Sexual harassment can take many forms, and can include, but is not limited to:

- Unwanted and continued requests for sexual contact or sexual advances
- Unwanted comments, communications or jokes of a sexual nature, or about sexual experiences or orientation
- Forcing or tricking someone into viewing of pornographic pictures or stories

Teens who are sexually harassed may feel threatened, like they can't make it stop, singled out for no reason, or afraid of what might happen next. No one deserves to be sexually harassed. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment, there are ways to make it stop.

## Warning Signs of Sexual Harassment

Sometimes people aren't sure if they are being sexually harassed. Trust the way you feel. If you have thought or felt any of the following in reaction to the behavior you've experienced, it may be sexual harassment:

- I can't believe this is happening to me.
- I wish I could make it stop.
- Why doesn't anyone help me?
- Just leave me alone.
- Guilty, scared, or ashamed.

## Stopping Sexual Harassment

Here are some things you can do about the sexual harassment:

- Talk about what's happening with a trusted adult.
- Keep a journal of the harassment – write down specifically what happened and when and where it happened – and keep the journal in a safe place.

- If the harassment happens at school or is interfering with your ability to focus on your studies, report it to your school's Title IX coordinator (person responsible for addressing sexual harassment at your school or campus).
- If the harassment happens at work (or a co-worker is the harasser), report it to your supervisor.
- If it feels safe, ask the person harassing you to stop and document it in your journal.

## What to do if you see someone being sexually harassed

You can help stop sexual harassment. If you see someone being harassed take the following actions:

- Tell the harasser to stop and that it's not OK. Don't encourage the harassment.
- Ask the person being harassed if they are okay or need help.
- Tell a trusted adult or supervisor about the incident.