

DAY THREE: 27th November

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment means unwanted conduct of a sexual nature affecting the dignity of men and women which can include unwelcome physical, verbal and nonverbal conduct.

Aeberhard-Hodges 1996

Story from a member of the public

This woman's evidence about her experiences is not uncommon:

I have been sexually harassed and suffered physical assault too, many times over a 30-year period. The harassment ranges from whistles and 'catcalls', to my breasts, bottom, legs and groin being touched. These events have taken place on buses and trains, while walking or standing in public places during the day, in shops and bars - anywhere where men are present, in fact.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmwomeq/701/701.pdf>

Question:

What is your reaction to this true story?

Global Facts:

- **Gender-based violence** knows no religion, age, nationality, culture, or socio-economic class.
- **A survey of almost 31,000 people** across 40 countries found that 32% of women (18–34 year olds) in Ireland have experienced some form of sexual harassment in the last 12 months - the second highest out of all 40 countries surveyed and the worst in Europe. Only Mexico fared worse at 43%. (March 2019) https://www.irishexaminer.com/breaking_news/ireland/ireland-has-highest-level-of-claimed-sexual-harassment-in-Europe-909757.html
- **A survey of 14–21 year olds** by Plan UK in 2018 found that 38% of girls experience verbal harassment including sexual comments in public places at least once a month, while 15% are being touched, groped or grabbed at least once a month. <https://plan-uk.org/file/plan-uk-street-harassment-eportpdf/download?token=CyKwYGSJ>



"Today in many places we hear a call for greater security. But until exclusion and inequality in society and between people is reversed it will be impossible to eliminate violence."

Pope Francis Evangelii Gaudium 59

Laudato Si

In Pope Francis' encyclical to the world in 2015, he clearly values creation and life

"Human life itself is a gift which must be defended from various forms of debasement" LS 15



pexels.com

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Many of the SDGs reference Women. Of significance are:

SDG 5 - Targets 2:

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

SDG 11 – Target 7:

Provide universal access to safe, inclusive & accessible green & public spaces, in particular for women & children, older persons.

CEDAW

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
(Suggest you read this during the **16 Days**)

CEDAW Article 16: ". . . provides men and women with "the same right to enter into marriage, the same right freely to choose a spouse . . ."

ACTION I will take to promote respect and equality between all women and men....

1. Read more on the subject – <http://endviolence.un.org/orangeday.shtml>
2. *Make a donation to* [UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women](#)

Prepared by 'Future We Need' (FVN), a faith-based group with members from the Columbans, Franciscans, Josephites, Mercy, Presentation and Salesians.

(Updated November 2019)

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

is a systematic and widespread human rights violation. It cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries.



www.google.ie/search?q=images+of+orange+the+world+for+free

49 Countries have no laws to protect women from domestic violence.

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/violence-against-women-cause-and-consequence-inequality>

"GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE - A GLOBAL EPIDEMIC ... endangers the life of women & girls with negative consequences not only for them, but also for their children & communities. Ending this scourge is integral to the development of women's human capital & unleashing their contribution to economic growth." (Feb. 2018 - World Bank study)

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/02/01/more-than-1-billion-women-lack-legal-protection>

CHILD MARRIAGE....



www.google.ie/search?q=Photos+of+child+brides+pixabay

New data (2018) confirm that practice of child marriage has continued to decline around the world, with accelerated progress in the last 10 years. However, **12 MILLION GIRLS** are still married in childhood each year. (UNICEF 2018).

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence...



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SEXUAL HARASSMENT

