



VIDHYAYANA

ISSN 2454-8596
www.MyVedant.com

An International Multidisciplinary Research E-Journal

**Role of Sex Education as a Part to Prevent Sexual Harassment of
Girl Students in various Educational Institution of Rajkot City**

Ms. Jayshree B. Ranpara and Dr. Veena S. Samani

M. V. M. Science and Home Science College, Rajkot, Gujarat, India

VIDHYAYANA

Abstract:

In present era, sky is the limit for girls. But from education to career to opportunities, there rises the question of girls' safety. Especially, talking about sexual harassment, they are being harassed in their homes, neighborhood, by relatives, on streets and roads, in public transportation, in public places and now even in educational institution and now such incidents are increasing day by day. So the researcher asked girl students of higher secondary, colleges and University regarding their experiences about sexual harassment and role of sex education to prevent sexual harassment.

The entire study is carried out by questionnaire-based method and the outputs were obtained from MS Excel.

Key words: Girls, Students, Sexual, Harassment, Sex, Education

1. Introduction:

India lacks behind other countries in matter of educating women. And looking at Gujarat's situation at India level, it lacks even more behind when it comes to educating women. But due to change in situations and time, now parents are educating their daughters. A school is temple of knowledge and this knowledge widens one's mind and thoughts. Education not only provides a degree to an individual but also there is increment in experiences which comes across while studying which creates awareness among girl students. Among such experiences, one is experience of Sexual Harassment.

So the researcher has surveyed about sexual harassment experienced by girl students at various places and studied their point of view regarding role of sex education in preventing sexual harassment.

2. Definition:

• **Sexual Harassment:**

According to Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) – 2013 passed by Supreme Court,

- ❖ Physical contact or advances;
- ❖ A demand or request for sexual favours;
- ❖ Making sexually coloured remarks;
- ❖ Showing pornography;

❖ Any other unwelcomed physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

- **Sex Education :**

Sex education is the instruction of issues relating to human sexuality, including emotional relations and responsibilities, human sexual anatomy, sexual activity, sexual reproduction, age of consent, reproductive health, reproductive rights, safe sex, birth control and sexual abstinence.

3. Types of Sexual Harassment:

Generally speaking, there are 3 types of Sexual Harassment, from mild teasing to severe harassment.

3.1 False Sexual Harassment

As per noted by Nandita Saikiya, young girls and teen girls really don't know what one calls sexual harassment. Similar thing was mentioned by Ojaswini Foundation's Hemal Dave that in young girls and teen girls faces such harassment due to their lack of awareness, innocence and hormonal changes. Many times they don't know what is happening and sometimes making them happy and curious about such behavior by men. Plus such girls do not try to know or stop or offend what was going with them. Many a time, such girls think that harassment is a part of life. And so, many girls accept harassment when they experience it in public, buses, trains and rickshaws by men.

3.2 Teasing

This is the second form of sexual harassment where a boy teases a girl as a part of fun or teasing or to win a bet or to prove his manly hood. Its severity is comparatively less. But in some cases, this boy who grows into a man continues to follow the girl, tries to start conversations forcefully, constantly asking for contact number, getting physical to the girl creates an atmosphere of fear and insecurity for the girl. But in such cases, the case is only filed after a physical attack. Till date, the government has not taken eve teasing and street harassment as a serious issue.

3.3 Raging

Teasing, fun, harassment at educational institution level is titled as ‘Ragging’ which is known as ‘Ragging’ at higher education system and is known as ‘Bullying’ at school level. Students often face unacceptable behavior, mental, physical and sexual abuse, using swear words, financial exploitation and physical exploitation.

4. Places of Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is found everywhere. At home, in family, by relatives, neighbors, streets, public places, private or government complexes, offices, public transportations, public gatherings, parties, at workplaces, in corporate sectors, show business, in politics, educational institutions, hostels, religious places, medical sectors, on play grounds, elevators, parking areas, terraces, staircases, tuition classes, etc. sexual harassment is everywhere.

5. Effects of Sexual Harassment on Girls:

When a girl is sexually harassed, there many short-term and long-term impacts on her mind and in personal life such as,

- Depression
- Anxiety and Panic Attacks
- Traumatic stress
- Sleeplessness
- Shame, guilt and Self-blame
- Difficulty in concentrating
- Headaches
- Fatigue and loss of motivation
- Personal difficulties with time
- Eating disorders (weight loss or gain)
- Feeling betrayed and/or violated
- Feeling angry
- Feeling powerless/helpless
- Loss of confidence and self-esteem

- Overall loss of trust in people
- Problems with intimacy
- Withdrawal and isolation

6. Review of Literature:

There are many newspaper headlines which highlight sexual harassment of children, teenagers, women and elderly people. The main thing is to observe that day by day ages of victims either belong to very young age or elderly people. For example, from 2 to 3 months old infant to 80 years old women are sexually harassed (raped/gang raped).

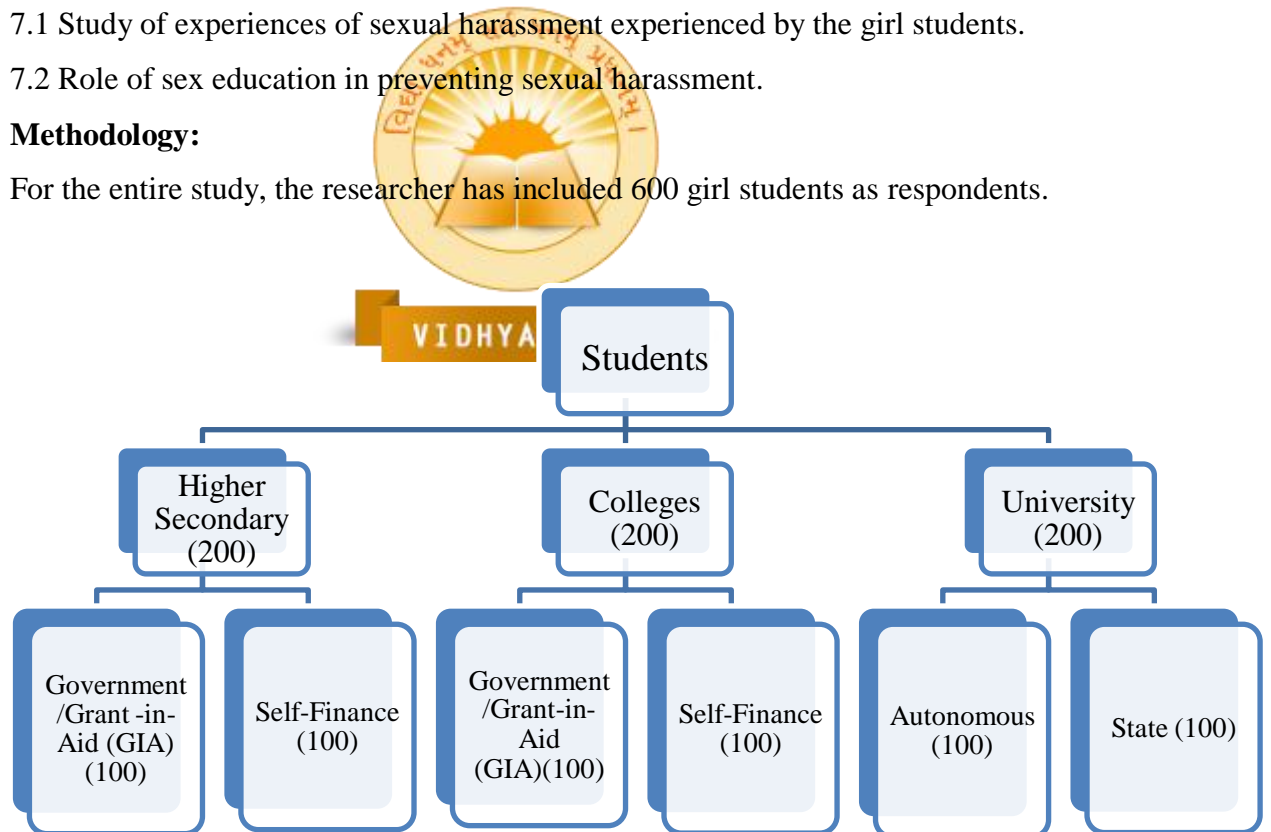
Here, the researcher has carried out the research on the basis of various famous headlines of newspaper, social media, television, etc.

7. Objectives:

- 7.1 Study of experiences of sexual harassment experienced by the girl students.
- 7.2 Role of sex education in preventing sexual harassment.

8. Methodology:

For the entire study, the researcher has included 600 girl students as respondents.



The entire research was designed such that it can cover sufficient institutes including institutes which receives grant from government and institutes which does not receive grants from government.

The research was carried out by questionnaire based method and its further analysis was done using MS Excel.

9. Result and Discussion:

9.1 Primary Information:

Table 9.1.1

Sr. No.	Age	Respondent	Percentage
1	16-18 Years	220	36.67
2	19-21 Years	313	52.17
3	22 & Above	67	11.17

Table 9.1.1 comprises of information about the age of the girl respondent.

Table 9.1.2

Sr. No.	Standard	Respondent	Percentage
1	11	80	13.33
2	12	121	20.17
3	First Year	33	5.50
4	Second Year	96	16.00
5	Last year	161	26.83
6	PG-1	54	9.00
7	PG-2	50	8.33
8	M.Phil.	00	0.00
9	Ph.D.	05	0.83

Table 9.1.2 is about the educational qualification of the respondent.

Table 9.1.3

Sr. No.	Stream	Respondent	Percentage
1	Science	132	22.00
2	Commerce	173	28.83
3	Arts	147	24.50
4	Law	00	0.00
5	Pharmacy	01	0.17
6	Home Science	55	9.17
7	Performing Arts	00	0.00
8	Engineering	92	15.33
9	Other	00	0.00

Table 9.1.3 shows the respective educational field of the respondent.

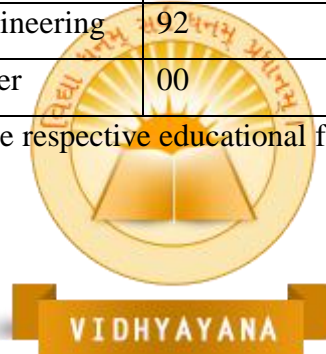


Table 9.2 - The researcher asked the respondents regarding their sexual harassment they've experienced till date at various places

Table 9.2

Q. No.	Question	Respondent	Percentage
1	In home by a family member	09	1.50
2	In neighborhood by neighbor	19	3.20
3	By any relative	12	2.00
4	In tuition classes	08	1.30
5	On road or at public places	109	18.20
6	In school or college vehicle	09	1.50
7	In any other vehicle (S. T. bus, train, airplane, taxi, rickshaw, any private vehicle or any other)	134	22.30
8	By female friend's family member	07	1.20
9	In any office where you went for some work	17	2.80
10	By friend or boyfriend	18	3.00
11	By brother or cousin or father's friend	05	0.80
12	In any private or commercial complex	11	1.80
13	In educational institution	13	2.20
14	In hostel	03	0.50
15	Any other (mention if any)	07	1.20

1. 1.50% respondents are being sexually harassed by a family member at home.
2. 3.20% are victimized by neighbors.
3. Relatives sexually harass 2% respondents.
4. 1.30% are being harassed in tuition classes.
5. On road or at public places, 18.20% are harassed.
6. 1.50% are harassed in vehicles of educational institution.
7. 22.30% respondents are harassed in S. T. buses, trains, private buses, taxis, rickshaws, etc.
8. By family of any friend, 1.20% are being harassed.
9. 2.80% are victimized when they visit any office.
10. Boyfriend or friend harasses 3% of respondents.
11. 0.80% are harassed by father or brother or cousin's friend.
12. 1.80% in private or commercial complex.
13. In educational institution, 2.20% are harassed.
14. 0.50% are harassed in hostels.
15. 1.20% are harassed at other places which are mentioned below,
 - In hospitals by doctors.
 - During training programs.
 - On phone calls.
 - By an anonymous person while walking home from college.
 - During any sports event.
 - By doctors in their clinic.

In short majority of girls experience sexual harassment in public transportation comprising of 22.30% of total respondent followed by 18.20% being harassed on road or at public places.

Table-9.3

Q. No.	Question	Respondent		Percentage	
		No	Yes	No	Yes
1	Does sex education	48	552	8.00	92.00



	decrease cases of sexual harassment in children?				
--	--	--	--	--	--

From table 9.3, 92% respondents agree that providing sex education to children can decrease incidents of their being sexually harassed.

Table-9.4

Q. No.	Question	Respondent			Percentage		
		Boys	Girls	Both	Boys	Girls	Both
1	To whom should we give sex education?	04	45	503	0.72	8.15	91.12

Table 9.4 onwards are the questions which were responded by those who responded 'Yes' in table 9.3 and from table 9.4, 91.12% respondents agree in giving sex education to both, girls and boys.

Table-9.5

Q. No.	Question	Respondent				Percentage			
		5 to 10 Years	11 to 15 Years	More than 16 Years	Continuous	5 to 10 Years	11 to 15 Years	More than 16 Years	Continuous
1	At which age does a child should receive sex education?	46	180	168	158	8.33	32.60	30.43	28.62



From table 9.5, 32.60% respondents think that the best age to provide sex education is to the children of age 11 to 15 years, followed by 30.43% to children of age more than 16 years and 28.62% think continuation in providing sex education.

Table-9.6

Q. No.	Question	Respondent					Percentage				
		From Home	From School	From Friend	From Doctor	All of above	From Home	From School	From Friend	From Doctor	All of above
1	From where does a child should receive sex education?	237	76	19	06	214	42.93	8.33	3.44	1.08	38.76

From table 9.6, 42.93% think that the best way a child can receive education is from their home while 38.76% respondents agree that a child can receive sex education from home, school, a friend and a doctor.

Table-9.7

No.	Ques.	Respondent						Percentage					
		Books	Informal	Power Point	Social Media	Doctor	All of above	Books	Informal conversation	Power Point	Social Media	Doctor	All of above
1	How should a child receive sex education?	70	218	15	35	25	189	12.68	39.49	2.71	6.34	4.52	34.23

From table 9.7, according to 39.49%, a child can best receive sex education informally followed by 34.23% think that books, informal conversation, power point presentations, social media and doctor all together can serve as the best medium to give sex education to a child.



10. Conclusion:

Thus, it can be concluded that from home to any field, from known to unknown places, respondents are facing sexual harassment. The major place where an individual faces sexual harassment is in public transportation comprising of 22 to 30% and on road or public places comprising of 18.20%. Thus, there arises a big question for girls that on whom can they trust and where can they feel secured?

But 92.00% respondents agreed that giving sex education to children can further decrease chances of those children being sexually harassed, whereas, 91.12% respondents agreed in giving sex education to girls and boys. There were almost similar responses obtained in matter of age at which sex education be given to children. According to 42.93% respondents, a child must receive sex education from home and according to 39.49% respondents; they can receive by informal conversations.

Hence, entire study shows correlation between sexual harassment and sex education.

Acknowledgement:

1. Dr. K. J. Ganatra, Principal, M. V. M. Science and Home Science College, Rajkot.
2. Dr. Nilambariben Dave, Professor and Head of the Department of Home Science, Saurashtra University, Rajkot
3. Dr. M. N. Jivani, Professor, Department of Electronics, Saurashtra University, Rajkot.
4. Dr. Ashwini Joshi Shah, Asst. Prof. Department of Nano Science, Saurashtra University, Rajkot
5. Principals of all the institutions and Rectors of all the hostels.
6. Ms. Hemal Dave, Founder, Ojaswini Foundation, Rajkot.
7. Ms. Nishtha Ranpara, Student, Christ College, Rajkot.



References:

1. Development, M. o. (2015). *Handbook on Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act-2013*. New Delhi: Government of India.
2. J.B.Ranpara. (2020). *Women Empowerment*. Rajkot: Self.
3. <http://ncw.nic.in/>
4. www.google.com
5. <https://wcd.nic.in/schemes/one-stop-centre-scheme-1>
6. <https://wcd.nic.in/schemes-listing/2405>
7. <https://en.m.wikipedia.org>
8. J.K.Dave, A. (2004-05). *Status Of Women In Indian Society*. Ahmedabad: Anada.
9. Akhtar, C. (March 2013). Sexual Harassment At Workplace And In Educational Institutions : A Case Study Of District Srinagar,Kashmir. *International Ngo Journal* , 54-60.
10. Ministry Of Law And Justice (Legislation Department)23/04/2013 *The Sexual Harassment Of Women At Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition And Redressal) Act-2013*. New Delhi: The Gazette Of India.
11. Development, M. O. (09/12/2013). *Sexual Harassment Of Women At Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition And Redressal)Rule-2013*. New Delhi: The Gazette Of India.
12. Ministry Of Women And Child Development 09/12/2013 *Sexual Harassment Of Women At Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition And Redressal)Rule-2013*. New Delhi: The Gazette Of India.