

# Sexual Harassment



African Woman and Child  
Feature Service



# *What is Sexual Harassment?*

Sexual harassment can be said to be unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature from your teacher, school mate, boda boda rider, matatu driver or conductor, a family member, or any other person in the community, which goes against your rights.



# *What are some of the forms of sexual harassment conducts*

The unwelcome behaviour that you may face includes the following:

- ➡ Someone touching your body in unwelcome manner
- ➡ A person touching you in manner that shows sexual desire
- ➡ A person touching your private parts

- ➡ A person kissing you without your permission
- ➡ A person brushing against your body without your permission
- ➡ A person making comments about you that are sexual in nature
- ➡ A person making sex-related jokes or insults
- ➡ Someone making whistles of a sexual nature when you are passing by

- A person sending to you sexually explicit electronic messages either on your phone or internet
- Defilement-when someone under the age of 18 years is sexually violated
- Rape-sexual violation of a person over 18 years
- Sexual assault - when some violates you with his sexual organs, or with an object or does something meant to violate your sexual organs.

# How do you know you are facing sexual harassment?

- ➡ If the harassment is done to you because you are girl or boy
- ➡ If the sexual behaviour is unwelcome
- ➡ If the sexual behaviour has a negative effect on you.



## Who do you report to when sexually harassed?

When you are sexually harassed, remember to report the sexual harassment act within 72 hours or immediately it occurs. Do Not Wait for long.



You can report to:

- ➡ The guiding and counselling teacher or any other teacher you are close to
- ➡ The peer counsellor
- ➡ Your close friend who can then report to other people to take action
- ➡ A friend of your family who you trust
- ➡ A teacher you feel you can share your secrets with



- A family member who can help you take immediate action
- A police officer
- If the violation has hurt you physically or emotionally, report immediately to a hospital.

# Who can report a sexual violation?

► You the person who has been sexually violated



► The person who witnessed the violation

► A person who you have told what happened, even though he or she did not witness the violation.

## *Sexual favouritism*

This is where the teacher rewards you with higher marks or helps you pass examinations or does not subject you to any form of punishment. In return, he gets sexual rewards from you.

# What school management needs to do

- ➔ Create a safe learning environment for children or students



- Define a clear, friendly and confidential procedure for reporting sexual violations by the students
- Provide a supportive environment for the survivors of violence to learn and realize their potential
- Identify a teacher who is friendly and who the students are likely to share their secrets with
- Assure the student that the information they give will be treated with utmost confidentiality

- ➡ School management should ensure teachers who sexually violate the students are dealt with according to the law
- ➡ NOT influence the transfer of the violator to another school
- ➡ Head teacher should ensure the school adhere to the sexual harassment policy of the Ministry of Education
- ➡ Report the teacher to Kenya National Union of Teachers
- ➡ The school to help the violated students to access medical and counselling services.

# Now tell us about yourself

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your school: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your class: \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the forms of sexual harassment in this book have you experienced? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



What did you do when you experienced this form of sexual harassment?

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Did you get help when you reported the harassment?

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If you did not get support, do you need someone to talk to or help you about this sexual harassment you experienced? \_\_\_\_\_

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*(Once you have filled this page, please tear it, and drop it in the “speaking boxes” or any other place where your school has set aside for sharing private information)*



This booklet on *Sexual Harassment* was produced by African Woman and Child Feature Service with the support of Coffey International Limited under the Jamii Thabiti Programme, which is funded by United Kingdom's Department for International Development (UKAID).

The purpose of this booklet is to create awareness and enhance the knowledge of girls in primary and secondary schools on sexual harassment and how to determine if an act that has been committed against them is a form of sexual harassment or not. This awareness is important in helping the girls to appreciate that some of the actions they are made to believe are normal are indeed sexual harassment and violence against women and girls.

The enlightened girls are expected to report to various actors, as provided for in the booklet, whenever they experience any form of the acts of sexual harassment listed in this booklet. The awareness is further expected to contribute to reduction of sexual harassment of girls in and outside school as the learning institutions and the surrounding communities put in place measures to protect them.

It is instructive to note that the design and layout approaches used are aimed at making the content appealing and interactive for children in both lower and upper class primary schools as well as in high school. It is hoped that the booklet will help these children and their teachers to engage in healthy and robust discussions around sexual harassment and how to prevent and manage it.







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