

Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!

SSAIS.org Action Guide: Activities for students and their allies

- Share the video *Sexual Harassment: Not in My School!* with friends, your school, parent teacher organization, and community organizations. Learn how at SSAIS.org/video.
- Form a gender equality group by using the guide "Campus Activism: How to Become a NOW Activist in High School."
- Partner with existing school clubs like Suicide Prevention, GSA (Gay Straight Alliance), and community organizations to raise awareness about sex discrimination/harassment.
- Make posters about sexual harassment and students' rights. Ask questions like "Does gender equality exist in our school?" and invite students to the meetings.
- Create a brochure or notebook insert with information about students' rights and resources to address sexual harassment and assault.
- Create a Students' Bill of Rights and post at school.
- Ask your school to make announcements about respectful behavior, how to make reports of sexual harassment, the school's policies and disciplinary actions, and how to improve the school culture.
- Start a campaign to end sexual harassment at school.
- Create a pledge against sexual harassment and assault.
- Write about sexual harassment, gender equality, and Title IX for the school newspaper
- Make zines about gender equality, students' rights, and more.
- Create PSAs about sexual harassment, students' rights, confidentiality, etc.; ask permission before posting.
- Create a Facebook Page and blogs for your activism.
- Invite speakers to explain sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and Title IX.
- Discuss healthy relationships and consent; use online resources at <u>SSAIS.org/video</u> and/or invite speakers to make presentations.
- Learn how to stand up to sexual harassment when you see it happening.
- Support those who experience sexual harassment and assault.
- Work with your school's parent teacher organization: teach them about students' rights and ask them to support gender equality projects.
- Create surveys about sexual harassment, gender equality, sexual harassment, etc. at your school and share the results with the school administration, community. organizations, and even the media; research these topics for school projects.
- Use your special talents, e.g. photography, writing, art, music, drama, athletics, dance, etc. to raise awareness about gender equality and sexual harassment.

Activities to overcome gender stereotypes

- Discuss gender stereotypes after watching films and talks listed at <u>SSAIS.org/video</u>.
- Start a healthy masculinity club that is open to all students.
- Watch online videos by men who promote healthy masculinity (See SSAIS.org/video for a list of videos and films).
- Invite speakers on healthy masculinity and gender identification.
- Post supportive articles on social media.
- Make PSAs and posters.
- Partner with gender equality groups and model respectful behavior.
- Learn about bystander intervention and intervene when you hear others saying or posting inappropriate sexual comments.

• Speak up for others and to treat your partner with respect.

For parents and adults: learn and talk with students!

- Learn about the signs of sexual abuse, assault, and trauma on the *Safety and Prevention* pages at the RAINN.org website.
- Learn about school sexual harassment, sexual assault, cyber harassment, and dating violence.
- Talk about how sexual harassment is prohibited at school, just like it is in the workplace.
- Help students recognize sexual exploitation, grooming, and abuse by teachers or staff.
- Encourage students to stand up to harassment and discrimination, whether against themselves or others; reach out to students who are uncomfortable talking with their families.

Learn about school policies and Title IX responsibilities

- Read your school's anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies.
- Ask what actions the school takes when it learns of sexual harassment or discrimination.
- Find out what the school is doing proactively about sexual harassment.
- Make sure the school understands its Title IX responsibilities using the checklist at ssais.org/video.
- Make sure your school has a Title IX coordinator and their contact information is publicly available.
- Provide your school with Title IX fact sheets that are available on the Stop Sexual Assault in Schools website.
- Visit the Stop Sexual Assault in School website for many helpful resources.

Is a school Title IX compliant?

- Interview school staff and the Title IX Coordinator using the Title IX Checklist at SSAIS.org/video.
- Contact the Title IX coordinator to make a presentation to your school, parent teacher organization, or community organization.
- Use Title IX fact sheets to make certain the school understands its responsibilities (Fact sheets at SSAIS.org/video).
- When you speak to the Title IX coordinator, ASK: what does the district do to promote gender equality in the classroom and in school activities? Does the school educate students about gender stereotypes and sex discrimination? Does the school educate staff on how to compassionately treat students who report sexual harassment? Does the school educate staff on how to handle sexual assault complaints and how to address retaliation if it occurs?
- Visit *Problem with Your School?* on the SSAIS.org website for next steps.

Update staff response to sexual harassment

• Invite community experts from your local sexual assault crisis center or coalition to train school staff, administrators, and counselors about a trauma-informed response to students who report sexual harassment and assault.

Questions and Comments? Contact SSAIS.org <u>info@stopsexualassaultinschools.org</u> or through Stop Sexual Assault in Schools Facebook page. Remember to share the video!