

Screening Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!
An educational and fundraising event

By Maya Behl

I hosted a screening of the [video](#) *Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!* this summer at my house. My close friends and family attended the event, and I am pleased to share that the event was a success. We raised over \$600 and, most importantly, people left more educated about the issues and energized to do their part in the #MeTooK12 movement.

Before the screening, I asked the audience, which was comprised of both adults and children, to indicate if they had ever discussed sexual assault and harassment in school or at parent meetings. Virtually no one raised their hands, and there was a group consensus that sexual harassment and assault in schools was not a significant issue. The audience was stunned to hear that 4 out of 5 high school students experience some sort of sexual harassment or bullying, and six out of 10 students experience physical sexual harassment. Sexual harassment and assault are very prevalent in schools and sources say it's only increasing.



Speaking to the parents in the room, I asked if they could imagine sending their kids to school knowing that there is an 80% chance they will be sexually harassed and a 60% chance they will be assaulted? Why is this so common? What can be done to stop sexual assault and harassment in schools from happening all together?

After the screening, one of my friends admitted that she knew multiple students who have been sexually harassed and my other friends nodded in agreement. If only schools increased awareness of sexual harassment and assault this epidemic could be significantly decreased. Additionally, for the victims, if schools would provide an easy way to report the incident and provide support resources, the victims would experience reduced emotional trauma associated with these incidents.

After the Q&A, everyone in the audience felt knowledgeable about the urgency of this issue and the different ways of handling it. They also agreed that schools should show these types of videos and have discussions about sexual harassment and assault at least weekly.

As we are all aware that knowledge is power, if we are to eradicate sexual harassment and assault, we must know our rights! Raising awareness about this issue and knowing what to do when it occurs is the way to defeat sexual harassment all together.

All it took was viewing this 90-minute video, *Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!*, to change the audience from a group that was unaware of this issue to a group of advocates who are determined to make social change.

I would like to thank to my family for being open-minded and supportive of my passion for promoting social change.

To learn how to make change in your community use the free SSAIS.org [toolkit](#): *Ending K-12 Sexual Harassment: A toolkit for Parents and Allies* and [watch](#) *Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!*.

Visit ssais.org/video
to find resources mentioned in this video
and learn how you can bring
Sexual Harassment: Not in Our School!
to your community

