



Parent Information Evening

Sexual Harassment and Behaviour from a school context



Before we start

- Safety message
- Signer on screen throughout
- Mr Deans will be narrating during the evening
- Recording the session
- The link will be shared in the next West Bridgford Post (WBP)
- Q & A at the end of the presentation, these will appear anonymously
- Any questions not answered will be covered in the next WBP
- A feedback questionnaire link will also be shared in the next WBP



Purpose of the evening

We will cover:

- A general overview of what is meant by sexual harassment and sexual behaviour
- The contextual perspective of what is happening within the county
- What our students have told us about their sexual harassment experiences both in and out of school
- The work that is taking place in school as a response and why
- What we hope to gain from this work
- How parents can support their child and school with this work



Sexual Harassment: overview

Ieva Medne | CYP Project Coordinator | ieva@equation.org.uk

A bit about us ...



We work in schools

educating children
and young people
about healthy
relationships



We train professionals

helping them
respond to
abuse



We run a Men's service

so men
experiencing
domestic abuse
can get support



Improving Safety

we provide
information
about local
services



Challenging attitudes

through
campaigns about
gender and
relationships

Sexual harassment

“Sexual harassment is any unwanted behaviour of a sexual nature that makes someone feel distressed, intimidated or humiliated” [\[Rape crisis England\]](#)

“It also:

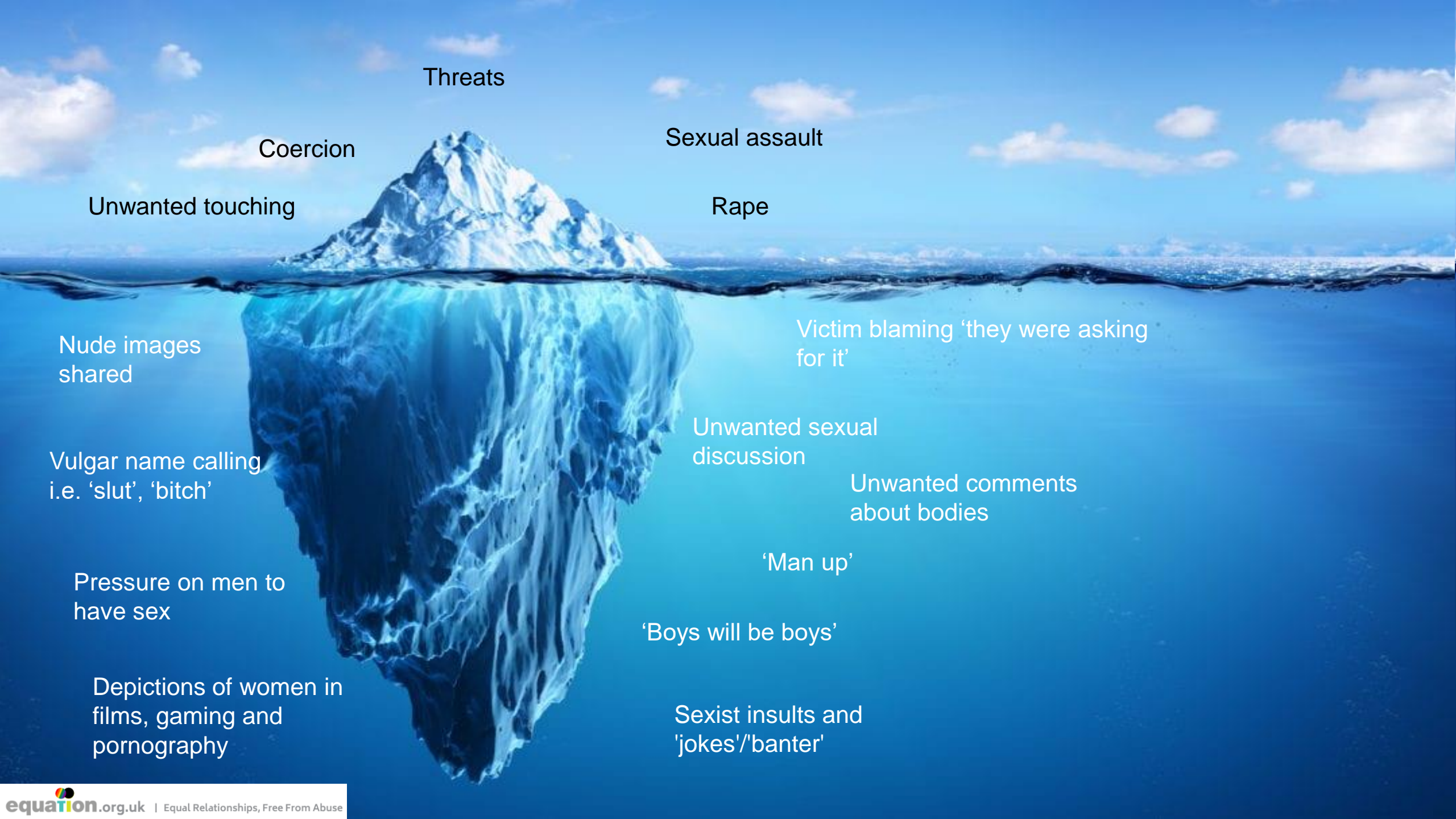
- violates their dignity
- creates a hostile or offensive environment



ONLINE SEXUAL HARASSMENT

[Video](#)





Threats

Sexual assault

Coercion

Rape

Unwanted touching

Nude images
shared

Victim blaming 'they were asking
for it'

Vulgar name calling
i.e. 'slut', 'bitch'

Unwanted sexual
discussion

Unwanted comments
about bodies

Pressure on men to
have sex

'Man up'

'Boys will be boys'

Depictions of women in
films, gaming and
pornography

Sexist insults and
'jokes'/'banter'

Commonness of sexual harassment

- Nearly 72% of the UK population have experienced at least one form of sexual harassment in their lifetime
- The top three reported sexual harassment behaviours experienced were: sexual jokes, staring or looks, and sexual comments
- Two-in-five (43%) of the UK population have experienced at least one form of sexual harassment in 2019 alone
- Of those who experienced sexual harassment in the last 12 months (41% of the population), one fifth (18%) experienced at least one type on a daily basis while one third (21%) experienced it weekly. [\[resource\]](#)

Impacts of sexual harassment

- 54% said at least one of their experiences had 'very' or 'fairly' affected their quality of life, but with significant differences by sexual harassment behaviour. [\[resource\]](#)
- It affects people's freedom and all areas of life, such as work, leisure, school and so on.
- Psychological impacts, such as depression, anxiety, anger, irritability, insecurity, confusion, powerlessness, shame, isolation, low-self esteem
- Physiological impacts, such as headaches, lethargy, panic, sleep disturbances, phobias, gastrointestinal distress, skin reactions

Questions at the end

Thank you!



For all our latest resources, best practice and resources, take a look at

www.equation.org.uk

Kirstin Lamb

Tackling Emerging Threats to Children Team (TETC)





Definitions....

- **Sexual Violence** – Sexual Offences Act 2003 – rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault and causing someone to engage in sexual activity **without consent**
- **Sexual Harassment** – unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that can occur face-to-face, online or a combination of both – comments, jokes, banter, touching, pictures/videos – **without consent**
- **Misogyny** – ‘incidents against women that are motivated by an attitude of a man towards a woman and includes behaviour targeted towards a woman by men simply because they are a woman’ (Notts Police Definition) – **without consent**
- **Harmful Sexual Behaviour** – ‘sexual behaviours expressed by children and young people under the age of 18 years old that are developmentally inappropriate, may be harmful towards self or others, or be abusive towards another child, young person or adult’ (derived from Hackett, 2014)

Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH)



Misogyny and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB)

Why do we need to talk about these difficult issues with our children?

- it can happen to any child, young person or adult
- it can happen to boys and girls
- it can happen face-to-face, online or a combination of both
- it can happen in or out of school
- we have a statutory responsibility to educate and to safeguard all children

‘it could happen here’

Nottinghamshire context...



What Nottinghamshire children have told us so far

Primary - just over **50%** of the children in Y5/6 had heard of the term **sexual violence & sexual harassment**. In Secondary over **80%** said they had heard the term.

Secondary - only **23%** and **11%** in **Primary** had heard the term **Misogyny**

We asked if they had heard the term **harmful sexual behaviour** – **75%** said **Yes** they had.

In terms of how **confident** they were in **recognising and reporting** – **45%** (Sec) and **39%** (Prim) were confident about **SVSH**, **15%** (Sec) and **13%** (Prim) about **Misogyny** and just over **50%** for incidents of **HSB** (Sec only)

Who would they tell if they hear or saw something that worried them..

1st parents **2nd** Police **3rd** a friend **4th** Teacher/DSL

When asked if they wanted to learn more about these issues – simply **Yes** they did!



Parents – what can we do?

- **Start the conversations**
- **Talk with** your children about Consent
- **Talk with** your children – ask them what they know about **SVSH**, **HSB** and **Misogyny** – what does it mean to them – what are their experiences?
- **Talk with** them about what else they want to know – no question a silly question – if they are embarrassed about speaking with you who would they speak to or could you have an ‘Ask t’ basket to leave those sorts of question for you to then leave an answer?
- **Talk with** them about how comfortable they feel in challenging inappropriate behaviour by their peers either towards themselves or someone else – what may prevent them from challenging– can you give some other options so they can be an upstander not a by-stander to inappropriate behaviour?
- **Be open** with where you are with your understanding, experiences and confidence – can you learn more together?



- [Parent / carer zone | Notts Help Yourself](#)
- [About the NSPCC | NSPCC](#)
- [Consent Coalition | Notts SVS Services](#)
- TETC Team YouTube - [NCC Tackling Emerging Threats to Children – YouTube](#)
- TED Talk – talking to boys about consent - [Why we need to change the way young men think about consent | Nathaniel Cole | TEDxLondonWomen – YouTube](#)
- TED Talk – up-skirting - [They told me to change my clothes. I changed the law instead. | Gina Martin | TEDxWarwick - YouTube](#)
- Rise Above – Consent - [What is Consent? – YouTube](#)
- Cup of Tea analogy to explain consent - [Tea Consent \(Clean\) – YouTube](#)
- Disrespect Nobody – video clips to support discussions around sexual harassment, relationships and consent - [Disrespect NoBody | Harassment | What is Sexual Harassment?](#)
- British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) – report - [Children see pornography as young as seven, new report finds | BBFC](#)



School Context

- Since 2018 we have kept a log of incidents on sexual harassment within school
- Always believed it could happen here and it does
- Media spotlight: Everyone's Invited website, Murder of Sarah Everard, Ofsted Review of sexual abuse in schools and college
- Raise the profile of sexual harassment within school
- Journey needs to include: Students, Staff, Parents and our Curriculum

School Council and Student Voice



Findings from the survey:

- 880 students took the online anonymous survey – largest ever response from student body – broad spread across all year groups and genders
- 135 students have experienced some form of sexual harassment within school – mainly inappropriate comments, breaches of personal space and unwanted physical contact – experiences mainly in the classrooms and corridors
- 273 students have experienced sexual harassment outside of school and mainly in town
- Students mainly report such issues to parents and friends rather than school

School Council response to survey



- Talk about sexual harassment more – making clear what is inappropriate and why – use of assemblies, tutor time etc.
- Train staff to challenge sexual harassment – students feel staff don't always intervene when they could
- More supervision in corridors between lessons – CCTV across school has been reviewed and new cameras already installed
- Review how and where sexual harassment is discussed in the curriculum for all year groups – raising awareness

PSHE: Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education, containing Relationship & Sex Education



- RSE taught in every year group:
 - Year 7 – healthy relationship and puberty
 - Year 8 – healthy and unhealthy relationships, puberty, youth produced sexual imagery and consent
 - Year 9 – contraception, STI's, forced marriage, FGM – all linking to consent
 - Year 10 – women's rights, pornography and it's impact, consent & sexual harassment, sexual violence & coercive relationships, domestic abuse
 - Year 11 – revisit contraception, FGM, forced marriage
- Under constant review and considering student voice



Post 16 response

- Consent agenda – taught within Year 12 & Year 13 Personal Development Programme lessons
- Healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Unwanted behaviour, sexual harassment, sexual assault and stalking
- Staying safe assemblies – drugs and alcohol awareness, spiking
- Nottingham Trent University - Consent workshops
- Student voice

Signposting



- Equation: www.respectnotfear.co.uk 0115 9623 237 – to identify if your own relationship is healthy
- Rise through Juno Women's Aid: <https://junowomensaid.org.uk/> 0808 800 0340 – immediate crisis support and ongoing emotional and practical support for women and young women aged 16 and over living in Nottingham City
- Juno Women's Aid Teen Advocate Service: <https://junowomensaid.org.uk/children-and-teen-advocates-city/> 0808 800 0340 – for young woman aged 13-17
- Nottinghamshire Women's Aid Service: <https://nottswa.org/> - 0808 800 0340 – for children and young people aged 4-18 (21yrs for young people with additional needs)
- Karma Nirvana: <https://karmanirvana.org.uk/> 0800 599 9247 – working to end Honour Based Abuse
- CAMHS: <https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/camhs> Single Point of Access for children and young people with mental health needs
- Kooth Counselling Service: www.kooth.com free, safe and anonymous online support for young people
- NGY Counselling Service: <https://www.base51.org/> 0115 952 5040 – therapeutic support in a safe space for young people ages 11-25
- Young Minds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> 0800 802 5544 – mental health helpline
- Childline: <https://www.childline.org.uk/> 0800 1111 - free confidential therapeutic support and help online or on the phone
- School Website: <https://www.wbs.school/attachments/download.asp?file=1098&type=pdf> comprehensive signposting directory and tailored signposting for pupils via Brightspace

Signposting



Families

- Stronger families Juno's Women's Aid: www.junowomensaid.org.uk/stronger-families/ therapeutic group programme for children aged 5 to 16 years
- Hands are not for hurting: <https://nottswa.org/support/children-and-young-people/hands-are-not-for-hurting/> 0808 800 0340 Nottinghamshire Women's Aid – group treatment programme for woman and their children who have experiences domestic abuse
- Juno's Pet's Project: <https://junowomensaid.org.uk/get-involved/pet-foster-project/> pet fostering for woman escaping domestic abuse
- Children Families Direct:
<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/marf#:~:text=Children%20and%20Families%20Direct%20is,the%20Nottingham%20Children's%20Partnership%20website.> Nottingham City Council
- Children's Centres: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centre-service> including family support clinics, youth and play services
- Family Information Service: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/early-years-and-childcare/families-information-service> 0300 500 8080 - information on child care, breakfast clubs, activities, parenting, returning to work and lots more
- Family Lives: <https://www.familylives.org.uk/> 0808 800 2222 – parent and family support helpline
- NSPCC parent helpline: www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/nspcc-helpline/ 08088005000
- Young Minds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline-and-webchat/> 0808 802 5544 – Parent Helpline
- Respect: <https://respectphoneline.org.uk/> 0808 8024040 – helpline for perpetrators to get support
- Galop Helpline (LGBT+): <https://galop.org.uk/> 0800 999 5428 – support for members of the LGBT+ community

Sexual Violence

- Over 18 (Adult) – Topaz Centre – www.topazcentre.org 0800 0859993
- Under 18's – East Midlands Children & Young People Sexual Assault Service (EMCYPASAS) located at QMC Hospital – www.emcypsas.co.uk 0800 1830023



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Q&A

Any questions we don't get through tonight will be published in an FAQ
in the West Bridgford Post.



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Thank you for your company
Have a good evening