

# Sexual Harassment and Consent

KS5



# What is the national picture?

Ofsted conducted a review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges which was published in June 2021

Nationally collected statistics show that there has been a sharp increase in reporting of child sexual abuse to the police in recent years. Figures that include all child sexual abuse cases show that the police recorded over 83,000 child sexual abuse offences (including obscene publications) in the year ending March 2020. This is an increase of approximately 267% since 2013. Research estimates indicate that approximately one quarter of cases of all child sexual abuse involve a perpetrator under the age of 18

Although anyone can experience sexual harassment and violence, research indicates that girls are disproportionately affected. For example, 90% of recorded offences of rape in 2018–19 of 13- to 15-year-olds were committed against girls. In the past year, girls aged between 15 and 17 reported the highest annual rates of sexual abuse for young people and children aged 25 and younger

In 2016, the Women and Equalities Select Committee highlighted a number of surveys reporting that girls were experiencing high levels of sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online, in schools and colleges

# Findings from the report

The girls who responded to our questionnaire indicated that, in order of prevalence, the following types of harmful sexual behaviours happened 'a lot' or 'sometimes' between people their age:

Non-contact forms, but face-to-face:

- sexist name-calling (92%)
- rumours about their sexual activity (81%)
- unwanted or inappropriate comments of a sexual nature (80%)

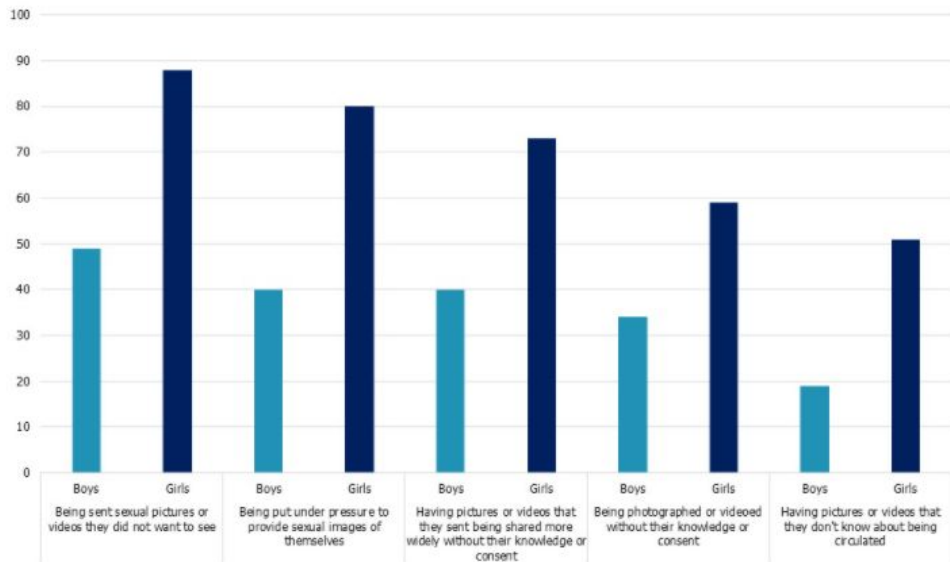
Non-contact forms, online or on social media:

- being sent pictures or videos they did not want to see (88%)
- being put under pressure to provide sexual images of themselves (80%)
- having pictures or videos that they sent being shared more widely without their knowledge or consent (73%)
- being photographed or videoed without their knowledge or consent (59%)
- having pictures or videos of themselves that they did not know about being circulated (51%)

Contact forms:

- sexual assault of any kind (79%)
- feeling pressured to do sexual things that they did not want to (68%)
- unwanted touching (64%)

These findings are strongly supported by existing research into harmful sexual behaviour between peers. [\[footnote 22\]](#), [\[footnote 23\]](#)



	Boys	Girls
Being sent sexual pictures or videos they did not want to see	49	88
Being put under pressure to provide sexual images of themselves	40	80
Having pictures or videos that they sent being shared more widely without their knowledge or consent	40	73
Being photographed or videoed without their knowledge or consent	34	59
Having pictures or videos that they don't know about being circulated	19	51

Not many children and young people spoke about sexual abuse in relationships, although in one school they mentioned that incidents sometimes occurred between peers in established relationships, where 'things go too far' or 'go over the line'. Some children and young people also talked about wanting to know more about issues around consent in established relationships. Textual analysis of the publicly available testimonies on the Everyone's Invited website indicates that, where a relationship to the perpetrator is named, around two thirds of the testimonies say that the perpetrator was known to them and around a fifth was a boyfriend.<sup>[footnote 37]</sup> Evidence suggests that early experience of dating and relationship violence is associated with subsequent adverse outcomes, such as suicidal behaviours, other mental health problems and low educational attainment.<sup>[footnote 38]</sup>

Girls talked about feeling uncomfortable because of behaviour from peers on bus journeys (including school buses), where they said they experienced the kind of sexual harassment and bullying behaviour that happened in school. Girls in one school, for example, said that boys often made 'rape jokes' on the school bus. More widely, some children and young people said they did not feel safe from strangers on trains or in parks, alleys, car parks and side streets. Some girls in particular said that feeling unsafe in these situations was pervasive. One girl said that a man had deliberately brushed her younger sister's leg recently and another girl had told her sister to get used to it as 'this is what happens'. Younger girls aged 12 to 13 in another school said that they felt uncomfortable walking through town in their uniforms. Evidence from other research also indicates that this is an issue. A recent survey of girls and young women aged 13 to 21 found that more than half have felt unsafe walking home alone and had experienced harassment or know someone who has, and nearly half feel unsafe using public transport. [\[footnote 39\]](#)



What has struck a chord with so many women is that Sarah Everard was 'doing' what we are so often told to do

WE'VE TRIED APPS,  
WE'VE TRIED KEYS,  
WE'VE TRIED MODESTY,  
WE'VE TRIED AVOIDING THE  
BUS AND GETTING A TAXI,  
WE'VE TRIED PHONE CALLS,  
WE'VE TRIED FLAT SHOES,  
WE'VE TRIED PANIC BUTTON PENDANTS,  
WE'VE TRIED AVOIDING THE NIGHT,  
WE'VE SURRENDERED INDEPENDENCE,  
WE'VE TRIED SCREAMING,  
WE'VE TRIED RUNNING,  
WE'VE TRIED TO KEEP OUR HEAD DOWN,  
WE'VE TRIED CROSSING THE ROAD,  
WE'VE TRIED HIDING IN A CROWD,  
WE'VE DONE ALL OF THIS TRYING,  
YET NO MATTER WHAT WE DO,  
NOT ONE THING WILL CHANGE,  
UNTIL THE MEN THAT DO IT DO.

@cutecatcalls

@cutecatcalls

## From ITV news:

### Sarah Everard's journey home

Around 9pm on the evening of March 3 Sarah Everard was walking home from a friend's house.

Wearing bright clothes and sensible trainers, she was dressed in what many would say is appropriate for a woman to wear on a lone walk.

*the  
implication  
is clear*



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-58814271>

# So what needs to happen?

## THINGS WOMEN ARE TOLD THAT WILL PREVENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

@cotecatrails

DON'T WALK AT NIGHT  
DON'T WALK ALONE. DON'T WEAR THAT.  
DON'T WEAR HEADPHONES. ALWAYS SHARE  
YOUR LOCATION. CALL SOMEONE. AVOID  
PUBLIC TRANSPORT. GET A TAXI (BUT SIT IN  
THE BACKSEAT). AVOID ALLEYS. AVOID PARKS.  
STAY ON WELL LIT STREETS. DON'T REACT.  
JUST KEEP WALKING. SCREAM FIRE NOT  
R\*PE. AVOID EYE CONTACT. HOLD YOUR  
KEYS BETWEEN YOUR FINGERS. BUY A  
R\*PE ALARM. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE  
CHARGE ON YOUR PHONE.  
WEAR FLAT SHOES

## THINGS THAT WILL ACTUALLY PREVENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

MEN NOT SEXUALLY HARASSING WOMEN



What would you do?



‘But it is not all men.....’

### **‘Not all men’**

It is not uncommon, when a woman is telling a story of sexual harassment, for men to take a defensive stance and act as if they are being personally attacked. It’s important to recognise that these discussions are not an attack on “all men” but on the perpetrators and a society that still functions in a way that allows this behaviour to **manifest and persist**.

Responding with “but not all men” insinuates that you are more concerned with how this situation affects you and your existence as a man, than the woman who has been harassed or assaulted.

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STAY SEXY & DON'T GET MURDERED

*We talk about how many women were raped last year, not about how many men raped women. We talk about how many girls in a school district were harassed last year, not about how many boys harassed girls. We talk about how many teenaged girls got pregnant in the state of Vermont last year, rather than how many men and teenaged boys got girls pregnant. So you can see how the use of this passive voice has a political effect. It shifts the focus off men and boys and onto girls and women. Even the term violence against women is problematic. It's a passive construction. There's no active agent in the sentence. It's a bad thing that happens to women. It's a bad thing that happens to women, but when you look at that term violence against women, nobody is doing it to them. It just happens. Men aren't even a part of it!*

—JACKSON KATZ, PH.D., FROM HIS TED TALK "VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN: IT'S A MEN'S ISSUE"

# What are we doing at TWGGS?

We have set up a working party with our Head Girl Team and the Head Boy Team at Skinners who are meeting monthly to discuss issues for both schools and work collaboratively on ideas to combat sexual harassment and peer on peer abuse

We have a Skinners Charter which has been proposed [Skinners Charter](#) which details where pupils can go for support and help and this will go to all of KS5 following the sexual harassment assembly on 19 October

We have drawn up a TWGGS Sexual Harassment Charter [TWGGS Sexual Harassment Charter September 2021](#) which will go to all KS4 & KS5 pupils following their assemblies

We have a Police Liaison Officer who works closely with us and has already assisted in several cases being brought to the police. She is a regular visitor to TWGGS now and we are hoping to 'normalise' her presence

PSHE sessions have been planned with consent, personal safety, pornography, online and mental wellbeing sessions allocated to Years 10, 11, L6 & U6; PSHE really is vitally important and should not be missed by a pupil or given over to anything that does not constitute our pupils learning how to navigate the world around them

# Where can you go for help?

Your form tutor

Miss Smith, Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Davis

Mrs Marchant

Mrs Barclay, Mrs Rogers, Miss Hutchinson

Any of your teachers or staff - they have all received training on this

[bob@twggs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:bob@twggs.kent.sch.uk) - this is an email address for you to report any incidences of sexual harassment, violence or concerns. It is monitored by Mrs Marchant