



## TOP TEN COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

1. Only Women Are Harassed

*No. Anyone can be the victim of harassment regardless of gender.*

2. Only Men Are Harassers

*No. Men and women can both be harassers.*

3. Harassment is Always Between A Man and a Woman

*No. Harassment can be between people of the same gender or different genders.*

4. The Only Victim Is The Person Directly Harassed

*No. Third parties who witness harassment or are aware of it may also be victims of harassment.*

5. Harassment Requires Touching

*No. Sexual harassment does not have to be physical in nature.*

6. Harassment Requires Talking

*No. Sexual harassment does not have to be verbal in nature.*

7. “If It Was A Compliment, It Is Not Harassment”

*No. Just because a person intends his or her conduct to be flattering does not mean it is not offensive to others.*

8. “If I Was Just Joking, It Is Not Harassment”

*No. Just because a person intends his or her conduct to be funny does not mean it is not offensive to others.*

9. Harassment Is Motivated By A Desire For Sex

*No. Sexual harassment is often motivated by dominance, power, and bullying.*

10. Ignoring Harassment Makes It Go Away

*No. Unfortunately, ignoring harassment usually does not make it go away and the problem may worsen.*