



HOW VULNERABLE ARE WOMEN AND GIRLS

rights protect
Deserves
#Askingforit
Provocative clothes
touching penalize
Ignore conduct
offensive
workplace
late night
behaviour
social hostile
legislation
alcohol
refuse
advances

Harassment in public spaces and the domestic sphere

Violence in public spaces

>90% women and girls experience sexual harassment. Commonly known as "eve-teasing", the word "teasing" makes it seem like a minor issue

88% men witnessed harassment of women in public spaces

Abuse reported:

Verbal **53%** Visual **51%**

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual Harassment is when somebody's gaze or sexual behaviour makes you uncomfortable. It includes comments and songs, leering and whistling, kissing noises, vulgar gestures, unwanted touching, someone following you, flashing private parts, demanding sexual favours, and showing pornography against one's will.

Violence in domestic sphere

Nearly two in five **37%** married women have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence by their husband

(Source: NFHS 3, 2005-2006)

Which are the most unsafe places?

Most unsafe places:

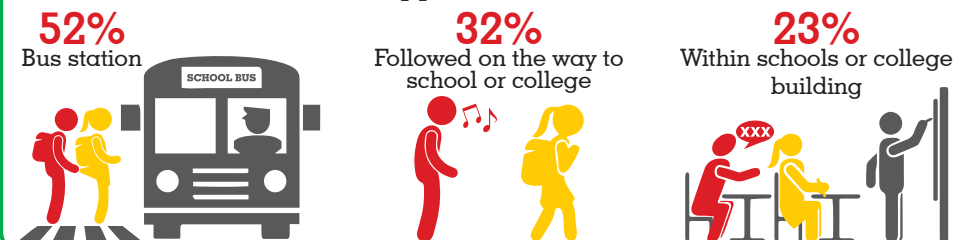


School girls reported **stalking and verbal harassment** largely by fellow and senior male students and unknown persons

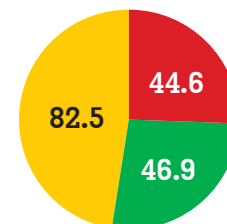
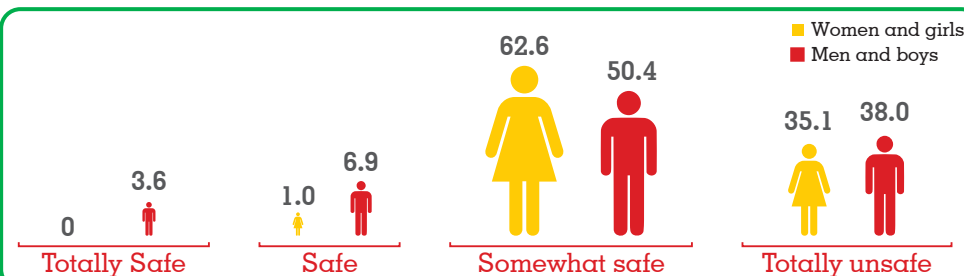
52% students experienced leering and staring followed by touching / pinching / groping

47% incidents happen during the morning time and **48%** during evening time when students go to school and return home

Incidents of harassment happened:



Perception of safety



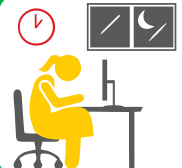
- Unsafe all the time
- Unsafe only after dark
- Public spaces unsafe for leisure at evening

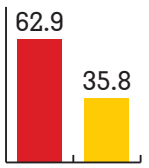
Total Numbers (N): 388

► People's perception on why women and girls are vulnerable?

Women reported **being alone, what one wears, and "bad" behaviour** as inviting harassment. Men see this as a **form of entertainment**

Men said just **being a woman** invites harassment, followed by the way they **dress and being alone** as reasons why they are harassed. They also see harassment as a **form of entertainment**

 **86%** women think that it is **not safe** for women to **work in evening shifts** or late hours

 **62.9** **35.8**

Women provoke men by the way they dress

■ Men ■ Women

► Response to harassment

helpline? **78%** women and girls and **65%** men and boys are **unaware of any helpline numbers**

90% women did nothing when harassed

- neither reported to police/ helpline
- or took action

► Daily misogyny and mistrust


42% women and girls said harassment is a **form of entertainment** for men

58% women and **31%** men think that men are **always ready to have sex**

41% men did not intervene as bystanders and **23%** of them did not do anything because of **fear of retaliation** from the perpetrator

► Solution: How Breakthrough is addressing this issue through campaign #Askingforit

#Askingforit is asking for **bystander responses** to harassment against women and girls, especially schoolgirls



► Action

 **Raise your voice** against sexual harassment

 **Create an environment** against sexual harassment around bus stops, streets and schools

 **Intervene collectively** with others and prevent sexual harassment from happening

► Your taking a stand will

 **Make a girl feel** she is not to be blamed

 **Make her parents confident** it is not their shame

 **Allow trust in the community** that a timely response will stop sexual harassment