A Human Issue

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1. Attention Step:
   1. Attention getter:
      1. 3 out of 4 women have been verbally harassed (National Sexual Violence Resource Center, n.d.), and 1 out of 3 women have experienced some sort of sexual harassment(Chatterjee, 2018).
   2. Connect to your audience:
      1. *All of you have someone in your life that you care about, may that be a daughter, mother, sister, aunt, friend, girlfriend, niece; one of them will become part of this statistic. I have two younger sisters, one who is only 8 and the other who is 17, and both have been harassed is some sort of way. I myself have been in multiple situations, including my workspace, school, and alone in the mall.*
   3. Preview:
      1. *Sexual harassment is an ongoing issue that will not stop and is a proponent part of our society.*

**Transition Statement:** Let me start by letting you know what sexual harassment actually is.

1. Need/Problem Step:
   1. Statement:
      1. *To start let me say that Sexual harassment is not a conversation in which we point fingers, but a learning moment for us in society. Sexual harassment has been going on far too long and has poisoned our minds in many different ways.*
      2. *The definition of sexual harassment by Merriam-Webster Dictionary is an “uninvited and unwelcome verbal or physical behavior of a sexual nature especially by a person in authority toward a subordinate.” (Sexual Harassment, n.d.)*
   2. Illustration:
      1. *A girl named Emma shared an incident that she had when she was 14 to the Huffington Post. Her story went like this, Emma worked at a Tim Hortons, a coffee shop in Canada. While she was working a man between his 60s to 70s told her that he couldn’t sleep at night without her beside him in his bed. Then he asked her if she, a 14-year-old girl, would go with him (Agrawal, 2015). Now imagine an older man asking your sister, daughter, niece to come home with him.*
   3. Create tension:
      1. *picture of statistic from stopstreetharassment.org*
      2. *Now I just want you to think, a survey of 811 women, 99 percent have experienced street harassment. (Statistics - Stop Street Harassment Studies, n.d.)*
      3. *95% have experience leering or excessive staring (Statistics - Stop Street Harassment Studies, n.d.)*
      4. *75% have been followed by a stranger (Statistics - Stop Street Harassment Studies, n.d.)*
      5. *62% have had their paths blocked (Statistics - Stop Street Harassment Studies, n.d.)*
   4. Wrap up: *The women that you love and care for in your life, your sisters, your mother, daughters, friends, nieces, girlfriends, have already been affected, they are included in that 99%.*

**Transition Statement:** Remember sexual harassment is much larger than we think it is.

1. Solution/Satisfaction Step:
   1. Statement:
      1. *I don’t want any of you to do anything but speak up and against this injustice. This is not a women’s issue but a human issue.*
   2. Explanation:
      1. Something that has resonated with me since I heard it a few years ago is a story from Alexis Jones, and this is the story. Jones went into a locker room to talk to these boys and one raised his hand and says “You know, I get it, it’s important to’respect chicks but its cool to f’ chicks.” All she asked was says who. None of them had an answer. (Jones, 2017).
   3. Demonstration:
      1. *The point that I’m trying to make is who says it’s cool to disrespect women on the street, at work, and in public settings. All that I’m asking you to do, is speak up when you see a woman who is uncomfortable, tell them off. Because when you say nothing, it becomes okay. Because that girl you see who tells that guy that she’s not interested or is physically showing she is uninterested could be your sister, your mother, your daughter, your girlfriend.*
   4. Meets objection:
      1. *You may be thinking, this isn’t my problem, why should I care? Well when you see it happening to your sister, your mother, your girlfriend, your daughter, your niece, will you do nothing then too? NO, you wouldn’t do nothing. You’d tell them off, you would say something. So why do nothing to help someone else's daughter, one day someone could save yours.*

**Transition Statement:** Nevertheless this is happening to someone’s daughter right now.

1. Visualization Step:
   1. Women feel a sense of fear when they are walking alone in the streets, let that be day or night. Imagine a place where your female relatives and friends will no longer have any fear to reject someone or leave the house without being followed or catcalled.
   2. If we do nothing, your daughters and granddaughters and great-granddaughters will be forced to face this exact same fate, of leaving the house in fear of harassment.

**Transition Statement:**  To summarize all of this;

1. Call for Action Step:
   1. Review:
      1. *Sexual harassment is an everyday issue and to combat this, all I need all of you to do is to speak up and defend the victim.*
   2. Call for Action:
      1. *All that any of you have to do is say that what they are doing is not okay. Do not laugh it off, because that makes it seem like its okay, but it's not okay, it's not cool.*
   3. Memorable Statement:
      1. *Sexual harassment is not just a women's issue, it's a human issue that we can all combat because who says this behavior is cool? We do by not doing anything.*

References

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