

# Sexism Identification Annotation Guidelines

## Description

The Oxford English Dictionary defines sexism as “*prejudice, stereotyping or discrimination, typically against women, on the basis of sex*”. In general, sexist behaviors and discourses underestimate the role of women. Inequality and discrimination against women that remains embedded in society is increasingly being replicated online.

However, detecting online sexism may be difficult, as it may be expressed in very different forms. Sexism may sound “friendly”: the statement “*Women must be loved and respected, always treat them like a fragile glass*” may seem positive, but is actually considering that women are weaker than men. Sexism may sound “funny”, as it is the case of sexist jokes or humor (“*You have to love women... just that... You will never understand them.*”). Sexism may sound “offensive” and “hateful”, as in “*Humiliate, expose and degrade yourself as the fucking bitch you are if you want a real man to give you attention*”. However, even the most subtle forms of sexism can be as pernicious as the most violent ones and affect women in many facets of their lives, including domestic and parenting roles, career opportunities, sexual image, and life expectations, to name a few.

## Objectives

The aim of this work is to annotate tweets with a set of labels, specified below, that indicate whether the message is sexist or not, and (if so) what kind of sexism it encloses and the intention of the author of the message when he/she wrote it.

## Warnings:

You will be asked to read potentially sexist and hateful messages. If this may cause you distress, please do not continue with the task.

The task is estimated to last half an hour. The work done is not saved and submitted until it is finished. Thus, we strongly recommend doing it at once, without interruptions, to avoid losing information and having to start over. Once the “Submit” button is pressed, you will not be able to modify or complete your answers. Remember that the work must be completed to be accepted and paid.

# Guidelines

You will be shown 60 tweets, one by one. You must read each tweet carefully to answer the following question:

## 1. Is the tweet sexist, in any form, or does it describe situations in which such discrimination occurs (i.e., it is sexist itself, describes a sexist situation or criticizes a sexist behaviour)?

- **YES**, the tweet is sexist itself, describes a sexist situation or criticizes a sexist behavior. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *"It's less of #adaywithoutwomen and more of a day without feminists, which, to be quite honest, sounds lovely."*
  - *"I'm sorry but women cannot drive, call me sexist or whatever but it is true."*
  - *"You look like a whore in those pants" - My brother of 13 when he saw me in a leather pant"*
- **NO**, the tweet does not prejudice, underestimate or discriminate women. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *"Where all the white women at?"*
  - *"The shocking video of a woman at the wheel who miraculously escapes an assassination attempt"*
  - *"Don't my arguments convince you? Let's try to debate. Do you use "feminazi"? You stay alone."*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Remember that sexism may be expressed in different forms! It may sound friendly, funny, offensive, hateful or even violent. Sexism comprises any form of oppression or prejudice against women because of their sex. This discrimination can be based on different beliefs such as stereotypes, the belief that men are superior to women or irrational hatred of women (misogyny). Note that misogyny is a radical/hate-driven sexism.

If the answer to the previous question was YES, the two following questions must be answered:

## 2. What do you think the intention of the person that wrote the tweet is?

- **DIRECT:** The intention is to write a message that is sexist by itself, as in:
  - *“A woman needs love, to fill the fridge, if a man can give this to her in return for her services (housework, cooking, etc), I don’t see what else she needs”.*
- **REPORTED:** The intention of the author is to report or describe a sexist situation or event suffered by a woman or women in first or third person, as in:
  - *“I doze in the subway, I open my eyes feeling something weird: the hand of the man sat next to me on my leg #SquealOnYourPig”.*
- **JUDGEMENTAL** The intention of the author is to be judgemental, since the tweet describes sexist situations or behaviors with the aim to condemning them.
  - *“As usual, the woman was the one quitting her job for the family’s welfare”.*

### 3. What type of sexism does the tweet enclose?

Sexism may affect women in many facets of their lives, including domestic and parenting roles, career opportunities, sexual image and life expectations, to name a few. According to this, the tweet must be categorized in one or more of the following categories:

- **Ideological discredit, denying inequality and flipped narrative (IDEOLOGICAL-INEQUALITY):** this category includes all tweets or gabs that discredit the feminist movement in order to devalue, belittle and defame the struggle of women in all areas. Also included are messages that reject inequality between men and women, or present men as victims of gender-based oppression. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *“#Feminism is a war on men, but it's also a war on women. It's a war on female nature, a war on femininity.”.*
  - *“I think the whole equality thing is getting out of hand. We are different, thats how were made!”.*
  - *“OK. Whew, that’s good. Get a real degree and forget this poison of victimhood known as feminism”.*
- **Role stereotyping and dominance (STEREOTYPING-DOMINANCE):** this category includes messages that express false ideas about women that suggest they are more suitable or inappropriate for certain tasks. It also includes any claim that implies that men are somehow superior to women. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *“Most women no longer have the desire or the knowledge to develop a high quality character, even if they wanted to.”.*
  - *“I feel like everytime I flirt with a girl they start to imagine all the ways they can utilize me”.*
  - *“Woman driving, be careful!”.*
- **Objectification and Physical stereotyping (OBJECTIFICATION):** it includes messages where women are presented as objects apart from their dignity and personal aspects. We also include messages that assume or describe certain physical qualities that women must

have to fulfill traditional gender roles, for example, ideas that suggest that women should maintain a standard and ideal of beauty or attacks on a woman's physique. Examples of tweets in this category are:

- *"No offense but I've never seen an attractive african american hooker. Not a single one".*
- *"Most of the times I just want women for sex just because everytime I try to make a relationship out of it they always break my heart".*
- *"Don't get married than blame all woman for your poor investment. You should of got a hooker but instead you choose to go get a wedding ring."*
- **Sexual violence (*SEXUAL-VIOLENCE*)**: this category includes messages where sexual suggestions, requests for sexual favors or harassment of a sexual nature (rape or sexual assault) are made. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *"I wanna touch your tits..you can't imagine what I can do on your body."*
  - *"fuck that cunt, I would with my fist"*
  - *"Now I understand why woman that get no action are miserable. Semen retention almost drove me insane"*
- **Misogyny and violence (*MISOGYNY-NON-SEXUAL-VIOLENCE*)**: this category includes expressions of hatred and violence towards women. Examples of tweets in this category are:
  - *"Domestic abuse is never okay.... Unless your wife is a bitch"*
  - *"Some woman are so toxic they don't even know they are draining everyone around them in poison. If you lack self awareness you won't even notice how toxic you really are"*
  - *"Regardless, if you grab a woman by the throat, you're a massive cunt"*