**“3-minute Concept” Animated Video Clips Series:**

**Sexual Harassment**

**Subtitles**

3-minute Concept: Sexual Harassment

Life and Society (Secondary 1-3)

Personal, Social and Humanities Education Section

Curriculum Development Institute

Education Bureau,

HKSAR Government

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment includes

any unwelcome behaviours of a sexual nature

and such behaviours are offensive,

humiliating and intimidating.

Harassers often use their power

or the fact that they are greater in number

to commit sexual harassment.

In fact, harassers or victims of sexual harassment

bear little relationship to their gender,

age, identity or background.

Both men and women could be harassers

or victims of sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment usually

takes the form of unwanted physical contact,

verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature,

for example, uninvited physical contact or gestures;

unwelcome requests for sex;

comments or jokes of a sexual nature;

intrusive questions or hints of a sexual nature

about a person’s private life;

displaying offensive materials such as

pornographic images, posters or videos;

staring at a person or a person’s body offensively;

touching or fiddling with a person’s clothing,

such as lifting up someone’s skirt or shirt,

or putting hands in someone’s pocket, etc.

These unwanted actions need not be repeated or continuous.

One single incident may be sufficient to

constitute sexual harassment.

The following are some examples of sexual harassment

that could happen at school.

During recess,

a student blurted out a sexual joke

about Siu Lai in front of other classmates.

The student pointed at Siu Lai’s body,

acted excitedly and kept mocking Siu Lai.

Siu Lai felt very uncomfortable,

so she yelled,

“That’s enough! You’re disgusting!”

The student responded mockingly,

“Why are you being so serious?

I’m just kidding!”

Then, he kept telling more sexual jokes

which made the other classmates burst out laughing.

Siu Lai felt very embarrassed.

Obviously, the act of telling sexual jokes

already constitutes sexual harassment.

Men can also be victims of sexual harassment.

Most people think that

when men are involved in conversations

about their body or about sex,

It will not cost them anything.

However, what some people see as “benefits”

may be considered “offences” by others.

Sexual harassment is an unlawful act.

Harassers are subject to legal liabilities.

Some behaviours, such as crank calling,

stalking, indecent assaulting, etc.,

will also have criminal consequences.

Anyone who pressures or instructs

someone to sexually harass another person,

or who knowingly helps someone sexually harass another person,

such as joining someone in telling sexual jokes,

could be held legally liable.

So, what should people do if they are sexually harassed?

If people are sexually harassed,

they may adopt the following strategies:

1) Tell the harassers tactfully

that their behaviours are not welcomed;

2) Tell the harassers directly

that their behaviours are not welcomed

and they have to stop; or

3) Seek help from others nearby.

The victims can also tell someone

they trust for emotional support and practical help.

At the same time, the victims

should keep detailed records of the incidents,

such as date, time, place, witnesses and details

about what the harassers had said and done.

This information can serve as

evidence to support future complaints.

The Sex Discrimination Ordinance is applicable to

both sexual harassment between men and women.

as well as between persons of the same sex.

Anyone who experiences sexual harassment

should not remain silent.

They should solve the problem using the right methods.

Reflection Question

What should be noted when we interact with other people, so that what we say or do will not be misunderstood as sexual harassment?