

Sexual harassment is use of power

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Sectors – most exposed

- Health and social sector
- Hair dressers
- Public administration, social services,
- Teaching
- Hotel and restaurant
- Transport, such as taxi, bus, tram, metro and train



Sexual harassment is use of power

- Statistics Norway's living conditions survey for 2013.
- According to the bureau every tenth young Norwegian woman is regularly sexually harassed. In the total population, the number is five percent.
- Sexual harassment at work is a particular a challenge for employees, management, and those who work with work environment (HR).







A young woman writes online about a prolonged annoyance from a colleague.

"I worked as a waitress when I was 19-20 years old. In the kitchen there were the only male chefs and one of them fell in love with me.

Finally he began touching me in an unpleasant way. I tried to stop him, but he denied everything. I cried every day on my way to work. I did not know what to do. Finally I stood up with courage to tell the management. I received full understanding.

Eventually I was set up at different shift so we would not see each other at work. "



Sexual harassment at work



- In the 80'ies Henki Hauge Karlsen worked as a bartender
- The employer found out that he was hiv-positive
- He got fired from his job
- The case was taken to court all the way up to Supreme Court
- Henki won the case and got his job back
- Sadly, he died few months after the final judgement



Young female electrician sexually harassed by male colleague

- Young girl 17 yrs old
- Male dominated job, electrician
- Didn't realize she was being harassed..
- Other male colleagues were told to avoid her to solve the problem
- Reported the case to the Ombud. (70 cases since 2005, 4 taken to court. New ombud want to strengthen sanctions in order to be able to punish employers)



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Female police student forced to watch porn movies in the police car

- Female rector of police academy will handle the case asap
- Female police officer: negative culture in the police





Mayor harassed young girl



- Rune Øygard served a Mayor in Vågå from 1995 2012 representing the Norwegian Labour Party,
 - He was granted leave following his indictment for child sexual abuse in a much publicized case, the so-called Vågå case.
 - On 17 December 2012, he was found guilty of child sexual abuse, including sexual intercourse with a 13-year old girl.
 - Sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. The same day, he resigned as Mayor¹



What to do?



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The Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority



The Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority

- The overall target is a healthy working environment for all, safe and secure employment conditions and meaningful work for the individual.
- We work to ensure that the enterprises work systematically and in compliance with the working environment laws and regulations.
- The Working Environment Act applies to all land based operations with employees





Guidance and Information

- In addition to providing advice and guidance according to The Public Administration Act, the Labour Authorities publishes a large amount of guidelines and brochures and participates in several Internet sites.
- The agency also prepares information material in connection with campaigns and other projects. Like this guidance:





Thank you for your attention

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