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Sexual harassment among teens



“Storm and Stress” survey - Dr. Michelle Walsh

- The study explored experiences and understanding of sexual harassment in 13 to 17 year olds.**
 - The study focused on the previous 12-month period of the young peoples’ lives.**
 - The research included 599 teenagers and 21 youth workers in Ireland.**
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What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is unwanted sexual, verbal and nonverbal behaviours which draw on gender-based beliefs and sexist hostility.

It can range from unwanted banter, jokes, comments, gestures, and unwelcome sexual advances to unwanted, unwelcome or uninvited sexual contact.

This is behaviour which violates a person's dignity and creates an intimidating, hostile, degrading or offensive environment.



"This study set out to explore milder forms of sexual harassment but the participants reported experiences of sexual abuse, assault and in some instances rape that go well beyond milder forms of sexual harassment, I listened and in this report we respect their voice and their experiences by speaking their truth here." - Dr. Michelle Walsh

80%

**of adolescents
disclosed being
subjected to some
form of sexual
harassment**



24%



**of teenagers disclosed that they were
subjected to physical or extreme forms
of sexual harassment**

83%

of adolescents witnessed some form of sexual harassment



28%

witnessed physical or extreme forms of sexual harassment

78%



of adolescents said that sexual harassment occurred within their peer community

100%



**of youth workers said that they had
witnessed sexual harassment**

68%

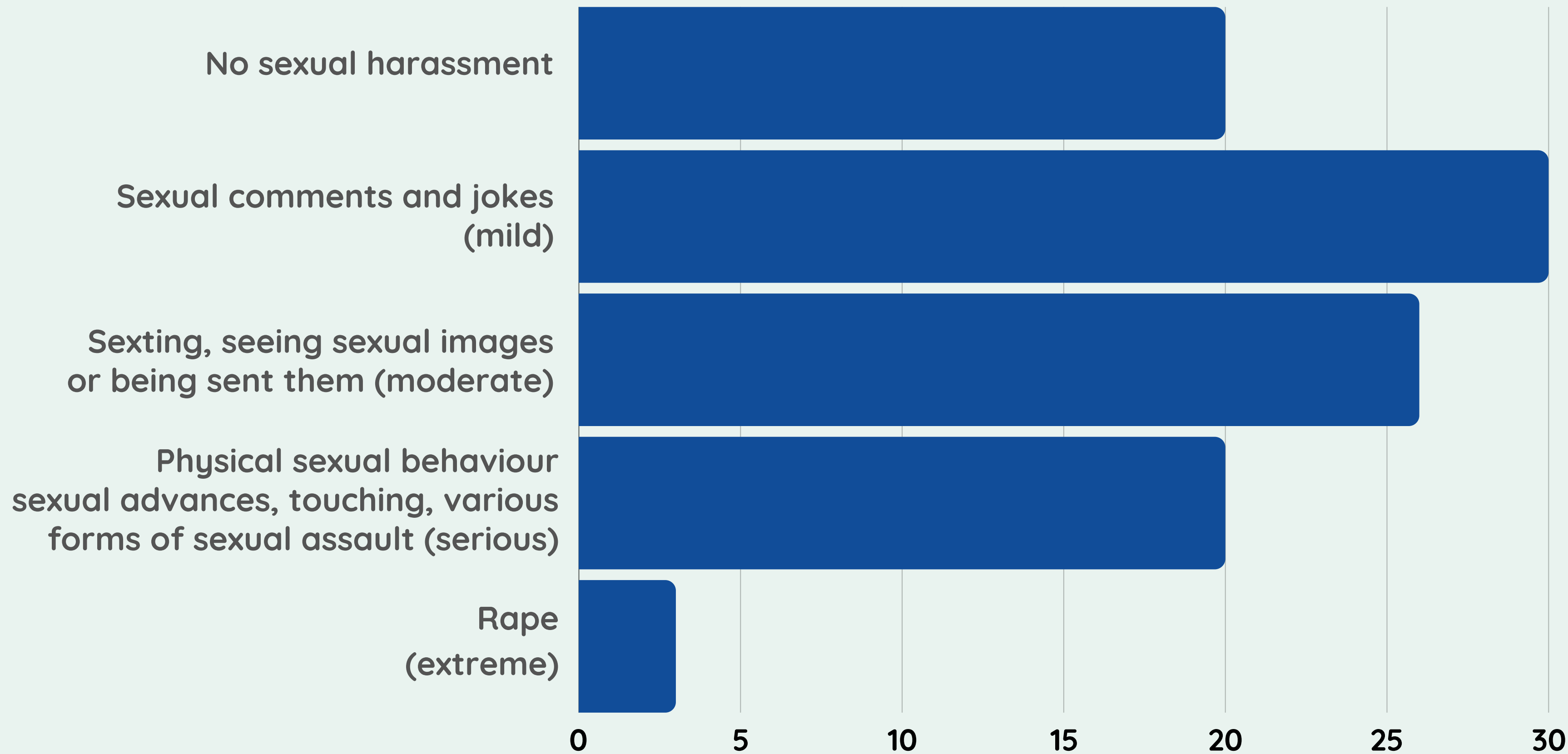


of LGBT+ youth experienced serious sexual harassment compared with 20% of other teenagers.

47%



**of teenagers did not know how to report
sexual harassment within their school**



Key risk factors for being subjected to sexual harassment are:



Gender

Girls experience higher levels of sexual harassment than boys

Sexuality

LGBT+ teenagers experience higher levels of sexual harassment than straight & cisgender teenagers

Age

Teens aged 16-17 experienced much higher levels of sexual harassment than teens ages 13-15

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PAVEE POINT
TRAVELLER AND ROMA CENTRE