



# Women in Motion

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Poster Presentation on Sexual Harassment Experienced by Women on Public Transportation

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# A Little Bit of Background



Advocacy  
Movements  
Began

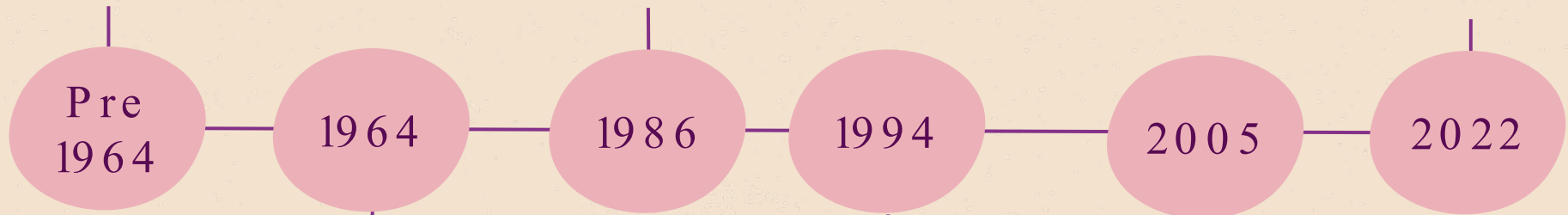
Supreme Court  
Addresses Harassment

Speak Out  
Act signed

(National Women's History Alliance, 2019)

Establishment of guidelines in  
the workplace  
(Wenzel Fenton Cabassa, 2018)

(U.S. Congress, 2022)



Pre  
1964

1964

1986

1994

2005

2022

Title VII of the  
Civil Rights Act

Foundation of preventing sexual  
harassment  
(U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity  
Commission, 1964)

The Violence  
Against  
Women Act  
Passed

(U.S. Department of Justice, 2014)

Ruled illegal to punish  
someone for reporting  
sexual harassment  
(National Women's History  
Alliance, 2019)



# What Are These Acts?

## Title VII of the Civil Rights Act

“Legislation that prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin”

Sexual harassment is a violation of the Title VII Act

(U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1964)

## Violence Against Women Act

1994 “It allowed for enhanced sentencing of repeat federal sex offenders; mandated restitution to victims of specified federal sex offenses; and authorized grants to state, local, and tribal law enforcement entities.”

(U.S. Department of Justice, 2014)

## Speak Out Act

A federal law aimed at “limiting the enforceability of non-disclosure and non-disparagement agreements related to sexual assault and harassment, empowering survivors to speak out about their experiences.”

(U.S. Congress, 2022)

# The Problem At Hand

## Sexual Harassment Can Shape Any Commute

Women all over the world experience sexual harassment during their commutes. This is regardless of the way they dress, the facial expressions they wear, or the routes they take.

## My Thesis Statement

Increasing awareness, education, access to resources, and interventions can improve safety and reporting of sexual harassment on public transportation, decreasing sexual harassment behavior.

# My Poster

It is important to note that this project is a proposed intervention and has not yet been implemented in a real-world setting. Instead, it is based on research and best practices in awareness and resource accessibility.



City Commission,  
H.R., 2019

University of  
Colorado Boulder,  
2024

Helping Survivors,  
2026

Street Safe  
Thinking,  
2022

Women Abuse  
Council Of  
Toronto, 2021



# Why I Designed My Poster This Way

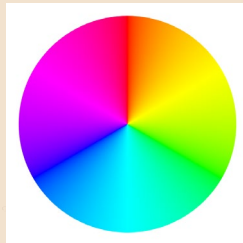
## Inside Thoughts

- I wanted something was going to capture attention.
- I needed something that would inform people.
- I wanted to actively help someone's situation.

## Color Theory

The colors I used in my poster are analogous (close to each other on a color spectrum)

(Tran, H., 2021)




## My Final Outcome

My poster was created not only from my own creativity but from theories that were studied here at CSU. (Tran, H., 2021)

- My poster not only captures one's attention, but it also informs individuals and offers resources



# Explanation of QR Code and Resources



## QR Code + Resource Links



### Why A QR Code?

QR codes are an easy and discreet way to save a resource



### Point of Resource Links

Give individuals who are being sexually harassed a way to report or ask for help



### Benefits

Easier access for individuals who don't know where to start looking for resources



### Limitations

Sometimes the connection is bad  
It's harder to pay attention to the situation at hand



# Why I Chose This Project

**Europe trips** : using the public transit I noticed a lot of posters advocating against sexual harassment

**Personal Experiences** : Myself and others have been sexually harassed on public transportation

**Current Political Situation** : Certain individuals could be seen as promoting sexism and harassment



# Why I Care

My women all over the world experience sexual harassment on public transportation, sometimes daily.

Many women don't feel they can get help during these situations or feel it is not worth the time to report it.

I want women to feel safe, I want the girls growing up in the world to feel safe

# Why Public Transportation?

- Vulnerable space for individuals who identify as women
- This environment can create a situation that is hard to leave to difficult to avoid
- These interactions can be brief, leaving uncertainty or confusion about what to do
- This type of environment can be hard to study

# The Impact of My Thesis



Promote and overall safer  
public transportation system  
for women

## 01 Raise Awareness

- Encourage individuals to recognize and act against harmful behaviors

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## 02 Provide Resources

- Encourage reporting of individuals experiences
- Allow for easy access to phone numbers and websites



# Limitations of My Thesis

## Method

- This project focuses more on awareness than direct measurement of behavior
- Statistics primarily rely on reported incidents, which can be skewed or underestimate actual prevalence

## Target Sample

- This project focuses on individuals who identify as women
- This poster has not been tested in real transportation stations

# Why This Project Matters to the Public



## 1 Public Safety

- Sexual harassment can escalate
- Increasing awareness to prevent behaviors

(Manchester University, 2017) (Newcomb Institute at Tulane University, 2024)



## 2 Empowerment

- Individuals can feel unsure on how to respond

(Newcomb Institute at Tulane University, 2024)

## 3 Community

- Awareness can encourage bystanders to intervene
- Safer public transport

(Apple, 2013) (Ceccato, V., & Nalla, M. K., 2024)



## 4 Resources

- Know where to report
- One can take action
- Easier access

(Paul, L. A., Zinzow, H. M., McCauley, J. L., Kilpatrick, D. G., & Resnick, H. S., 2013)



# Statistics On Sexual Harassment in Colorado

2,643

Non-consensual sex offenses occurred in Colorado during 2024 (74 occurred in FOCO)

(Colorado Department of Public Safety, 2024)

3,431

Confirmed cases of sexual discriminatory harassment occurred in schools between 2024 – 2025

(Colorado Department of Education, 2025)

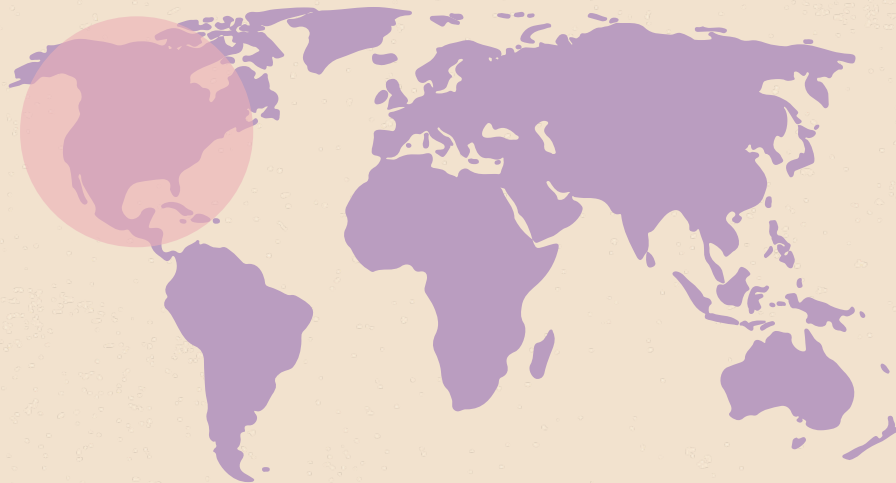
5%

Of Colorado students reported sexually harassing an individual even though it was known to be unwanted

(Colorado, D. of P. H., 2023)



# National Sexual Harassment Statistics



**81% or more**

**Of women experience sexual harassment in their lifetime**

(National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2018)



**73%**

**Of women experience sexual harassment in a public space**

(Newcomb Institute at Tulane University, 2024)



**56%**

**Of girls experienced sexual harassment or abuse before 18**

(Newcomb Institute at Tulane University, 2024)



**19%**

**Of women experience sexual harassment on mass transportation**

(Newcomb Institute at Tulane University, 2024)





# What are other States Doing?

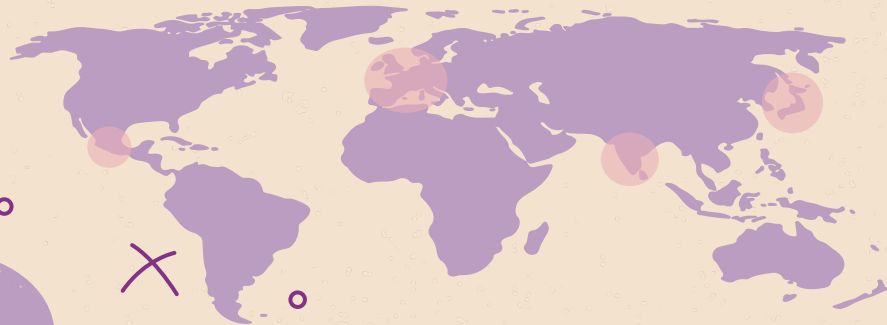
- **Washington D.C. Metro:** In 2012 the first large anti-sexual harassment transit campaign. WMATA's STOP (Sidetrack, Tell, Observe, Postpone) campaign. (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 2012) (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 2019)
- **New York City Transit:** Campaigns aimed to emphasize that harassment is a violation of civil rights; NYPD's Transit Special Victims Squad and online reporting. (New York City Police Department, 2025) (Metropolitan Transportation Authority, 2025)
- **Los Angeles Metro:** Technology-based reporting is available through a texting systems, a new law passed requiring surveys to be sent out to transportation users. (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, 2021) (California Transit Association, 2023) (Transit Talent, 2023)
- **Chicago Transit:** The CTA campaign emphasizes bystander responsibility. The main message is that everyone deserves a right to travel safely. (Chicago Transit Authority, 2015) (Chicago Transit Authority, 2026)





# What are other countries doing?

- **United Kingdom:** British transport police as well as RITSI (Report It To Stop It) campaign (encouraging women to report offences).
  - Personal experience: posters advocating against sexual harassment on train transportation. (UK Parliament, 2025) (Transport for London, 2025)
- **Mexico City:** "We Move Safely" strategy, along with protocol on how to handle sexual harassment. (Changing Transport, 2025)
- **Japan:** Women only train cars (Tokyo Weekender, 2023) (Lupianez, 2021)
- **France:** SNCF Increased police presence, specialized training, posters, and surveillance (Societe National des Chemins de fer Francais Groupe, 2026)
- **India:** Training programs for bus drivers (American Jewish World Service, 2022)



# How This Thesis Will Benefit Me in the Future



Safer transportation experiences



Create more conversation



Awareness



Ability to assess data



Working with Programs



Personal Growth



# What Can I do In the Future



Partner with other organizations



Conduct Surveys



Create educational workshops



Expand the Project



Display my posters and others posters



Develop additional resources

# The Change I Hope To Create

01

Women  
have less  
fear



02

There is an  
increase in  
reporting



03

There is more  
accountability  
held



# What Needs to be Done in the Future

- **More research when it comes to harassment in public transportation spaces**  
(McDonald, S.C., & Crowley, J.E., 2023) (Ceccato, V., & Nalla, M. K., 2024)
- **Improve reporting systems for harassment incidents** (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2025)  
(Ceccato, V., & Nalla, M. K., 2024)
- **Expand public awareness** (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2025) (Paul, L. A., et al., 2013)
- **Create new laws and policies** (Ceccato, V., & Nalla, M.K., 2024) (Nnawulezi, N. A., et al., 2024)
- **Greater accountability for perpetrators of sexual harassment** (O'Leary-Kelly, A. M., et al., 2014)  
(Vidu, A., et al., 2021)
- **Education about respectful behavior in shared public spaces** (Apple, 2013) (Nnawulezi, N. A., et al., 2024)
- **Increased collaboration between authorities and advocacy groups** (D'Amora, D. A., & Burns-Smith, G., 1999) (Vidu, A., et al., 2021)





# What I Hope You Got From This Presentation

Sexual harassment is a  
common experience

Having access to resources is  
very important

Awareness can help reduce  
these behaviors

Everyone plays a role in  
creating a safe public space

Public transportation is an  
environment where sexual  
harassment occurs often

# Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

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