Sexual Harassment is Violation of Human Rights

PHYSICAL

Unnecessary physical contact that is sexual in nature, such as touching, pinching, stroking, leering, and winking.



VERBAL

Commenting on a worker's appearance or attractiveness; making sexual comments; making sexual innuendos; telling sexual jokes; insulting someone based on their sex or sexuality; introducing sexual topics into work discussions; asking for sexual favors in exchange for better treatment.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

Implicit or expressed threats about a worker's future or employment status; implicit or expressed promise of preferential treatment; making a worker work unsociable hours; locking a worker in a room or in the factory.



NONVERBAL / VISUAL

Showing sexually explicit materials; sending anonymous texts or letters; whistling.



FORMS OF WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Quid Pro Quo (literally 'this for that')

- Implied or explicit promise of preferential/detrimental treatment in employment.
- Implied or express threat about her present or future employment status.

Hostile Work Environment

- Creating a hostile, intimidating or an offensive work environment.
- Humiliating treatment likely to affect her health or safety.



DO'S AND DON'TS FOR COMPLAINTS COMMITEE

DO'S

- 1. Create an enabling meeting environment.
- 2. Use body language that communicates complete attention to the parties.
- 3. Treat the complainant with respect.
- 4. Discard pre-determined ideas.
- 5. Determine the harm.

DON'TS

- 1. Get aggressive.
- 2. Insist on a graphic description of the sexual harassment.
- 3. Interrupt.
- 4. Discuss the complaint in the presence of the complainant or the respondent.



STATE RESOURCE CENTRE FOR WOMEN

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