

Preventing Sexual Harassment In Higher Education



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Disability As An Identity

- A note on language use
- Disability is a complex **identity**
- Many different types of disabilities



Photo Description: A young Chinese woman smiles at the camera. She's wearing glasses and a blue sweater, and she's standing outside in front of a tree with yellow leaves.



Dating With a Disability

Women with disabilities often begin to date much later in life, and they struggle in a dating culture that places a premium on physical appearance.

Photo Description: A screenshot of a New York Times article headline that says, "Dating With a Disability," and an image of a woman in a power chair chatting with two men at a bar.

Barriers to Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Ed

- **Misconceptions** about disability
 - Disability is inherently negative
 - People with disabilities don't experience sexual harassment
- Lack of **accessible** safe spaces
- Not believing or **listening** to victims
 - Microaggressions: belittling, talking for/over them, treating them like children
- **Solutions** are not in the best interest of victims

What Can We Do Better?

- Disability **representation** and inclusion in faculty, class materials, readings, sexual harassment trainings, etc.
- Make mental health, counseling, LGBTQ wellness centers and reporting procedures **fully accessible**, NOT just Disability Services
 - Accessibility isn't a "special need" – it's a basic human right
- Understanding how **intersectionality** comes into play

A group of people are seated at a table in a restaurant, looking out at a city skyline. The skyline includes St. Paul's Cathedral and the Gherkin building. The scene is dimly lit, with the city lights visible through the window.

Thank you!