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Cyber-Sexual Harassment: The Development of the Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire

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Abstract

Research on sexual harassment has shown that although half of all women experience unwanted sex-related behaviors in work and school, only 4% to 20% label those experiences as sexual harassment (Magley, Hulin, Fitzgerald, & DeNardo, 1999; Stockdale, Vaux, & Cashin, 1995). Moreover, while research and literature on face-to-face sexual harassment continues to grow, little research has examined sexual harassment in an Internet context. Because of this, much of what is known about Internet-based sexual harassment comes from research conducted on face-to-face sexual harassment. The current study establishes a foundation of understanding and develops a measure of experiences of sexual harassment on the Internet (i.e., cyber-sexual harassment). Cyber-sexual harassers use the Internet as a way to connect with acquaintances from off-line social interactions (i.e., work and school), or complete strangers, to perpetrate their victims through gender harassment, the exhibition of unwanted sexual attention, and/or the use of sexual coercion. In a British survey, 41% of female regular Internet users reported being sent unsolicited pornographic materials, harassed, or stalked on the Internet (Griffiths, 2000). Such a large number of women encountering offensive sex-related experiences on the Internet prompts further understanding of these experiences and others like them. The purpose of the current study is to add to the developing body of literature on cyber-sexual harassment by creating a measure of cyber-sexual harassment. Twenty-four female undergraduate students participated in focus groups of two to six people. Guided by predetermined questions, these groups discussed their positive and negative experiences on the Internet. Information gathered was used to create the Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire, modeled after the Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (Fitzgerald, Gelfand, & Drasgow, 1995). The 21-item measure consists of questions related to the participant's cyber-sexual harassment experiences and whether the participant labels her experiences as cyber-sexual harassment. Responses for the frequency of each item range between one (never) to five (most of the time).

Cyber-Sexual Harassment

While face-to-face sexual harassment research and literature continues to expand, little research has examined sexual harassment in an Internet context. Because of this, much of what is known about Internet-based sexual harassment comes from research conducted on face-to-face sexual harassment, as well as other related Internet behavior. The current study establishes a foundation of understanding and develops a measure of experiences of sexual harassment on the Internet (i.e., cyber-sexual harassment).

The Pew Internet and American Life Project found that e-mail was the most popular form of communication in the year 2004, when over 90% of people using the Internet reported e-mail use (2005). With so many people using the Internet on a regular basis, acts of deviance are likely to occur at increasing rates. One such deviant act is cyber-sexual harassment. In a British survey, 41% of females who regularly use the Internet reported receiving offensive e-mails, harassed, or stalked on the Internet (Griffiths, 2000). In another study, Whitty (2004) found that 17% of women reported being harassed through e-mail in the workplace, while 49% reported having received offensive e-mails. Although this research suggests widespread use of the Internet and experiences linked to what may potentially be identified as cyber-sexual harassment, little known research has empirically investigated the phenomenon.
explored the occurrence of cyber-sexual harassment. However, drawing from face-to-face sexual harassment literature, findings may provide a foundational link to cyber-sexual harassment.

**Face-to-Face Sexual Harassment**

Cases of sexual harassment have appeared in work (e.g., Petrocelli & Repa, 1998), school (e.g., McMaster, Connolly, Pepler, & Craig, 2002; Timmerman, 2003), and military settings (e.g., Fitzgerald, Drasgow, & Magley, 1999). Sexual harassment has also been shown to have direct effects on women’s emotional health (e.g., loss of self-esteem, feelings of helplessness, isolation, and depression; van Roosmalen & McDaniel, 1998), as well as severe effects related to work and school (e.g., reduced performance and satisfaction, decreased motivation and morale, and lower productivity; Dansky & Kilpatrick, 1997).

Through 116 descriptive sexual harassment anecdotes from postsecondary students, Till (1980) identified 5 sexual harassment behaviors: sexist remarks or behavior; inappropriate and offensive, but sanction-free sexual advances; solicitation of sexual activity by promise of rewards; coercion of sexual activity by threat of punishment; and sexual crimes and misdemeanors. The five behaviors of sexual harassment were later reclassified by Fitzgerald et al. (1995) into three categories still used in sexual harassment research today: gender harassment, unwanted sexual attention, and sexual coercion. Gender harassment includes verbal and nonverbal behaviors in the expression of attitudes related to women that are insulting, hostile, and degrading. Unwanted sexual attention also includes verbal and nonverbal behavior, but is offensive, unwanted, and unreciprocated. Lastly, sexual coercion is the extortion of sexual cooperation in exchange for something the person pursued is trying to gain or avoid. Given the widespread occurrence of face-to-face sexual harassment and its effects on women, the same negative effects may appear online. Furthermore, through further exploration of cyber-sexual harassment, similar and different sexual harassment behaviors may be found in cyber-sexual harassment in relation to face-to-face sexual harassment.

**Cyber-Sexual Harassment**

Through a review of sexual harassment literature, Barak (2005) acknowledged the parallel similarities between off-line and online sexual harassment in the existence of gender harassment, the exhibition of unwanted sexual attention, and sexual coercion in both contexts. Using the limited literature on online sexual harassment, Barak (2005) also organized and defined the most common form of sexual harassment, online gender harassment, into four specific categories: active verbal sexual harassment, passive verbal sexual harassment, passive graphic gender harassment, and passive graphic gender harassment. Active verbal sexual harassment appears as offensive sexual messages directly toward the victim. Such messages might include gender-humiliating comments, sexual remarks, and dirty jokes (e.g., “Go back to your natural place, the kitchen”; “Nipples make this chat room more interesting”). Passive verbal sexual harassment does not target a specific person, but potential receivers. Nicknames and terms or phrases clearly attached to personal details often encompass this form of sexual harassment (e.g., Sweet Tits for a nickname; “Want to blow my pole?” as an offensive phrase). Active graphic gender harassment occurs when erotic and pornographic pictures or videos are intentionally sent through e-mail, peer-to-peer messenger programs (e.g., AOL Instant Messenger and Yahoo Messenger), or posted somewhere online. Similar to active graphic gender harassment, passive graphic gender harassment involves pictures and videos, but they are published on Web sites. Although the four forms of gender harassment have been identified from previous research, support has yet to emerge in the form of empirical research. Thus, further exploration into cyber-sexual harassment is needed.

Related to cyber-sexual harassment, Biber, Doverspike, Baznik, Cober, and Ritter (2002) conducted a study to examine the difference between online and face-to-face behaviors being rated as sexually harassing. Participants were presented with a series of scenarios and asked to rate a certain behavior experienced either online or in-person as sexually harassing. Findings indicated that behaviors such as misogyny (e.g., “In chat room for his class, Professor M very often puts down women as a group in his comments, and argues that they are inferior to men.”), the use of sexist nicknames (e.g., “In their discussions online, Professor N mostly addresses Jane as ‘sweetheart,’ and ‘honey.’”), and comments about dress (e.g., “Professor V has sent Jane e-mails making sexually oriented comments about the way Jane dresses.”) were rated more sexually harassing when the scenario took place online. Yet, requests for company (e.g., “Jane’s professor, Professor T, often sends Jane flirtatious e-mails. Also, he sends many e-mails pressuring Jane for dates and sexual favors.”) were rated less harassing on the Internet. Misogynistic behavior and sexist nicknames may be rated more harassing on the Internet because the words are written out rather than verbally expressed, making them more salient to the victim. Comments about dress may also seem more harassing on the Internet because of the inappropriate use of the lack of face-to-face contact. Also, requests for company may be less harassing on the Internet because it is easier to avoid the person, making the situation less immediate to deal with. Also, more women than men rated online pictures (e.g., “Jane does not like going to Professor Y’s official website which contains PowerPoint slides of his lectures, because some of the slides contain pictures that can be considered pornographic in nature. He argues that this is to help maintain student interest.”), jokes (e.g., “In their discussion online, Jane’s professor, Professor C, always makes sexually stereotyped jokes, remarks, and references.”), and requests for company as harassing.

**Cyber-stalking**. Another area of research that has provided insight into cyber-sexual harassment is cyber-stalking. Bocji (2004) defined cyber-stalking as a group of behaviors in which the use of information and communication technology is intended to cause emotional distress to another person. Behaviors associated with cyber-stalking
include making threats, false accusations (false-victimization), abusing the victim, attacks on data and equipment, attempts to gather information about the victim, impersonating the victim, encouraging others to harass the victim, ordering goods and services on behalf of the victim, arranging to meet the victim, and physical assault. Many of the same behaviors found in cyber-stalking have been linked to cyber-sexual harassment. Furthermore, behaviors seen with cyber-stalking would be considered sexual coercion on the Internet (e.g., explicit threats to harm the Internet user or the user’s friends or family, threats to harm the user’s property, or even following the user’s Internet activity; Barak, 2005).

Theoretical explanations for cyber-sexual harassment. Power has been shown to be a major factor in face-to-face sexual harassment (Bargh & Raymond, 1995; Stockdale et al., 1995). Examining the relationship between power and sexual attraction, Bargh and Raymond (1995) found that men will unconsciously misuse power in sexually harassing women. This may also be the case in cyber-sexual harassment. Being sexually attracted to another Internet user may bring the harasser to use his power to sexually harass the other Internet user. Similarly, cyberfeminists argue that it is the threat to Internet resources that brings male Internet users to sexually harass female Internet users (e.g., Brail, 1996). As women become more active on the Internet, men become threatened by women’s growing participation in a space that has until recently been primarily dominated by men, ultimately leading to men cyber-sexually harassing women.

Furthermore, beyond the element of power, the online disinhibition effect provides additional explanation for the occurrence of cyber-sexual harassment and other deviant online behavior (e.g., cyber-stalking; Suler, 2004). Online disinhibition can appear in two different ways for Internet users: benign disinhibition or toxic disinhibition. Benign disinhibition includes sharing personal things about one’s self (e.g., emotions, fears, wishes, acts of kindness and generosity). Toxic disinhibition is more of a compulsion and acting out with no personal growth (e.g., rude language, anger, hatred, threats, looking at pornography, committing a crime, and acts of violence)—all of which a person is less likely to feel or do outside of the Internet. Suler (2004) identified a number of factors associated with online disinhibition. Dissociative anonymity, for example, allows Internet users to separate their in-person lifestyle and identity from the identity they create on the Internet. Thus, through dissociative anonymity the person may feel less vulnerable about self-disclosing and acting out. Invisibility enables people to visit sites and do things on the Internet that they would not do otherwise. Even though a person’s true identity may be known among other Internet users, being physically invisible still amplifies online disinhibition. Lastly, minimization of authority occurs as online interactions feel more like peer relationships, allowing people to feel more willing to speak out and misbehave. Through these three factors, the online disinhibition effect enables Internet users, such as cyber-sexual harassers, to act out in such negative ways as to psychologically harm other Internet users. The online disinhibition effect disables the use of any masks that may exist for the Internet user in the presence of social norms and behavioral standards. Thus, when online, the person will behave more consistently with his or her true self. In the case of a person with the desire and intent to sexual harass, but refrains in doing so in person because of laws and other social expectations, through the online disinhibition effect, the person would be more inclined to sexually harass on the Internet.

Method

Twenty-four female undergraduate students (age \( M = 20 \)) from a medium-sized Midwestern university participated. Participants were recruited through the Housing and Residence Life summer student staff and psychology courses being taught in the summer semester. Only females were asked to participate, given the focus of the study was on Internet experiences similar to sexual harassment, and previous research has shown that women are more likely than men to identify sexual harassment experiences (Stockdale et al., 1995). Nine focus group sessions, each with two to six people, were conducted. Each session ran approximately one hour. Guided by predetermined questions, these groups discussed their positive and negative experiences on the Internet. The complete list of questions can be found in Appendix A. Along with the list of questions, follow-up questions were asked in the case of a participant leaving out descriptive details about a particular experience such as when and where the experience occurred, who it was implemented by, and how often similar experiences have occurred. The researcher took handwritten notes of the sessions. Participants were given $10 as compensation.

Results

Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire

Information gathered from the focus groups regarding specific experiences was used to create the Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (CSEQ; see Appendix B), modeled after the Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ) developed by Fitzgerald et al. (1988, 1995). For many years, the SEQ has been used by sexual harassment researchers as a means of measuring the prevalence of sexual harassment and whether or not someone labels his or her experience as sexual harassment (for review see Gutek, Murphy, & Douma, 2004). This self-report inventory allows respondents to indicate how often a given experience has occurred on a 5-point scale, ranging from 1 (never) to 5 (most of the time). In the development of the CSEQ, each item
used similar phrasing to the SEQ. Twenty-one items were created consisting of questions related to the participant’s cyber-sexual harassment experiences. An item was created for every type of experience mentioned by more than one person in the focus groups (i.e., AIM/Yahoo, Facebook/MySpace, pictures of genitalia, offers to have cyber-sex), and other experiences mentioned in Barak’s (2005) initial findings of cyber-sexual harassment. Responses for the frequency of each item range between 1 (never) to 5 (most of the time). The last item (“In your experience on the Internet during the past 6 months, has anyone sexually harassed you?”) is the only item to ask specifically about sexual harassment. All of the other questions focus on the experience being unwanted or the person feeling awkward or uncomfortable.

**Common Themes**

Keeping in mind the possibility of social desirability having some influence over responses, only the number and percentages of total participants were used to describe common themes seen throughout the focus groups. Every participant reported experiencing psychological discomfort (i.e., feeling uncomfortable, awkward with the experience, or unsafe) in talking with the harasser. One participant said she had been continuously pursued on MySpace by a few men sending her messages, telling her that she was “hot,” and wanting to meet with her. She said that after a period of ignoring the messages, she eventually deleted her MySpace account to avoid any more messages. When asked if she would label her MySpace experience as sexual harassment on the internet, she said, “I would probably consider it sexual harassment, people making comments about your body. Although a more minor form of sexual harassment, not really extreme where I felt my life was in danger...”

Of the 24 participants, 15 (62.5%) indicated using some form of peer-to-peer communication program, such as AOL Instant Messenger (AIM), Yahoo Messenger, or Skype. Of this group, all 15 described experiences of making the participant feel uncomfortable, awkward, or unsafe. Unwanted sexual attention emerged in the reported experiences (just as Barak, 2005, had described). Also, similar to face-to-face sexual harassment experiences related to unwanted sexual attention, common themes in messages received included offers to have cyber-sex, to see genitals, and to watch the harasser masturbate on webcam. Other themes included comments on appearance, attempts to get the participant to talk about her sex life, and inquiries to meet in person. While online, one participant received an instant message from an unknown person stating, “Hello, I’m masturbating on my webcam.” In one instance a participant described, she was chatting to a male friend on Yahoo messenger when he changed his message box icon to a picture of his penis. “We weren’t even talking about anything sexual.” She went on, “He suggested that we have internet sex/cybersex.” A different participant mentioned one experience with a coworker. She said that one day they were talking through AIM when he commented on her appearance. “You look good right now,” he said. She thanked him for the compliment, but he began to ask her about her sex life. He went on to say, “You should try me out.” After repeatedly telling him to stop, she reported him to her supervisors and he was fired.

Twenty (83%) of the focus group participants reported the use of social networking Web sites such as Facebook and MySpace. Of these participants, 12 (60%) reported some negative experience that made the participant feel uncomfortable, awkward, or unsafe. Of the experiences described, comments related to attractiveness or specific body parts directed sent to participants and comments attached to posted pictures were the most common. A participant said that unknown men oftentimes send her messages on MySpace stating, “Oh you look hot, I wanna get with you.” Another participant said that a male friend for labeling an experience as sexual harassment through social networking Web sites such as Facebook or Myspace, peer-to-peer interaction programs such as AOL Instant Messenger and Yahoo Instant Messenger, and/or e-mail. The act being intentional and repetitive, causing discomfort, and personally targeting the Internet user were most common reasons for labeling an experience as sexual harassment. For example, when asked if spam (i.e., misleading links to pornographic Web sites) through AIM could be considered a form of sexual harassment, one participant stated, “Probably not, I feel that sexual harassment has to have a more personal tone to it, but it’s a site not known to me.” When later asked if
comments in public sites directed toward them would be considered sexual harassment, the same person responded, “If someone posts a comment on your [Facebook] wall seeking you out, targeting you with the comment, then yes.” In a different focus group, the group was asked if they would label their experience as sexual harassment if they received an instant message from a male they knew that made them feel uncomfortable. One participant stated:

It’s about quantity, if it happens once and you say no, then they stop, then no. But if every week, then maybe. But on the Internet, people can only get so far. I only worry or take action when it gets physical.

A few participants who did not label their experiences compared their definition of online sexual harassment to what they would see in face-to-face sexual harassment. One woman said:

It’s easier to identify sexual harassment with face-to-face, but not person-to-computer-to-person. There are just so many things you can do online to protect yourself, but not when they are in your face. When I think of sexual harassment, I think of physical, any unwanted sexual contact.

Others mentioned how they could just click out of message boxes, spam advertisements, and other programs or messages that made them feel uncomfortable: “Even if it does [make me feel uncomfortable], I just click out of it.” In having that capability, they said they would not label their experiences as sexual harassment.

Avoidance as Coping Strategy

One theme that emerged in the focus groups that was not expected was the avoidance of certain Web sites or activities. Many described the people participating at these Web sites or in these activities as “creepy” and “freaks.” Such places included MySpace, AIM/ Yahoo, and chat rooms. One participant mentioned, “I used to have MySpace, don’t really use it anymore. Perverts and random guys would always try to add me as a friend, sending me messages, ‘Hey, you’re hot,’ or send me links.” Many mentioned the avoidance of chat rooms today, while acknowledging previous use. One participant mentioned that when she was a sixth grader, she used to go into chat rooms, where men would ask for personal information such as age, gender, and where she lived. Another participant said, “While in a chat room once, a person [instant messaged] me and asked if I wanted to have cybersex. I told him that it was disgusting and rude for him to say that and closed the box.” Just as avoidance of a behavior has been shown to be a coping strategy in face-to-face sexual harassment (Magley, 2002), the same reaction to online sexual harassment appears to be taking place.

Discussion

The primary purpose of this study was to establish a better understanding of cyber-sexual harassment through the development of a measure that explores the various online experiences related to cyber-sexual harassment. Although this is not the first attempt to identify the existence of cyber-sexual harassment (see Barak, 2005), the use of the CSEQ, once validated, will provide sexual harassment researchers the ability to further examine the type of experiences and even the self-labeling of cyber-sexual harassment. Through parallels in experiences between cyber-sexual harassment and face-to-face sexual harassment, the definition of the latter is used to establish a foundational definition of the former. Currently many universities, other organizations, and courts adopt the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s definition of sexual harassment:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when this conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual’s employment, unreasonably interferes with an individual’s work performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment (EEOC, 2004).

While this definition may be applied to online situations in defining sexual harassment, giving cyber-sexual harassment a more specific definition will allow for better protection of Internet users. The initial definition created for this study is as follows: any gender-/sex-related comment received or image viewed that causes the individual to experience psychological discomfort (i.e., feelings of awkwardness, discomfort, and lack of safety). As more literature on cyber-sexual harassment emerges, the definition should develop into a clear and concise definition with the potential to be used in applied settings by governments, workplaces, organizations, and the home.

Although the purpose of this study was to gather information on the type of situations that potentially could be experienced as sexual harassment on the Internet, hypotheses of the existence of and various experiences encompassing cyber-sexual harassment posed from previous research (e.g., Barak, 2005) were supported as well. We now know that cyber-sexual harassment does in fact occur, particularly in peer-to-peer message programs (e.g., AIM and Yahoo Messenger) and social networking Web sites (e.g., Facebook and Myspace). Other places of cyber-sexual harassment include e-mail and Web sites where video and pictures are posted. Through these findings not only was cyber-sexual harassment shown to exist, but various types of experiences (e.g., chatrooms, instant messenger, e-mail) considered as cyber-sexual harassment were identified as well.

The development of the questionnaire should contribute to further research on cyber-sexual harassment, as well as elicit further exploration of the relationship between women and the Internet. As mentioned earlier, future research should be conducted to validate the CSEQ. It is also important to make attempts to expand on the questionnaire, revising the items as seen fit based on the participant pool and further investigation of cyber-sexual harassment experiences. Ultimately, the Internet creates a lack of accountability, unclear legal boundaries, invisible authorities, and insignificant sanctions, therein enabling harassers to act as they like without any restraints.
Furthermore, in furthering research on cyber-sexual harassment, the CSEQ may potentially play a significant role in pushing legislators to adapt a legal definition of cyber-sexual harassment and laws against it for protecting Internet users.

The limitations of this study are the amount of time and the number of participants. Due to the limited time to conduct the study over the summer, the Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire was not validated. At the time of publication, plans are being made to validate the measure. Also, due to the study being conducted over the summer, only 24 participants took part. Furthermore, because of the relatively small group of only college students, precaution must be taken in making generalizations of the study’s findings.

As for directions for future research, further exploration of Facebook stalking may be of interest. From the focus groups, it appears as though the Facebook stalker is very similar but more specifically target-focused in comparison to the cyber-stalking description given by Bocić (2004). It may be of interest to further explore what exactly a Facebook stalker entails and how it compares to other forms of cyber-stalking. Another area of interest for future research may be cyber-sexual harassment coping strategies. As in the focus groups, when participation on a Web site or program leads to a negative social interaction where a woman feels uncomfortable, she may go as far as to no longer take part in the online activity to avoid the experience again. Further examining why this type of coping strategy is taking place may give deeper insight into implications for future Internet use by the cyber-sexual harassment victim.
Appendix A: Interview Questions

1. What do you like to do for fun during the school year?
2. Please describe your social experiences online?
   - What do you usually do on the Internet?
   - Do you talk with people? If so, where?
3. What sorts of positive experiences have you had while communicating with others on the Internet? Through things such as instant message, e-mail, and message boards.
4. What sorts of negative experiences have you had while communicating with others on the Internet? (instant message, e-mail, message boards)
5. Have you, or someone you know, ever felt uncomfortable or awkward from a comment made by someone directly toward you on the Internet? If so, please explain.
6. What about comments on a chat room, message board, or other site where many people have access to the comment? If so, please explain.
7. Have you or anyone you know ever been sent an offensive picture/image or video? If so, please explain.
8. What about pictures/images or video on an actual Web site you’ve visited? If so, please explain.
9. On the Internet, has anyone ever made comments about your body or sexual comments that made you feel uncomfortable or awkward? If so, what happened?
10. Are there any other experiences you’ve encountered on the Internet that made you feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or awkward?

Appendix B: Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire

YOUR INTERNET EXPERIENCES

The following questions ask about your experiences on the Internet. Some of the questions may seem very personal. We ask them because people are not always treated with respect on the Internet. Such behavior can take many different forms. To understand what is happening on the Internet, we have asked some very frank questions. It is important for you to take your time and to answer as honestly as possible. Remember that you can skip any questions that you do not want to answer and that YOUR ANSWERS ARE COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL.

In your experiences on the Internet
DURING THE PAST 6 MONTHS,
has anyone...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once or Twice</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Most of the time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. …told you offensive dirty stories or jokes?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. …tried to get you to talk about personal or sexual things?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. …said crude or gross sexual things to you?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. …said offensive things about how you look, your body, or your sex life?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. …tried to have a romantic or sexual relationship even though you tried to let him know you didn’t want to?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. …said things to put women down (for example, saying that women don’t belong on the Internet)?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. …kept asking you to meet or go on a date even after you said “no”?</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. ...made dirty remarks about women in general (for example saying that all women are whores)?

9. ...called you a lesbian or a “dyke”?

10. ...sent you an offensive “dirty” video or picture/image?

11. ...left a sexual comment or posted a picture of you?

12. ...tried to get you to watch him masturbate on a webcam?

13. ...tried to get you to have cyber-sex over instant messenger?

14. ...sent you spam that advertised for penis or breast enlargement or pornographic Web sites?

15. ...sent pop-ups with links to pornographic Web sites?

16. ...left an offensive “dirty” comment on a Facebook, MySpace, or similar Web site’s wall?

17. ...sent messages that refer to or ask about your body, sex life, or intimate subjects (for example asking if you are on your period right now)?

18. ...threaten to break into your computer and cause damage if you did not conduct the sexual act requested (for example describing giving the person oral sex)?

19. ...sent frightening e-mails, viruses, flooded e-mail inbox to get you to perform sexual acts (for example cyber-sex)?

20. ...bribed you conduct sexual acts (for example offering to send you money if you send him/her sexual pictures)?

21. ...sexually harassed you?
References


