

At the end of every year, I like to look back, document and reflect on everything that has transpired in the global movement to end street harassment and assault. Yesterday I [wrote about 10 of Stop Street Harassment's achievements](#). Today, I'm posting a five-part series about the highlights of ALL activism that happened this year. WHAT A YEAR!

**[Post 1](#)**: New anti-street harassment campaigns, new initiatives within existing campaigns, and protests.

**[Post 2](#)**: Creative anti-street harassment initiatives.

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### **Part 1: New Campaigns and Protests:**

- **Global:** In March, Stop Street Harassment organized more than 100 groups in more than 20 countries (on five continents) and tens of thousands of people to collectively speak out against street harassment during [Meet Us on the Street: International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). [This is what happened](#), including rallies, marches, sidewalk chalk messaging, workshops, film screenings, viral videos, safety audits, report releases, street theater, passing out fliers, art exhibits, and more.
- **Global:** [Hollaback!](#) has chapters in 60 cities worldwide and this year they launched an “I’ve Got Your Back” Bystander Campaign in partnership with Green Dot to show bystanders who to intervene, educates them about their options, and allows them to document their success online. Green dots on the Hollaback! maps show intervention stories. (Read their [State of the Streets 2012 report](#) for more information.)
- **Australia:** [People Against Street Harassment](#) launched in December. Their mission is “confronting street harassment in Sydney via stickering, leafleting, social media and other such sweet guerilla action.”
- **Australia:** [Cat Calls: Called Out](#) is another new Sydney-based anti-street harassment campaign that works to bring attention to the issue and spread ideas for stopping it.
- **Belgium:** In the fall, [ELLE launched a Touche Pas à Ma Pote! \(Don’t Touch my Girl friend\) campaign](#) with the [support](#) of local government agencies in Brussels and it includes signs [plastered on trams](#) for the next six months.

- **Canada:** [Women in Cities International](#) is part-way through a [multi-year project](#) to conduct a Blueprint project on the theme of "preventing violence against women and girls and improving their security in Canadian cities." This year, they worked with adolescent girls in the greater Montréal area and held workshops, focus group discussions and training sessions with them. Participants also conducted women's safety audit walks and they had the opportunity to creatively illustrate their findings and recommendations.
- **Egypt:** [HarassMap](#) collects street harassment stories on its [online map](#). [During 2012](#), they organized more than 500 HarassMap volunteers who went outside once per month to talk to shop owners, police, doormen and others with a presence in the street about street harassment and to let them know they need to not harass and to stand up if they see harassment happening.
- **Egypt:** On June 13, activists in Egypt [led a day of online action](#) to speak out against street harassment and sexual violence using the hashtag [#EndSH](#).
- **Egypt:** After several [mass sexual assaults](#) of [women](#) at Tahrir Square and after a woman [was murdered](#) by a street harasser, there were numerous [protests](#) in the summer and fall (and [one protest ended](#) because men swarmed, attacking the protesters).
- **Egypt:** There were many campaigns against street harassment in Egypt ahead of the Eid holidays. In August, volunteers organized by the [Imprint Movement](#) [patrolled the streets](#) and subway stations, watching out for harassers and helped police arrest several. In October there was a "[Catch a Harasser](#)" initiative, men [spray painting](#) harassers, and special [harassment reporting](#) hotlines.
- **Egypt:** Because there are so many instances of sexual harassment and sexual assault during political protests in Tahrir Square, during political protests in November and December, people volunteered their time to serve as patrollers, [working to make](#) the area safe for women. One of the groups is called [Tahrir Bodyguard](#).
- **India:** College students in Mumbai organized a [Chal Hatt Tharki campaign](#) asking women to raise their voices against sexual harassment and street harassment.
- **India:** In April, thousands of women in Kannur, a district in Kerala, [gathered in the city center](#) to ask for the right to travel safely at night.
- **India:** In October in Chandigarh, college students and staff of Government College Sec 42 [took to streets](#) to protest street harassment and sexual violence.
- **India:** The organization [Breakthrough](#) launched a [bystander campaign](#) for the holiday Diwali in November, because everyone deserves a safe Diwali.

- **India:** In July, [Blank Noise](#) curated a series of stories about people's first recollection of experiencing street harassment called [Recall](#). In December, they launched the [#SafeCityPledge campaign](#).
- **India:** After a 23-year-old college woman was [brutally gang rape](#) and nearly [murdered](#) by six men on a bus (and her male friend was also beaten up by them) in mid-December, [tens of thousands of people](#) in Delhi have protested and marched [daily](#), calling for an end to street harassment, rape, and all forms of sexual violence. For a time, they clashed with police who forbade people from gathering in groups larger than five people.
- **Jordan:** In July, youth in Jordan [formed a human chain](#) from Al Hussein Sports City to the Interior Ministry Circle to protest various gender-based crimes, including street harassment, the practice of forcing rape survivors to marry their rapist, and honor killings.
- **Lebanon:** [Hundreds of people rallied](#) in Beirut, Lebanon, in January to protest rape and sexual harassment and the weak laws against such crimes. The rally was organized by [Nasawiya](#), a feminist collective that also runs [The Adventures of Salwa](#) campaign against street and sexual harassment.
- **Myanmar:** In February, a new anti-harassment campaign launched called "whistle for help." As part of the campaign 150 volunteers [distributed](#) whistles and pamphlets to women at eight busy bus stops in Yangon each Tuesday morning that month and they've continued to do so for nine months. The pamphlets tell women to blow the whistle when they experience sexual harassment on the bus and advises them to help other women when they blow the whistle.
- **Malawi:** Women's groups [organized a protest](#) in January, demanding the right to wear pants and mini-skirts and to demanding an end to sexual violence. Their actions were prompted by a series of attacks from gangs of men who targeted women wearing pants and short skirts.
- **Nepal:** In April, [500 youth participated](#) in a [Walk for Respect](#) against street harassment/sexual harassment in Kathmandu.
- **Nepal:** After a 2011 [ActionAid Report](#) showed that street harassment is a big problem in Nepal, numerous groups came together to launch the [Safe City Nepal campaign](#). It includes a [public transportation component](#). Already, [they have](#) conducted a safety audit (evidence collection), held forums, and are now working on policy advocacy initiatives.
- **Peru:** In February, university faculty and students launched the anti-street harassment initiative [el Observatorio Virtual contra el Acoso Sexual Callejero](#). They have [20](#)

[volunteers who](#) conduct interview and research on the topic, share information on their website and social media, meet with government officials, engage in awareness campaigns, and speak out against groups/people who dismiss street harassment (e.g. in September a radio show talked about street harassment as compliments and they protested it, issued a statement, etc).

- **Russia:** This year the feminist group [RosNahal](#) tackled street harassment. They made a [video](#) about it (it has over two million views) and engaged in lobbying and [activism](#) that has led the [Russian government to take notice](#).
- **Sri Lanka:** [Sri Lanka Unites](#) organized the “S.H.O.W You Care” project. After receiving training, [hundreds of young men boarded](#) more than 1000 buses across a week and, according to a previously formulated strategic plan, apologized to women in the buses for any harassment they encountered in the past and provided them with information on legal recourse available to them. They also told men to take responsibility and not harass.
- **South Africa:** After [two teenagers wearing miniskirts](#) were harassed and groped by a group of 50-60 men at a taxi rank, around [3,000 South Africans marched](#) through Johannesburg in [protest](#). The ruling African National Congress Women’s League organized the march to emphasize “that women had the right wear whatever they wanted without fear of victimization.”
- **South Africa:** A [new campaign](#) against street harassment in Cape Town launched this year.
- **UK:** Laura Bates launched the [Everyday Sexism Project](#) in the spring, in part because of her own street harassment experiences and other ways she faces daily sexism. [In September she wrote](#), “The project is an ever-increasing collection of thousands of stories of sexism experienced by women around the world. In just over 5 months, the project has received nearly 6500 entries, with the last 5000 flooding in in just the last month as the momentum has gathered and word has spread.”
- **USA:** [Halloween in Isla Vista](#), the college town where University of California Santa Barbara is located, is a [huge party every year](#). Unfortunately, some people use this as an excuse to street harass and assault people. In October, two student groups teamed up to [organize a campaign against street harassment](#).
- **USA:** Members of Penn State’s TRIOTA, the Women’s Studies Honor’s Society, held an [anti-street harassment demonstration](#) on a busy Friday afternoon in downtown State College in October. They held signs proclaiming their anti-harassment message, and even included specific remarks that had been yelled at them during their time at PSU.

- **USA:** In March, [Sarah Harper launched](#) the [Little Bird project](#) to raise awareness about street harassment through the [arts](#) in San Francisco, California.
- **USA:** Since January 1, 2012, [at least 63](#) transgender individuals have been hatefully murdered, often by strangers in the streets, and many of the recent murders have been in Washington, DC. In September the DC Office of Human Rights launched a groundbreaking [Transgender and Gender Identity Respect Campaign](#) to improve the treatment of transgender and gender non-conforming people.
- **Yemen:** This year, the [Safe Streets campaign](#) has encouraged women to report their stories to [their website](#) and highlighted the issue through social media and [articles like this one](#), published on Open Democracy.

## **Part 2: Creative Initiatives/Resources:**

1. **Afghanistan:** Young Women for Change [released two short films](#) about street harassment in the early part of the year.
2. **Afghanistan:** Talalo, an Afghan graffiti band, fought street harassment by [putting messages](#) on street walls.
3. **Azerbaijan:** [Jake Winn](#), a Peace Corps volunteer and a youth development facilitator in northern [Azerbaijan](#) helped his male students make an [Anti-Street Harassment video](#). The title, “Ay Gardash! Kishi Ol!”, can be translated to, “Hey man, be a gentleman!” Peace Corps is working on distributing the video throughout the country, along with a lesson plan and discussion questions for other volunteers to use with their own students. Download the lesson plans: [Street Harassment Lesson Plan \(English\)](#) | [Street Harassment Lesson Plan \(Azerbaijani\)](#)
4. **Belgium:** For [Meet Us on the Street](#), Hollaback Brussels held a [chalk walk](#) where they visited places they’d been harassed and reclaimed those spots by telling their stories aloud and writing in chalk that they reclaim the area. They’ve held additional chalk walks since then.
5. **Belgium:** Over the summer, college student [Sofie Peeters’ documentary about street harassment](#) went viral, launching an international discussion about the topic and leading the government of Brussels to [pass legislation addressing it](#). View the [full video](#) with English subtitles.
6. **Canada:** METRAC [released](#) a free “[Not Your Baby App](#)” to provide responses you can use when experiencing harassment

7. **China:** [After](#) a subway company in Shanghai, China, blamed women for “causing” sexual harassment in June, two young women went to a subway station and [wore a](#) “black veil over their face, stepped into a crowded subway station with signs that read, ‘I want my coolness under the sun, but not the pervert in the subway,’ and ‘I can reveal myself, and you cannot bother me.’”
8. **Egypt:** Anum Khan created the Egyptian version of the [video](#) “What Men Say to Men Who Harass Women on the Streets” in Egypt.
9. **Egypt:** Youth in Egypt created a [short movie](#) about street harassment and verbal abuse.
10. **Germany:** Because soccer/football is so popular in Germany, the group [ProChange](#) decided to use the concept of “red cards” as a creative way to speak out against street harassment. In the spring, they distributed 2000 “Red Card” against sexism, “Pink Card” against homophobia, and “Purple Card” Courage. They also distributed special coasters in pubs, bars, from clubs in Dortmund, Germany.
11. **India:** In early 2012, male ally [Dhruv Arora](#) launched the website [GotStared.At](#) where people can post photos of the clothes they were wearing when harassed along with their story. What really went viral though were graphics with clever messages against victim-blaming, which, once posted on Facebook, were shared widely. In the fall, GotStared.At won the prestigious [UN World Summit Youth Award](#) in the category Power 2 Women!
12. **India:** Mumbai Boss [asks](#), “What’s the best way to deal with eve-teasers? A full body wax, one tight slap and flour grinding are some of the many punishments suggested in [this video](#) survey of Mumbai women.”
13. **Israel:** In response to ultra-Orthodox Jewish men who [called an 8-year-old a whore](#) as she walked to school in Israel, in January, a group of 250 women from [Bet Shemesh held a Flashmob](#) dance in the city square, protesting women’s exclusion from the public domain and the harassment of women and girls who do go in public.
14. **Istanbul:** When [Hollaback Istanbul](#) launched the Hollaback! [Green Dot Bystander Campaign](#), they created a [companion video](#) with male allies letting harassed persons know they “have their back.”
15. **Lebanon:** The [Adventures of Salwa](#) Campaign [released](#) a [video](#) about Salwa taking on harassers at a club. She also reports the harasser to the police and then has to stop the police officer who harassed her!
16. **Pakistan:** In Karachi this spring, students at university SZABIST hosted a “How to respond to harassment” session, a self defense class, and they created a [PSA about harassment](#).

17. **Pakistan:** [Naveen Naqvi](#) created a powerful [PSA video](#) about street harassment for [gawaahi.org](#).
18. **South Africa:** Filmmaker Pascale Neuschäfer [created a powerful short film](#) about street harassment in her community last year and in January, she created a [new PSA against street harassment](#). It was filmed during the [SlutWalk in Capetown](#) last year.
19. **UK:** [Those Pesky Dames](#) posted this video: [“Look at the legs on that” – street harassment needs to stop](#)
20. **UK:** Isobel Williams created an [amazing design project](#) to address street harassment for school. [She designed a booklet](#) about the issue that includes a card which women can carry and give to a harassing man as a decoy. The card lists a website and if they [visit the site](#), they can [view a short film](#) offering them a chance to gain a reality check on their actions.
21. **UK:** Hollaback Edinburgh created a humorous, [“Said No One Ever” Tumblr](#). Read an [interview](#) with the creator.
22. **USA:** [Bix Gabriel and Joe Samalin](#) are part of the NYC team that created the viral video [“Shit Men Say to Men who Say Shit to Women on the Street”](#) for [International Anti-Street Harassment Week](#). In September, the video won the US government’s [“Seeing My World through a Safer Lens Video Contest”](#)
23. **USA:** One woman launched a [Tumblr where she records everything men say to her](#) on her way to the train.
24. **USA:** [CATCALLED](#) is a collection of women’s stories about street harassment in New York City. For two weeks this August, eleven women in the city kept a log of their harassment experiences, and how the presence (or absence) of catcallers affected their actions.
25. **USA:** Aqueelah Grant wrote a practical book about how to deal with crimes on the street, including street harassment called [HoodRules](#). Here’s an [interview](#) with her.
26. **USA:** There’s a new [tumblr called Street Harassment Fashion](#) that challenges victim-blaming. [Read an interview](#) with the founder.
27. **USA:** [Tatyana Fazlalizadeh](#) is an oil painter/illustrator whose work focuses on portraiture and social/political themes. She’s the artist behind popular anti-street harassment fliers found in Philadelphia, New York City, and [Washington, DC](#). Read an [interview](#) with her.
28. **USA:** Earth Angel created a [petition to tell Planet Fitness Gym](#) to deal with harassers at their facility after they ignored her complaints about harassment.
29. **USA:** Jennifer Phan made [a video](#) about street harassment for a sociology class assignment.



30. **USA:** HappRat is posting her street harassment experiences on a [map](#) to show all of the places and times she's harassed. Read an [interview](#) with her.
31. **USA:** In June, [Queerocracy](#), a New York City-based grassroots organization, presented [QRASH Course: Queers Resisting All Street Harassment](#), an afternoon-long training event for people who witness and experience street harassment in the NYC area.
32. **USA:** The FX show *Totally Biased* [covered](#) street harassment!
33. **USA:** In April, Mary wrote a [summer street harassment poem](#).
34. **USA:** [Collective Action for Safe Spaces](#) & [Voices of Men](#) rode the Washington, DC, Metro and collaborated to [perform a skit](#) about harassment to bring attention to the issue. They performed it [several times](#) on several cars and received positive feedback.
35. **USA:** You can now view the full anti-street harassment documentary "War Zone" [online](#).
36. **USA:** During the spring semester, [San Jose State University's Women's Resource Center](#) did a lot to address gender violence. They created a mural, they put on a production of the *Vagina Monologues*, created a Tunnel of Oppression (800 people walked through it) and they made [several videos](#) about street harassment.
37. **USA:** [Council Member Julissa Ferreras](#) and [Hollaback!](#) led an historic community [safety audit](#) on Saturday, May 5th in Queens, New York.
38. **USA:** Denice Frohman, Poet, performs "[Dear Straight People](#)" and takes on people who harass lesbians.
39. **USA:** [FAAN Mail](#) and [Hollaback Philly](#) created a [video](#) where teenage girls "draw from personal experience and testimony to illuminate what gender-based street harassment sounds like."
40. **USA:** High school students in Chicago created a [30-second anti-street harassment PSA](#) through [Free Spirit Media](#)
41. **USA:** [Hollaback Bmore](#) talked about street harassment with the girls from [St. Francis Community Center](#) and helped them relieve their frustration with street harassers with...[a water balloon fight!](#)
42. **USA:** Ines Ixierda in the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project created a [film](#) about street harassment through the stories of Woman of Color and their strategies for self-defense and self-determination.



43. **USA:** A woman in the USA has [recorded more than 50](#) of her experiences of street harassment over the past few months.
44. **USA:** SlamPow! Production use humor + anti-street harassment messaging in their [creative video](#) “Meat.”
45. **USA:** Students made [this video](#) for their college class HONS201: "Feminism, New Media and Health.”
46. **USA:** Watch Chescaleigh [talk catcalls](#).
47. **I am Not an Object** Tumblr’s founder developed a series of 600 “[catcalling cards](#).” They are tiny letterpress cards with a fake number that women who are being followed / aggressively harassed by catcallers can give away so the perp will leave them alone. Once the perpetrator calls the number, he will hear a recording of women telling their harassers exactly what they think of them.
48. **Yemen:** [The Safe Streets](#) campaign [released a video about street harassment](#).

### **Part 3: Government Responses/Collaborations**

**1. Global:** In May, municipal authorities from cities around the world [met in Nairobi, Kenya](#), to discuss how to make cities safer and more sustainable, particularly for women and children. This was the annual meeting of the five-year Safe Cities Global Programme, launched in 2010 by [UN Women](#). It’s taking innovative approaches to making public spaces safer in five pilot cities: Cairo in Egypt; New Delhi in India; Quito in Ecuador; Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea and Kigali in Rwanda. Studies conducted in 2011 by UN Women in these five cities showed that many women and girls experience sexual harassment or violence in public spaces on a daily basis.

**2. Global:** Various Hollaback! leaders met and worked with government officials to address street harassment, including Hollaback! Gwynedd, Wales, Hollaback! Edinburgh, Hollaback! Brussels, AtreveteDF (Mexico City), Hollaback! Philly, and Hollaback! New York. (Read their [State of the Streets 2012 report](#) for more information.)

**3. Belgium:** Over the summer, college student [Sofie Peeters’ documentary about street harassment](#) went viral, launching an international discussion about the topic and leading the government of Brussels to [pass legislation addressing it](#).

**4. Bolivia:** Because of many women involved in politics in Bolivia report harassment at public events and in public spaces, Bolivia’s Legislative Assembly [approved](#) the Law against Harassment and Political Violence against Women. [UN Women](#): "The new law provides a two to five year prison sentence for anyone who pressurizes, persecutes, harasses or threatens an elected woman or those exercising public functions. The penalty

for practicing physical, psychological or sexual aggression is three to eight years in prison."

**5. Egypt:** In a country where very few street harassers are punished through the court system, many people celebrated with a [Cairo court sentenced](#) a man to a two-year prison term as well as a LE2,000 (\$330) fine for grabbing a young woman's bottom while she was waiting for a cab."

**6. Europe:** Twenty-five members of the Council of Europe have now signed the "[Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence](#)," which was written in April 2011. ([See which countries](#) have already signed it.)

Countries that sign the Convention agree to pass legislation or criminalize or impose sanctions against different types of gender violence, including domestic violence, honor killings, stalking, and sexual harassment. [Here's the exact language about sexual harassment](#), which presumably includes street harassment since it does not say the sexual harassment must occur in workplaces or schools:

"Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that any form of unwanted verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person, in particular when creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment, is subject to criminal or other legal sanction."

In order to enter into force, it needs 10 ratifications and it does not yet have them.

**7. India:** In Uttar Pradesh's Meerut town, the police started [posting photos](#) of street harassers as a way to shame them and deter future harassment incidents.

**8. India:** In Madhya Pradesh, the Chief Minister announced in November that anyone found guilty of street harassment [would be denied](#) a passport and driver's license.

**9. India:** In Guwahati, the police force [introduced](#) a special all-women division in November called Virangana to focus on street harassment and assault. The 100 women were specially trained and carry swords.

**10. India:** In November, India's Supreme Court acknowledged that sexual harassment is a [rampant problem](#), especially on the streets and on public transportation, and one that negatively impacts the lives of the harassed persons. So the Supreme Court [issued a country-wide standard](#) for addressing the problem.

**11. Russia:** This year the feminist group [RosNahal](#) tackled street harassment. They made a [video](#) about it and engaged in lobbying and [activism](#) that has led the [Russian government to take notice](#). "Russia's ruling party has decided that Russia needs a

separate article prosecuting sexual harassment in its administrative code while the logistics for enforcing and proving such offences are still up in the discussion. Russia's ruling party has suggested a steep fine of up to 50,000 rub which is about 1,000£ to punish any would-be sexual harassers."

**12. Saudi Arabia:** The Shura Council in Saudi Arabia [finalized the draft](#) of an anti-sexual harassment.

**13. UK:** [The Ending Violence Against Women Coalition](#) successfully pressured [several of the candidates](#) who ran for mayor of London in May to put street harassment on their agenda, but sadly, none of those candidates were elected.

**14. USA:** After unsuccessfully trying to meet with the transit authority in Washington, DC, to discuss sexual harassment on their system, I joined a small group of people and [testified](#) about the problem before the Washington, DC City Council in February (the team was led by [Collective Action for Safe Spaces](#)). [Ward 4 City Council Member Muriel Bowser](#) was disturbed by the stories and statistics and told the transportation authority to do something! Two weeks later, they had formed a taskforce and got to work changing how they track and respond to harassment complaints, creating an [online reporting form](#), and [launching a poster campaign](#).

**15. USA:** At the urging of [Collective Action for Safe Spaces](#) and Stop Street Harassment, in Washington, DC, [Ward 4 City Council Member Muriel Bowser](#) introduced [legislation](#) that will make it [easier](#) to prosecute people who expose themselves in public (e.g. public masturbators and flashers). It is still pending.

**16. USA:** New York is considering a bill that would make [harsher punishments](#) for engaging in unwanted sexual touching in public spaces.

#### **Part 4: Studies & Important Articles:**

##### **Studies and Reports:**

1. **Canada/USA/Global:** Women in Cities International partnered with UN Habitat, and Plan International - Because I am a Girl to write the report [Adolescent Girls Creating Safer Cities: Harnessing the Potential of Communication for Development](#).
2. **Canada:** Women in Cities International also released the report [Tackling Gender Exclusion: Experiences from the Gender Inclusive Cities Programme](#).
3. **Croatia:** Hollaback! Croatia [informally surveyed](#) 500 people (mostly women) online about street harassment in 2012. They found that 99 percent of women experienced some form of street harassment in their lifetime, and 50 percent experienced it by age 18.

4. **India:** About [92 percent of 5,000 women](#) working in sectors like information technology, hospitality, civil aviation and call centers reported feeling unsafe while travelling to their homes after sunset, according to a nationwide survey by the Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India's Social Development Foundation. The women live in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune and Dehra Dun.
5. **India:** When 1000 women in Mumbai were surveyed, [80 percent](#) said they had been street harassed. "The maximum cases of verbal and physical harassment take place in crowded areas such as trains and railway platforms," said Shurbhi Sharma, member of We The People Foundation, which conducted the survey recently.
6. **Poland:** [Hollaback! Poland informally surveyed](#) 818 people and found that 85% of female respondents had experienced street harassment in public spaces in Poland, as had 44% of men.
7. **Turkey:** Hollaback! Istanbul [informally surveyed](#) 141 college students about their experiences with street harassment. They found that 93 percent had been street harassed and 69 percent experience street harassment at least on a monthly basis.
8. **UK:** [The Ending Violence Against Women Coalition](#) released two studies about street harassment in London. One study found that [43 percent](#) of women had been harassed during the previous year and the second one honed in on harassment that takes place on [public transportation](#).
9. **UK:** Hollaback! Gwynedd, Wales, partnered with two student unions and surveyed 400 students about their experiences with street harassment.
10. **UK:** Jennifer Harrison wrote her [graduate thesis on street harassment issues](#): "Gender segregation on public transport in South Asia: A critical evaluation of approaches for addressing harassment against women."
11. **USA:** [Ninety-five people](#) responded to the [online survey](#) following a [Bay Citizen story](#) about unwanted sexual behavior on Muni, BART and AC Transit. Fifty-one percent of respondents said they had experienced unwanted sexual behavior on public transit. Only 6 percent reported it.
12. **USA:** Patrick McNeil [conducted research](#) as part of his master's thesis at The George Washington University about the street harassment of gay and bisexual men. He surveyed 331 men around the world, and about 90 percent said they are sometimes, often, or always harassed or made to feel unwelcome in public spaces because of their perceived sexual orientation – a figure that is far too high.

13. **USA:** In partnership with Hollaback!, researchers from the Worker Institute at Cornell asked 110 New York City-based social service providers whether or not they receive reports of street harassment, and if so, how they respond to those reports. [They found](#) that more than 86 percent of respondents had received reports of street harassment from a client, constituent or consumer.
14. **USA:** [Laurel Long](#) wrote her [college thesis](#) on street harassment at Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland.

### **Important Articles:**

- The Bay Citizen, "[Why Transit Riders Don't Report Unwanted Sexual Behavior](#)"
- The Guardian, "[How to stop sexual harassment on public transportation](#)"
- The Voice of Russia, "[Sexual harassment in Russia](#)"
- The Jerusalem Post, "[Egyptian women battle harassment on the streets](#)"
- The F Word Blog, "[Spanish feminist subjected to harassment campaign](#)"
- Le Nouvel Observateur, "[Harcèlement de rue : les femmes racontent le machisme](#)"
- Global Press Institute, "[Women Break Silence About Sexual Harassment on Nepali Buses](#)"
- USA Today, "[Arab women cry for end to harassment](#)"
- {Unwinona}, "[I debated whether or not to share this story.](#)"
- LAist, "[Women Share Their Stories Of Sexual Harassment \(And Worse\) On Public Transportation](#)"
- CNN, "[Hey baby! Women speak out against street harassment](#)"
- Eliminating the Impossible, "[Street Harassment 102: When You're Blind and a Woman](#)"
- Fair Observer, "[Natasha Smith: Is This Egypt?](#)"
- Week Woman, "[My Hijab, My Body – A Muslim Feminist on Street Harassment in Argentina](#)"
- Heeb Magazine, "[A Woman's Guide to Hasidic Street Harassment](#)"
- Open Democracy, "[Street sexual harassment: breaking the silence in Yemen](#)"

- The Daily Star Lebanon, "[Public masturbation: Where sexual harassment meets disorder](#)"
- Libya Herald, "[Sexual harassment of Libyan women](#)"
- Welcome to Kosovo 2.0, "[Kosovo's Streets: A woman's perspective](#)"
- IRIN, "[NEPAL: Women demand end to sexual harassment](#)"
- High on Cliches, "[Wie verhalte ich mich möglichst nicht wie ein Arsch?](#)"
- Tunisia Live [article](#) about street harassment.
- Jeddah Mind Trick (Saudi Arabia), "[Walking While Covered](#)"
- Empty Nest Expat, "[Breaking the Silence on Street Harassment in Istanbul](#)"
- The Guardian, "[Wolf-whistling is just the start – harassment is not harmless](#)"
- Latin America, "[Argentina: Women suffer from sexual harassment on the street, a social problem](#)"
- Sparkle All Day, "[The Punch Heard Round The World](#)"
- Clutch Magazine, "[Hey There Pretty Lady: How Street Harassment Affected My Body Image and How I Overcame It](#)"
- Sparkwood & 21, "[The Story of My Sexual Assault on Muni in San Francisco](#)"
- Crates and Ribbons, "[The Kissing Sailor, or "The Selective Blindness of Rape Culture"](#)"
- International Business & Law, "[Brussels' Offensive-Language Fines Highlight Widespread Sexual Harassment](#)"
- The March 2012 issue of [Cosmo magazine](#) includes advice for dealing with gropers. [Read an extended version of her advice](#) on the SSH blog.
- The Atlantic, "[Violent Protests in India Over Rape Case](#)"

### **Part 5: Empowering Responses to Street Harassment:**

1. In Seattle, Washington, [as a woman](#) walked down the street she heard a man shout, "Hey baby, hey baby..." from across the street. When she ignored him, he ran across the street and started following her shouting, "Hey what's wrong with you, you prejudice? You're prejudice aren't you..." (she was white and he was black). She got mad and shouted, "Yes

I'm prejudice," and he looked shocked. Then she said, "I'm prejudiced against men who stand on street corners shouting at women!" His shocked expression changed to one of thoughtfulness and as he turned away he said, "I'm going to think about what you just said."

2. When a man groped [Dawn](#) as she walked to her bus stop in London, she pulled her headphones out and screamed "HOW DARE YOU GROPE ME, YOU DISGUSTING MAN!" A man two metres in front heard her and shouted at the groper, "What are you doing? How would you feel if it was your sister?" The groper looked shocked and ran off.
3. [JR](#) was at a gas station payphone in Memphis, Tennessee, when she said a guy getting gas started cat calling her. She was enraged and yelled back at him, "Are you f-ing kidding me?? Has that EVER really worked for you???" He jumped in his truck and left."
4. When [Maureen](#) was at Home Depot in Maryland, she heard a voice behind her say, "Looking good, little mama." She whipped my head around and without hesitation responded, "Excuse me? I'm not your little mama, don't think you can speak to me that way. Move along." He was obviously shocked that she called him out and embarrassed, because everyone else in the aisle turned around and stared at him.
5. After observing men at a construction site in London harassing women day after day, [Jen](#) filled out a comment card and emailed the company. She received this message from the Head of External Communications, "Dear Jen, I want to let you know that the investigation has begun and whilst we carry out the investigation, the individual is not currently working at our site... thank you for bringing this to our attention. Our Project Director and I would be more than happy to meet with you if you wish."
6. [A woman](#) riding the CalTrain leaving San Francisco, California, was told by a man who'd been leering at her, "Nice legs, very sexy." She give him a death stare and he turned around, but then leers at her a few more times. When she got up to leave the train, she stood by him and calmly but firmly and loudly said, "The reason I did not respond to you is because what you said to me was sexually aggressive and made me feel threatened..." He apologized and seemed really ashamed and she felt better.
7. Priscilla Dang was running in Vancouver, Washington, when two teenage boys bicycled past her and one of them groped her. She knows kung-fu and [she](#) "pushed one of the teenagers to the ground and made him apologize. When the second teenager called her a derogatory term, Dang says she snapped, hitting him in the face several times while simultaneously dodging his punches. [According to The Columbian](#), when he pulled out a knife she used his bike as a shield until a passerby showed up and called 911... The 18-year-old suspect is now facing fourth-degree assault charges, while the 16-year-old will be judged by a juvenile prosecutor."
8. When a construction worker in Melbourne, Australia, looked [HD](#) up and down and told her she looked hot, she replied loudly "I don't know who you are. We're not friends." all without breaking stride.
9. A man on a bicycle sexually assaulted Liz Gorman was sexually assaulted in Washington, DC's Dupont Circle. She reported the incident to the Metropolitan Police Department and [wrote about her experience](#) on the blog of Collective Action for Safe Spaces. Within days, the post had set off a viral reaction, both locally and nationally. It was republished by [The Washington Post](#), [Jezebel](#) and [Fem2.0](#). It has been reported on by [The Washington Post](#)



[Local](#) (front page Metro section!), [WJLA](#), [WTTG FOX](#), [DCist](#), [DCblogs](#) and the [Washington City Paper](#). The police were eventually able to find her assailant and he admitted to assaulting numerous other women.

10. [Jackie](#) in Savannah, Georgia: “I was walking home from school and a car followed alongside me for about 10 minutes, constantly asking me if I wanted a ride several times. The last time he asked I looked him in the eye and said, “You’re obviously not going any faster than I am, so why would I want a ride?” He sped away.”
11. In Manhattan, [Athena](#) told a harasser he had “bad manners” after he yelled, “I love you and that ass too,” at another woman who had just passed by him.
12. A group of young men harassed a 50-year-old woman named [Anne](#) as she walked into a grocery store in Lindsay, Ontario, Canada. The manager of the store refused to do anything about it, so she decided to stop giving him her business and he lost her as a customer.
13. In Boston, [a young woman](#) would not let a public masturbator intimidate her during her trolley ride home from work. Instead she went into “She-Hulk” mode and lunged at him as he tried to run away. She called the police and he was arrested under the charge of “open and gross lewdness” and was ordered to stay off the public transportation system in the future.
14. In Brooklyn, New York, [Kendalle](#) was harassed by a construction worker who made graphic and disgusting noises and motions at her and commented on her legs. She told him, “That’s disgusting. Keep it to yourself” and kept on walking.
15. A man in Austin, Texas, asked to see a [woman](#)’s breasts when she approached her car, parked on the road. She paused and then said, “Actually that’s not okay because what you just said is harassment.” He claimed he was flirting and she said, “No, that’s not flirting, because you just made me into a sexual object and that is not okay.” They argued back and forth for a bit and then she said, “Just because I am a woman alone on the street doesn’t mean you can talk to me like that.” He said, “Well if that’s how you’re going to look at this then I can’t win...” She concluded by saying, “That’s how I’m looking at it.”
16. “[A bus driver](#) who used to tease female passengers by passing lewd comments and playing vulgar songs learnt the lesson of his life when he was beaten blue and black by two female passengers at [the] Bhatinda bus stop [in India].”
17. [A woman](#) was at a nightclub in Vancouver when a man approached her and engaged her in small talk. She politely responded back but then he said, “Nice tits.” She was shocked but looked him right in the eyes, and said, “Yours are pretty nice too.” Once he comprehended what she said, he was surprised, left her alone and then left the club altogether
18. When she was on her way to meet [a female friend](#), a woman was harassed by a man on a bus in Edinburgh, Scotland. The woman ignored him. When she and her friend came across him later, he harassed her again, so the friend confronted him. She told him that what he did was street harassment and that he shouldn’t harass women. As she said this, she pointed her finger at him “like he was a naughty child” and kept her voice steady despite her nerves. He stopped and walked away.
19. [Yvonne](#) likes to tell her harassers, “I don’t exist for you!” Once when she said this to a man harassing her at the bus stop, he was dumbfounded and walked away.

20. As [“Rat Girl”](#) walked through her neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York, an older man walking toward her waved his hand in her face as he passed by and said, “Good evening to you, with your sexy ass.” She stopped, turned around and said in a very loud voice, “That is incredibly rude!” He yelled at her as he walked away but she simply shouted back, “Don’t harass women on the street anymore!”
21. After a group of men started to cat-call a [male ally’s](#) friend, he noticed that she was feeling deeply uncomfortable. He asked her if he could do anything to help. She said yes. So he asked the harassers, “Who here respects women?” They looked around confused. He said, “It was quite a wonderful sight to see a group of harassers vexed about the answer to an easy question of respect.”
22. [DG](#) is an officer in the Navy and as she walked to an event in uniform in San Diego, California, a man asked her for money. When she turned him down, he told her she “had a tight ass and nice tits, and [she] could give him those.” Another man on the street said, “She doesn’t deserve that. She is an officer in the US Navy and she has given enough.” She thanked him.
23. A group of people were sitting outside a pizza place in Launceston, Tasmania, and as women walked by, the men in the group harassed them. [DM observed](#) them harassing other women and then was harassed by them, too. Once she got to safety, she called a friend, got the phone number for the pizza place and reported the men to the owner. She was pleased with his response: “I have been keeping an eye on them and it has been worrying me. Thank you for calling – that’s it, I will tell them to leave. Thank you for talking to us about it.” And she now goes out of her way to eat there since the establishment supports ending street harassment.
24. [Emily was driving](#) with the windows down in Sarasota, Florida, and she pulled up beside a pickup truck at a stop light. The two men inside the truck began whistling at her and laughing. She turned off her radio, turned to them and said, “You know, it’s really offensive when men whistle at a woman like she’s an animal. I don’t appreciate that. What you’re doing is called street harassment and it is unacceptable.” The driver said, “I’m sorry ma’am. I’ll stop tonight.”
25. Lauren Bravo in London [put on her cape](#) and became a street harassment crusader who used the “fake friend” tactic when she saw a man harassing a woman on a busy road one evening. She said, “I caught the girl’s eye and mouthed, “Are you ok?” to which she shook her head... “There you are!” I cried, launching myself on her. “Hi!” she faked, as I dragged her away. Then we stood together on the pavement miming friendly chat like a couple of am-dram actors, while Slug Man stared, lingered, and eventually slithered off back to his cabbage patch.”