Street Harassment Definitions

Street harassment is sexual intimidation on the street, ranging from whistling or other noises, sexual remarks, or offensive stares. It involves a person affirming his right to intrude on another person's space, forcing him or her to interact with him or her as a sexual object. It is often a manifestation of male power and control over women in our society, limiting our mobility and making us feel uncomfortable in public. It is difficult to suggest tactics for dealing with street harassment outside simply following your instincts. Most of the time, the harasser doesn't have the nerve to confront you as a person, so if you do choose to respond with some kind of remark and/or gesture, it may be enough to both catch him off guard and humiliate him. Unfortunately, street harassment can happen anywhere and to anyone; many women find that ignoring the harasser altogether (if possible) is the best method for retaining their own personal control and pride.

Source: www.umich.edu/~handbook/violence/streetharass/html

Harassment is:
Any number of acts or comments by people who are not close friends or family members (although sometimes they can make offensive remarks too but they are often easier to challenge). Acts and comments considered harassment:

- Ogling
- Leering
- Staring
- Wolf-whistles
- Touching
- “Hey Baby”
- ‘Give us a smile’
- ‘Nice ones’
- ‘I’d like you give you one’
- ‘Hello sexy’
- ‘Oooh, I wouldn’t eat that if I were you? Too fattening’
- ‘Thunder thighs’

Source: UK anti-harassment project.

Street Harassment is: “verbal and nonverbal markers...wolf-whistles, leers, winks, grabs, pinches, catcalls and street remarks.” Specific remarks commonly include “Hey pretty,” “Hey, whore,” “What ya doin’ tonight?” “Look at them legs,” “Wanna fuck?” “Are you working?” “Great legs,” “Hey cunt,” “Smile,” “Smile for me, baby,” “Smile, bitch,” “Come here, girl,” and “I’ll be back when you get a little older, baby.” When these acts occur on a public street, street harassment takes place.

Source: Cheris Kramarae and Elizabeth Kissling.
Frontin’- lying to yourself and other people. Not being your ‘real self.’

Holla at/Holler at- when someone is trying to get with you. When someone is trying to get your number and information.

You thick- certain body parts that are categorized as big and attractive (Ex. Butt, thighs, breast, hips).

Stuck up- when someone is all into themselves, vain, and only talk to certain people.

Our Beliefs about Street Harassment

1) We think that street harassment is a serious issue that can destroy someone and that can cause low self-esteem.

2) We think that street harassment is when someone disrespects you on the street.

3) We do not believe that men should have power and control over our bodies.

4) We believe that women should have more support to talk about street harassment.

5) We believe that women should be free from street harassment.

6) We do not agree that it’s in men’s nature to harass women. Also we believe that men get this from their environment and their society. We refuse to accept the idea that boys will boys.
THE ROGERS PARK YOUNG WOMEN’S ACTION TEAM: STREET HARASSMENT SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT.

The Young Women’s Action Team surveyed 168 young women about street harassment and safety in Rogers Park.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS
22.6% were between the ages of 10 and 13; 36% were between the ages of 14 to 16; 25% were between the ages of 17 and 19.

55% were African-American/Black; 22% were Latina/Chicana/Hispanic; 10% were Asian-American; 5.4% were White/Caucasian.

The majority of respondents attended the following schools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sullivan High School</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Elementary</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senn High School</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gale Academy</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mather</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lane Tech</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Community Academy</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong Elementary</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilmer Elementary</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SURVEY RESPONSES

- **86% said that they had been catcalled (for example: Hey baby! Hey beautiful!) on the street.**
- **58% said men or boys on the street had harassed them.**
- **36% of those respondents who had been harassed suggested that this happened once a day or more.**
- **54% said that they never responded to the catcaller or harasser.**
- **53% felt like they could not do anything to stop street harassment.**
- **60% felt unsafe walking around in Rogers Park.**
- **61% of those who felt unsafe were most uncomfortable at night (8 p.m. to midnight).**
- **81% deemed either Howard Street or Morse Ave as the most unsafe streets in Rogers Park.**