

Harassment Counseling Office Newsletter

Issue 38
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Here is the 38th newsletter
from the Harassment
Counseling Office.



A word from our counselors



Workplace harassment

Are you aware that December has been designated Workplace Harassment Elimination Month by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and that awareness and public relations activities are in development? The poster includes harassment such as power harassment, sexual harassment, maternity harassment, and customer harassment, but anti-harassment measures are also being implemented for students and others who are not yet workers in the workplace, such as those seeking employment or in internships.

Job seeking and harassment

According to a survey conducted by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in 2020, approximately 26% of men and 25% of women responded that they had been sexually harassed during their job search or internship. Over one in four respondents reported being sexually harassed during their job search regardless of gender. Another survey (Takeshita, 2019) found that even more respondents said they were sexually harassed during their job search, the results showing it was about 50%. During selection of candidates for a job, it has also been shown that there is harassment related to SOGI, including derogatory remarks and discrimination regarding sexuality (ReBit, 2019).

Harassment during job hunting includes not only sexual harassment, but also what is known as a form of power harassment, which in Japan is called "*owa-harassment*", or end the job hunt harassment. *Owa-harassment* is when a company puts pressure on a candidate they wish to hire to cancel or withdraw from job offers from any other company, in other words, to stop their search for employment.

The influence a company that is hiring has on a student receiving an offer of employment is not insignificant. If students are worried that they may not be hired if they say something, or that they will have to tolerate such actions to receive a job offer, it may be very difficult for them to reject or refuse an offer even if they feel something is wrong or they do not like the offer.

If you have concerns

Most students believe that harassment will not happen to them. However, the problem with harassment is that you never know when or to whom it will happen. If you think it may be happening to you, please consult the Harassment Counseling Office. The Osaka University Campus Life Health and Counseling Center, Harassment Counseling Office is one possible contact point.

References

厚生労働省 (2020) 『職場のハラスメントに関する実態調査報告書』 (Investigation on Workplace Harassment)
認定NPO法人ReBit (2019) 『LGBTや性的マイノリティの就職活動における経験と就労支援の現状』 (Experiences and support for LGBT and Sexual Minorities when seeking employment)
竹下郁子 (2019) 『OB訪問で自宅や個室で性行為強要、2人に1人の学生が就活でセクハラ被害に。「選考有利」 ちらつかせ』 Feb.15. BUSINESS INSIDER (One in two job seeking students victims of sexual harassment, sexual coercion occurring when visiting homes or rooms of workers in the company)

Continued overleaf

Harassment Counseling Offices

2022.12.1~

Campus	Room	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Toyonaka	Harassment Counseling Office 1 Room #704, 7F, Interdisciplinary Research Building 06-6850-5029		10:00-13:00	12:00-15:00	11:00-14:00	10:00-13:00
	Harassment Counseling Office 2 2F, Data Station, Cybermedia Center 06-6850-6006			12:30-18:30		
	Harassment Counseling Office 3 2F, East Staircase, Health and Counseling Center 06-6850-6505	10:00-13:00				
Suita	Harassment Counseling Office 1 Room #1311, 3F, Division of Nursing Building 1 06-6879-6981			12:00-15:00		11:00-14:00
				15:30-18:30	15:30-18:30	15:00-18:00
	Harassment Counseling Office 2 Room #1312, 3F, Division of Nursing Building 1 06-6879-6982 ※Male counselor (power harassment, academic harassment)		※9:30-13:00		9:30-12:30	
		※13:30-16:30	※14:00-16:15			
Minoh	General Harassment Counseling Office 1F, Research and Education Hub 072-730-5112		Closed for the time being			

- Consultations with a professional counselor may be in person or by telephone (appointment required)
- Confidentiality is guaranteed. Anonymous consultations by telephone are welcome.
- Consultations for all types of harassment are available at Toyonaka and Minoh campus counseling offices as well as Suita Campus Harassment Counseling Office 1 (female counselor)
- See the Osaka University website for details on the locations, opening hours, and availability of consultations in English.



https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/campus/life/prevention_sh/prevention_sh

