

Harassment Counseling Office Newsletter

Issue 29
June 2021

After a long rainy season,
summer is finally here.
Be sure to stay healthy to cope
with the fierce heat.

Here is the 29th newsletter
from the Harassment
Counseling Office.



A word from our counselors - SOGI Harassment and Outing

In June 2020, a new law was enacted regarding power harassment in large corporations. This legislation is expected to inhibit and prevent power harassment in the workplace. Are you aware that this legislation includes, harassment relating to sexual orientation and gender identity as well as the act of disclosing someone's sexuality to a third person without permission, within the definition of power harassment?

What is SOGI Harassment?

SOGI stands for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. At Osaka University we also use the SOGI notation. Harassment relating to SOGI is thought to be limited to comments towards sexual minorities such as "I can't work with someone who is homosexual (lesbian)", "You dress like a boy (girl), are you gay?" However, these comments are upsetting for not only the person concerned but others as well. For example, when out drinking or merely chatting, have you ever seen people making jokes about homosexuality or teasing people who have an androgenous appearance and use feminine gestures? In this case, whether the person being teased considers themselves a sexual minority or not, teasing and offensive comments because they "may be a sexual minority" is the problem.

Thinking about Outing

In addition, it is clear that maliciously threatening to out someone is a problem but it is important to realize that outing someone even with good intentions is also a problem. For example, someone, to whom a certain person has come out, then going and telling everyone else (for the certain person's own good), may be telling people who understand and accept it but may also be telling people who are prejudiced against sexual minorities. Also, for the certain person, they came out to someone they believed they could trust only to find that their secret has been told to others. This can be an immense shock.



Harassment—It's not someone else's problem, make it your own.

With legislation relating to power harassment in place, companies and business owners are required by law to take measures against harassment. However, in order to create a space where everyone feels safe, each and every person must be aware of harassment and take conscious steps to prevent it. Excuses such as "I didn't know" or "It's nothing to do with me" are unacceptable.

References: Y. Kamiya and S. Matsuoka (2020) ,
LGBT and Harassment, Shueisha Shinsho

Harassment Counseling Offices

Osaka University is set up so that it is possible to have a consultation on any day. If you are unsure if you need a consultation, just give us a call.



Campus	Room	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Toyonaka	Harassment Counseling Office 1 Room #704, 7F, Interdisciplinary Research Building 06-6850-5029	11:00-14:00	10:00-13:00	12:00-15:00		10:00-13:00
	Harassment Counseling Office 2 2F, Data Station, Cybermedia Center 06-6850-6006		14:30-17:30	14:00-17:00	10:30-13:30 14:30-17:30	
Suita	Sexual Harassment Counseling Office ※Counseling about all types of harassment is available 4F, U1E Bldg., School of Engineering 06-6879-7169	10:00-13:00		9:30-12:30 14:30-17:30		11:00-14:00 14:30-17:30
	Academic/Power Harassment Counseling Office ※Male counselor (except Thu. p.m.) 4F, U1E Bldg., School of Engineering 06-6879-7169		9:30-13:00		9:30-12:30	
		13:30-16:30	14:00-16:15		15:30-18:30	
Minoh	General Harassment Counseling Office 1F, Research and Education Hub 072-730-5112			14:15-17:15		

- Consultations with a professional counselor may be in person or by telephone (appointment required)
- Confidentiality is guaranteed. Anonymous consultations by telephone are welcome.
- The counseling offices at Toyonaka and Minoh campuses accept consultations in all areas of harassment.
- 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/guide/student/prevention_sh/

