

# Creation and distribution of a sexual harassment training manual

Israel/Palestine | November 23, 2023 – May 23, 2024



This project addresses sexual harassment affecting young girls and boys in schools.

کیان

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# Project Goal

we received numerous calls and contacts in the course of 2022/23 from female and male students in middle and high schools who have experienced or are still experiencing sexual harassment.

It was evident that there has been a noticeable increase compared to previous years.

there is a lack of knowledge and wrong stereotypical ideas among young people about the motives for harassment and placing blame on the victim



we also found that the students and youth who contacted us lacked knowledge about effective preventive measures to combat such behavior.

We found that there is an essential need to make access to aid and information completely accessible all over Palestine\ Israel.

The projected activities were the design, editing, copy writing, printing, distribution among schools and youth centers, and digital marketing of a preventive sexual harassment guide.



# “Listen to My Silence”

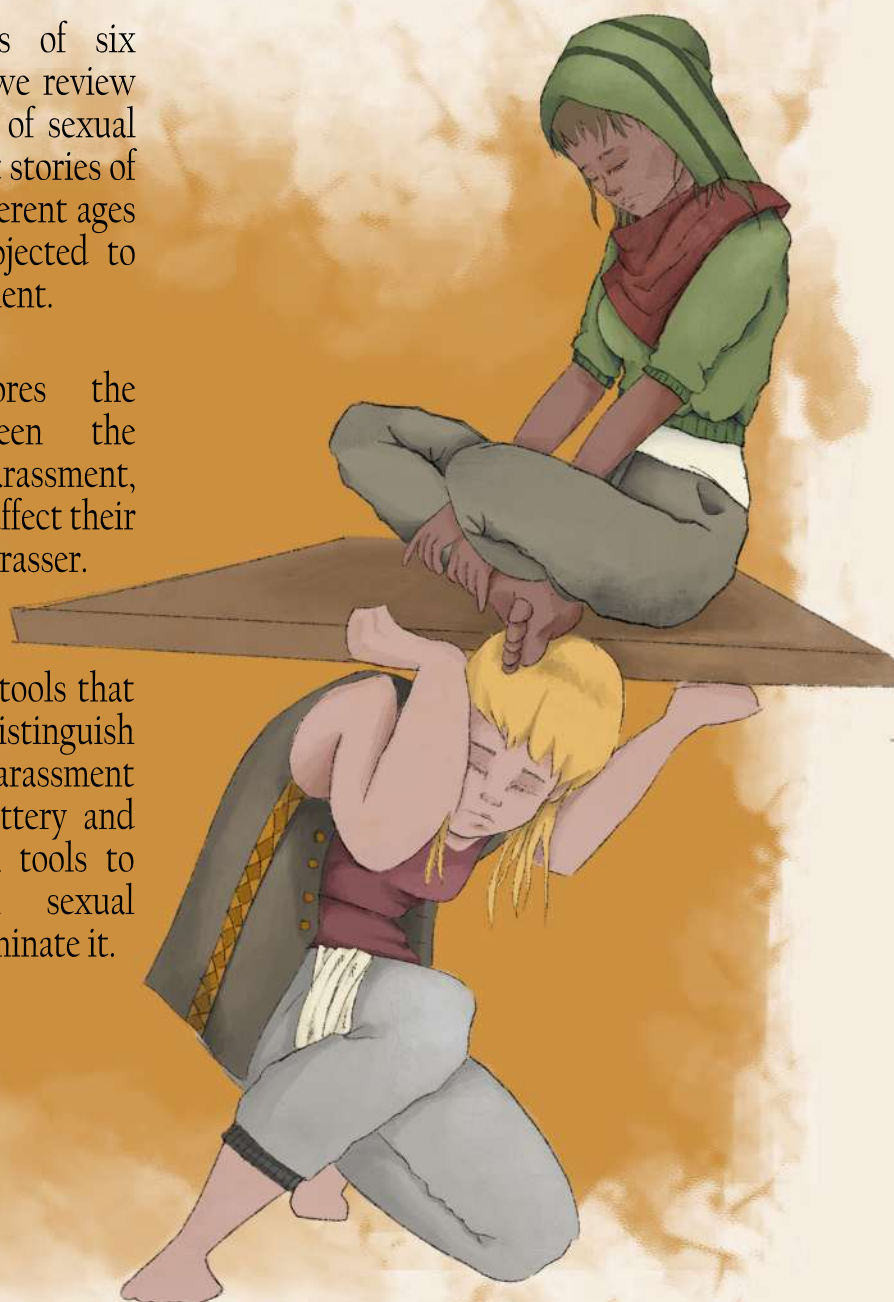
is a guide by Kayan – Feminist Organization that deals with the issue of sexual harassment among youth, which is considered one of the most widespread causes of personal crises for youth in the last decade. Because of sexual harassment, girls and boys pay heavy prices that will accompany them for life and leave wounds in the soul that are difficult to heal.

We may not be able to eliminate the phenomenon of sexual harassment completely, but it is certain that we can improve knowledge and develop tools for girls and boys to confront and overcome attempts of sexual harassment

Our guide consists of six chapters, in which we review the legal definitions of sexual violence and present stories of girls and boys of different ages who have been subjected to sexual harassment.

The guide explores the interactions between the victims of sexual harassment, and the factors that affect their reaction to the harasser.

The guide presents tools that help young people distinguish between sexual harassment and closeness or flattery and provides them with tools to help them repel sexual harassment and eliminate it.



Our publication is the first of its kind, prepared and written in Arabic for youth and by youth, based on the experiences of girls and boys from the Arab community in Israel.

## Methods of adapting the guide to the targeted audience :

Kayan sought help from a “youth advisory group” to make the guide suitable for young people in terms of linguistics, wording, , expressions used, presentation of problems, This group participated in evaluating if the text is appropriate and close to the spirit of the young targeted audience.

The “Youth Advisory Group” consists of six female students from the Orthodox School in Haifa who requested to volunteer at Kayan, for 60 hours per student, as part of the school’s requirements for obtaining a matriculation certificate.



The advisory group met once a week with the guide's author to review and exchange ideas and opinions about the guide's chapters and its design. They also shared stories from their lives, social pressure, and pitfalls in communicating with their families regarding the issue of sexual harassment.

The group contributed to distributing and collecting a questionnaire that examines the stand of young people and adults on the issue of sexual harassment, to enable a data collection that is based on the lived reality.

# SUSTAINABILITY AND FUTURE PLANS FOR THE PROJECT

To sustain the achievements of this project and to ensure that the sexual harassment training guide produced under this project will be put to good use and reach the envisioned goal of preventing sexual harassment of young people, we will conduct workshops to train teachers and social workers how to facilitate workshops on sexual harassment prevention at schools and how to use the guide produced under this project in such workshops. For this purpose, we will produce another guide aimed at teachers and social workers.

Additionally, we want to distribute the electronic version of the training guide to other parts of the Arab world, for example to Gaza and the West Bank. We know that in the current war in Gaza, with internally displaced people living in overcrowded situations, and with many children and youth having lost their parents and being without protection, there is a high risk of children and youth being exposed to sexual harassment and violence. Our donor Frieda – The Feminist Peace Organization has made efforts to facilitate contact between Kayan and its partners in Gaza to see if such a distribution of our training guide there is desired and feasible. In the West Bank, we have partners that we can reach directly, and we started to discuss the possibility of reaching out to youth in the West Bank via these partners.

Kayan constantly monitors and evaluates the progress and success of the activities under this project as described above, and future planning of activities and development of the project is shaped by the lessons learned.

