

## Young Female Adolescence Perception among Sexual Harassment

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### Abstract

**Background:** Adolescent sexual harassment is one of the major problems of adolescent that affect their health and security specifically, as various (regional, national and Global). The perception reflecting the apathy our society feels toward sexual harassment is indicated throughout our culture. **Aim of the study** is to assess the young female adolescence perception among sexual harassment. **Research design:** This study is a descriptive study. **Settings:** The study was conducted in Jordan in That-Alnetakeen Governmental School for Females in Irbid city. **Sampling:** A purposive sample composed of 140 students, from the 6th and 7th grade have been chosen after excluding 16 students for the pilot study. **One Tools** of data collection: A Self-Administered Questionnaire, It was composed of 4 parts, **part one:** personal data, **part two:** Assess Female student's level of knowledge about sexual harassment. **Part three:** Assess Female student's perception towards sexual harassment. **Part four:** Assess the measurement and protection practices that the female students can take in consideration toward sexual harassment. **Results & Conclusion:** More than half of the young female adolescents were in the age of 12 years and live in the village. More than two third of them had satisfactory knowledge regarding sexual harassment, the prevention methods and side effects from exposure to sexual harassment. Also the current study represented more than one tenth of the Young female adolescents had total done practices to protect them against sexual harassment. Also more than two third had a positive perception about sexual harassment. There were highly statistically significant relation between personal characteristics of young female students and their total knowledge, and practices. Also there was a highly statistically significant relation between female adolescents total knowledge, perception & their Practices at p value <0.001. **Recommendations:** Effective policies and procedures to combat this situation are established, policies and procedures would empower school administrators & student parents, enabling them to take certain actions against sexual harassment. Mass media through TV, broadcasting and newspapers should have an active role in increasing community awareness regard sexual harassment consequences on the females and their families.

**Key words:** Sexual Harassment, Young Female Students, Perception

### Introduction

Sexual harassment refers to as any physical, visual, or sexual act experienced by a person from another person at the time or later, which asserts a person's sexual identity as a person and makes him or her feel embarrassed, frightened, hurt, uncomfortable, degraded, humiliated, and compromised and as well diminishes a person's power and confidence (Oneri & Uzunboylu, 2015).

Sexual harassment is a global problem. Global reports showed that an estimated 35 % of female have experienced sexual violence in their lives and a projected 120 million girls have encountered forced sexual acts at some point in their lives (WHO, 2013; UNICEF, 2014).

Form of harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Touching of a sexual nature; making sexual comments,

jokes, or gestures; writing graffiti or displaying or distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials; calling students sexually charged names; spreading sexual rumors; rating students on sexual activity or performance; or circulating, showing, or creating e-mails or Web sites of a sexual nature are just some of the conducts of sexual harassment (Oneri & Uzunboylu, 2015).

Adolescence as the period in human growth and development that occurs after childhood and before adulthood, from ages 10 to 19. Biological processes drive many aspects of this growth and development, with the onset of puberty marking the passage from childhood to adolescence. The biological determinants of adolescence are fairly universal; however, the duration and defining characteristics of this period may vary across time, cultures, and socioeconomic situations. Early adolescence, generally ages eleven to fourteen (WHO, 2016 & Healthy Children, 2016).

The perception reflecting the apathy our society feels toward sexual harassment is indicated throughout our culture. Many studies focusing on perception toward sexual harassment and attitudes of female adolescence have shown the need for continued research (Sigaletal., 2015).

Females perceive a broader range of behaviors comprise unacceptable social-sexual behaviors and they identify more incidents as sexual harassment which makes them have less tolerance to sexual harassment. Female adolescence might wish to maximize the numbers and types of behaviors defined as sexually harassed, while men would tend to minimize them. For example, females were more likely than males to define sexual harassment by including jokes or depiction, teasing remarks of a sexual nature, and unwanted suggestive looks or gestures (Aronson, et al., 2014).

Community health nursing role; prevention efforts to prevent sexual violence must be targeted to young early adolescence before high school. Schools need to recognize that they are legally responsible to talk to youth and adults in schools about the definition of sexual harassment, the reporting of such behaviors, and youth need to understand their rights to attend schools without fear of sexual harassment (Sarah et al., 2013).

### **Significance of the study:**

Sexual harassment received insignificant concerns from media. This also holds true in the community including social, economic, and political proportions. Since the matter is sensitive yet frequently happening, talking about sexual harassment became part of everyday speech among local society. (Janet, 2016).

There is a need to recognize that schools must be legally responsible for talking to youth and adults in schools about the definition of sexual harassment, the reporting of such behaviors, and youth need to understand their rights to attend schools without fear of sexual harassment. Rather, adolescents inquire this relevant information in the Internet where millions of teens today used as their primary source for this information (Steiner & Barker, 2013).

### **Aim of the study:**

The aim of this study was to assess the young female adolescence perception among sexual harassment through:-

1. Assessing the young female adolescence knowledge about sexual harassment.
2. Assess the measurement and protection practices that the female students can take in consideration toward sexual harassment.

3. Assessing the young female adolescence perception toward sexual harassment.

#### **Research question:**

Are there association between knowledge of young female adolescence and their practices regarding sexual harassment?

#### **Research Design:-**

This study was a descriptive study design.

#### **Setting:**

The study was conducted in Jordan in That-Alnetakeen governmental school for females in Irbid city. This setting is considered as the largest governmental female's schools in Irbid city has about 1350 female students.

#### **Sample Technique:**

That-Alnetakeen is a governmental female's school has 255 female students in the 6th and 7th grade. 6th grade are 3 classes with 20 students in each. 7th grade has 4 classes with 48 students in each class. A random sample will be used to choose three classes from the 6th grade and two from 7th with total number of 156 students.

#### **Size:**

A purposive sample was used in the study. A total of 156 students have been chosen for the study according to inclusive criteria: Their aged ranged between 11-12 years old. Family consent form for total of 140 students from the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade have been chosen after excluding 16 students for the pilot study.

#### **Technical design: - Tools for data collection:**

One tool was used for conducted this study.

#### **A Self -Administered Questionnaire**

It was developed by the researcher based on recent related literature and experts, opinion it includes the following parts:-

**1<sup>st</sup>Part:** Sociodemographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, place of residence, monthly income, number of family member and number of rooms

**2<sup>nd</sup> Part:** Female student's knowledge about sexual harassment was used including **A.** Basic knowledge regarding sexual harassment with (5 Items) including definition, types, Causes, availability of educational programs regarding sexual harassment and the family role regarding education of sexual harassment **B.** Side effects of exposing to sexual harassment with (27 Items) covering the psychological effects (9 Items), social effects (9 Items) and physical effects (9 Items) **C.** Prevention of sexual harassment with (12 Items) including increase awareness of the early adolescents regarding sexual harassment, family role in follow up, monitor children during relationships even with relatives, trust relationship between family and children, school role in monitoring students, encourage female students to avoid deserted areas, family and school cooperation beside the social media and increase religion and ethical awareness in this regards.

#### **• Scoring system:**

#### **Female student's knowledge:**

A correct answer scored one and each incorrect answer scored zero, the whole knowledge questions scored 44 questions with 44 points, a total of 60% and above were

considered satisfactory and less than 60% were considered unsatisfactory.

**3<sup>rd</sup>Part:**Female student's Preventive measurement and protection practices that the female students can take in consideration toward sexual harassment were used pre/post educational program with (19 Items) including reporting to school member or family member or friends to deal with the harasser, run away from harasser, ignoring the situation, ask the harasser to stop, shouting or asking for help, threatening the harasser of reporting to school or family member, use self-defense or stop going to school.

- **Scoring system:**

**Assessing young female student's practices.** It consisted of four points scale, it has a score ranging from zero to 4 distributed as; did not do it=0, and it made things worse=1, Yes, there was no difference=3, Yes, things are made better=4, it included 19 statements; the total scale scored 19 points. The final score of students responses was classified either 60% and above representing done correctly or less than 60% denoting not done.

**4<sup>th</sup> Part:**Female student's perception towards sexual harassment with (7 Items) as regards sexual harassment occurs because of the girl's beauty and attractiveness, Afraid of sexual harassment in the society, Feel secure in the community, Feel the importance of telling the parents about sexual harassment, important to tell the teacher / counselor in case of sexual harassment, Want to have awareness programs about sexual harassment and women should be the main factor in reducing harassment.

- **Scoring system:**

The rating scale was consisted of three points scale, it has a score ranging from zero to two distributed as the following; Agree =2, Neutral = 1, disagree = 0, the scale included 7

statements as the highest score is two then the total scale scored 38 points. The final score of students responses was either 60% and above representing positive perception or less than 60% denoting negative perception.

**The Validity:** will be tested through 5 experts, from community health nursing department, Faculty of Nursing, Ain Shames University

**The reliability** was done by Cronbach's Alpha coefficient 0.75 which revealed that each of the three tools consisted of relatively homogenous items as indicated by the moderate to high reliability of each tool.

**Pilot study:**

A pilot study was conducted on 16 students, to evaluate clarity, visibility, measurements and content as well as the time required to fulfill the developed data collection assessment tool and the content of the educational program. The tools were finalized based on the results of the pilot study with some modifications such as omission of some items, and re-phrasing of others.

**Statistical data analysis:**

Data were revised, coded, analyzed and tabulated using the number and percentage distribution and carried out in the computer. Statistical package for social science (SPSS) version 20 was used. The following statistical techniques were used: Percentage, Mean Value, Standard Deviation, Chi-square (X<sup>2</sup>), T paired test and proportion probability (P-value).

**Ethical considerations:**

Approval was taken from research of ethics committee, Faculty of Nursing, Ain Shams University. An official permission including the title and purpose of the study was submitted from the concerned authorities'

That-Alnetakeen governmental school for females in Irbid city, in Jordan to get an approval for data collection to conduct the study. An informed consent was obtained from each participant and their parents before collecting any data. The researcher explained to the students the study aim in a simple and clear manner to be understood by their age. Assuring that no harmful maneuvers will be performed or used, and no foreseen hazards will be anticipated from conducting the study. Participants were informed about their right to withdraw from the study at any time without giving any reason; Participants were informed that data will be considered confidential and will be used only for the aim of this study. The researcher phone number and all possible communicating methods were identified to the participants to return at any time for any

### Results:

**Table (1):** Shows that the young female adolescents were in the age of 12 years representing 50.7% & not sufficient income, 44.3% their family member from 3-5 member. According to their father educational level found that 47.1% were finished secondary or diploma and 28.6% were bachelor, and only 29.3% of them were government employee. The same table represents that 42.9% of their mothers were preparatory school and 40.7% were not working while 50.7% live in the village.

**Table (2):** reported that students correct knowledge regarding Sexual harassment. 32.1% had correct answer for meaning of Sexual harassment, 33.6% had correct knowledge for causes, 30.7% for role of the family among sexual harassment and 29.3% only had total satisfactory knowledge.

**Table (3):** shows that the young female adolescents correct knowledge regarding Prevention methods among Sexual harassment. 32.1% had answer for observation of children by parents and school administration, 30.7% answer the School

explanation.

### Field Work:

- After obtaining a permit the researcher started to interviewed the young female students to explain the aim of the study, 4 days per week ( Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday ), from 9 am to 2pm for data collection.

- After the students had been fully informed and consented for participation in the research, the researcher started to collect data through structured interview which took 30 minutes.

- Study was carried out in the period from November, 2016 to May 2017.

should be protected the students from negative practices and 20.7 % said The media should limit the means of deflecting films, serials, newspapers, books, compressed tapes and 15.7 % only had a total satisfactory knowledge.

**Figure(1):** Reflects that 20.0% of Young female adolescents had correct knowledge regarding Psychological effects among Sexual harassment. 26.50% had answer for social effects among Sexual harassment and 35.0 % had a total satisfactory knowledge regarding physical effects on the Young female adolescents.

**Table (4):** reveals that 15.0% of the Young female adolescents had total done practices to protect them against sexual harassment while 85% hadn't practices.

**Table (5):** reveals that 44.3% of young female adolescents had positive perception towards sexual harassment while 55.7% had negative perception.

**Table (6):** Shows that there were statistically significant relation between young female adolescents total knowledge score

level and their age, father educational level & job, living place and mother job at  $P < 0.05$ .

young female adolescents total knowledge and their total practices at  $p < 0.001$ .

**Table (7):** states that there were highly statistically significant relation between

**Table (1):** Distribution of the young female adolescents according to their personal characteristics (N = 140).

Item	No	%
<b>Age</b>		
11	69	49.3
12	71	50.7
<b>Grade</b>		
6 <sup>th</sup>	70	50.0
7 <sup>th</sup>	70	50.0
<b>Living place</b>		
City	69	49.3
Village	71	50.7
<b>Income</b>		
Sufficient	69	49.3
Insufficient	71	50.7
<b>Family member</b>		
3-5	62	44.3
6-9	60	42.9
> 9	18	12.8
<b>Father level of education</b>		
Do not read or write	3	2.1
Read or write	8	5.7
Preparatory	23	16.4
Secondary / Diploma	66	47.1
Bachelor	40	28.6
<b>Mother level of education</b>		
Do not read or write	2	1.4
Read or write	8	5.7
Preparatory	60	42.9
Secondary / Diploma	49	35.0
Bachelor	21	15.0
<b>Father Job</b>		
Government employee	41	29.3
Technical	60	42.9
Private sector employee	34	24.3
Retired	5	3.5
<b>Mother job</b>		
Working	83	59.3
Not working	57	40.7

**Table (2):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their satisfactory knowledge about sexual harassment (No = 140).

Knowledge about sexual harassment	Satisfactory	
	N	%
Meaning of Sexual harassment	45	32.1
Types of sexual harassment	44	31.4
Causes of sexual harassment	47	33.6
Awareness and education programs on sexual harassment in the school	0.0	0.0
Role of the family among sexual harassment	43	30.7
<b>Total</b>	41	29.3

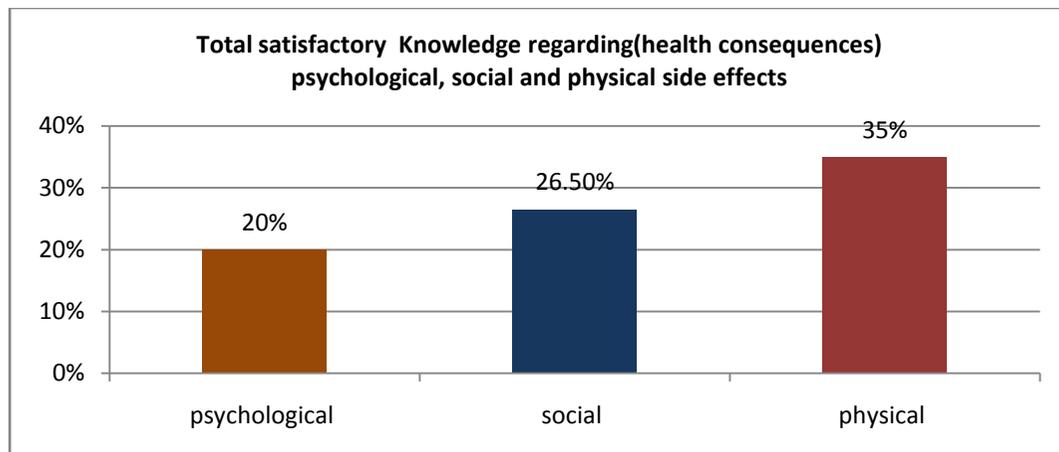
\*Responses are not mutually exclusive

**Table (3):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their satisfactory knowledge about the preventive methods that should be followed against sexual harassment (No = 140).

knowledge about Prevention methods	Satisfactory	
	N	%
Awareness of the children early	11	7.9
observation of children by parents and school administration	45	32.1
Avoid leaving of children alone and not paying attention to them.	13	9.3
Observe the relationship between adults and children and pay attention	31	22.1
Students' behavior and relationship with others must be monitored	17	12.1
Warned the mother jock with the child by play with their sexual organs as young child.	5	3.6
Surround the child with love and affection	10	7.1
. School children should be protected from negative practices by not leaving them in facilities for long periods	43	30.7
Necessary to monitor the children in their home and other places.	11	7.9
Prevent children and warn them to go to deserted places	23	16.4
Encourage children to adhere to the teachings of their religion and the morals of their community	27	19.3
The media should limit the means of deflecting films, serials, newspapers, books, compressed tapes, etc.	29	20.7
<b>Total</b>	22	15.7

\*Responses are not mutually exclusive

**Figure(1):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their satisfactory knowledge about side effect from exposure to sexual harassment (psychological, social, and physical effects) (No = 140).



**Table (4):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their done practices to protect them against sexual harassment (No = 140).

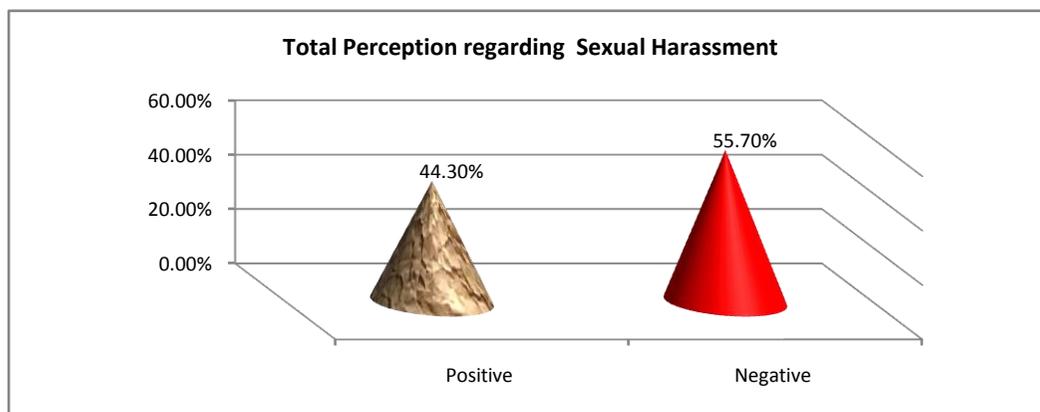
Female practices	satisfactory	
	N	%
Tried to resort to a school member to deal with this person	6	4.3
Threatened to resort to a family member to deal with this person	26	18.6
Tried to resort to a friend in the school to deal with this person	24	17.1
Told him that I did not like what he was doing	10	07.1
Tried to deal with him violently and his river	30	21.4
Tried to stay away from him as much as possible	18	12.9
Ignore the behavior	26	18.6
Asked or told that person to stop (verbally or in writing)	32	22.9
Threatened to notify the school administration or inform parents	40	28.6
Told a member of the family to threaten to get away from me	25	17.9
Formally requested advice / assistance from the school administration.	7	5.0
Silence and no reaction	30	21.4
No action taken	13	9.3
Tried to defend myself physically	11	7.9
Screamed and asked for help	8	5.7
Stopped going to school	35	25.0
Tried to escape	13	9.3
Brawl with the harasser	30	21.4
Screaming for help from passersby	18	12.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15.0</b>

\*Responses are not mutually exclusive

**Table (5):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their perception towards sexual harassment (No = 140).

Items	Agree %	Sometimes %	Disagree %
Feel that sexual harassment occurs because of the girl's beauty and attractiveness	37.1	19.3	43.6
Afraid of sexual harassment in the society in which I live	23.6	22.1	54.3
Feel secure in the community in which I live	42.1	27.1	30.8
Feel the importance of telling the parents about sexual harassment	35.7	26.4	37.9
Feel it is important to tell the teacher / counselor in case of sexual harassment	34.3	25.7	40
Want to have awareness programs about sexual harassment	37.9	27.1	35
The degree of resistance of women should be the main factor in reducing harassment	32.9	14.3	52.8

**Figure (2):** Distribution of Young female adolescents according to their total perception towards sexual harassment (No = 140).



**Table (6):**Relation between young female adolescents total knowledge and their socio demographic characteristic (No = 140).

Items	knowledge Mean $\pm$ SD	T- test	P-value
<b>Age (years)</b>			
11	15.93 $\pm$ 2.41	3.111	0.050*
12	17.31 $\pm$ 3.05		
<b>Father Education level</b>			
Do not read or write	16.59 $\pm$ 4.14	2.706	0.023*
read or write Preparatory	17.27 $\pm$ 3.11		
Secondary / Diploma	18.44 $\pm$ 2.93		
Bachelor	3.44 $\pm$ 0.98		
<b>Mother Education level</b>			
Do not read or write	16.32 $\pm$ 3.04	0.976	0.409
read or write Preparatory	15.09 $\pm$ 3.09		
Secondary / Diploma	18.33 $\pm$ 4.21		
Bachelor	18.78 $\pm$ 3.82		
<b>Living place</b>			
City	14.81 $\pm$ 3.43	1.311	0.003*
Village	15.9 $\pm$ 3.29		
<b>Father Job</b>			
Government employee	15.93 $\pm$ 2.41	2.849	0.006*
Technical	17.31 $\pm$ 3.05		
Private sector employee	18.79 $\pm$ 2.92		
Retired	14.24 $\pm$ 3.50		
<b>Mother job</b>			
Working	9.21 $\pm$ 3.28	2.170	0.033*
Not working	8.24 $\pm$ 2.06		

**Table (7):**Relation between young female adolescents total knowledge and their total practice score level (No = 140).

Total Practices	Satisfactory		Total Knowledge Unsatisfactory		Chi-square	
	N	%	N	%	X <sup>2</sup>	P-value
Done	86	61.4	13	9.3	18.1	<0.001**
Not done	22	15.7	19	13.6		

\*\* Highly significance

### Discussion:

The perception reflecting the apathy our society feels toward sexual harassment is indicated throughout our culture. Many

studies focusing on perception toward sexual harassment and perception toward female have shown the need for continued research Lee et al., (2016). The current study examined perception of young female adolescence toward sexual harassment and

rape myth acceptance because of increasing evidence that these attitudes are complex and require further study.

**Regarding Personal characteristics of the young female adolescents** the results of the current study revealed that the young female adolescents were in the age of 12 years representing half of them. On the same line, **Reza et al.,(2014)** in a result about Sexual violence and its health consequences for female children in Swaziland: a cluster survey study who shows that 56.7% from the sample were female, with the mean age 13.45 years and half of them lived in urban areas. This may be due to that younger age may be a reflection of lack of experience and lower education, resulting in students' inability to handle potentially difficult situations. In relation to income the present study revealed that around half of the sample insufficient income. Similarly, in a study done by **Dunne , (2013)** about Sexual abuse of school age children: Evidence from Kenya who observed that young school girls, who came from lower income families, are tempted into sexual liaisons by gifts and other promises. May be this indicated that economic problems also exert huge pressures on students making them violent or submissive in the face of social challenges. According to their father educational level found that less than half were finished secondary or diploma and less than one third were bachelor, and only one third of them were government employee. The same table represents that less than half of their mothers were preparatory school and two third were not working while half of them were live in the village.

**As regard the total knowledge of young female adolescents** about sexual harassment, the results of the current study showed that, less than one third of studied sample had total satisfactory knowledge regarding general knowledge about sexual harassment, this result Incongruence with **Lee et al., (2016)** in the study about Experience and perception of sexual harassment during

the clinical practice of Korean Students who stated that educational guidelines program can increase students' level of information through the use of basic principles, which are acceptance, understanding, empathy, and communication which are helping students to make decisions for themselves according to their information and problems. This finding contrary with **Celik, (2017)** in a sample 1000 participants, Turkey in a study about Sexual harassment against adolescence students in Turkey " who reported that the majority of students in this study reported that they don't know anything about sexual harassment. This in accordance to the study of **Witkowska & Menckel (2016)** whose results revealed that, more than two fifths of females had poor knowledge before program implementation. However these results contradict with **Larry, (2016)**, who reported that 66.6% of his sample had good knowledge related to definition and types of Sexual Harassment preprogram implementation.

As regard the student knowledge about prevention methods against Sexual Harassment this result illustrated that more than one tenth of young female adolescents had total satisfactory knowledge about the prevention methods against Sexual Harassment. This finding disagrees with **Gillandergaydin & Hammarstrom (2015)** who reported that the majority 87.1% of students exposed to sexual harassment reported that unsatisfactory knowledge about prevention methods against Sexual Harassment. Form the researchers point of view, this may be expected because of the difference in setting of the study, culture, tradition and belief of the participants with the researchers.

Related to student knowledge about Psychological effects of sexual harassment the current study Reflected that less than quarter of young female adolescents had total satisfactory knowledge about Psychological effects of sexual harassment. This finding disagree with **Witkowska & Menckel (2016)**

in a study about Perceptions of sexual harassment in Swedish high schools: experiences and school environment problems"sample 500 students " who revealed that the total knowledge of the young students about psychological consequences of sexual harassment reported highest prevalent was 31% psychological consequences followed by 16.5% physical consequences post guideline program. From the investigator point of view, this may be expected because Difference in sample size participants with the researcher. It is supported by **Zubairuetal., (2014)** in a study about the Prevalence and correlates of gender-based violence among female university students in Northern Nigeria. African who reported that more than quarter of the young female adolescents had total satisfactory knowledge pre educational program.

Regarding student knowledge about Social effects of sexual harassment this results reported that more than one quarter of the of young female adolescents had total satisfactory knowledge about Social effects of sexual harassment. These finding disagree with **Mulugeta et al., (2013)** in a study about the Prevalence and outcomes of sexual violence among high school students in Ethiop, who reported that more than one third of the study respondents have to face trouble sleeping or relaxing and more than half of the study had poor knowledge about Social effects pretest compared to more than two third had good knowledge posttest.

According to young female adolescents knowledge regarding physical effects of sexual harassment the current study demonstrated that more than one third of the young female adolescents had total satisfactory knowledge regarding physical effects of sexual harassment. These finding supported with a result by **Abbey (2015)** in a study about Alcohol-related sexual assault: A common problem among secondary school students who stated that more than two third of young students had good knowledge post

program regarding general side effects of sexual harassment. This contradicted with **Vega & Malamuth (2017)** in a result about : Predicting sexual aggression: The role of pornography in the context of general and specific risk factors who studied female adolescents reported that 9.9% of them had good knowledge, while 56.1% and 34% had fair and poor knowledge levels at pretest period. At posttest still those who had good level of knowledge represented (86.8%).

As regard the young female adolescent's practices to protect themselves against sexual harassment the current study reveals that more than one tenth of the Young female adolescents only know how to protect themselves against sexual harassment. This may be found that most students are unaware and lack many of the skills necessary to defuse a potentially sexual harassment behavior situation. This is comparable to what discovered by **de Bruijnetal., (2016)** in a study about A risky boundary: Unwanted sexual behavior among youth and done to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices related to sexual harassment among 859 adolescent girls in schools in Sri Lanka, of the total sample, approximately 60% of respondents identified how to protect themselves, only 17.1% don't knew and to study undertaken by **Chiodoetal., (2014)** in a study about the Impact of sexual harassment victimization by peers on subsequent adolescent victimization and adjustment: A longitudinal study. Journal of Adolescent Health who reported that only 8.8% of students identified correctly the appropriate time to perform the action taken to protect themselves preprogram improved to 78.8% post program implementation .May be The most common reasons for not practicing may be the students not training to know how to perform it" .

**In accordance to Young female adolescents' perception towards sexual harassment** the current study reveals that more than half of young female adolescents had negative perception towards sexual

harassment. This study disagrees with **Temple and Choi (2014)** in a study about longitudinal association between teen sixteen and sexual behavior who said there are no significant effects was found on sexual harassment behavior (victimization and perpetration). This comes agreement with other study results on the prevention of adolescent sexual assault (**Black et al. 2015**).

Related to the statistical relation the following study shows that there was a highly statistically significant difference between young female adolescents total knowledge score level and their age, father educational level & job, living place and mother job, which reflects that the parents' education and occupation affect the young female students' readiness to maintain and protect themselves. Which has been similar to a study was done by **Black et al., (2015)**. In the study about Evaluating a psycho educational sexual assault prevention program incorporating theatrical presentation, peer education to explore parental perspectives toward the provision of sexual harassment (SH), Parents' knowledge were associated with parental social-demographic characteristics. Also there was a highly statistically significant difference between young female students' knowledge and their practices.

### **Conclusion:**

**Based on the current study results and research question, the following can be concluded:**

More than half of the young female adolescents were in the age of 12 years and live in the village. More than two third of them had satisfactory knowledge regarding sexual harassment, the prevention methods and side effects from exposure to sexual harassment. Also the current study represented more than one tenth of the Young female adolescents had total done practices to protect them against sexual harassment. Also less than

half had a positive perception about sexual harassment.

There were highly statistically significant relation between personal characteristics of young female students and their total knowledge. Also there was a highly statistically significant relation between female adolescents total knowledge & their Practices at  $p$  value  $<0.001$ .

### **Recommendations**

**The finding of the present study, suggested the following recommendations**

- 1) Effective policies and procedures to combat this situation are established, policies and procedures would empower school administrators enabling them to take certain actions against sexual harassment.
- 2) Implement health education sessions in different schools regarding sexual harassment including knowledge and take certain actions against sexual harassment.
- 3) Booklets, manual and simplified teaching materials should be available for parents and teachers to guide them with essential information regarding sexual harassment.

### **Further research:**

- Further research is also recommended on how intervention designers should address prototypes of victims and perpetrators of sexual harassment in their programs.
- As necessary, a future study is suggested to be carried out using the longitudinal method to examine the multidimensional impact of adolescent sexual harassment and the development/progress they show in the process of psychosocial support they are provided.

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