



Blamed victims: society cuts open the wound of sexually-harassed women

Investigation reveals the judgement and discrimination imposed on sexually-harassed women in China

Group 01

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西安铁一中国际课程班

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- “ I heard you were almost raped by him, is that true? ”

- “Yeah.”

- “Then you are a dissolute woman.

This is a conversation between Valeria Yang and a man on Yang’s Weibo page. Valeria Yang is a twenty four-year-old female internet celebrity with around 310,000 followers on her Sina Weibo. At May 19th, 2018, she shared a post of a girl named Zhang WeiTing which had statements and evidences to accuse a men called Lou JiaHao of attempted rape. Along with six other girls who shared that post, Valeria Yang said that she was also nearly raped by Lou JiaHao three years ago. After she sharing the post, 7841 people subscribed it and 1317 comments and messages were send to her Weibo page, including the one above that judged her as being dissolute. According to our investigation, a vast majority of sexually harassed women bear such insults and discrimination from the society

11:42

< 返回

微博正文

...

 112页

5-19 14:43 来自iPhone X

337万 阅读

是惯犯 三年前把我拖进楼道要强奸我 我好不容易挣扎逃脱 发现裙子都被扯破了一条皮裙啊 小姑娘有勇气站出来说不容易 之前楼还做拉皮条生意 他们那个圈太乱了//@-哪吒:是惯犯, 两年前对我身体伤害。//@丝绸尾巴://@赵笙://@猜谜面:。//@竹干能活:转发

@Z张蔚婷:我是张蔚婷 00年出生 在杭州实习工作 8号我来杭州搬家, 被房东强奸未遂, 事发后我报了警, 他的父母威胁要弄死我 昨天我去搬东西他妈一口一个婊子骂我, 并扇了我一巴掌。

我跟他认识是在一个群里, 加了一年从来没有聊过, 然后有天他把我拉进一个群里, 是狼人杀, 在群里看到了他租房信息, 我当时着急租房就去看了房子, 租了下来。

每个月2千 我都按时交房租 一共租了两个月 住了15天左右 其他时间在老家考驾照一直没回

图一是事情经过

图二是我转给楼家豪租房的记录(我们平时没有过多的交流, 只是普通租客)

图三是事发后楼家豪朋友找我劝我私了

图四是事发后楼家豪父亲找我

图五是我得到警察告知我没有检测到证据我崩溃了 割腕了 她妈还打了我一巴掌(房间里没有找到刀, 我摔了杯子划得手腕)

我手里还有他们扬言弄死我的录音(昨天搬家的他父母多次辱骂我婊子的录音)

后来得到朋友的关注我发现还有更多的受害人

转发

评论

赞

11:42

< 返回

112页

...

转发 7841

评论 1373

赞 1974

按热度

 你的压

而且这个楼某人还是粉红的前男友.....//@112页:是惯犯 三年前把我拖进楼道要强奸我 我好不容易挣扎逃脱 发现裙子都被扯破了一条皮裙啊 小姑娘有勇气站出来说不容易 之前楼还做拉皮条生意 他们那个圈太乱了//@-哪吒:是惯犯, 两年前对我身体伤害。//@丝绸尾巴://@赵笙://@猜谜面:。//@竹干能活:转发

112页: 是的 当时发生这件事的时候他们还正在一起 粉红的粉丝应该都知道他是她男朋友 叫楼叫楼三岁

112页回复@本命年荣华富贵:不是楼佳豪双胞胎哥哥 是他本人

共119条回复 >

5-19 15:18

280

 BOOM雅南君

靠 是有多饥渴? 这种人该剃diao吧?!

112页: 真的 伤害了这么多女孩子! 无法无天! 垃圾!

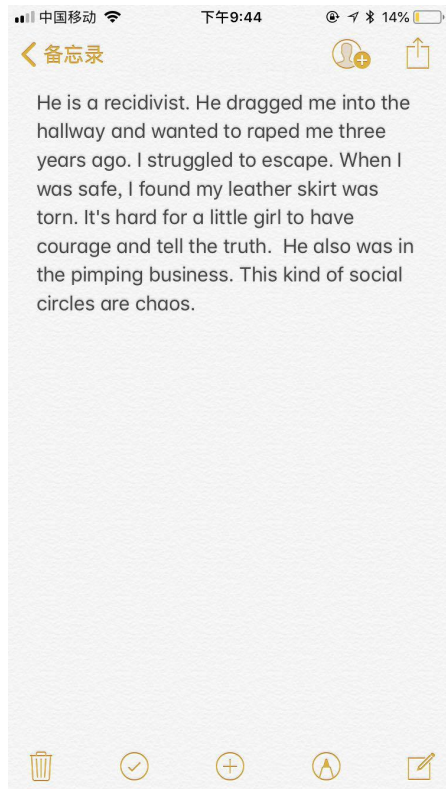
112页回复@用户5821002003:这跟漂亮与否无关真的 他这种人是女的就想侵犯

共9条回复 >

转发

评论

赞



Picture1: The post shared by Valeria Yang and the English translation.

Valeria Yang's encounter

It was in October, 2015 when an sexual harassment left a painful scar on Valeria's memory. Valeria Yang was a 21-year old university student majored in Spanish in HangZhou back then. With a gentle and kind heart, Valeria should have spent a peaceful and joyous college life surrounded by intimate friends.

At eight o'clock in a afternoon of October, Valeria was going to return to her school after finishing dinner with two female friends, but her friends insisted to invite Valeria accompany them to a birthday party held nearby. When they just left the restaurant, a boy named Lou JiaHao ran into them. Surprisingly, Lou JiaHao turned to be the one who held the birthday party. Considering Lou is a friend of Valeria's friend, Valeria thought of Lou as a nice and humorous guy, so four of them went to the birthday party together. At the birthday party, Lou was sitting on the left side of Valeria while her two friends were sitting on the right side of her, and Lou asked Valeria for her Wechat number and made friends with her.

“I cannot believe that Lou would do that to me,” said Valeria when we were interviewing her. When people at the party were having so much fun, Lou went outside, and within a few minutes, he texted Valeria to meet him outside. Valeria was confused and wondering whether Lou had any issues, so she went out alone. Outside the party room, Valeria saw Lou was waiting for her. With confusion and curiosity, she walked towards him, and Lou took her hand and pulled her to the stairway. All of a sudden, Lou embraced Valeria tightly and started kissing her and touching her body. “I was wearing a long sleeve top and a long leather skirt that reaches my ankle,” Valeria emphasized. Valeria resisted as hard as she could while Lou started touching her body, but Valeria’s struggle was nothing compared to the strong, athletic man in front of her. However, at the moment that Lou tried to take off her clothes, Valeria broke free and escaped. Run into to party room, Valeria found out her long leather skirt was teared broken. Calmly, she took her purse and coat, explained what Lou did to her best friend and returned to the school’s dormitory guarded by her friend safely.

According to our investigation and interview, Lou JiaHao was a student in Communication University of China when him committed crime to Valeria. Owning a private company for helping young teenager and kids prepare for future entertainment business (a company that teach students how to act, to sing and so on), Lou had countless chance of meeting young girls. He was notorious among the Internet for his disloyalty in relationship and frequent harassment towards females. At June 8th, Lou was arrested and convicted for sexual harassment.



Picture 2: Lou JiaHao's photo from his Sina Weibo page.

“It's never victims' fault.”

Recalling Lou JiaHao's harassment, Valeria was indignant and regretful. “I didn't have strong legal consciousness back then,” She said, “I thought of calling the police, but there was no evidence at all, plus, I thought maybe what Lou did was out of impulse and irrational and I should forgive him and give him another chance.” What Valeria didn't expected was that Lou did exact the same thing to countless girls.

When Valeria finally become brave and angry enough to publish her encounter on Internet, she was hurt again by the hostility, suspicions and judgement from the society. “ One third of the comment were judging us victims as sluts for being the subject of sexual harassment,” Valeria was upset, “ and a quarter of people believed we posted our experience for sensationalizing and gaining popularity.”

“ In my opinion, a large proportion of these judgement is from males with stubborn and traditional ideas that sex is a shame. Some of these males are afraid that if women continue to fight for their rights, men would not be at dominant position in the society

anymore. Secondly, a small number of judgement is from females. They have lost the ability of independent thinking, and they chose a path that is easier in their point of view, which is to be obsequious towards males, so these women are actually accomplice of those criminals,” Valeria answered when being asked about her opinions.

“I cannot understand,” Valeria said, “how could this be my fault. I didn’ t tell any one in my family, cause I am afraid they would regard me as lewd girl, too.”

“Sometimes these judgment is really harmful, they make you doubt yourself even if you are tough-minded. Why do people blaming me? Am I real guilty? Is it my fault to go to the birthday party? Is it my fault to add Lou’ s wechat and be friendly to him? I am so glad that I successfully overcame all these, but at the same time I am worry about other girls who had similar experience with me,” Valeria wanted to change this distorted opinion that is generally held by a large part of the society.

Although the judgement under Valeria’s weibo page was deleted, we found other similar comments.

Siriyiyi
恕我直言，苍蝇不叮无缝的蛋
7-27 00:28

- *He harassed you must because you deserved it (for acting dissolutely).*

昨男88
说不定你当时很开心，事后反悔，不要脸
7-26 22:44

- *I guess you were enjoy at that moment but regretted later, such a shameless woman.*

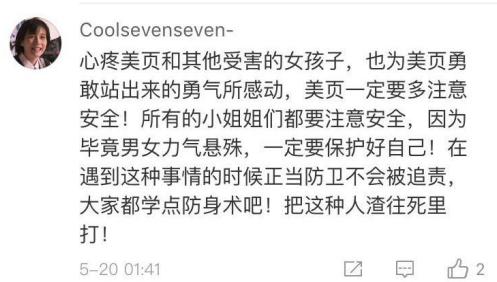
冷血无情祝我早si
要是被摸个腿就能报警那警察可真是忙死了哟喂
8-1 12:31

- *Policeman would die for overworking if you call “touching your leg” a crime.*

However, there were also positive and supportive comments encouraging victims to fight for their rights without being affected by negative words.



- You are doing a great job. Please protect yourself.



- I'm touched by your bravery, please be safe. All the females please protect yourself and fight back when necessary. Learn some defense skills.



- You are so brave for speaking out!

Researches on humiliating judgment and sexual harassment exerted on victims

“Some victims developed psychological and physical diseases after encountering sexual harassment and being judged and doubted by the public would only cause further harm to them.”

---Valeria Yang

For those insulting judgement, Valeria called it “slut humiliation”. This kind of judgement describes female victims as dissolute women and says that these women should take the responsibility of being sexually harassed or raped. People who hold discrimination believe that women who return home late, who had many boyfriends, who had tattoos, or who was sexually harassed before are all leching and should not

be protected or respected.

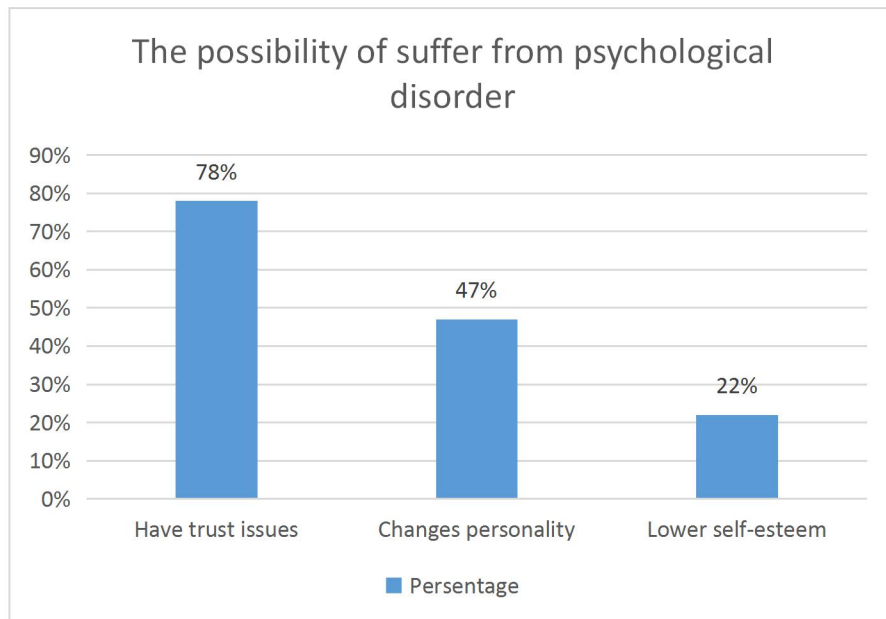


Picture 3: “Slut humiliating”related judgement

Meanwhile the impact of sexual harassment should not be neglected.

A research showed that about 78% victims are likely to be afraid of or skeptical towards others, 47% of victims' personality would change and become unwilling to communicate or get along with others, and 22% of victims believe that they would be discriminated by the society because of their experiences.

<http://news.sina.com.cn/s/p/2005-06-28/03207061263.shtml?from=wap&qq-pf-to=pcqq.group>



From an article from national broadcast company news website, we can learn though several experts that sexual harassment cause both serious mental and physical illness. “Among women who experience a sexual assault, 90 percent who experience sexual violence in the immediate aftermath exhibit symptoms of acute stress,” says Dr. Helen Wilson, a licensed clinical psychologist with expertise on the effects of trauma. “It takes a certain number of symptoms to diagnose, but that’s when it can become PTSD.”

"An experience with sexual harassment can either trigger symptoms of depression and anxiety that are new to the person; or it can exacerbate a previous condition that may have been controlled or resolved. Patients may also see a worsening of symptoms," says Dr. Cullen, a licensed clinical psychologist, "Some research has found that sexual harassment early in one's career in particular can cause long-term depressive symptoms."

“Sometimes sexual harassment registers as a trauma, and it's difficult for the patient to deal with it, so what literally happens is the body starts to become overwhelmed,” says Dr. Nekeshia Hammond, a licensed psychologist. “These physical symptoms can run the gamut, manifesting as muscle aches, headaches, or even chronic physical health problems such as high blood pressure and problems with blood sugar.”

<https://www.nbcnews.com/better/health/hidden-health-effects-sexual-harassment-ncna-810416>

Therefore, imagine that a victim has to be put through both slut humiliating and psychological and physical damages. The victim could be a teenage girl who just entered high school, a young woman who had great passion about her future, or a newly married wife, and the discrimination and sexual harassment could torture them, eat them alive and eventually destroy them.

Whereas there are also many institutions that sexual harassment victims could be provided with help and advice. For instance, Stanford University holds Sexually Harassment Policy Office where victims can learn about how to protect themselves and consult for assistance. Bradley University also provides student support services for victims suffering from sexual harassment. Moreover, more and more not-for-profit social institutes are being held and more and more activities like #metoo on social media are being supported to provide aids for victims and fight against discrimination.

<https://harass.stanford.edu/be-informed/effects-sexual-harassment>

<https://www.bradley.edu/offices/student/support/harassment/>

In conclusion, more and more women like Valeria Yang are standing out and fighting against the criminals who once hurt them. While these females are utilizing the advancement of internet to defend themselves, speak up, warn others as well as support each other, the internet should not be a place for irrational, illogical and discriminant judgement to grow unscrupulously. Women should not be blamed or be harmed by criminals' illegal behavior. Whether these women wear pants or shorts, whether they had no boyfriend or twenty boyfriends before, whether they walk on the street at ten o'clock in the evening or not, it should never be regarded as reasonable or acceptable for them to be sexually harassed. It is unfair for victims to be blamed, and we along the society must not turn our back on them and stab the knives into their already miserable wounds.