

Abstract

This human rights project involved the creation of a workshop on gender-based street harassment for FLINTA* (frauen(women), lesbian, inter-, non-binary, trans- and agender" people) residing in Berlin, Germany. Employing an arts-based therapy approach known as body mapping, participants visually expressed their bodies, emotions, and experiences related to gender-based street harassment. The workshop sought to empower FLINTA* individuals by focusing on their right to self-determination, exploring shifts in 'power within,' including self-worth, self-confidence, inner strength, sense of identity, and dignity, as well as shifts in 'power to,' such as the ability to take action, exert control, make a difference, and decide on their course of action. The central research questions guiding the workshop were: What are the experiences of FLINTA* who have faced gender-based street harassment, and what are the needs to feel in control and safe in public spaces? The workshop's outcomes revealed a sense of empowerment among participants, increased solidarity, and a call for structural changes to combat gender-based street harassment.

Glossary

Catcalling

- Catcalling refers to sexually connotated behavior or various types of **sexual harassment without physical contact**. This includes whistling or kissing noises, intrusive glances, supposed compliments, insinuating remarks or comments about a person's appearance in public spaces (Lehmann, 2021).

F(W)LINTA*

- The term "women" is often understood in a **binary** system and addresses "cis-hetero-women" which is therefore often **exclusive**
- The term "F(W)LINTA*" is used to refer to, **include, and name all people who are oppressed by patriarchy because of their gender identity**. The acronym "F(W)LINTA" stands for "**frauen(women), lesbian, inter-, non-binary, trans- and agender" people** (Kurby, 2021).

Gender

- “Gender is a **social construct**. Gender shapes **expectations, attributes, roles, capacities and rights**” (WEDO). Gender is hierarchical and produces inequalities that intersect with other social and economic inequalities (Global Climate Policy, n.d.).

Gender-based Violence

- Gender-Based violence refers to **harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender**. It is rooted in gender inequality, the abuse of power and harmful norms.
- Gender-based violence (GBV) is a serious violation of human rights and a life-threatening health and protection issue (UNHCR, 2021).

Sexual Violence / Sexual Harassment

- Sexual harassment can be defined as **any form of unwanted verbal, non-verbal or physical sexual conduct which occurs with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person** (Council of the European Union, 2004).
- Sexual harassment includes a multitude of behaviors such as unwanted sexual statements, unwanted personal attention, unwanted physical or sexual advances, sexual coercion, stalking and attempted or completed rape (Bondestam, Lundqvist, 2020). **Sexual harassment is a form of sexual violence.**