



SWEDISH
SECRETARIAT FOR
GENDER RESEARCH

Blind spots and challenges in higher education

– lessons from international research reviews on sexual harassment

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NIKK

Nordic Information
on Gender



Commissioned by
Nordic Council of Ministers



ERAC SWG GRI

Standing Working Group on Gender in Research and Innovation

SE mandate: gender based harassment in academia in EU28 & AC

March 2020



Sexual harassment in academia

An international research review

Swedish Research Council

2018

RESEARCH REVIEWS

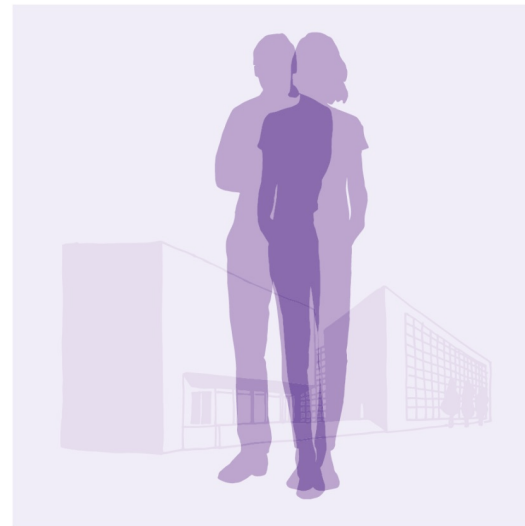
- ✓ 800 publications
- ✓ out of 5 561
- ✓ peer-reviewed
- ✓ 1966-2018
- ✓ Nordic research

VR.SE

UHR.SE

Förebyggande arbete mot sexuella trakasserier i akademien

En internationell forskningsöversikt



www.uhr.se

— An overview of research

- **Prevalence:** 2 - 93 percent. 25 percent of female students in the United States report experiences of SH in most large studies. Adding sexual assault: > 50 percent
- **Causes:** power inequalities, academic (and online) culture, dependence, heterosexism, precarious employments, downgrading of women's (unpaid) work
- **Consequences:** for individuals, families, fellow students, colleagues, student and work environment, research groups, recruitment, career paths, organization, structure; i.e. quality in research and education



— An overview of research

CURRENT

Local mapping

Policy

Training

Complaints

UPCOMING

National studies

Support structure

Doing leadership

Work environment

RESEARCH

Attention → Understanding

Reparative measures

Bystanders

Terms of employment



Blind spots & challenges

- Individual, juridical concept of SH, leaving out sexual violence, GBV, violence in general
- Underreporting, both in studies and in practice
- Studies on perpetrators and bystanders are few
- Almost no longitudinal or comparative studies
- Lack of intersectional perspectives on SH





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