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WOMEN DEALING WITH HARASSMENT IN TECH

Male-Dominate Field

Within tech companies, 71% of women have worked in a male-dominate culture.³ Most of the women who have worked in this setting felt excluded, unsafe, and uncomfortable.³ Although it might appear that women in technology are increasingly moving into the same male-dominate field, the figures are not increasing fast enough. There is compelling evidence to demonstrate that a large majority of women experience sexual harassment in a professional workplace, this includes the newly built platform LinkedIn. Many women experience concerns of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in the IT Industry.

D Magazine Article



**MEET THE FORMER
FBI AGENT WHO NOW
HELPS DALLAS CEOS
FIGHT CYBERCRIME**

Did you know?

- 1 in 4 women who attend cybersecurity events around the world are sexually harassed¹
- 40% of internet users have personally experienced online harassment²
- 20% of women said yes and 36 percent said sexual harassment is a problem in their workplace²
- Female tech employees, 48% of them experienced harassment and 43% of those incidents were sexual in nature⁴



YT: KGOSHIGADI NOKO RAKOMA 🇳🇬
@KgoshigadiNR



I spoke about this a few weeks ago Sis, the men on LinkedIn are the worst, they went as far as dictating to me what pictures I should put up if I don't want them asking me out? I was defeated.



Mthaniya @letago_

Don't ask me out on LinkedIn 😞 Just give me a job bra

7:32 AM · Jun 17, 2019



Rachel Holloway 🌙
@rachel_holloway



Why do men on LinkedIn think it's appropriate to talk to women like this? It's a professional platform...you were asking if I was available to talk about jobs....why are you winking? 🙄



Najwa Zebian 🔵
@najwazebian



#MeToo

And I was blamed for it.
I was told not to talk about it.
I was told that it wasn't that bad.
I was told to get over it.

7:07 PM · Oct 15, 2017 from London, Ontario



*Sources:
1Frankland, Jane. (2020, February). Not on my Watch!. LinkedIn. [LinkedIn.com/pulse/my-watch-jane-frankland/](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/my-watch-jane-frankland/)
2White, Sarah K. (2020, January). Women in tech statistics. CIO from IDG. [cio.com/article/3516012/women-in-tech-statistics-the-hard-truths-of-an-uphill-battle.html](https://www.cio.com/article/3516012/women-in-tech-statistics-the-hard-truths-of-an-uphill-battle.html)
3Lynkova, Darina. (2020, January). Women in Technology Statistics: What's new in 2020?. TechJury.net. techjury.net/blog/women-in-technology-statistics/#gref
4Admin. (2020, October). Sexual Harassment of Women in the Tech Sector. Supplyty News (Global Diversity News). supplytynews.com/2020/10/12/sexual-harassment-of-women-in-the-tech-sector/

A Letter from Mary N. Chaney, Chairman, CEO & President

Dear MiC Community,

Many times the topics we choose to discuss on a monthly basis are a direct result of something I am experiencing at the time. This month is no different! There were a couple of things that happened to me personally and in talking to mentees, the question kept coming up. What do I do as a woman when I am receiving unwanted attention in a professional setting?

That got me to thinking about the times in my 25 plus year career where I felt uncomfortable. I wouldn't say "harassed" because in those experiences I never felt that I lost my sense of power or control, heck I am a former FBI agent and men tend to act accordingly. He can try, but I guarantee it will not end well.

However, there have been times in my majority male dominated career path, whether as an IT professional, attorney, the aforementioned time as a FBI agent, and being in information security working for corporations or as an entrepreneur, I have felt uncomfortable with the conversations that were being had, the glances down my shirt, the unwanted attention at tech conferences or even when using the professional site LinkedIn. It seems no matter how much we strive as women to obtain some sense of ownership over our own lives we have to deal with the sometimes demeaning behavior of some men.



Mary N. Chaney, Esq., CISSP, CIPP/US
Chairman, CEO & President
Minorities in Cybersecurity, Inc.

But here's the thing, when people say things that show some sort of racial or sexist bias, they are really trying to usurp your power! Trying to throw you off your game because of their own inadequacies and/or insecurities, attempting to make you feel less of the powerful, successful woman you are. Do not let those situations deter you from continuing to strive to be your best. Do not let anyone steal the very important work you are doing cracking and breaking glass ceilings in this field. My suggestion to all women that don't have one, get a male communication coach! A brother, cousin, or friend, someone who can teach you how to put a man right back in his place with the right words, without thinking twice.

Don't allow the challenges of unwanted attention that tend to happen because you are a woman in a male dominated field prevent you from attaining the success you deserve!

Sincerely,

Mary N. Chaney,
Esq., CISSP, CIPP/US