

HOW TO GUIDE:

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Campaign Overview

From parks, university campuses and bus stops to our local high streets, girls across the UK are facing harassment every day. They're being followed, shouted at, touched, groped and grabbed – and they want it to stop. This relentless harassment is holding girls and women back – impacting their mental health, restricting their freedom and making them feel unsafe. This has to end.

Harassment of girls is going unreported and unpunished. It's time to make it a crime. That's why [Our Streets Now](#) and [Plan International UK](#) came together to launch the **#CrimeNotCompliment** campaign to call for public sexual harassment to be made a crime.

Why it's important to spread the word

To make the campaign as powerful as possible, we need to shift attitudes and build mass support behind the call and show that enough is enough. We need as many people as possible to join the campaign by [adding their name](#) to show MPs we must make public sexual harassment a crime. That's where you come in. A great way of introducing new people to the campaign is by speaking at events in your community.

Top tips for speaking at community events

STEP 1

Have a think about what spaces in your community you could speak at to raise awareness. This could be at your school, university, workplace, youth centre, book group, place of worship or local activism group. The options are endless.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, it is unlikely that you will be able to speak at an event in person and so we advise that you do it virtually via a video call, and ensure to follow all government coronavirus advice.

STEP 2

Contact the organisers and ask if you can have a slot to talk about the campaign at the next meeting or event. Or self-organise an event or call and outreach to members of your community so they know to attend. Make sure you know how much time you will have to speak and the necessary logistical details, such as which video calling platform will be used.

STEP 3

Prepare in advance what you want to say. Here is some guidance:

The problem: Explain that the issue of public sexual harassment is widespread and is having a huge impact on girls and holding them back. New statistics from the campaign show that half of all UK girls experienced harassment this Summer.

Make it personal & participatory: If you feel comfortable, then share why this issue matters to you and how it has impacted you. You could get creative and draw a map of your local streets to show where you feel harassment most commonly occurs. Or if you are a parent, you could share how this issue makes you feel – new national statistics from the campaign show 80% of parents in the UK worry their daughter will experience public sexual harassment during her lifetime. Include your audience, perhaps ask questions about their experiences or engage them in group discussion.

The Solution: Explain that current UK legislation is not fit for purpose and is leaving girls unprotected. Across the world, a number of countries have put in place specific legislation to address public sexual harassment in its entirety, but the UK is lagging behind. But the #CrimeNotCompliment campaign is presenting an opportunity to catch up in the form of a parliament-ready bill.

Ask for their support: Make sure you end by asking your audience to join the campaign by [adding their name here](#).

[Here are](#) some #CrimeNotCompliment slides you could use, with photography, video and statistics to support your presentation or speech.

There are lots more information on spreading the word, including top tips on public speaking, in Plan International UK's '[Act For Girls: Amplify](#)' guide.

If you are speaking at an educational institute, there are some further resources [here](#) as part of Our Streets Now's school project.

Follow up

It is vital to remember to follow up after your meeting:

- Email the organisers or audience to thank them for their time and to share the link for them to [add their name](#) to join the campaign.
- Email the campaign on supporterquestions@plan-uk.org and let us know how you got on.
- Share on social media using **#CrimeNotCompliment** so others can join who were not able to attend the event.

And well done! A huge thank you for being a vital part of the **#CrimeNotCompliment** campaign. Please don't hesitate to get in touch at the above email address if you have any questions. And [click here](#) for more ways you can support the campaign.

Yes, you did it!

