

yes! I would like to support BWSS to end violence against women.

I would like to donate immediately to BWSS. \$

Monthly Sustaining Member

I wish to become a Monthly Sustaining Member and make my gift of \$ every month.

I authorize BWSS to **bill my credit card on the 1st of each month.** I understand that I may cancel my contribution at any time with written notice.

Payment Information

Enclosed cheque payable to BWSS

VISA MasterCard

Card number

Name on card

Expiry date /

Signature: _____

Contact Information

Name

Address

Phone

Email

We respect your privacy and **will not** trade or sell your name to other organizations

I have remembered BWSS in my will

Please contact me to discuss how I can include BWSS in my financial and estate planning

Please send your completed form and donation to:

By Mail **BWSS**
P.O. Box 21503
1424 Commercial Dr.
Vancouver, BC V5L 5G2

By Phone 604.687.1868 ext. 315
By Fax 604.687.1864
Online www.bwss.org

**Thank you
for your
gift!**

YOUR GIFT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
We will send you a tax receipt.

What is sexual harassment on transit?

Examples of sexual harassment include:

- **Comments about someone's appearance, gender or sexual orientation**
- **Sexually explicit comments**
e.g., "Hey! You're hot wanna get busy with me?"
- **Vulgar gestures, leering, whistling, barking making kissing sounds**
- **Following someone, flashing or exposing oneself, blocking someone's path**
- **Sexual touching or grabbing**
e.g., touching someone's legs, breasts or butt
- **Public masturbation**

At Battered Women's Support Services, we contribute to the freedom and liberation of girls and women from violence and to empower our community through training and education programs. For over 35 years, we have been providing counselling and healing spaces for those who have experienced abuse. To help women build strength and resiliency, we work on systemic advocacy, law reform, in-class youth engagement programs and we operate a social enterprise called My Sister's Closet in British Columbia. In addition, we support violence prevention by urging men to own their role in ending violence against girls and women.

If you are concerned about an abusive incident or relationship call our crisis line at **604.687.1867**

#TransitTuesday

Battered Women's Support Services

Sexual harassment on public transport is a problem **we must solve**

#TransitTuesday

What Should You Do When Someone Is Being Sexually Harassed on Public Transportation

At BWSS, we don't believe that harassment is an unavoidable part of a woman's daily commute. We believe that women must be able to move about and occupy the public space without being placed in danger or threatened. It's a fundamental freedom.



www.bwss.org • www.theviolencestopshere.ca

bwss
BATTERED WOMEN'S
SUPPORT SERVICES

The Violence Stops Here

Sexual harassment on public transport is an everyday occurrence for millions of girls and women living in some of the world's biggest capitals.

According to Hollaback Vancouver, 58% of women surveyed indicate they don't feel safe on transit. As of October 2014, sex crimes reported to Metro Vancouver Transit Police are 28 percent higher than the six year average.

For women, the freedom to move around cities comes with caveats. Every time we go out, we make a set of complex calculations to avoid sexual harassment, assault, or worse.

What Should You Do When Someone Is Being Sexually Harassed on Public Transportation

#TransitTuesday

Bystanders to sexual harassment on public transportation give the following reasons why they don't intervene:

- It's not my problem
- Nobody else is doing anything
- It's no big deal... right?
- I don't know what to do
- I don't want to get my butt kicked
- I can't make a difference
- I don't want to be late for work/school
- I don't want to make a big deal about it
- It's my friend who is sexual harassing

Survivors Speak

"I was almost as injured by the bystanders on the bus doing nothing as I was by the three men who intentionally pushed their crotches into my face as they exited the bus after calling me a slut."

"Bystanders who have the ability to intervene doing nothing, or actually just turning their backs, putting their earphones in—they are participating in the attack."

"What the guy did was horrible and what made it worse was everyone else on Skytrain who witnessed the assault and did nothing."

Bystanders Be Silent No More

Here's a few actions you can take will make a difference

Rolling Solo

- "Hey knock it off"
- "Are you ok?"
- Go stand next to the woman being targeted so they know they are not alone.
- Ask the woman, "Are they bothering you?"
- Take a picture with your phone
- Look disapprovingly at the person doing the harassing behavior

- Offer to get off at the next stop with the woman and catch the next train together.
- Don't join in or laugh.
- Loudly say "ugh, that is so gross"

Squad

- Tell a transit authority worker
- Yell "Somebody do something!"
- Get a group together to intervene
- Call 911 or contact Transit Police by texting 87-77-77
- Text a friend who is on Skytrain, Seabus or bus with you and ask them to HELP!
- Make eye contact with some other

bystanders and ask, "What should we do to help?"

Stealth Moves

- Ask for directions
- Offer the woman your seat
- Act like you know the woman and say "I've been looking everywhere for you – we have to hurry to meet our other friends"
- Drop your bags to create a commotion

Consider your safety when deciding when, if and/or how to intervene.

SOURCES:

Green Dot Etcetera Strategy
Hollaback Vancouver
Metro Vancouver Transit Police
Translink Harassment

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