

SHEHAP project: sexual harassment prevention at school



SHEHAP project

- Duration of the project 2020-2023
- 4 countries, 8 partners
- Funding program Erasmus + for schools.
- The share of external funding is € 310,146.







Project partners

- Turku University of Applied Scienses (Coordinator)
- BI Klaipedos miesto visuomenes sveikatos biuras, Lithuania
- Klaipedos Versmes progimnazija, Lithuania
- ESEL Escola Superior de Enfermagam de Lisboa, Portugal
- Agrupamento de Escolas de Santo António, Portugal
- Vasaramäen koulu, Turku
- PANEPISTIMIO DYTIKIS ATTIKIS, Greece
- 9th High School Kallitheas "Manos Xatzidakis, Greece





The objectives of the project

- 1.To improve the accuracy and to-the-point content of materials about sexual harassment prevention in schools by providing study-based information and analysis about the information needs of secondary school pupils, teachers and parents.
- 2.To improve the topicality and attractiveness of the educational materials about sexual harassment prevention by involving secondary school pupils in the development of up-to-date teaching and learning materials.
- 3.To decrease all forms of sexual harassment in schools by enhancing the ability of pupils, teachers and school staff to detect, prevent and intervene in sexual harassment.
- 4.To improve the skills and knowledge in sexual harassment prevention of teachers and different professional groups working in schools by equipping them with meaningful tools and useful guidelines.
- 5.To raise the awareness of parents about sexual harassment prevention and to provide them with instructions and tips about how to discuss sexual harassment with their children.





What is sexual harassmet?

Sexual harassment is defined in the EU Directive (2006/54/EC) as "where any form of unwanted verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature occurs, with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person, in particular when creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment" and it states that shall be accounted as discrimination on the grounds of sex and therefore prohibited.

Sexual violence, including sexual harassment, frequently occurs in "safe" places, such as schools, where perpetrators include peers and teachers.

Studies have found differences in what perceived as sexual harassment according to characteristics of the behavior and context.





What is sexual harassmet? – Some Examples

- sexually suggestive gestures or facial expressions
- obscene language, double-meaning jokes, and remarks or questions about body, dress or private life
- pornographic material, sexually explicit letters, e-mails, text messages or telephone calls
- physical touching
- propositions or requests for sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual intercourse
- rape or attempted rape.
- derogatory language about the opposite gender
- demeaning of the opposite gender
- bullying at work or school when it is based on the gender of the person being bullied





The need for the project arose from the previous project.

"I would like to learn more about sexual harassment at school, for it is a problem to which no attention is paid enough attention. Many have no enough knowledge about subject to affect things. Sexual harassment is also often not visible to the surface, as many want to cover having fallen victim to it."

"How to report online about sexual harassment"

"What is the best way to react if you are harassed"

"Thigs which are related to sexual harassment legislation"





Save the Children survey on children and youth faced sexual harassment in 2018

- Especially girls face sexual harassment via the phone or the Internet (15-18% of girls and 3-6% of boys depending on school level)
- 12-16% of girls, and 2-4% of boys face sexual harassment in somewhere public place (depending on school level).
- Only a small proportion of the sexual harassment experienced by pupils and students happen school.
- More than 30 per cent of children and young people (13-18 year old) have seen sexual harassment by other children and young people (over the past year)
- More than ten per cent of girls and less than five per cent of boys have been sexually harassed by other young people.



- The most common way for children and young people to take action against sexual harassment is to block the perpetrator or tell a friend.
- Most children and young people would not tell about sexual harassment to adults.
- One in three children and young people does not get adequately inform about sexual harassment legislation.





The most central functions of the project

- Online camp on October 2021 in Zoom
- Teacher interviews Spring 2022
- Survey for parents Spring 2022
- Working with the material in schools spring/autumn 2022
- Evaluation camp 2022 in Klaipeda
- Translating materials and adapting them to the website Spring 2023
- Testing of materials and necessary modification Spring 2023





Key considerations that the project has raised:

Young people encounter sexual harassment in their everyday life in very different situations

Sexual harassment takes place in very different ways, but harassment on social media is emphasized among young people

The main feelings that harassment causes are fear, guilt and shame

Addressing sexual harassment is culturally bound

Finnish schools do not have guidelines for sexual harassment

However, teachers recognize the same forms of sexual harassment as young people

Parents are ready to discuss harassment with their children





The results of the project is:

Websites with material for identifying and preventing sexual harassment

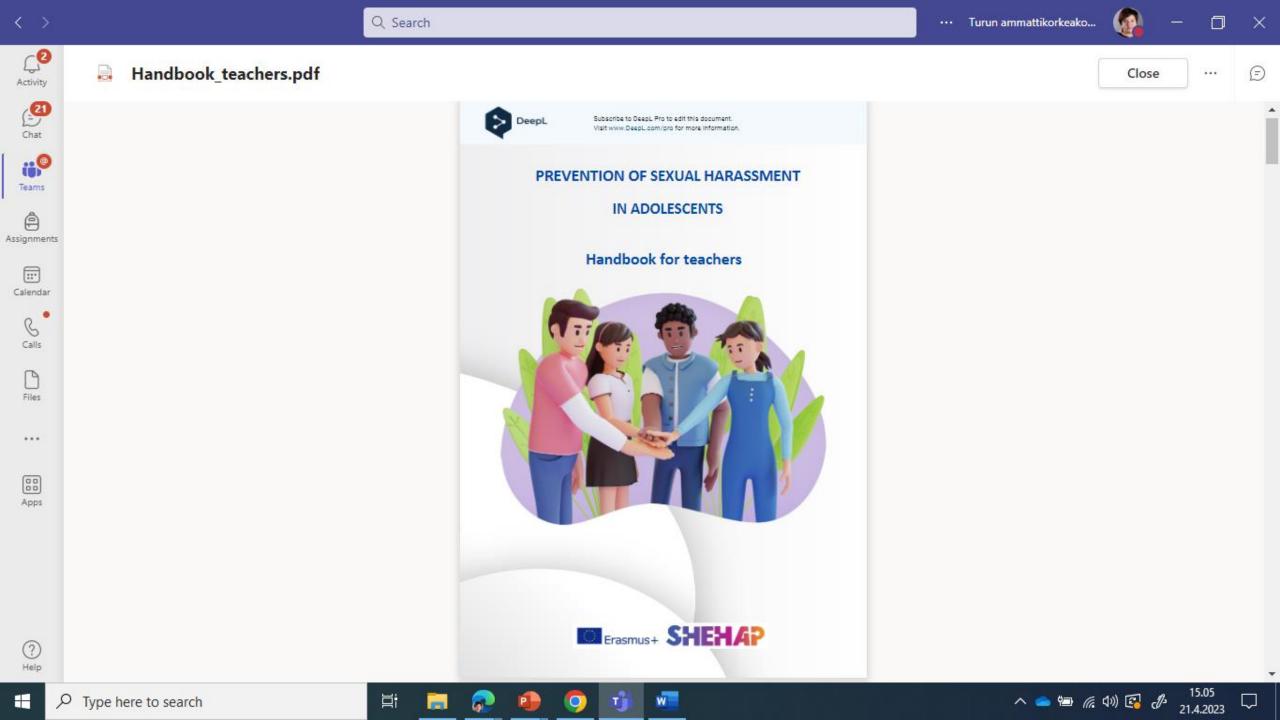
- For students, teachers, parents

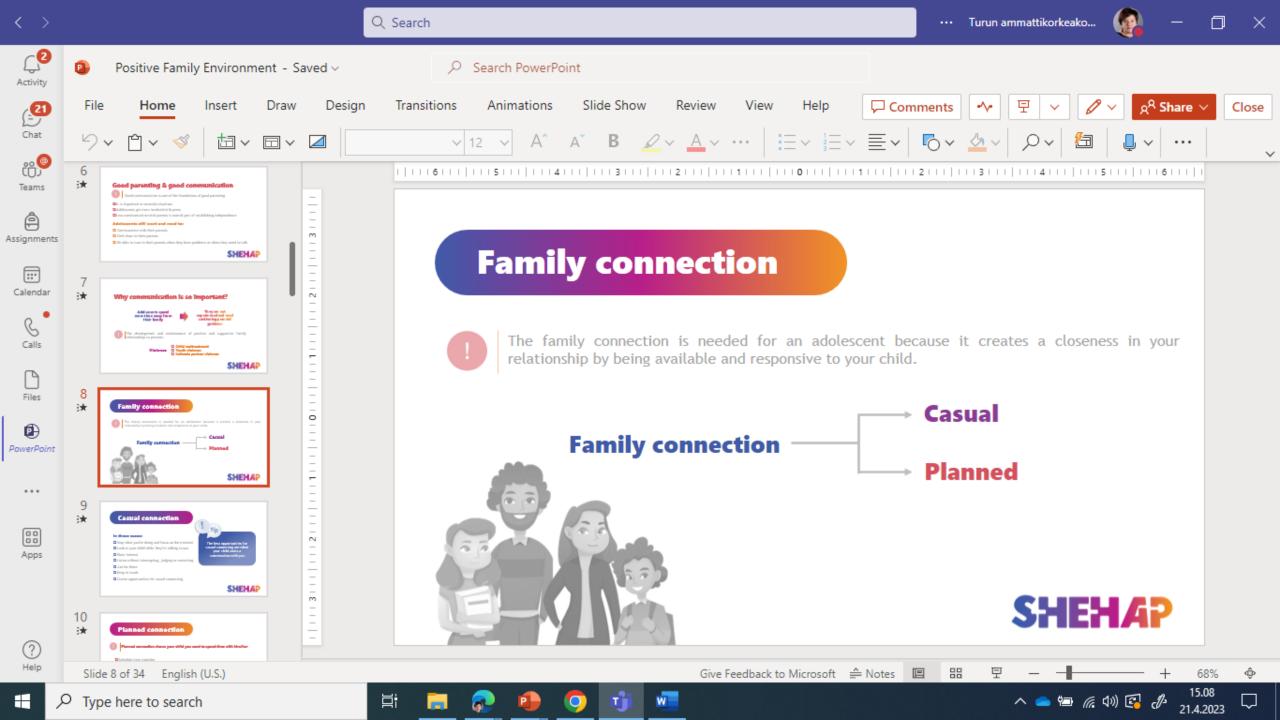
Guidance for schools on identifying and preventing sexual harassment

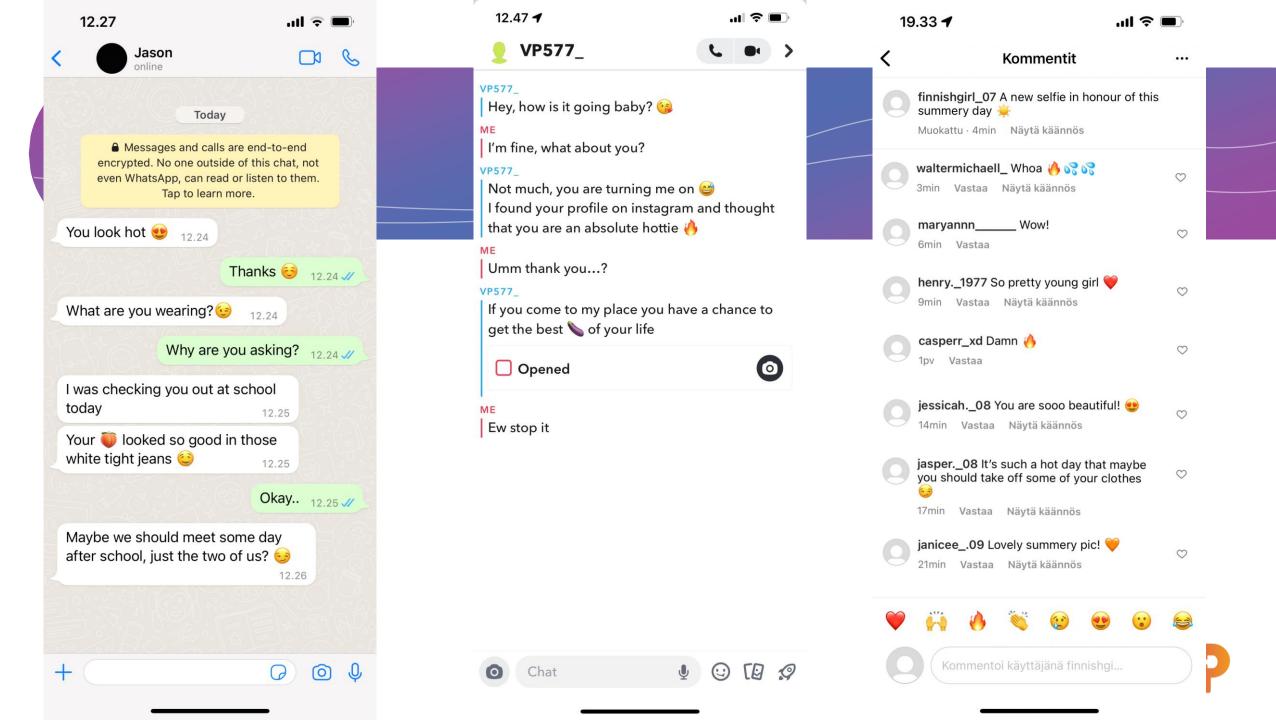












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