The Gender Gap in US STEM is explained by a Gauntlet Problem, Not a Pipeline Problem

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> http://nationalacademies.org/SexualHarassment #ScienceToo

Main findings of the report

- 1. Sexual harassment is about gender, not sex
- 2. The legal system is inadequate to address this problem
- 3. Leadership and culture change are needed



http://nationalacademies.org/SexualHarassment #ScienceToo

92% of sexual harassment involves "put-downs"



Gender harassment

Gender harassment and unwanted sexual attention

Unwanted sexual attention

All 3 types

Adapted from Schneider et al 1997



Unwanted sexual advances, sexual coercion

Sexual jokes or imagery in a talk



Sabotage of someone's grant, labwork, equipment

Put-downs

Come-ons

A man standing over a woman while disagreeing with her



Asking a new mother if she really plans to come back to work

Sexist comments about aptitude

Cortina, Cantalupo, others

Three quarters of women in the field sciences observe sexist remarks



Figure 1. Proportion of survey respondents, by gender, who indicated that inappropriate or sexual comments occurred never, rarely, regularly, or frequently at their most recent or most notable field site (N). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0102172.g001

More than three quarters of women in astronomy and planetary science observe sexist remarks



Adapted from Clancy et al 2017 *JGR Planets*

Three quarters of undergraduate female physicists are sexually harassed



40% of women of color felt unsafe in their workplace



Clancy et al 2017

LGBTQ women and gender minorities are physically harassed at twice the rate of cis straight women

	Never	Ever
cis,	91% (201)	9% (20)
straight		
LGBTQ+	79% (45)	21% (12)

Richey et al under review

Who do you trade glances with in a faculty meeting?



Rodrigues, Mendenhall, and Clancy in prep



https://wordhistories.net/2017/05/07/to-run-the-gauntlet/

Pawley, personal communication; Urry 2015

The distance between culture and climate

Culture – what an org says

- Mission statement
- Policy
- Trainings

Climate – how everyone feels

- Incentives and rewards
- Condoned behavior
- Unwritten rules

"We equally value teaching, research, and service." "If you bring in lots of money you can do whatever you want."

Focus on "whole barrels" not "bad apples"

- Eliminate male domination in terms of overall numbers and those in leadership
- Reduce tolerance for harassment
- Develop trauma-informed communication policies
- Honor who's here today, not the past
- Use evidence-based training: bystander, perspective-taking
- Change the incentive structures, condoned behaviors, unwritten rules so they align with the institution's desired climate



#ScienceToo *www.nationalacademies.org/sexualharassment*

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