



Sexual harassment is **coercion of a sexual nature**, or the inappropriate promise of rewards in exchange for sexual favors. In most modern legal contexts, sexual harassment is illegal. In October 2017, *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker* reported that dozens of women had accused **Harvey Weinstein**, a prominent film producer and executive, of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or rape. This disclosure opened a veritable **Pandora's box**, with more than 80 women in the film industry subsequently accusing Weinstein of such acts. Weinstein denied 'any non-consensual sex', but shortly after the first allegations were published, Weinstein was fired from his company and expelled from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The scandal triggered many **similar allegations** against powerful men around the world, and has so far led to the ouster of many of them from their positions.

On the bright side (maybe), the Weinstein effect seems to have been raising awareness about the massive presence of sex coercion and bullying not only inside the movie industry, but generally speaking in any type of job and position across countries. The Weinstein effect, in addition, seems to have been raising awareness also about how difficult it is to fight back harassment not just on a **psychological** level, but also on a legal one, as most legal systems rely on exceedingly **long and difficult procedures** that are obviously **ineffective** to protect victims and punish perpetrators.

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