



India's #MeToo Movement

Shweta Chopra & Sanjana Dalmiya

Background



Alyssa Milano ✓

@Alyssa_Milano

Follow

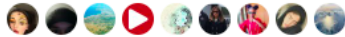
If you've been sexually harassed or assaulted write 'me too' as a reply to this tweet.

Me too.

Suggested by a friend: "If all the women who have been sexually harassed or assaulted wrote 'Me too.' as a status, we might give people a sense of the magnitude of the problem."

1:51 AM - 16 Oct 2017

23,596 Retweets 52,066 Likes



October 2017

October 2018

The Role of Social Media



- **75%** accusations called out on Social Media
- Platform for women without a voice
- #MeToo ambassadors supported anonymous accounts



Sandhya Menon ✓
@TheRestlessQuil

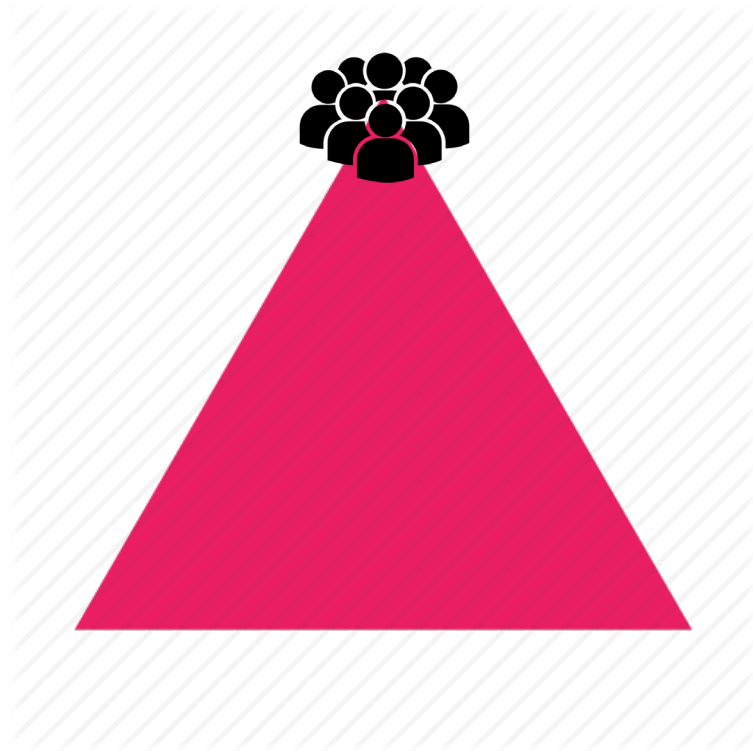


Mahima Kukreja 🌈 ✓
@AGirlOfHerWords



SONA ✓
@sonamohapatra

Who's Included and Who Isn't?



- Who is the 'Accused'?
- Pushback to authority/power
- Upper socio - economic strata
- What about the Dalit voice?
 - Raya Sarkar

Scope of the Project

- Repository of cases reported as part of #MeToo
- **20** variables collected for each case
- High degree of missingness/unreliability of some variables

Name of Accused	Age of Accused	Caste of Accused	Religion of Accused	Name of Survivor
Caste of Survivor	Religion of Survivor	Industry of Accused	Sub-industry of Accused	Nature of Relationship
Nature of Accusation	Year of Incident	Location of Incident	Formal Case Filed/Not	Year of Speaking out
Channel used to speak out	Single/Multiple Accusations	Count of Accusations	Response of the Accused	Consequence on the Accused

Methodology

- Data Sources fell into categories of varying reliability
- Attempt to get the accusation in its raw form
- Process more time consuming and labour intensive than anticipated

3



Definitions

NATURE OF ALLEGATION

- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Assault
- Rape
- Cyber Harassment
- Domestic Violence

RESPONSE

- Apology
- Defamation Case
- Outright Denial
- Refuted with Evidence
- Silence

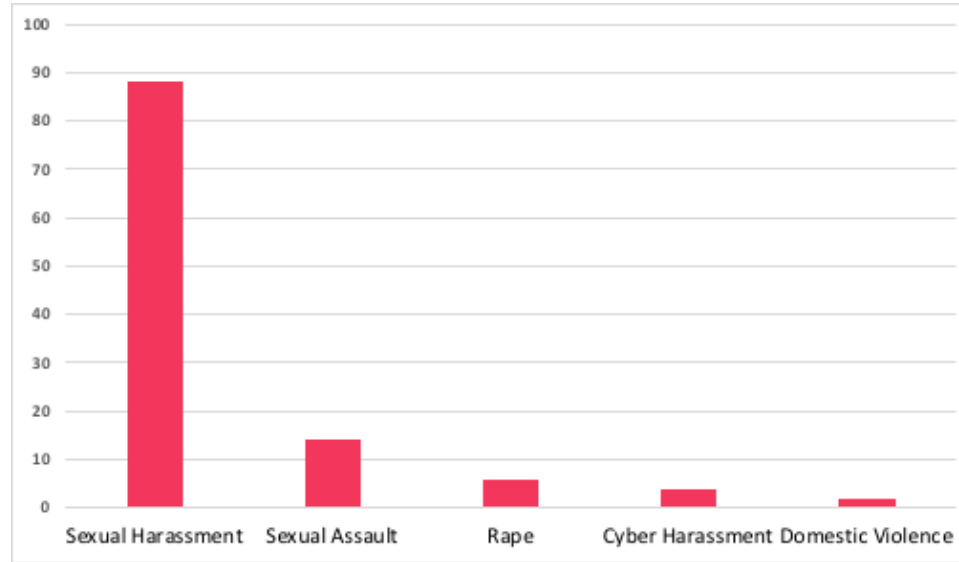
CONSEQUENCE

- Dissociated from
- None
- Fired
- Resignation
- Suspended temporarily
- Settlement
- Temporarily Relocated

Findings

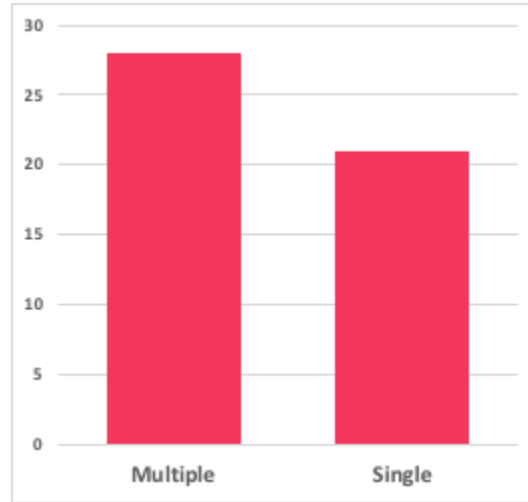
109 CASES, 49 ACCUSED

Nature of Allegation



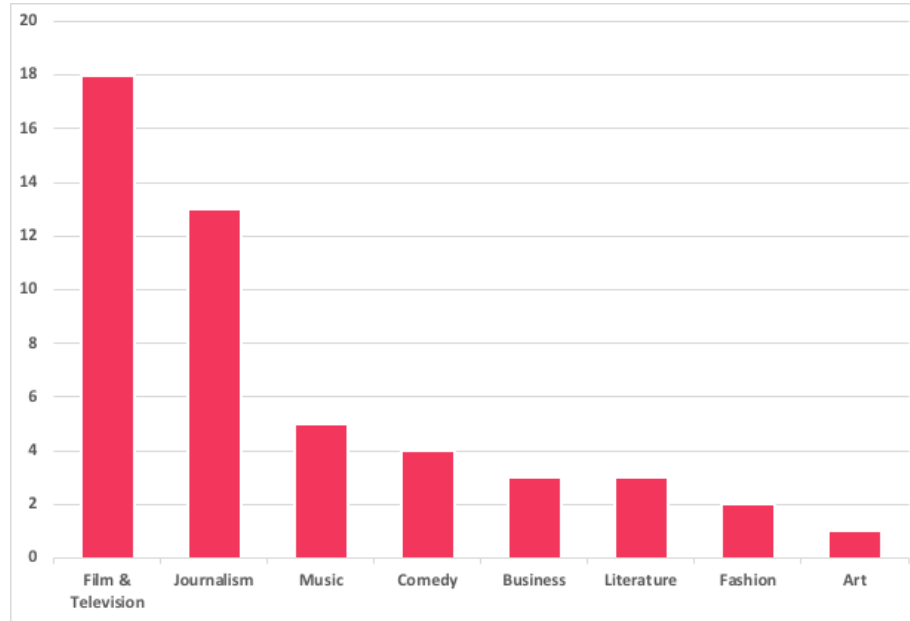
- Wide range of cases within Sexual Harassment

Single/Multiple Offences



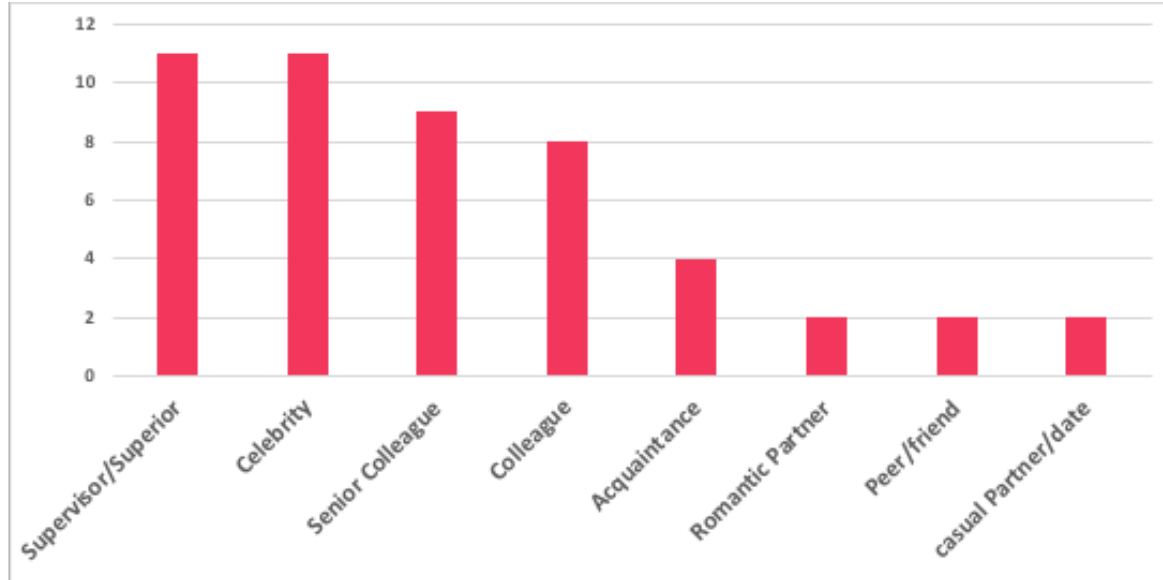
- Multiple accusations range from **2 to 16**
- Multiple accusations make bigger news

Industry



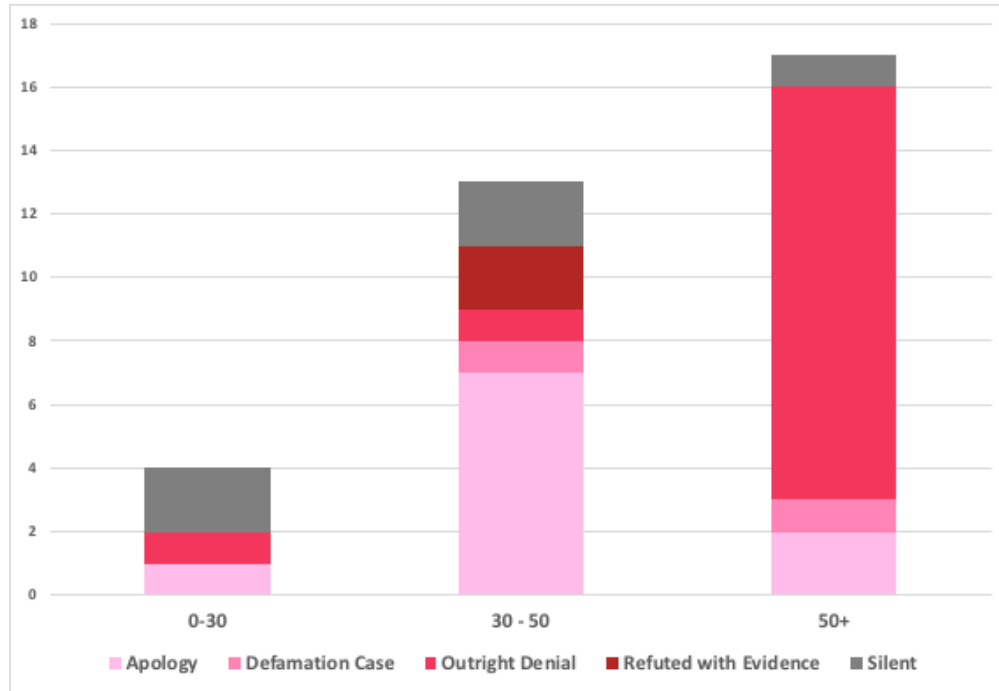
- Media attention skewed towards film/journalism industry
- Greater privacy in Corporates

Relationship of Accused to Survivor



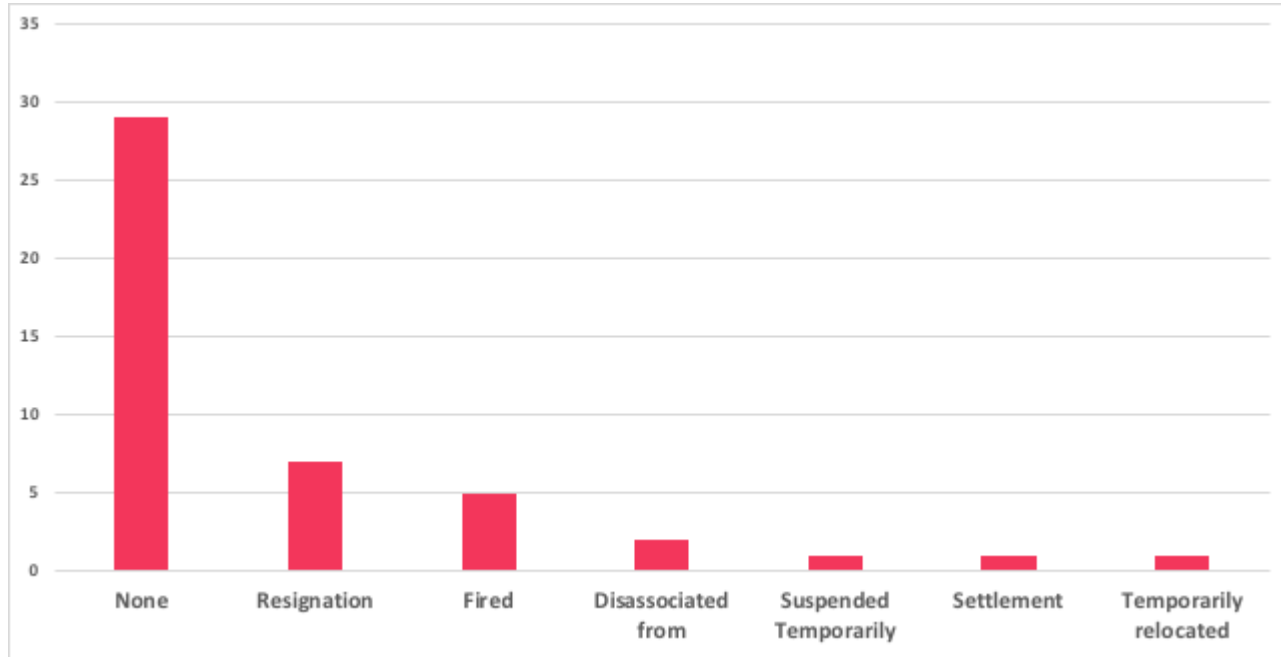
- Position of power

Age and Response



- Age = seniority = power

Consequences



- **93%** accusers did not file a formal case against accused

Impact of the Movement

PROS

- Policy changes, sexual harassment committees
- Greater awareness amongst women regarding rights
- Amongst younger age group - strict consequences

CONS

- Less hiring of women
- Increased focus on “false allegations”
- Exclusion of certain communities from the movement

Looking Forward



Role of the Judiciary



Inclusion of marginalized voices



Deterrence



Policy and systemic changes