

Responses to victims of Sexual Harassment

The responses to victims are focused on supporting and empowering a student as they deal with and hopefully report the situation. The majority of these were taken from Barbara Chester, "Victimization" in the Minnesota Curriculum Services Center.

- Define the victim's experience as sexual harassment
- Assure confidentiality
- Recognize the victim's sense of grief and loss
- Provide a safe environment for the victim
- Affirm the victim
- Provide choices so the victim regains some sense of empowerment
- Don't force the victim to make decisions
- Listen respectfully
- Be nonjudgmental
- Validate the victim's feelings and worth
- Reinforce that it is not the victim's fault
- Respect the victim's personal timing regarding his/her ability to cope
- Refer the victim for counseling.
- Support victim to report incident