

bystander (n) : a person who is standing nearby and watching something that is happening but does not intervene.
harass (n) : to annoy or trouble someone repeatedly, either verbally or physically. You can also say that somebody "is harassed" or "suffers harassment".
femicide (n) : the killing of women often by men and on account of her gender.

KENAN: DON'T BE A BYSTANDER

Before you watch

1

Kenan talks about an incident on a bus.

Can you imagine what happened to him? Do you think anybody on the bus helped him? Why? Why not? Discuss in pairs.

KENAN



While you watch

2

Discuss if any of your ideas in 1 coincide with what Kenan reports about the incident.

3

Tick the correct statements that Kenan makes regarding the incident:

- a He was travelling to work from home.
- b A group of people insulted him verbally.
- c There were at least sixteen people on the bus.
- d A group of people attacked him physically.
- e Some people helped him to get off the bus.
- f He had to get off the bus fast.
- g Nobody was willing to help him.

4

Complete the gaps with the correct word. Some words do not apply.

harassed target gather message meet increase uncomfortable attacked victim support meaning push

- 1 Women are a _____ in Bosnia Herzegovina and there is an _____ in femicide and domestic violence.
- 2 Unfortunately, he has encountered women being physically _____ in public. If that happens, he tries to _____ people around him and to help and _____ the woman.
- 3 His _____ is 'don't be a bystander'. It is an _____ situation to be a bystander but people sometimes need a _____ if they are going to really help others in such critical moments.

After you watch

5

a Discuss these questions in pairs or small groups.

- Why do you think the bystanders did not intervene?
- If there had just been one or two other people on the bus, do you think the situation would have been different? Why? Why not?

b Read this text about “The Bystander Effect”.

According to the text, why did the bystanders not intervene when Kenan was harassed on the bus? Discuss in pairs.

The bystander effect is a social psychological phenomenon where individuals are less likely to offer help to a person in need when other people are present. Essentially, the more bystanders there are, the less likely any one of them is to intervene. It seems that individuals feel less personal obligation to act when others are around.

6

Choose ONE of the questions to discuss in pairs or small groups.

a Answer these questions on the topic of harassment of women.

- Is the situation in your country similar to that described by Kenan? If different, how so? Do you encounter scenes like the one he describes where you live? Why? Why not?

I think it depends on where you live, it's not common thankfully to see that here but women always have to be more careful than men.

b In what other contexts can you imagine “The Bystander Effect” phenomenon taking place?

Have you ever encountered a situation like that described by Kenan? If so, what happened? Were you the victim or the bystander?

I think people here feel more solidarity towards their fellow citizens, people would intervene, I'm sure.