

Workplace bullying



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24 October Assignment Workplace bullying is a very rampant social issue in professional spheres of life, especially where there is a dominant or evident hierarchy; it refers to the aggressive behaviour of individuals in their quest of being unreasonable towards others and pressuring them into committing acts against their will. It further includes verbally as well as non verbally abusing an individual, humiliating him in front of his peers, or even abusing him psychologically or physically. It usually occurs when there is a power disparity among people and is repetitive in nature; almost 49% of workers in America have reported cases of being bullied at the workplace according to the statistics laid down by 2007 Workplace Bullying Institute - Zogby. People may also be bullied for reasons relating to their race, gender and social backgrounds. (Statistics)

Bullying at the workplace amounts to disrespecting individuals in the professional environment by harassing them, devaluing them, stealing their credit and sabotaging their career by various underhanded means of which threatening is the most common, experienced by most people. Most therapists and social psychologists attribute such bullying natures and behaviour to the personality of the bully; they say that he or she may be suffering from some form of personality disorder and being undermined by an authority even above him, causing him to take out his anger and aggressiveness on someone that works subordinate to him.

Most bullies have the tendency to respond in a crude manner to the people that they are bullying because of the reason that they feel they have a higher power above the juniors and will not be questioned or told back by them. However, being subject to such bullying can also harm the health of an individual both emotionally as well as physically and leads to lesser

efficiency in the workplace environment; for example, in the case of Dean Hutchinson (Schneider, Ben) where he was terribly beaten up by his supervisor and bullied physically. In another case of Margaret Gettins, a nurse at the Royal Bolton Hospital in England, she was subject to insufferable name-calling and harassment from fellow colleagues, which ultimately led her to want to end her life by committing suicide in July 2010. “ The taunts began when the 50-year-old had been moved from the orthopedic rehabilitation ward to a unit which treats stroke victims.” (Howlett, M)

For people being bullied, there are various organizations set up where they may approach and file complaints and be looked after. However, it is not always easy because of the numerous threats that people receive with respect to their promotions and salaries being held ransom till the time that they continue being subject to the atrocities and not complain to anyone. In conclusion, it is very tough to identify and stop people from bullying others at the workplace due to every individual having given their consent in the capacity of an adult to work; however it must be stopped because it is a raging social issue and has created a great deal of ill in society by giving power to a higher authority in an undeserving manner.

Works Cited

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