Seven Statistics on Harassment in the Workplace

Unfortunately, harassment is alive and well in today's fast-paced, competitive and stressful workplace. Here are some statistics surrounding this destructive behavior.

1. Three tactics used in workplace bullying are: withholding information from a co-worker; excluding certain employees from meetings and threatening or intimidating co-workers.
2. Ten percent of Canadian workers ages 18 through 24 reported being victims of sexual harassment in the workplace at some point within the previous year. (Canadian Labour Congress)
3. Seven percent of male workers in the US reported being sexually harassed at work. (2008 telephone poll by Louis Harris and Associates)
4. Ninety-six percent of people have experienced incivility (disrespectful behavior) in the workplace. (The Cost of Bad Behavior, Christine Pearson and Christine Porath)
5. Ninety-four percent of workers who are treated uncivilly say they have attempted to get even with their tormentors. (Christine Pearson and Christine Porath)
6. Four examples of harassment in the workplace are: serious or repeated rude, degrading or offensive remarks; displaying or sending sexist, racist or other offensive pictures, posters or emails; sexual harassment, such as unwelcome social invitations with sexual overtones or flirting; and threats, intimidation or retaliation.
7. About 60 percent of workplace bullies are men, who tend to bully male and female employees equally. (New York Times)

Harassment in the workplace includes any objectionable behavior that demeans, belittles, humiliates or embarrasses an employee. It also includes intimidation and threats. Here are seven statistics related to workplace harassment/bullying: