



“I see that your resume says you have never been accused of sexual harrasment. Congratulations, you’re hired!”

Final Project—comic

I chose to focus my project on the topic of sexual harassment because of how prevalent it has been in the news lately. I get constant updates on my phone through BBC and CNN about the news and was overwhelmed with the new names that kept coming up as new sexual predators. Although I strongly support this recent outburst of accusations, I find it slightly comical at the sheer mass of people involved. It is almost rare now—and some people use it as a bragging point—when you find a man who has never sexually harassed a woman.

I wanted to use a job setting because it is relevant in my life. I am a senior and resumes are constantly on my mind. I was searching for things to put on my resume (things to brag about) when the joke popped into my mind. From there it grew into an interview setting and someone immediately getting the job because they stand out from the rest of the crowd. With this idea of standing out stuck in my mind, I worked to circle back to the way that some men will make it a point to randomly bring up that they have never mistreated a woman. I believe—and this is just speculation because I am a woman—that men feel panicked with all of the accusations and feel that they have to prove that they are not involved just so that they will not be lumped in with the accused.

As for my execution, I thought that it was important that it was two men in the scene. This is because many women do not see the act of being decent to females as something to brag about but more as a common sense topic. It is like putting “I’ve never robbed a bank” on your resume, its supposed to be a given. The two men also work to touch on the other prominent feminist topic of the glass ceiling in the workplace. I wanted there to be no question that this was a comic about equality and general decency.

I think that my medium—a comic—is one of many great ways to address this issue. Comics are traditionally very brief and have one-liners to make the jokes. I liked the idea of utilizing the comic style because they can be so crude and simple yet very hard-hitting and informative. There is so much weight behind the sexual harassment accusations yet I worked to sum them all up in one simple image.

I chose to keep the imagery simple for a few reasons. First, although I am a graphic designer, people are my weak spot and I am dreadful at creating faces. By keeping it simple, there was less chance for me to create a horrifying mammal that hardly resembles a Homosapien. Secondly, I wanted there to be focus on the words and little distraction for anything else. I thought having a clean office gave the viewer an understanding of what is happening but still allows there to be thought and analysis for what it all means.

In conclusion, I think that my work is successful in calling out the underlying ridiculousness behind the mass amounts of men who have played a part in sexual harassment. I think it is important to keep this topic as a talking point even if many people are tired of hearing about it. My comic works to bring comedy to a serious situation and send a hard-hitting message through a joke.