

Corporate office culture is sexist and discriminates against women?



Sexism is still very much a hot button issue, even in 2020. The workforce is one of many stages this debate plays on. Men and women both feel the effects, with one side saying women are protected in the work face, maybe even too much. The flip side is that women are at a disadvantage and face discrimination, especially in an office setting. In what ways are expectations different for men and women in different countries? For instance, in some countries, female office employees are expected to wear makeup and high heels. Are the standards expected to be entirely equal or should there be some differences?

Points For	Points Against
Men still hold the majority of managerial positions, preventing women from gaining upward mobility through the company.	If women want these managerial roles, they have to work harder. The one who works the hardest gets the bigger paycheck.
Women still face sexual harassment in the work place. Many women report having to utilize sexual favours in order to move up in a company.	What a woman chooses to do with her body is her own business, but that doesn't make it an issue for everyone else.
Women are sometimes afraid to report sexual harassment because of threats of violence or financial ruin.	Many women fake these stories to get out of work or get a nice settlement from a law suit. It doesn't happen as often as people believe.
Women report feeling uncomfortable or unable to speak up at meetings. They believe they'll be ridiculed or made fun of because of the "boy's club" behaviour common in office spaces.	Men can also feel embarrassed at saying the wrong thing. This isn't a "gendered" issue. In the corporate world, the strong eat the weak. You have to have thicker skin if you want to make it.



Useful language to use in formal debates

In general, you would need to come up with 4-5 main arguments to support your team's debating position. It's also important to remember to also anticipate the opposition's arguments to help you defend your team's point of view.

Building your Argument

Introducing your point: To begin with... First of all...

Connecting your points: Also... Furthermore... What's more...

Showing importance: More importantly... What's worse... Above all else...

Giving examples: For instance... For example...

Opinions, Preferences:

In my opinion..., The way I see it..., As far as I'm concerned..., If it were up to me..., I suppose..., I suspect that..., I'm pretty sure that..., I honestly feel that, Without a doubt...,

Disagreeing:

Don't you think it would be better..., Shouldn't we consider..., But what about..., I'm afraid I don't agree..., Frankly, I doubt if..., The truth of the matter is..., The problem with your point of view is that..., It's a fact that..., According to ..., The reality of the situation is..., The numbers show that..., The fact is this:...,

Partially agreeing:

I agree with you to a point however..., I see where you are coming from but..., I see what you are saying but ...,

Delaying Strategies

I can't answer that directly..., I'll need time to think about that..., That's a very interesting question, because..., That's a difficult question to answer,

Asking someone to repeat

Pardon me? Pardon? Excuse me? Sorry? I'm sorry? I beg your pardon?

Holding the floor

Hold on..., Hold on a second..., Yes, I was about to mention that...., Well, I was about to come to that..., Sorry, I haven't finished yet ., I haven't made my point yet ...

Expressing solutions and alternatives

The solution is to..., Then you will..., The best way to ... is ...,
To ..., you really have to, There are many choices....,

Supplementary materials



If needed, each member can be given a card indicating their position in the debate.

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YOU AGREE**

**Corporate office culture is sexist and discriminates against women?
YOU DISAGREE**

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