



Likestillings- og  
diskrimineringsombudet

# ICT and gender-based hate speech

Taran Knudstad, The Equality and Anti-Discrimination  
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# Gender-Based Hate Speech

## Where Do We Find Gender-Based Hate Speech?

- Threats and violence
- Incitement to gender-based violence
- Celebration of gender-based violence
- Sexual and gender harassment
- Glorification of sexual denigration of women in pornography
- Glorification of denigration of women in games
- Morality policing / hierarchy policing
- Stigmatization
- Sexist rhetoric based on prejudice and stereotypes

# The Debate about Freedom of Expression Has Blinded Us

- When the topic of hate speech is discussed the focus always gets directed to a debate on restrictions or no restrictions on the freedom of expression
- This has blinded us to the social harms of lawful hate speech and other types of measures that could be taken to counteract such harms

# The Harm: Hate speech:

- Promotes social exclusion;
- Produces a «chilling effect» to participation in our democratic system – creates a culture of fear
- Perpetuates bias (Not only a symptom; also a carrier of disease. Hate speech leads to more hate speech)
- Devalues women (also in the eyes of innocent bystanders)
- Produces fear, anxiety and distress
- Strips women of their dignity

# National strategies to Counter the Social Harm of Hate Speech

- Focus on negative gender stereotyping\*, hate speech and prejudice in school curriculum and course materials
- Allocate monies to research on the prevalence and social harms of hate speech (so as to make the harms visible) and mechanisms to reduce harms
- Allocate monies to research on media self-regulation, eg. use of moderators, full-name policies\*\*,

# National strategies to Counter the Social Harm of Hate Speech (# 2)

- The legal duty on public authorities to actively promote equality in their roles as policy-makers and service-providers, should include addressing prejudice, stigmatization and stereotypes\*
  - (promoting good relations between social groups)
- Initiate campaigns of awareness to counter hate speech and promote responsibility in expression
- Support economically civil society's work against hate speech.