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Fakulteta za varnostne vede

**EXPLORATIVE DESCRIPTIVE RESEARCH AND INTERVIEWS
WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND VICTIMS ABOUT SEXUAL
HARASSMENT IN NIGHTLIFE ENTERTAINMENT SPOTS IN
LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA**

PROJECT SHINE

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1 Introduction

Katja Eman and Tinkara Bulovec carried out the Slovenian part of the research by the project SHINE (*Sexual harassment and nightlife entertainment spots: control and prevention*). We focused on sexual harassment, in its broadest form, in nightlife entertainment spots in Ljubljana. As the nightlife entertainment spots in Ljubljana, we define areas with the most significant density of bars and clubs operating in the night time and the highest number of night time events in the area. We included the Old Town, the centre of the city in the vicinity of the Congress Square, and Metelkova Street, where most bars and clubs operating at night-time are located.

The descriptive part of the research, presented in the first part of the report, was carried out between 19. 5. and 30. 6. 2020. The explorative, descriptive study included a review of literature, media publications in selected printed and online media, non-governmental organization [NGO's] websites, legal documents, and Slovenian legislation relating to sexual harassment, with a focus on the areas of nightlife in Ljubljana.

In the second part of the report, interviews with stakeholders (police, municipality, and nightlife administrators), interviews with victims, and the preliminary online survey results are presented.

1.1 Literature review

Through the library system Cobiss, we reviewed accessible materials by the keywords: sexual harassment in public places; sexual harassment AND nightlife area; sexual harassment AND public OR bar OR club; sexual harassment AND Ljubljana (*slo. spolno nadlegovanje na javnih krajih; spolno nadlegovanje IN območja nočnega življenja, spoln* nadlego* IN javn* ALI lokal* ALI bar; spolno nadlegovanje IN Ljublj**). The literature related to sexual harassment in Ljubljana's nightlife entertainment spots, or overall in nightlife spots in Slovenia, was not found. From found materials by literature review, two general articles indirectly suited to the search requirements. To outline the problem of sexual harassment in Slovenia, we present them below.

In the paper, Kury, Meško, Kajfež, Woessner, and Wuerger (2004) address sexual violence and sexual harassment in Slovenia and Germany. The survey included 1500 Slovenian and 311 German female students. To summarise the results of the Slovenian research. It is

recognised that 86.3% of Slovenian students reported at least one experienced case of sexual harassment, which could be legally classified as a criminal offence. Mentioned includes masturbation or exhibition (48%), coerced sexual intercourse due to verbal pressure (6%), attempted sexual intercourse under the influence of drugs or alcohol (21%), stalking (41%), attempted sexual intercourse with a force or threat (9,5%) and unwanted attempts of sexual contact (39%). Approximately 40% of respondents reported unwanted touching of the breast or genitals. The proportion of students with an experienced crime against sexual integrity amounted to 54%. In the category experience of the severe forms of sexual violence, the victims most commonly mentioned drug or alcohol influenced attempt of rape (25%), followed by sexual intimidation (12%), attempted rape (9%), drug or alcohol-related rape (5%) and rape (1%). Based on the results, the authors note that the actual number of criminal offences against sexual integrity is approximately four times higher than the official statistical findings from the report on the police's work for the year 2003 (11 cases per 100,000 inhabitants). Authors state that coerced sexual intercourses under the influence of alcohol or drugs are most commonly committed by strangers or persons who are not very familiar with the victim. The abovementioned also applies to the milder forms of sexual assaults and sexual harassment. The above-described findings on the presence of sexual violence or harassment in Slovenia and Germany were also presented to Slovenian readers in the Kury, Meško, Areh, and Kajfež (2005) contribution.

1.1.1 Overview of the non-governmental organization's websites

We have reviewed NGOs' websites, which deal with sexual violence in Slovenia, including various verbal, non-verbal, and physical sexual harassment forms. To NGOs: Society for Nonviolent Communication (*slo. Društvo za nenasilno komunikacijo*), Association for Power (*slo. Združenje za moč*), Association against Sexual Abuse (*slo. Združenje proti spolnemu zlorabljanju*), SOS Association (*slo. Društvo SOS*), White Ring (*slo. Beli obroč*), Society key (*slo. Društvo ključ*), and Female advisor (*slo. Ženska svetovalnica*) was on 22. 6. 2020 sent a letter with a request for help with field information¹. For once, we received

¹ In the letter, we asked NGOs to answer questions concerned about the treatment and their experience in working with victims of sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots. We wondered if they might have any material that would relate to sexual harassment in the areas of nightlife (e.g., awareness-raising, self-protection behaviour). With a purpose of insight into the dynamics of sexual harassment events in the nightlife areas, we have asked NGOs for assistance with the execution of either an online interview or a survey of victims.

feedback from only one NGO, whose representative said they deal mainly with more severe forms of sexual violence, and victims of sexual harassment in nightlife areas do not turn to them for help. We have expanded the search to the NGO's websites. The following summaries of posts found on NGOs' websites are related to sexual harassment in nightlife areas.

1. Association against sexual abuse (*slo. Združenje proti spolnemu zlorabljanju*)

The Association against sexual abuse has published a record of concern about the developments in the nightlife areas. They draw attention to the need for awareness-raising about sexual harassment in these areas because harassment of women as part of the club "folklore" is still accepted and allowed. In their opinion, the mentioned also confirms the increased number of victims who have suffered sexual harassment in pubs or clubs. Often public transmits responsibility to victims in the sense that they are guilty as they dress provocatively, seek attention, etc. The Association against sexual abuse appeals to the owners of the nightlife entertainment spots to "properly ensure the possible prevention measurements of these malpractices, as well as offer the necessary protection to victims when reporting incidents. The victim's professional and ethical conduct is also expected in sexual harassment incidents in bars and clubs. Nevertheless, the record promotes pubs and clubs "to support Slovenian initiatives, to record clearly and prominently that their spaces are safe for women and show zero tolerance to (sexual) violence in their premises. So visitors (potential victims) have the full support, and the harassers (or bullies) are removed from the area immediately" (Združenje proti spolnemu zlorabljanju, 2018).

2. Web portal gender (*slo. Spletni portal Spol*)

The web portal Gender has published a record – a description of an incident of sexual harassment of their editorial board member in the Club Cvetličarna (in Ljubljana). A woman was a victim of sexual harassment – inappropriate and unwanted touching. When she physically defended herself, the harasser physically attacked her (hit her). "The personnel of the Club Cvetličarna (management and the security service) did not want to get rid of the harasser until she mentioned that she would call the Police. Before that, they tried to convince her to forget the incident, and when

they found out that she did not intend to, they became verbally violent”. The club’s leadership did not want to accept the responsibility for the incident. In response to published news about the incident, the Club Cvetličarna still did not accept responsibility. In defence, they noted that the victim could not identify the offender, and as a result, no action was taken against him. We can see how “serious” they accept their zero-tolerance policy from word choice in response. For the event, they blamed the “*bawling lady*”. On the other side, the perpetrator was described as a bit “*stirred young man*”. With their response to the published description of the event, the Club Cvetličarna showed that, despite the principle of non-violence, they do not know how or refuse to react in such situations (Spol.si, 2018a).

Firstly, the web portal indicates that “sexual harassment in the public space in our legislation is not particularly sanctioned. It can be prosecuted by more general articles of the Penal Code or the Protection of Public Order Act, which define different offences and criminal acts. Unfortunately, sexual harassment in public spaces is, in public opinion, not perceived as a violation. Consequently, only the most severe cases are reported and sanctioned, and the milder incidents remain unreported”. Secondly, they pointed out the importance of public places' safety, asking managers of nightlife entertainment spots, security services, and other competent institutions to react to an appropriate response to sexual harassment incidents in their area. Referring to the described event, they add that the Security Service should act by the Private Protection Act and the Protection of Public Order Act and at least warn the harasser if not remove him from the area. They state that the described case of sexual harassment is not the only one. “As already warned the Association against sexual abuse, in some clubs and pubs in Slovenia, they record clearly and prominently that their spaces are safe for women and that they have zero tolerance to (sexual) violence, e.g., AKC Metelkova” (Spol.si, 2018a). The call for a more appropriate response to the incidents of sexual harassment in the areas of nightlife was also provided on their Facebook page (Spol.si, 2018b).

3. The SOS Association (*slo. Društvo SOS*)

“Drop carves the Stone” – an awareness-raising project about the unacceptability of violence on a date is following the findings of the survey that dating

violence (including sexual violence) in Slovenia is still marked as a taboo theme. Consequently, young people rarely seek help or report dating violence to law enforcement (Društvo SOS, 2019).

1.2 Analysis of Legal and policy documents

We reviewed the available resources relating to the legislative aspect – existing legislation in the field of sexual harassment in Slovenia, the resolutions on the prevention and repression of criminality, and the European directives, which are also binding on Slovenia. We have included parts of the legislation that directly or indirectly relate to tackling sexual harassment in urban nightlife areas.

1.2.1 Slovenian Penal code (*slo. Kazenski zakonik [KZ-1-UPB2]*)

In cases where sexual harassment enters more severe forms of sexual violence and constitutes an infringement of sexual inviolability, provisions of the Slovenian Penal Code, Chapter 19, shall comply. The chapter contains provisions relevant to the understanding of severe forms of sexual harassment or sexual violence. If the perpetrator forces or threatens a person (victim) with “a direct attack on life or body” and by that force her “to sexual intercourse or similar sexual conduct, “we are dealing with rape (Article 170). In cases where coercion using force or threat is used on a person to do or suffer from any sexual act that is not defined in the previously described Article 170, described means an act of sexual violence (Article 171). Article 174 explains that an individual who “abuses his or her position to prepare a person of another or the same sex that is subordinate or dependent on him, to sexual intercourse, or to do or suffer from any other sexual action” violates sexual integrity by abuse of the situation (Penal code, 2012).

1.2.2 Protection of Public Order Act, 2006 (*slo. Zakon o varstvu javnega reda in miru [ZJRM-1]*)

Sexual harassment in public places is briefly addressed in the Protection of Public Order act (2006). The law provides legal ground for instituting misdemeanour proceedings by issuing an order for payment and ordering the infringement's immediate ending. A person who behaves indecently (Article 7), violently, or daringly (Article 6) can be sanctioned. Prohibited behaviours include: if someone “provokes or encourages someone to fight or

behaves in a daring, violent, rude, insulting or similar manner or persecutes someone and with such behavior causes him a feeling of humiliation, threat, hurt or fear "(Article 6). From the above diction, we can conclude that, although not explicitly mentioned, verbal and non-verbal sexual harassment is also sanctioned in this way (e.g., unwelcome conquest, obscene comments, and sexually suggestive gestures) (Protection of Public Order Act, 2006).

1.2.3 The resolution on the national crime prevention and suppression program for the period 2007–2011 (slo. *Resolucija o nacionalnem programu preprečevanja in zatiranja kriminalitete za obdobje 2007–2011* [ReNPPZK0711])

The resolution gives the specific importance of the treatment of victims of crime. Inadequate treatment of victims may cause secondary victimization since the report of criminal offence is being filed. The survey from the year 2000 showed that in Slovenia, many criminal offences remain unreported. "It is particularly worrying that almost 50% of crimes against sexual integrity remain unreported" (ReNPPZK0711, 2007).

1.2.4 The resolution on the national crime prevention and suppression program for the period 2012–2016 (slo. *Resolucija o nacionalnem programu preprečevanja in zatiranja kriminalitete za obdobje 2012–2016* [ReNPPZK12-16])

The indications relating to effective assistance to victims of crime, with the importance of national authorities and NGOs' coordination, are stressed out. "There must be an effective and efficient system of assistance that provides victims of crime with a sense of security, acceptance, and respect" (ReNPPZK12-16, 2012).

1.2.5 The resolution on the national crime prevention and suppression program for the period 2019 – 2023 (slo. *Resolucija o nacionalnem programu preprečevanja in zatiranja kriminalitete za obdobje 2019–2023* [ReNPPZK19–23])

The resolution on the national crime prevention and suppression program for the period 2019 – 2023 addresses violence against women in point 6.2.1. Among the risk factors for the emergence of a wide range of violence against women (including sexual violence), gender stereotypes, which reflect the rooted performances of women's role and the role of men both in society and in the private sphere, are also classified. Mentioned can also be generalised to the areas of nightlife where gender stereotypes and norms are observed.

Women are “obliged” to suffer different forms of sexual violence, including sexual harassment (ReNPPZK19–23, 2019).

As possible solutions to reduce violence against women, among other things, the resolution firstly proposes to increase awareness and education. Secondly, we need to “change the social and cultural patterns of both sexes to remove prejudice, customs, and other practices based on the idea of gender superiority/inferiority and gender stereotypes”. As one of the possible solutions, they propose reducing the risk and harmful use of alcohol and illicit drugs and improving inter-institutional cooperation in detecting perpetrators. It is also necessary to ensure appropriate competencies of the authorities and services dealing with victims. Furthermore, it must provide sufficient resources for NGOs' functioning and organise the essential preventive activities. Lastly, “scientific research on the various forms of violence should seek insight into the occurrence of violence and identify the fundamental causes of their phenomenon, paying particular attention to the gender perspective” (ReNPPZK19–23, 2019).

1.2.6 Measures to prevent and combat mobbing and sexual harassment at workplace, in public spaces, and political life in the EU (slo. *Resolucija Evropskega parlamenta z dne 11. septembra 2018 o ukrepih za preprečevanje trpinčenja in spolnega nadlegovanja na delovnem mestu, javnih mestih in v političnem življenju v EU ter boj proti njima [2018/2055(INI)]*)

In the European Parliament resolution of September 11th, 2018, on Measures to prevent and combat mobbing and sexual harassment at the workplace, in public spaces, and political life in the EU (2018/2055 (INI)), the European Parliament called on the Member States to examine the introduction of specific legislation on harassment in public places, including the intervention programs, with a particular emphasis on the role of the bystanders (witnesses). Parliament also proposes the implementation of “research on the causes and consequences of sexual harassment in public places, including the impact that sexist and stereotypical advertisements may have on the incidence of violence and harassment.” Secondly, they expose the importance of awareness-raising campaigns that promote zero tolerance for sexual harassment in public places. Furthermore, the European Parliament notes that some of the Member States' measures have been effective in restricting harassment in public places. As a good example, they stressed out official controls (increased

presence of police or transport staff on public transport), video surveillance (closed-circuit television system – CCTV), and natural control (better visibility and improved lighting)” (European Parliament, 2018).

1.3 Media (+new media) publication analysis

Before reviewing the media posts, we first looked at the opinion polls, which concerned the trust in Slovenian media reporting (Braz, 2015). We later reviewed some of the news from among the best-rated press, and on this basis, selected three newspapers, which, in our opinion, reported the most professionally and objectively. In analysing media publications on sexual harassment in nightclubs and bars, we included the most reliable and popular media in Slovenia: Delo, Dnevnik, Večer, 24ur, RTVSLO, as well as a few topic related articles in other online media. The first three analysed media are both in an online and paper form. We tried to avoid sensationalistic media, which reporting is not reliable.

The review of the media followed the combination of the keywords, which are sexual violence (*slo. spolno nasilje*), harassment (*slo. nadlegovanje*), and rape (*slo. posilstvo*), and further considering the results related to Slovenia, more specifically to Ljubljana. We have captured the period between 1. 1. 2014 and 30. 6. 2020.

Using text data analysis program MaxQDA 2020, we conducted a qualitative analysis of 90 articles containing 60816 words in total. The Slovenian language is a bit specific, and consequently, the study of words needs to be adjusted. We created a stop list containing suggestions, conjunctions, interjections, and irrelevant phrases to obtain only relevant results. We combined the Slovenian words according to the word's root and then analyzed selected publications. The most frequent terms used in researched articles are presented in the visual illustration in “Word cloud” below (Fig 1). The results presented in the word cloud show that the most frequently used words in the articles were: GHB [gamma-hydroxybutyric acid] known as “rape drug”, police (*slo. policisti*), court/law (*slo. sodišče*), Ljubljana (the capital city of Slovenia), and acts (*slo. dejanja*) referring to inappropriate, prohibited, or criminal acts.

Project SHINE – National report – Slovenia (Ljubljana)

Slovenia	Slo*	89	1,7	40	44,44
Girl	dekle*	73	1,39	26	28,89
Investigation	preisk*	71	1,36	28	31,11
Abuse	zlorab*	71	1,36	36	40
Alcohol	alkohola	64	1,22	31	34,44
Victim	žrtv*	61	1,16	29	32,22
GBL	GBL	64	1,22	13	14,44
Crime	kaznivega	55	1,05	29	32,22
Commit	storil*	50	0,95	28	31,11
Metelkova street	Metelkov*	49	0,94	21	23,33
Public	javn*	48	0,92	21	23,33
Convicted	obso*	47	0,9	25	27,78
Party	zabav*	47	0,9	17	18,89

Based on the word frequency list, we conducted a further content analysis of the selected articles. In the beginning, we had 30 thematic clusters that covered the textual array relevant to the research topic. The cluster analysis was conducted using the XLSTAT Statistical Software for Excel and SPSS 25 for Windows (*Statistical Package for the social sciences, Chicago, IL, USA*). We performed the Agglomerative hierarchical clustering (AHC) using the Wards method and Euclidian distance. After analysing, we became five classes. Central objects in classes were: 1 (GHB), 2 (Ljubljana), 3 (Sexual), 4 (To sue), 5 (Victim). The words were included in the classes in the following order:

1. GHB and Police;
2. Court/law, Ljubljana, Act;
3. Punishment, Imprisonment, Sexual, Rape;
4. Violence, Women, Prohibition, Pub/Bar, to sue, Drug, Harassment, Drink, Slovenia;
5. Girl, Investigation, Abuse, Alcohol, Victim, GBL, Crime, Commit, Metelkova street, Public, Convicted, Party.

The final two groups were:

1. GHB, Police, Court/law, Ljubljana and Act (classes 1 and 2);
2. is conducted from classes 3, 4, and 5 (see world classes above).

Results by classes and level in which they clustered are shown in the dendrogram in Figure 2.

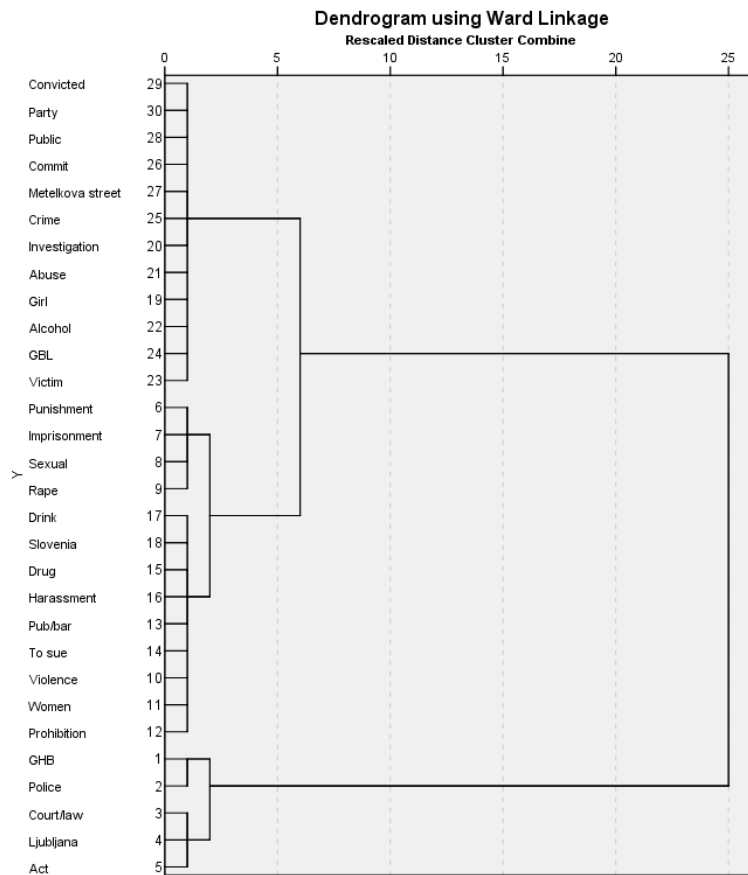


Figure 2: Clustering dendrogram of the 90 articles included in Slovenian media analysis of publications on sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots (nightclubs and bars).

Pilot quantitative investigation of Slovenian media show us some preliminary conclusions:

1. Sexual harassment, particularly in nightlife entertainment spots, is in Slovenian media underrepresented. Mentioned is noticeable in a small number of articles – only 90 articles were found in the media analysis of the period between 1. 1. 2014 and 30. 6. 2020.
2. Articles were mostly focused on reporting the occurrence of “rape drugs” GHB, which was most frequently reported by the media in 2014. After that, media reporting focused on the most severe cases dealt with by law enforcement (police and court).
3. Severe cases of sexual violence, e.g., rape, are in the focus of media reports, “less severe” forms of harassment are rarely mentioned.
4. The reporting is focused on offences and offenders concerning criminal procedures. Prevention is absent from the media reports in the analysed period.

From now on, the summaries of the most frequently reported topics in the Slovenian media are presented. To facilitate readability, we divided the results into categories: sexual harassment in the areas of nightlife in Ljubljana; rape drugs and sexual harassment in the

areas of nightlife; street /stranger sexual harassment; sexual harassment in the areas of nightlife outside Ljubljana and drinking in public places.

1.3.1 Sexual harassment in the areas of nightlife in Ljubljana

1. Sexual harassment of personnel in the areas of nightlife

There are web groups on social media that promote sexual harassment of waitresses. Because of it, they feel discomfort, resistance, and even fear. Unappropriate commenting is from social networks, many times transferred to real-life situations. The media reported about experiences of personnel in the areas of nightlife. The first victim said that as working as a waitress, she repeatedly observed harassment of male guests. For example, on the question: *“What can I serve you?”* she got the answer: *“I would like to have you on the plate.”* She noted that such acts are basely and added a description of the event that happened one late afternoon. *Because one part of the restaurant was empty, and it was before closing, she turned the lights in this area off. Three men entered and went straight to that part of the restaurant with the lights off. She kindly asked them why they were sitting in darkness and not by one of the other empty tables in the restaurant's lighted area. At that time, one of the three guests replied, “that we can touch you”* (Lednik, 2020).

The other waitress stated that the guests were often making comments about her dress or physical appearance and added that individual guests are making inappropriate comments to other waitresses. (Lednik, 2020).

Another victim says that she worked in a popular trendy bar at the age of 18 and that there was a lot of sexual harassment, and every reaction of it led to verbal aggression (Božič, 2018a, 2018b).

Research shows that as far as 95% of women and about half of the hospitality sector men were targets of verbal attacks, harassment, and guests' violence. There are various interactions and conflicts between employees and guests, including behaviours, e.g., "innocent" views, compliments, observances, to more clear allusions, insults, physical bullying, hand dragging, touching, pushing, kicking, and even choking. As verbal harassment, we can define the cliché order of drink: *“honey, give me a beer*

and a kiss". "When a waitress tells her boss about sexual harassment (e.g., inappropriate touching of a guest), the most common response is *"let him go, you can see, he's drunk"* (Lešničar, 2017).

2. Sexual harassment on traditional Shrovetide (carnival) parties

Shrovetide or carnival parties allow anonymity as people are masked. Anonymity is convenient for all forms of annoying and inappropriate sexual advances (a type of sexual harassment) (Kutin Lednik, 2019).

3. Sexual harassment of LGBT in Slovenia

Four hundred ninety-five people aged between 16 and 30 years participated in the survey of LGBT in Slovenia, among which 52% of participants with prior experience with one type of violence, was also exposed to direct or indirect verbal harassment or threats on streets. Young LGBTIQs are most commonly (53%) victims of strangers, followed by the violence of family members (31%) and classmates (28%). 32% of respondents pointed out that they feel at risk in bars and restaurants, and the percentage of feeling at risk is slightly lower at public events (25%) (Mlinarič, 2017). Krajčinović (2018) states that almost half of respondents are sometimes or often afraid of their safety on the street. The same feel a good third of respondents in bars, restaurants, or shops, every fourth LGBTIQ+ at public events, and every seventh at other events.

4. Sexual assaults in the area of Metelkova street in Ljubljana

It was only about ten days after the first victim reported sexual assault in the dorm by a male that she initially met in Ljubljana's nightlife area - Metelkova street. The second victim also met the perpetrator in the mentioned area, when he offered her money and drugs in exchange for her sexual favours. Because she refused the offer, he threatened to stab her. When she rejected him once again, he cut her face with a knife. Under coercion, he took her to the nearby square and sexually assaulted her. She screamed for help, and after a while, she was rescued by a random passer. The Police have caught the perpetrator the same night, but he denied the guilt. Both victims positively identified the perpetrator (Žišť, 2020; TAK, 2020; Furlan Rus, 2019;

U.Z., 2019). In search of the Web browser, we also encountered other posts related to the mentioned event (S.R./STA, 2019).

5. The sexual offender of waitresses in Ljubljana (sexual harassment and robberies)

The perpetrator attacked six women employed as waitresses in different pubs and one in the shop. He was operating in the area of Ljubljana, Postojna, and Vrhnika. During the event, victims did not know that the gun he used to intimidate them was not real (Žišt, 2014). "Crimes were executed during the day. When he came to the bar, he ordered a drink first and then waited until no one was nearby (his modus operandi). He dragged victims into a warehouse where he sexually harassed them. One of the victims was also sexually assaulted. After his actions, he pulled the victims back to the premises and demanded the cashier's money. In one bar, he grabbed and pushed the waitress against the warehouse and demanded money with a gun in his hands. Another event took place the next day in one of the bars in Ljubljana. He put a gun on the victim's head and asked her to give him money from the cashier. In one case, he waited in the bar for the waitress to go to the warehouse and took the money from the cashier (Recek, 2014; Ropac, 2016; Predanič, 2015; Jakopec, 2014; Ropac, 2014a; Knez, 2015; Furlan Rus, 2014a, 2014b; Lovšin, 2014a).

6. #metoo Slovenia - Institute 8. March (slo. Inštitut 8th march)

Analysis of 150 different anonymous testimonies on sexual harassment and violence was collected by Institute 8. A review of them shows that most statements described inappropriate touching, followed by several exhibition cases, in a quarter of instances was committed a rape (Eržen, 2019). They also mention the testimony of a waitress, which quit due to sexual harassment of her boss. He was inappropriate touching her and verbally harassed her, e.g., "*honey, you don't know what I would do to you*" (Lovšin, 2019). Most testimonies described inappropriate touching; in a quarter of cases, victims described rape. There were also several testimonies of exhibitions in public places, which were executed on public transportation and in libraries (La. Da., 2019).

In the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights [FRA] survey, 42,000 European women were included. Slovenia's results show that 32% of severe forms of

sexual and physical violence have happened at the victim's home, 17% on the street, or another public area, followed by schools, bars, or in nature (N.Š.K./STA., 2014).

7. Proving the rape and sexual harassment – fear that no one will believe the victims

"Victims must prove rape through the use of force and related evidence, such as blood or torn clothing, but we are dealing with more and more rape cases of drugged, mentally handicapped..." where that is extremely hard to prove. Comments in the sense of the victim's guilt (e.g., *"It's her fault, or she's been showing naked skin, and she was wearing so attractive dress"*) are quite common (Perman, 2019).

A typical scene in Slovenia, e.g., if someone grabbed the waitress's buttocks, most people will not react. "Mentioned is also associated with some traditional beliefs, that this is part of the popular culture and no big deal." These are traditional stereotypical beliefs, the allowable limits, and understanding the woman's body or the female body's objectification. Consequently, there are only a few sexual violence reports in Slovenia. "Slovenian space is relatively small, and because of that, victims are afraid of stigmatization. Their greatest fears are that others will not believe them. Besides, they fear the secondary stigma in institutions such as Police and court. A few victims have experienced that they weren't believed and were consequently mistreated". "The greater part of sexual violence thus remains unreported" (Vrečar, 2019).

Laura's story

She went out, drank approximately half a liter of wine, and then she does not remember anything else. A colleague and men from the bar escorted her home. In the morning, someone was lying with her. A female colleague told her that they probably put something in her drink before in the bar. At first, she did not want to report what happened to her and was afraid of no one would believe her. However, since she felt sick and her medical condition has not improved, she went later to the doctor. She made an official report, but for the successful execution of the procedure too late, as it was no longer possible to prove the rape drug's presence (Preverjeno!, 2017; SVET, 2017).

1.3.2 Rape drugs and sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots

1. Estimation of the appearance of rapes under the influence of rape drugs

In Slovenia, we do not know how big is the problem of rapes under the influence of rape drugs (mostly GHB). Mostly, people choose to use GHB at their own will, while rapes because of GHB do not happen so often. Anja Mihevc (DrogArt organisation) points out that we need to be careful when enjoying drinks at parties because GHB (liquid ecstasy) is odourless and maybe only slightly salty, which is hard to taste in alcoholic beverages (Simončič, 2017).

Between 2000 and 2016, in University Medical Centre Ljubljana, due to GHB poisoning (rape drug), 129 people were treated. In 2016, 30 were poisoned with GHB, and among them, in 18 cases, the drug was consumed unwittingly. In three cases, the drug was framed in a beverage with the purpose of sexual abuse (Stojilković, 2017).

2. The appearance of rape drugs in nightlife entertainment spots in Ljubljana

The victim noted: *“it started to blur in front of my eyes and to turn around, not nearly like drunkenness. I immediately knew that they put something in my drink, and then I just fell. I do not remember anything”* (Zupan, 2014). Through social networks, the Gala Hall at Ljubljana (Metelkova street) warned visitors that in the area of Metelkova street, more and more cheeky people frame GHB in drinks. In the described case above, the girl was brought to the emergency room unconscious. She had luck, that her boyfriend accompanied her, and that his response was quick enough to prevent the worst. The victim appealed to the owners of the place to tight the control. The owner has before the event already observed the rise of such cases and collected information about them. They were inclined towards increased control of their area. Through social networks, visitors were also warned to pay attention to their drinks and each other and immediately alert staff and security if they noticed anything suspicious (Sta, 2014a; Hanžič and Merljak, 2014; Pi. K., 2014; Lovšin, 2014b; STA / U.Z., 2014). In addition to those facts, Krajčinović (2014) points out that the drugs at the Gala Hala bar are not present more often than elsewhere in the nightlife entertainment areas.

Before the New Year holidays in 2014, the online social network users again spread the warning about GHB elsewhere in the nightlife entertainment areas (Mi. K., 2014).

As an example of positive awareness-raising practices on the risks in the areas of nightlife, mainly in the field of drugs, Lovšin (2015a) pointed out the Gala Hall at Ljubljana (Metelkova street). After the incident with deliberate poisoning of the visitor with rape drugs, they began public awareness-raising about rape drugs. The club spaces are clearly and prominently labelled with posters to have the drink all the time under control. In many places, they do not want to admit that this dangerous drug is also present. Awareness in Gala Hala's area has increased, and new cases were not detected later in 2015. Visitors talked about the issue, and people have started to behave more responsibly. "They were also followed by others in Metelkova street, especially gay club Tiffany, which also regularly cooperates with DrogArt organization in preventive actions".

3. The Police perception of rape drugs

They advise visitors of all pubs to have a drink (in glasses, cans) all the time under control. Police detect GHB abuse only in overdose cases, and at the hospital, a notice of receiving a person suspected of overdosing with GHB, adds Stojnšek from the Ljubljana police department. In 2014, the Ljubljana Police Department had five cases of overdoses with GHB (Spletno uredništvo; STA, 2014b). The Police did not consider any rape related to GHB by the year 2014. They discussed several applications that humans were drugged, which are challenging to prove. Consequently, the suspicion was not confirmed (Mi. K., 2014). In the year 2014, The Police suspected the use of rape drugs (liquid ecstasy) in 16 cases of sexual abuse. Still, the presence, as mentioned, is usually difficult to confirm with certainty. It does not mean that, according to the standard of proof, this drug is undetectable. It was established by a known case of a couple who drugged the victim with GHB and sexually abused her (Lovšin, 2015a).

On the other hand, police data show that in 2014, police deal with at least five alleged overdosing cases with GHB. In 2013, there were 17 such cases. Vinko Stojnšek

of the Ljubljana police pointed out that the real situation is challenging to determine, as it is, in most cases, a combination of alcohol and drugs (Berdon, 2014; sta, 2014d).

The Police advise young people to be entertained and enjoyed the event but carefully. Still, they should refrain from drinking and taking drugs and watching their drink and not accepting them from strangers, especially if it is already open. Even in Slovenia, there are so-called rape drugs that strangers pour girls into drinks, commonly present (Hanžič and Merljak, 2014).

4. A couple in a bar drugged women with GHB, sexually harassed and abused her

That day, the victim drank a higher amount of alcohol in the bar. At that time, a perpetrator suggested sexual intercourse, but she rejected him. The perpetrator was accompanied by his partner (victim's co-worker). The victim was under the influence of alcohol, and they offered her a place to stay. In their apartment, the victim was willingly kissing the female co-worker. The couple planted her the drug GHB. When she was already under the influence of the drug, she did not agree to sexual intercourse with the perpetrator, who, by rejection, had repeatedly hit her face and used other violent approaches to force her into sexual intercourse. Due to a mixture of substances (GHB and alcohol), the victim lost consciousness and did not respond, despite the shower, given by the perpetrators, so the perpetrator called the paramedics. On the crime scene, the Police found a bottle of GHB. The perpetrators claimed that the drug was the victims, but only their traces were found on it. The offenders were sentenced to imprisonment (sb, 2014a, 2014b; Hanžič and Merljak, 2014; Ropac, 2014b; Lovšin, 2014b). The victim of sexual violence said that: *she did not know what happened. She partied, drank something, and probably smoked something, but she disagreed with the sexual intercourse* (Preverjeno!, 2017).

5. Distribution of rape drugs

In front of the commercial centre of Koper, the perpetrator sold a rape drug that operates on the central nervous system and can potentially cause temporary deep sleep or coma (Predanič, 2019, U.V., 2019). Police officers arrested the perpetrator in early August 2019 for trafficking GBL, known as rape drug (STA, 2019; Pk, 2019).

The Ljubljana police officers' intensified control over the rape drug has been paid off since the 31-year Macedonian was arrested. "First, they found 20 smaller, 20-ml bottles with drug GBL (a derivative of the more known drug GHB), and at his home, an even higher amount of this drug and testosterone were found« (Lovšin, 2014b; STA, 2014c; U.Z., 2014).

Police officers in Maribor performed four sets of home, personal, and vehicle investigations. They seized 0.8 kg of illicit GHB drug, about 60 ml of narcotic drug GBL, amphetamine tablets, 0.4 kg amphetamine, around two litres of amphetamine fluid, and some tablets of Lorazepam (S.S., 2016).

6. Other web news about rape drugs

In the other web posts published in 2014, which we found using the web browser, there were also news about rape drugs. It was reported that in Ljubljana's nightclubs and clubs, people who are not there for relaxation and entertainment, but only to find the right moment to set up a GBH drug in a glass of their victims, appeared. Media extensively reported when someone 21-year-old party participant in Metelkova planted a GHB drug in a drink. Due to the impact of the drug and alcohol, the victim was taken unconscious in the emergency room (Brudar, 2014; S. H. H., 2014; S.U., 2014; STA. and MM, 2014; K. Kl., B. E. and B. E., 2014; K. K., 2014).

1.3.3 Sexual harassment outside nightlife entertainment spots in Ljubljana

1. Supposed sexual harassment on New Year's party of prisoner officers in Maribor

The New Year's Eve party ended in a way that the prisoner officer struck in the face another (superior) because of the alleged sexual harassment, which was performed on his college when the superior tried to kiss him on his mouth. In doing so, the harasser was supposedly quite intoxicated (Žišt, 2015a, 2015b, 2016, 2017; Lovšin, 2015b, 2015c).

2. Street sexual harassment (stranger harassment) in Ravne na Koroškem

From September 2014 to March 2015, the Police dealt with several cases of harassed women. Most often, harassment happened in the evening when women

were leaving the gym or walking through the city streets. In one case, the perpetrator was officially charged due to a reasoned suspicion of sexual violence crime (Possnig, 2015; Mi. K., 2015; N.Š.K, 2015).

3. Rape on a party in Slovenian coastline

The crowd of young people at the party was due to the massive amounts of alcohol utterly uncontrollable; they were breaking bottles and were also physically aggressive (fighting). The men took advantage of the girl's unreasonableness and drunkenness and lured her into the paramedics' rooms, where they had sex with her. The girl filed a rape report (Pi. K, 2015; Lovšin, 2015d, 2020; M. Z., 2020; N.P., 2020; S.S., 2015).

4. Street sexual harassment (stranger harassment) in a public park in Murska Sobota

Convicted had impersonated a police officer in the year 2014, and during his physical examination, the victim was inappropriately touched by her intimate parts (Bedek, 2017; STA, 2014e).

5. Street sexual harassment (stranger harassment) in Ljubljana

A man tried to rape two women in one of the streets in Ljubljana. The victims were lucky. One of them escaped the attacker by herself, and the other was prevented from serious crime by two men, guest pubs, who were by chance on a drink at the venue (Godeša, 2019).

6. Metaldays in Tolmin

In 2015, Police received a report of the rape of a 17-year old girl, a visitor of the week events of Metaldays in Tolmin. According to unofficial data, the rape happened within the Austrian group, but the possibility that the perpetrator is someone else (nearby French visitors) wasn't excluded (STA/S.S., 2015).

1.3.4 Drinking in public places

1. Event Rhythm of youth (*slo. Ritem mladosti*) in Ljubljana

For the event Rhythm of youth in 2014, the medical teams were strengthened again. Dr. Kenda, therefore, reminds the parents that, after single drunkenness, the adolescent can experience anything that can mark him for life; injury, rape, feeling of denotement, shame, etc. This problem should not be underestimated by adults, even less if they are parents (Grošelj, 2014).

2. Restriction of drinking on the streets

The municipality of Novo Mesto is planning to join the seven Slovenian cities (Kranj, Ptuj, Velenje, Jesenice, Žirovnica, Litija, Krško), which have tried to at least limit by decree, if not prevent the drinking of young in public areas (Lindič - Dragaš in dopisniki, 2015).

1.3.5 Sexual violence in the time of COVID-19 pandemic and the problem of hidden socialisation

In addition to the analysed articles, we must mention the parties' and entertainment's latest movement from the public to the private sphere (due to the pandemic situation). And consequently, the sexual violence moved with it and became even more hidden. The news circulated on social networks that a 19-year-old man allegedly raped a 14-year-old girl at party months ago when parties were still allowed. The 14-year-old allegedly, like most of her friends, attended one of the organized parties. The 19-year-old man approached her and lured her to the toilets, where he reportedly threatened her with sexual intercourse. He recorded the act with a mobile phone and shared the recording on one of the social networks. The victim allegedly did not report the incident to the Police or inform her parents. The incident was only reported to the Police by her mother after noticing that the girl was becoming quieter and more reserved (Tomaduz, 2020; Vidrih, 2020; Celec, 2020).

According to social media records, this is not the only case. The same 19-year-old, together with four friends, allegedly raped another 15-year-old girl in a parking lot in the spring. He contacted the girl via social media in advance and invited her to a meeting, to which she agreed. At the agreed place, she saw a car in which there were two other men in addition to the mentioned man. The three hours that followed turned into a real nightmare for the minor. All three of them attacked her in the car, and because she was terrified, she did what they demanded. Later, they drove with her to another parking lot where two more men were

waiting for them. They pulled her out of the vehicle, started groping her, and forcibly undressing her. A circle was formed around her, and she was forced to satisfy everyone orally. She begged them to let her go home, but they became verbally aggressive. She was harassed, strangled, beaten, and insulted. They pushed her into a car and raped her repeatedly. All five offenders are charged with rape, according to the article of the Criminal Code, that those who rape someone in a particularly horrible or humiliating way, or if several people in a row committed the act, are punished by imprisonment from three to 15 years (Tomaduz, 2020; Vidrih, 2020; Celec, 2020).

1.4 Interviews with the victims of sexual harassment

We conducted six interviews with victims of sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots in November and December 2020. The interviews were, due to the pandemic, mostly carried out online.

Semi-structured interviews were carried out with female victims of sexual harassment, aged between 21 and 36. Four of them were employed, one was a student, and one both, employed and student.

Three victims said that the incident happened in a club in Ljubljana (centre). Other answers were: the bar in the rural environment, the place victims worked at, and village festivity. Victims' responses to the question about the event's time were different, but if we sum up, the incidents happened between 2015 and 2019 in three cases in the night, two in the evening, and one in the afternoon. Only two victims had a few alcoholic drinks before the event happened, and two of them assumed that they were drugged. The perpetrators were most often (in four cases) younger men in their 20s and early 30s. In one case, the perpetrator was a younger woman, between 20-23 years, and in another middle-aged man. Perpetrators were under the influence of alcohol in five of six incidents.

We briefly summarise the victims' description of the event below.

- **V1:** In the toilet, without warning, a woman started groping her on the buttocks and force into her.
- **V2:** She was ordering a drink at the bar when a group of known boys offered to have a drink with them while she was waiting for an order. After that drink, she does not

remember anything about that night – suspect that someone put something in her drink. She was told that they sexually harassed (inappropriately touched) her before her friends intervened.

- **V3:** She was in a club partying with friends. He (the offender) sends her a text to meet with him because they talked before that she is going out with friends, and he was also present at the club. They went to the lounge part of the club to chat a bit and ordered a drink. After a few sips, she noticed that something is wrong with the beverage, and she wanted to leave the club. He had inappropriate comments and repeatedly insisted that she do not need a taxi to drive her home because he will drive her. She was feeling sick and went to the bathroom. Luckily, she met one of the friends on the way to the bathroom, who helped her. She does not remember the end of the night nor the way home and assumes that something was “wrong” with her drink.
- **V4:** As she and her friends stood in a circle at the party and talked, he (the offender) joined them, hugged her with his left hand over her shoulder, with his right hand, he grabbed her by the chest.
- **V5:** During the study, she worked as a waitress in a restaurant and bar. They had prescribed uniforms that were not very provocative. She had received inappropriate and obscene comments, chest stares, and inappropriate invitations for sexual intercourse.
- **V6:** When she was hanging out with colleagues at the party, a man approached her and started with inappropriate sexual advances and obscene comments. When she turned him down, the behaviour escalated. He became furious, and her colleagues had to intervene. Luckily, they achieved his withdrawal with a harsh verbal response.

Mostly, in 5 of 6 cases, the victim's friends were nearby, and they intervened. Furthermore, victims mostly told about the event friends who were present at the event (5 of 6 cases). All responders said that they did not need to see the doctor because of the event. Besides, only one incident was reported to the police. The reasons why the incidents were not reported were different and ranged from the answer that the victim controlled the situation. Or that harassment didn't escalate, so it was no need to inform formal institutions, fear, shame, and inability to remember the event.

Besides the above mentioned and described incidents, all of the interviewees had other experiences with sexual harassment. Five of the interviewees noted that, besides verbal sexual harassment, they experienced unwanted groping while working as a student (waitress) at a bar. Besides, one of them pointed out that the men who verbally harassed her threatened her that something sexual would happen to her after her shift.

Other experience with harassment two of the interviewees had at other parties. One of the interviewees had another experience with sexual harassment at the village firefighter's party, where a known man approached her inappropriately. He started threatening her and verbally forcing her to have sex. Another victim noted that the offender suddenly approached and forcibly kissed her all over the face and mouth during girl's night.

Nevertheless, victims noted that harassment often happens towards waitresses in the nightlife areas, mostly in verbal form, but physical forms such as groping are often. Furthermore, sexual harassment often happens in Ljubljana's nightlife areas. One of the interviewees said that the club management knew about it and, even worse, even supported it. The interviewees also noticed verbal and non-verbal behaviour towards other participants, besides waitresses, in the nightlife areas.

1.4.2 Preliminary online survey

We sent a request via social media for participation in preliminary research about sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots in Slovenia. Preliminary research was conducted according to the snowball principle with a questionnaire created in the online tool 1KA. For the survey, the questionnaire was available from 10th November 2020 to 20th November 2020.

The preliminary study involved 175 individuals, 60 (34.3%) men, and 115 (65.7%) women, who were on average 37.35 ± 10.84 years old. 93.9% of respondents affirmed nightlife engagement – visiting bars, visiting parties in bars, and visiting private parties. Respondents to the question "with whom they engage in nightlife" most often chose the answer with friends (89%), followed by answers with a partner (38.2%), classmates (26.6%), and co-workers (10, 3%). Respondents least often chose the answer that they visit bars and/or parties alone (5.1%).

In 75.5%, Ljubljana was mentioned as the city of nightlife entertainment, while the second most frequent city was Kranj (27.9%). We anticipated that the density of events in

Ljubljana would be the highest, so we asked the respondents who stated that they are involved in the nightlife in Ljubljana an additional question about attending parties and bars in this area. Of the respondents having fun in Ljubljana, 73.3% mentioned Ljubljana's centre (in the vicinity of Congress square). The second most common location for nightlife in Ljubljana was the old town (42.2%), followed by parties in private spaces (38.8%), at the Gospodarsko razstavišče (18.1%), at Metelkova street and its surroundings (14.7%) and parties in dormitories and their surroundings (17.2%). Respondents also mentioned Stožice, Šiška, and Tivoli (0.6% each) as possible Ljubljana's locations for nightlife activities. 2.9% of the respondents additionally pointed out that they do not go to parties in Ljubljana.

We were interested in what types of parties the respondents attend. Among the answers, most respondents chose to participate in private parties/celebrations (57.9%), followed by the response that they attend parties in clubs where they play modern dance music (57.0%). Respondents who attend parties and/or visit bars also visit:

- parties in clubs where Balkan music is played (43.0%),
- village festivities (41.1%),
- parties in clubs where Slovenian music is played (26.2%),
- techno, rave parties (17.8%),
- it doesn't matter what kind of music they play (20.6%),
- parties in clubs where metal music is played (4.7%) and
- other, where they mentioned rock concerts (1.9%).

The frequency of engagement in nightlife varies. Most respondents attend parties attend clubs (50%), village parties (56.4%), and private parties (55.7%) several times a year. The frequency of visiting bars is more scattered among the answers several times a year (36.4%), two to three times a month (21.4%), and once a month (15%).

Most respondents answered that they consume alcohol frequently during their activities (27.9%), and almost the same share of respondents stated that they consume alcohol every time (27.1%). 12.1% of respondents said that they do not drink alcohol during their nightlife, and the rest of the respondents consume alcohol occasionally or rarely.

Almost two-thirds of the respondents (59.3%) stated that they do not use tobacco products during nightlife. 18.6% of respondents report consuming tobacco products each time, besides 7.9% of respondents' consumption of tobacco products is frequent. Other

respondents stated that they rarely use tobacco products during the nightlife (11.4%) or sometimes (2.9%).

Among illicit drugs, respondents in nightlife most often infrequently consume marijuana (12.1%), while 4.3% of respondents reported occasional and frequent use. Other psychoactive substances consumed by the surveyed nightlife visitors include cocaine (rarely 2.1%, often 2.1%), rarely ecstasy (and its derivatives) (3.6%), and other (unspecified) psychoactive substances (rarely 2.3%, often 1.6%). The vast majority (95%) of the surveyed nightlife visitors do not use the drugs mentioned above.

66.4% of respondents stated that they observed behaviours that represented verbal, non-verbal, or physical sexual harassment in nightlife areas. 40.5% of respondents indicated that they were exposed to sexual harassment in nightlife areas, and 3.1% of respondents did not want to talk about it. The rest of the respondents state that they have not experienced sexual harassment in nightlife areas.

At least once, respondents experienced acts of verbal harassment listed below:

- 78.6% experienced inappropriate comments about appearance or posture,
- 80.1% of them have been exposed to unwelcome conquest,
- 74.3% received obscene remarks,
- 62.9% experienced repeated allusions to sexuality,
- 40% verbal coercion to sexual activity.

In nightlife areas, at least once, respondents experienced acts of verbal harassment listed below:

- 78.6% of them were exposed to lustful looking,
- 61.5% of them received sexually suggestive gestures,
- in 31.4%, respondents were exposed to stalking,
- 24,3% experienced showing sexually suggestive photos.

At least once, respondents experienced acts of verbal harassment in nightlife areas listed below:

- 77.2% of respondents have experienced unwanted physical contact,
- 74.3% of individuals received unwanted hugs,

- 34.3% of them were exposed to unwanted kissing,
- 5.7% of respondents answered that they were forced to have sexual intercourse.

Respondents who suffered sexual harassment in nightlife areas about the event most often told a friend who was present at the time (68.1%). 39.1% said a friend who was not present at the time of the event. Respondents also told their partner (26.1%), family (8.7%), security staff (5.8%), and service staff (2.9%). 11.6% of respondents who suffered sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots did not tell anyone about it. Regarding the incident of sexual harassment, none of the respondents submitted formal reports to the law enforcement authorities.

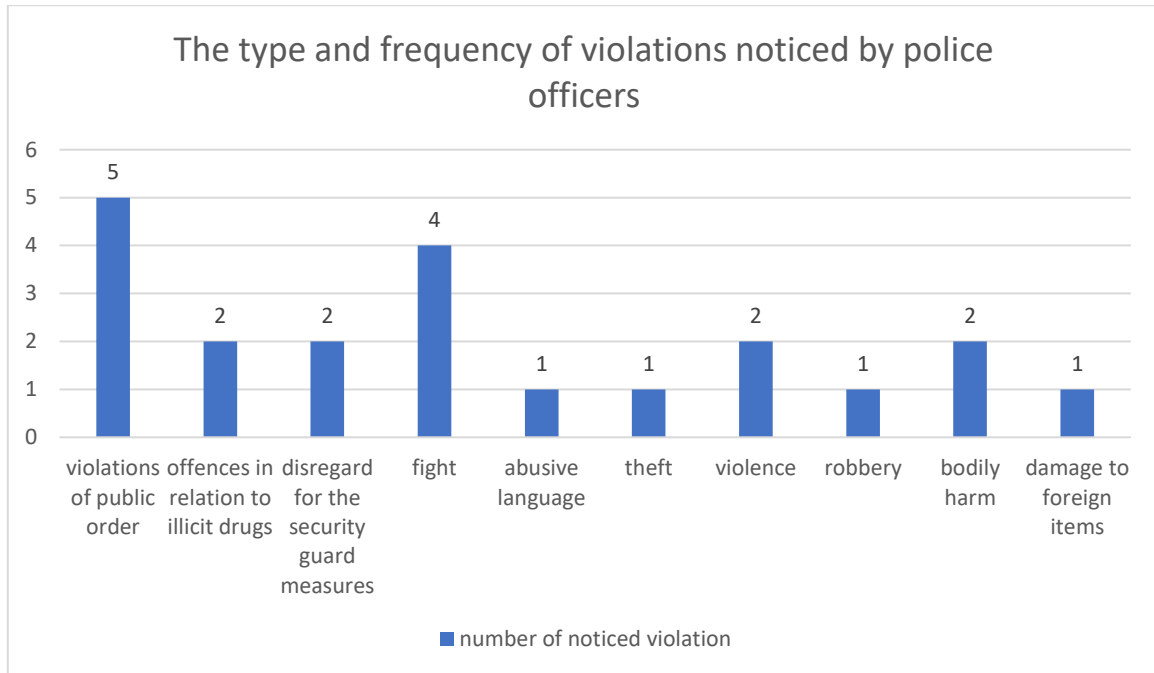
As a reason for not report the sexual harassment in nightlife areas to law enforcement agencies, shame most often occurs (21.7%), followed by fears that no one will believe me and that victim was under the influence of alcohol and/or other psychoactive substances (20.3% each). The remaining reasons for not reporting the sexual harassment event were: I did not remember the event, fear of condemning my surroundings, self-blame for the event (8.7% each), and fear of the perpetrator (5.8%).

2 Semi-structured interviews with stakeholders

2.1 Interviews with police officers in Ljubljana Centre

In January 2021, we conducted nine online interviews with police officers in the Police station Ljubljana centre. In the conversation, we analysed the situation in the nightlife areas in Ljubljana before the COVID-19 pandemic. We were interested in the main problems that police officers most often face with. Police officers most often detected public order and peace violations under the Protection of Public Order Act (2006). Besides violations of the Protection of Public Order Act (n = 4), police officers often notice alcohol abuse (n = 3) and drug abuse (n = 3) as a problem in nightlife areas. In one case, the police officer among drugs especially pointed out rape drugs (GHB) in Ljubljana's nightlife areas. Physical violence was observed (n = 3), and in one case, a police officer also reported burglaries in nightlife areas. One of the interviewed police officers states that there are no problems in Ljubljana's nightlife areas.

The primary infringements and offences that police officers deal with in clubs and bar areas in the Ljubljana centre are shown in graph 1. The violations and offences under the Protection of Public Order Act are often noticed by the police officers, followed by physical violence (fights).



Graph 1: The type and frequency of violations noticed by police officers.

We have asked police officers if the cases of sexual harassment/violence are creating severe safety problems to visitors of nightlife spots in Ljubljana and its assessment in the context of other criminogenic and safety issues. Three police officers answered that sexual harassment/violence does not represent an issue in Ljubljana's nightlife areas. Five of the interviewed police officers mentioned alcohol and drugs' influence on sexual harassment and sexual violence in the nightlife context. They often said that younger men are the perpetrators but pointed out that mentioned is not the rule. One of the police officers, as a potential group of perpetrators, noticed migrants. One of the interviewed noted that except for GHB (drugs for rape), there are not many reported cases of sexual harassment in nightlife entertainment spots.

According to police observations, the victims are mainly younger women who desire to stand out or are not careful enough. Usually, it starts with a party in a public place, consuming a lot of alcohol. The perpetrators are deliberately looking for careless girls in bars,

paying them a drink or two (sometimes they secretly throw drugs into a drink with an intended for rape), and then they sexually abuse the helpless victim. Sometimes, more perpetrators are included. Alcohol and drug can cause vomiting and dizziness by victims. Police officers pointed out the importance of bystanders or friends in these cases, helping the victims and preventing victimisation. Another possible event course is that parties often continue in private apartments (home parties) where victims are abused.

In the police officers' opinion, communication and cooperation between police and the owners (administrators) of nightlife entertainment spots are quite good. One of the police officers had not communicated with bar owners. One of the police officers pointed out that they have owner-dependent communication, which is, in some cases, very constructive. Another police officer mentioned that bar owners want to have “covered police” in civilian clothes, as uniform represents repression, people do not feel comfortable, some are even discouraged. The third officer pointed out that the problem is actually at night when the owners are home. In the meantime, other persons manage the bar (e.g., managers), connected with security guards who allow various offences in the bar.

Regarding preserving order and security of nightlife in Ljubljana and what kind of cooperation police would like to have with the nightlife entertainment sector, three police officers noted no problems in this area. By five of interviewed police officers wish for better cooperation, and communication was noticed. One of the police officers pointed out the need for more communication and feedback from the owner, who is the one who can do the most in this area and contribute to the safety of the nightclub by monitoring the situation, cooperating, and reporting security phenomena to the police, clear and decisive action against violators. Two pointed out the need for better information transfer and a common strategy with staff, security guards, municipality police, and the police. Another police officer mentioned that sometimes the bar owners cover the offense and oppose the controls. However, the police's presence and visibility give people a sense of security.

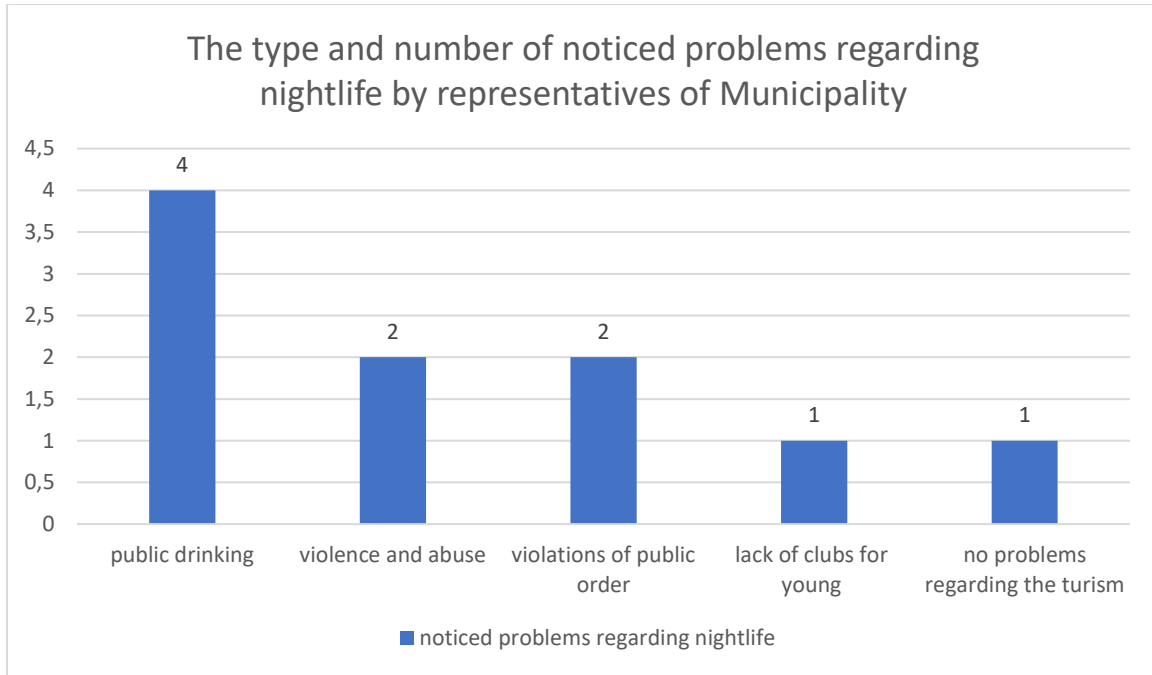
2.2 Interviews with employed in the Ljubljana Municipality and municipality institutions

At the end of December and in January, we conducted eight interviews with representatives from Municipality Ljubljana. The interviews were carried out with four Municipality police officers, one group leader at Municipality police, one Counsellor, one Social protection worker, and the Director of Ljubljana Tourism.

We talked about Ljubljana's nightlife, its effect on national and international contexts, and Ljubljana's city image vision. Four municipality representatives noted the impact. Among them, one interviewed pointed out that influence is not in the analysed topic. Two interviewed pointed out that is a part of the tourism strategy. The Director of Ljubljana tourism was among interviewed. He mentioned that part of a vision is building a positive image of nightlife, which is not problematic than other capitals. Two of the Municipality police officers exposed Ljubljana's idea of a safe place, and municipal services shall ensure security in the city. Two of the interviewed did not have an answer to the question.

We asked them how the vision of nightlife and entertainment could be placed into building a city image? The Director of Ljubljana tourism mentioned that nightlife certainly co-creates the urban atmosphere and is also one of the city's attractiveness factors. The idea of "nightlife and entertainment" can be included in Ljubljana's appearance through tourism and culture (n = 2), and last but not least through the more significant promotion of healthy living and sports and fewer overnight stays (n = 2). Another considerable topic was safety, e.g., friendly but safe, carefree entertainment where it is possible to contact authorised persons in the city (n = 3). Two of the interviewed did not have direct contact with the topic, so they skip the question.

We asked interviewed precisely about the nightlife in Ljubljana. The main problems of Ljubljana's nightlife and its references to safety/security issues, as seen by municipality representatives, are shown in graph 2. As the problem of Ljubljana's nightlife, representatives of the municipality most often noticed public drinking (before entering the clubs). Alcohol-related physical, psychological, and sexual violence and public order violations (including creating noise and vandalism) were also commonly noticed. One of the interviewees mentioned that several youth clubs should be set up for young people while ensuring an appropriate security structure. Regarding tourism, they do not perceive any problems. Sooner, tourists' reactions are positive because, in Ljubljana, clubs close later than in Western Europe.



Graph 2: The type and number of noticed problems regarding nightlife by representatives of Municipality

Measures which the Municipality Ljubljana take on these safety issues are:

- increased control of public order and peace in the cooperation of Police and Municipality police (n = 4);
- control of operating hours with the City Inspectorate (n = 2);
- preventive activities and awareness-raising – co-financed NGO programs; police operations, to inform tourists about the access (how to use taxis so that tourists are not deceived).

One could predict that the nightlife areas (bars and clubs) are an appropriate place for sexual harassment incidents. We asked interviewed about the state in Ljubljana. They all agree that sexual harassment and violence can and are also happening in Ljubljana. Below we summarise some of the answers regarding sexual harassment and sexual violence in Ljubljana as seen by Municipality representatives. They noted:

- It happens, but abused people do not want to be exposed.
- Depending on the time, place, and circumstances, there exist the possibility of such a phenomenon in Ljubljana.

- Sexual harassment and violence can occur but in smaller phenomena than in larger metropolises.
- Given the sheer number of migrants and the problems they cause with their behaviour in front of bars.
- To some extent, for sure, but we do not have the actual feedbacks to confirm that.

The last question was about preventing sexual harassment at nightlife places, and who should take care and responsibilities for these preventive measures? There were the most diverse answers. On the one hand, they propose night watch and increased presence of police officers, security guards, municipality police officers, and regular inspections or to ban the intake of various substances. Other awareness-raising (preventive) proposals were:

- Non-governmental organizations that already implement similar programs should be included in kindergartens, schools (primary, secondary) and faculties, and repressive bodies such as the police and municipal police (n =2).
- The Police, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, Municipality police, etc., should carry out preventive/awareness-raising activities regarding sexual harassment and sexual violence in nightlife entertainment spots.
- The first thing that gives a lot to an individual's behaviour is the upbringing at home, from aggressors or harassers to victims. And so, in turn, everything that contributes to the whole picture of this happening in the nightlife entertainment spots should be addressed earlier.

To sum up, awareness-raising is needed – the general public, party organisers, party participants, etc. All stakeholders must take responsibility.

2.3 Interviews with the nightlife entertainment spot owners/administrators

Due to the pandemic of the Coronavirus, we had two significant lockdowns in Slovenia in the year 2020, which resulted in the shutdown of ordinary life and the entertainment business. The second major lockdown is still present in February 2021. Consequently, the bars, pubs, and clubs are, among other things, closed, and we were unable to carry out the interviews. Therefore, we faced the obstacle by conducting the interviews with bar

owners/administrators. We manage to conduct four online interviews, which results should be interpreted with caution. In Ljubljana, we have a wide variety of pubs, clubs, and bars, and the interview's findings are not representative of all of them.

We conducted four interviews with leading bar personnel/bar management. Their main directions were: running the establishment, accepting reservations and advising on choosing a menu or offer, receiving orders, serving guests, dealing with wishes and complaints. One bar manager pointed out that they closed early at night, so he cannot describe nightlife's clientele. The other three mentioned different age groups of clients, guests between 20 and 65 years, including tourists. Three of the interviewees did not point out safety/security problems. One manager pointed out issues at the end of the opening time when drunk guests could not be served alcohol anymore. The guests sometimes reacted with negotiation first, followed by rudeness and aggression. Those incidents are mostly solved by security guards or bar personnel's cooperation to remove someone from the bar. All of the interviewed pointed out that the security company provides help by ensuring security. The security guard arrives and controls the entrance and exit of guests from the bar and, if necessary, accompanies drunk or unsuitable guests from the bar. Three respondents mentioned cooperation with the police by ensuring security in the bar/club area if needed.

We talked about the sexual harassment issue with the interviewed managers and whether it could be a problem for Ljubljana nightlife entertainment spots. Only one respondent answered that sexual harassment does not represent a problem in Ljubljana. Others answered affirmatively. One bar manager pointed out that the location influences sexual harassment in Ljubljana. In Ljubljana centre, it means a problem, but the guests are more cultural on the periphery.

The initiative and the responsibility for coping with the problems of sexual harassment should be, in the bar managers' opinion, taken by the police (n=2). The municipality as the state manager, security company, and bar owners as answer appeared once. The bar managers in the area of cooperation with the police and municipality in preventing sexual harassment wish for:

- a detailed investigation in case of an incident and then action,
- greater control and responsiveness,
- a more responsible and serious approach,
- faster response in need of their presence.

In the end, the bar managers concluded that sexual harassment is present but mentioned too rarely. One of the interviewed noted that the most significant share of harassment occurs because security and the police close one eye. They agree that this problem is much more developed in Ljubljana's very centre than on Ljubljana's outskirts. It is known that the nightlife in the centre is much more developed and the clients of the bar are quite diverse. Consequently, the possibilities for sexual harassment are higher.

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