

FOI1283 Disclosures

- Extract from morning media summary – 17 December 2018

The Guardian says that video game workers are unionising for the first time to tackle racism, sexism and bullying which some say is rife in the sector.

- Extract from Daily News Update – 12 May 2015

Sexism is one dragon that online gamers cannot slay [\[web link\]](#)

The Times - 12/05/2015

p17 News. Oliver Moody.

A study into online sexism has proved that players of video game Warcraft are less likely to help female characters than male characters.

- Extract from Daily News Update – 21 November 2014

Not just a game

Daily Record - 21/11/2014

p8 Editorial .

An editorial on the video game Grand Theft Auto which is being accused of portraying violence against women.

Grand theft awful

Daily Record - 21/11/2014

p11 News. Sarah Vesty.

The Scots makers of hit video game Grand Theft Auto V have been slammed by anti-rape campaigners for putting players in the shoes of thugs who murder prostitutes. A new version of the crime game released this week includes a feature allowing players to pay for sex, which is graphically shown from the man's point of view. It then lets them punch and kick the woman unconscious - or even kill her - before stealing her money.

- Extract from Daily News Update – 13 October 2013

Racism row over Nicki gaming ad [\[web link\]](#)

Daily Star Sunday - 13/10/2013

p27 News. Ed Gleave.

Nintendo was last night caught up in a race row over its latest television advert. The commercial for the Wii release Just Dance 2014, which appears to include the N-word, has shocked scores of telly viewers. Telly babe Caroline Flack does the voiceover for the uncensored ad, which is airing on channels including MTV Dance and E4.

- Extract from Daily News Update – 24 February 2013

[A girl's guide to anger management \[text\] \[web link\]](#)

Sunday Herald - (24/02/2013)

p43 Editorial. Roxanne Sorooshian.

Roxanne Sorooshian comments on gender equality in both the video game industry and toy market.

- Extract from Daily News Update - 17 February 2011

Smash it, son

Daily Record - (17/02/2011)

p7 News. Laurie Hanna.

The Sky Sports sexism row has returned to embarrass footballer Jamie Redknapp. In a case of bad timing, he is seen in a new TV ad for Nintendo's Wii console urging son Charlie to "smash it" as they play a football video game, as wife Louise, 36, cheers them on.

- Extract from Independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation in Scotland – Consultation – non-technical guide

A contrary view has been expressed by some women's organisations and academics. In our initial information gathering, it has been suggested that online harassment and incitement to hatred online is a material problem which is not properly dealt with by the criminal justice system at present. Online forums allow people to gather around a particular idea or topic, particularly with the use of hashtags. This can result in a phenomenon described as 'crowdsourced harassment' or 'dogpiling', where a large number of people join in an outpouring of criticism or condemnation in a way which can be extremely intimidating for those subject to it. One recent example has been the 'gamergate' activity online in the USA, where various female journalists and video game developers were subject to significant harassment. Some individual acts of harassment were very minor and others were much more serious (e.g. death threats, arranging for SWAT teams to attend the subject's house etc) but all were co-ordinated through the use of the 'gamergate' hashtag. Gender equality campaigners Engender suggested that similar campaigns of 'crowdsourced harassment' are becoming more common in the UK – referring to Caroline Criado-Perez and Stella Creasy MP who were subject to online harassment after having campaigned to get more women depicted on banknotes. The argument is that this kind of online harassment is much more common in relation to prominent women online than it is in relation to men, and that therefore indicates that the harassment is in part motivated by malice and ill-will based on the subject's gender.

- Extract from LGBT+ Campaign Live Policy 2014-17

**Motion 211: Playing Against Discrimination
Conference believes:**

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5. Tomodachi Life (a Nintendo made "Sims" like game) did not incorporate same sex marriage even though marriage is a large part of the core gameplay