

Corporate Compliance Corner (#3 of 4 in 2003-2004 Compliance Year)

Quality: Countless unseen details are often the only difference between mediocre and magnificent.

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Center for Business Ethics

Did you know that there is a Bentley College Center for Business Ethics, one of the first institutions of its kind in the world? It is located in Waltham, Massachusetts. It 'continues to take a leadership role in promoting ethical business conduct as a foundation for responsible and constructive corporate engagement in society'. (from the Sears Leadership in Business Ethics Series).

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Q and A

Q: What is illegal harassment?

A: Illegal harassment consists of actions, language, written materials, or objects that are directed or used in a way that undermines fundamental human dignity, interferes with a person's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Q: What are examples of illegal harassment?

A: Here are some:

- Sexual harassment
- Racial or ethnic slurs
- Teasing, ridicule or jokes about an individual's age
- Insulting comments about a person's disability
- Offensive comments about a person's religion or national origin
- Offensive or inappropriate remarks, slurs or comments about a person's perceived or actual sexual orientation

If you or a colleague is being harassed, report it immediately.

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A youth was questioning a lonely old man. "What is life's heaviest burden?" he asked. The old fellow answered sadly, "To have nothing to carry."