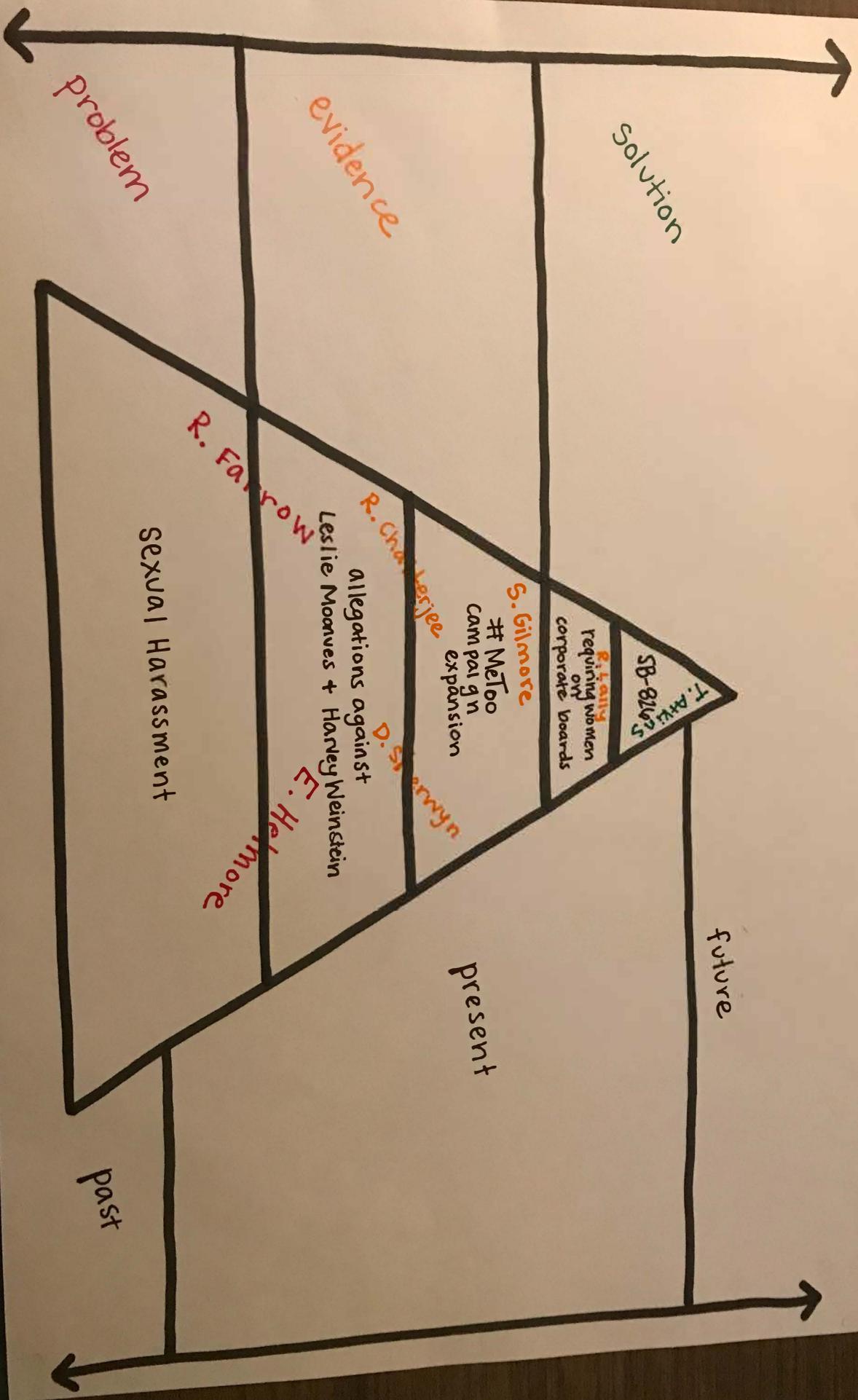


Timeline of Solutions to fixing Gender Inequality and Sexual Harassment in Businesses



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ENGL 20803- Writing as Argument

18 October 2018

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Statement of Goals and Choices

This issue is about the correlation between women equality in businesses and sexual harassment towards them. This issue is important to speak up for because it is concerned with the safety and comfort of women. In recent years, this issue has grown tremendously and has gained enormous attention, especially with the very current cases involving Harvey Weinstein, a major American film producer, and Leslie Moonves, a media executive and CEO of CBS, who have stepped down from their positions due to allegations regarding sexual harassment within their company. The amount of sexual harassment claims in our culture today have increased immensely, and this needs to change. This issue is also important to me because I value teamwork and equality, and if men and women can't be seen as equal and can't figure out a way to work safely with each other and cooperate in the same environment, then there will be trouble finding success. As for stasis, the arguments of fact and definition is that according to the National Public Radio, a highly reputable source when it comes to factual reporting, more than 80 percent of women have been sexually assaulted or harassed and have shared their stories with others through the #MeToo movement. Some of the common reasons behind these stories is that higher positioned men take advantage of the women and promise promotions in return for sexual favors. The arguments of evaluation and policy are that this is a very serious issue and a bill has been proposed in attempt to fix this issue. If nothing is done know to fix this issue, it could get even worse and more women could be affected. The SB-826 bill addresses the culture of sexual harassment and inequality in major businesses; it proposes the idea that if women were required to be placed higher up, they would hold more power and decrease their chances of sexual harassment. The stakeholders are the companies, themselves, and the employees who work within the business, especially the women.

For this issue map, my goal was to help the readers understand the relationship between each of my sources. I was trying to accomplish this by showing a timeline of general events using a pyramid formation to show that the problem started out big in the past at the bottom and has been narrowed down to a solution, SB-826, as time went on, therefore, the pyramid gets smaller towards the top because the timeline is moving upwards through the present and to the future since the bill has not passed yet. I tried to show this by using vertical labels that showed the different parts of my argument/ issue and the time on the sides of the pyramid. My aim for making sexual harassment be the base of the pyramid was because it is the biggest part of this issue and has been going on the longest, taking up the most space in the world. As time goes on,

stories come out. This is why the next layer includes the allegations against Leslie Moonves and Harvey Weinstein. While these are just a tiny part to this huge issue of sexual harassment, they are talked about in a lot of my sources because they are so recent and so big. These two men make the issue more real. Ever since their stories came out, more and more women have begun sharing their personal experiences and stories through the #MeToo campaign which is why I made that my next layer of the pyramid. My goal was to make these three layers the thickest because there is a lot of detail that goes into them. The next layer is to show the start of the process of change. Some of my sources talk about how leveling the business fields for men and women may decrease the likelihood of sexual harassment. This layer talks about how to do this by requiring women to serve on corporate boards. The top layer is the smallest. My goal for this one was to represent the source, SB-826, which provides a written-out attempt to a solution to fix this. I made it small to show that it has not yet passed, but it is the closest to a solution that we have right now. Overall, my goal was to show the base of the problem and how it has been built up over time in trying to resolve it in a clear way so that the audience is able to understand my issue map.

I chose to use a pyramid because it was easy to show a big problem and the steps to getting to the one solution, SB-826. I chose to make sexual harassment the base because it has the most detail, stories, and has been around the longest. Without sexual harassment, the other layers on top of it would not exist. I decided to use timeline themed labels on the sides because it provided more clarity as to what each layer is and its relation to time. I chose to make the present part of the pyramid begin halfway through the sexual harassment layer because sexual harassment has been around for decades before, and I chose to end it towards the top of the SB-826 layer because it has not yet been passed, so that little part represents the future if it may pass. I chose to write the bottom authors in red because red means “stop”, and the issue needs to be stopped. I chose orange to be a neutral color, mainly because I didn’t have a yellow marker, to represent the stops leading to the solution and to show evidence of the problem. I chose green as the top color because green means “go” and the bill, SB-826, is a go for a solution to fixing this problem. I chose to do black as the background color because it is a good basis color. I also chose to write just the first letter of the first name of the author and their last name to avoid gender bias.

When I first started drafting my map, I originally had planned it to go in the shape of a woman holding two plates with Leslie Moonves and Harvey Weinstein’s name on either one, but that idea got super complicated, and I couldn’t figure out how to place my sources, so I scratched that. I then decided to go for the pyramid look because I thought it would be easy to represent the big issue leading to the smaller solution. I had drawn out the whole pyramid and included drawings of women holding pieces of the pyramid, helping build it all the way up to equality/solution. After peer review, it was brought to my attention that the idea of the women building the pyramid was a good idea, but that it didn’t make a whole lot of sense since the base of the pyramid was sexual harassment, and it made the women look like they built up the

harassment. Because of that, I decided to remove the women to avoid confusion. Instead, I decided to add labels on the side to provide more clarity on which direction my pyramid was moving and what each piece stood for. I also decided to put more descriptive labels on each layer to provide clarity for my audience. The plan I ended up pursuing, I believe, works best in achieving my goals because it helps provide a clear understanding to the issue and how my sources are related to it.

Besides myself, the TCU bookstore played a role in helping me accomplish these goals because this is where I purchased the expo markers and pencil to draw and color my map. My laptop and the internet also helped me find images to trace to make my map look neat and the articles of my sources. My professor, Ms. Kelm, and my peers, A---, K---, and R--- also helped me in planning this issue map by providing me with good feedback to help improve my work from the previous drafts.