

The background is a complex, abstract pattern of white and dark blue lines. The white lines are thick and fluid, swirling and looping across the frame. The dark blue lines are thinner and more angular, often forming shapes that resemble stylized faces or figures. In the upper right, there is a small, dark blue star-like shape. In the lower left, there is a white shape that looks like a stylized '11' or a pair of vertical bars. In the lower right, there is a white shape that looks like a stylized '15' or a pair of vertical bars. The overall effect is a dense, energetic, and somewhat chaotic visual field.

Satirical Art

IC

Intro to satirical art...

- ★ **Satire**
The use of humour, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues. - Oxford Languages
- ★ **Irony**
The expression of one's meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect. - Oxford Languages
- ★ **Political**
Relating to the government or public affairs of a country. - Oxford Languages
- ★ **Change art**
Art has the power to change the way we see the world, awakening us to new perspectives, ideas, and values. It can take us back in time to reflect on our past or push us further into our future. Art can bring awareness to social issues and foster a sense of acceptance — bringing people together regardless of background. - Bob Talley



Fig. 1, John Holcroft, Map Trap

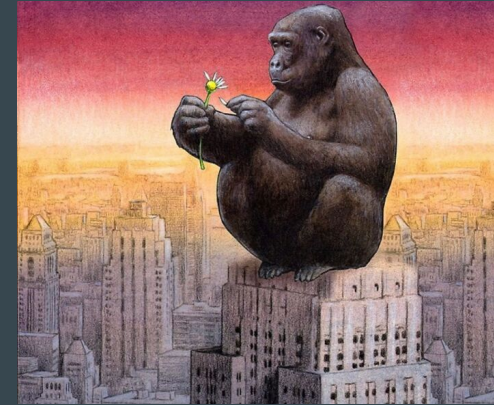


Fig. 2, Pawel Kuczynski, Satirical Art

John Holcroft - Man Trap

This piece of satirical art was created by John Holcroft. It was created to show how love can be trap. Holcroft doesn't have a specific audience but really anyone who is willing to see what he creates.



Fig. 1, John Holcroft, Map Trap

The images he creates don't have a specific date but he started illustrating in 1996 so his illustrations are more recent and have been about very recent topics. He used different mediums in those early years but didn't start working digitally until 2001. It was only in 2010 that he started making his 'screen print' style that we see now (John Holcroft Editorial Illustrator).

In an interview Holcroft said "I watch the news and try to keep an eye on current affairs and this is where I get most of my subject matters. As for conceptual ideas, I have to brainstorm them, rather like a comedian would write jokes, they have to work visually and communicate to the audience" (Ikon images).

John Holcroft - Man Trap

It's possible he might like this lady and willingly steps in the trap but he doesn't see the truth yet. He'll only know about it if he falls in the trap. Love is dangerous. You never know what your getting into. This love is disguised as a trap.

The fact that the trap isn't just sitting there but is in attached to her leg means that if this man steps into the trap and falls for the love, he will then be a part of this lady. Because the trap is disguised as love means that the man will probably fall for her. The trap is right there, ready to spring. If he makes one mistake, shows and inkling of emotion, he steps into the trap and it's over. The lady wins.

In this image we can see the feet of a man and a woman. We can tell it's a lady and a man because of the clothes and shoes they're wearing. The woman is attached to the snare.



Fig. 1, John Holcroft, Map Trap

The snare is shaped like a heart and has a heart inside it. If this man steps into the love he will fall in a trap. He won't be able to get out unless the lady lets him, but she has no reason to. That trap is sharp and will cut him if he triggers it which indicates that if he gets into this relationship it will probably be an abusive relationship. Whatever happens to this man he will get hurt somehow.

Pawel Kuczynski

- Satirical art

Kuczynski started creating art in 2004 so his images deal with mostly recent issues such as phone addictions and pollution (ItKey). This image was created to show issues in deforestation and cities taking over natural habitats.

His art doesn't have a specific audience but a lot of his artwork is directed towards more western civilization but this one is more generic. It's possible that Kuczynski is trying to reach a more world wide audience because this issue affects more than just western civilization

Pawel Kuczynski made this piece of satirical art as a part of political art pieces. In this image we can see that there is a gorilla picking at a daisy, sitting on top of a building in a crowded city. That's all we can see but there is a deeper meaning behind it.



Fig. 2, Pawel Kuczynski, Satirical Art

Pawel Kuczynski

- Satirical art

Kuczynski has the gorilla picking at a daisy which signifies that we no longer care about animals. It is a common thing that girl used to do years ago, they would take a daisy and pick the petals off and they would say “he loves me” or “he loves me not” and which ever one they ended with, they believed.

The gorilla is sitting on top of a building in a city which isn't a natural place for a gorilla to be. Through the years, humans have been expanding cities and land, taking over wildlife natural habitats. In this image the gorilla's home has been destroyed and has nowhere to go but the city. This is a true situation. Animal are being pushed out of their homes into the cities were issues keep coming up and they're getting blamed even though it's our fault.

The gorilla also looks really sad which makes it easier for us to feel for it. Finally, with the sunset it ties everything together because it signifies that this is the end for the gorilla. Sunsets are at the end of the day and it means the end of something.

In this image, to the first glance you can see a gorilla sitting on a building in a crowded city during sunset or sunrise. Only when you break apart the components in the image do you begin to understand the meaning behind it.



Fig. 2, Pawel Kuczynski, Satirical Art

Conclusion

Satirical art is a type of art with hidden meanings. What you see at a first look definitely isn't what the art means. Lots of things in the creation have a hidden meaning that then all tie together to create a powerful message. The messages are usually related to a recent topic, such as pollution or a change in politics, and you might not get the message until you look into it. When you piece everything together you begin to understand the message. Even when you think you understand the image then you see it differently and everything becomes a little more clear. This type of artwork strives to create a push for change or bring attention to an issue. Through the art pieces we can understand and be more aware of current issues around the world that need to be addressed. This is a good technique to use and gets the message across because a picture speaks a thousand words.

Figure list

Fig. 1	Holcroft, John. Man Trap. Inspire We Trust, www.inspirewetrust.com/en/2014/12/15/illustrazioni-satiriche/ . Accessed 18 Jan. 2024.
Fig. 2	Kuczynski, Pawel. Pawel Kuczynski Satirical Art. 121 Clicks, 121clicks.com/art/modern-society-satirical-illustrations-pawel-kuczynski . Accessed 18 Jan. 2024.

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Developing ideas

Gender inequality

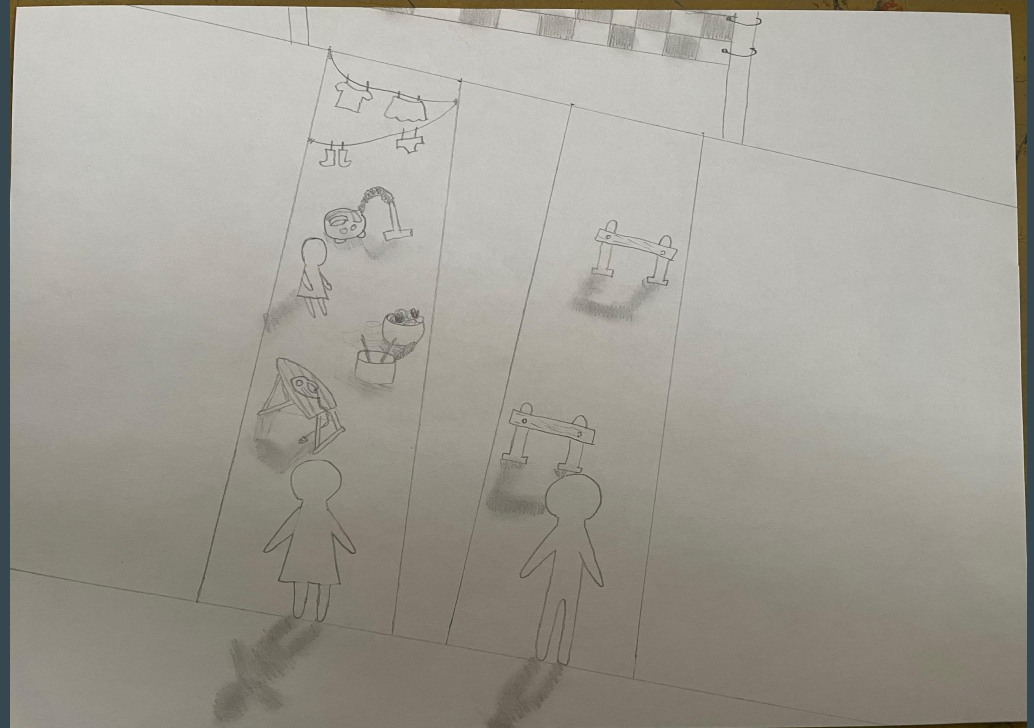


Gender Inequality

Gender inequality is still a big issue worldwide. Not a single country in the world has achieved gender equality. It's not as bad as it has been in past years but women still aren't treated fairly. 130 million girls remain out of school worldwide but it's so much easier for boys to get into school and be allowed to go to school. According to a report written by UN Women they said, "it could take close to 300 years to achieve full gender equality at the current rate of progress" (Lowery). To those in power (mostly men!), we aren't seen as capable of achieving things that men can. We can do things just as well as them, if not better. Women have to work twice as hard just to get close to where men are. Men getting things pretty easy, almost handed to them but women have work and work and work to get to the same place. Because men run society and rules are made by men, the way women are viewed remains the same. According to men, we are weak, and stupid and have no use to them other than running around a cleaning up after them. If life is a race, men will always win because it's so much easier for them. They only have to jump over two hurdles but women have a lot more obstacles to overcome. We have the ability to do all the things as man can, but we're never given the chance. Women earn just 77 cents for every dollar men earn (Lowery). I honestly think that men are scared of our capabilities. They don't want us to have power because if we did we'd be able to do things better than them and they don't want to feel the same way we feel because of the way they treat us.

Plan drawing

In this drawing I wanted to show how women have to overcome so many obstacles compared to men, just to get where they want to go. For the man's obstacles I did two hurdles whereas the woman has so many other obstacles. I chose to do the woman's obstacles as things that people consider "a woman's job". There things to do with cleaning and child care. I hope this image shows how unfair it is for women.



Mental Health issues



Mental Health

"You are not your mental illness."

Mental Health issues

Mental health illnesses affect so many people yet it's still a huge issue. 1 in every 8 people, or 970 million people around the world were living with a mental disorders, and that was only in 2019. The numbers have risen much more since the COVID epidemic (WHO). People are made fun of for having mental illnesses and are classified as crazy, which only makes things worse. There are many different mental health illnesses and all of them are worth being known. It's not okay to belittle people who have mental health issues. Awareness needs to be raised and people need to be helped. The people who are affected live in fear, sadness and hopelessness. Often, they struggle in silence, too scared to tell someone how they feel because then everyone will know and because people think it's weird then they make fun of them for being mentally ill. It is not okay to make someone feel bad for not being okay. It's okay to not be okay. The world needs to be more understanding and open. We can't let people suffer like this. It's hard to live with a mental illness. If the world is more aware and more understanding, then it would be easier to live with mental illnesses. More people could be helped and more open to being helped. If everyone could just be a bit more empathetic, then more people could be helped and it would make it some much easier to cope with a mental illness.

Plan drawing

In this drawing I wanted to show how something that looks fine on the outside, could be breaking on the inside. The girl is breaking apart and she's trying to hold herself together, afraid of what people will think of her if they find out the truth. Chunks of her have already fallen out and the cracks are spreading but she's trying to keep herself from falling apart to appear normal in front of others.



Sexual Violence

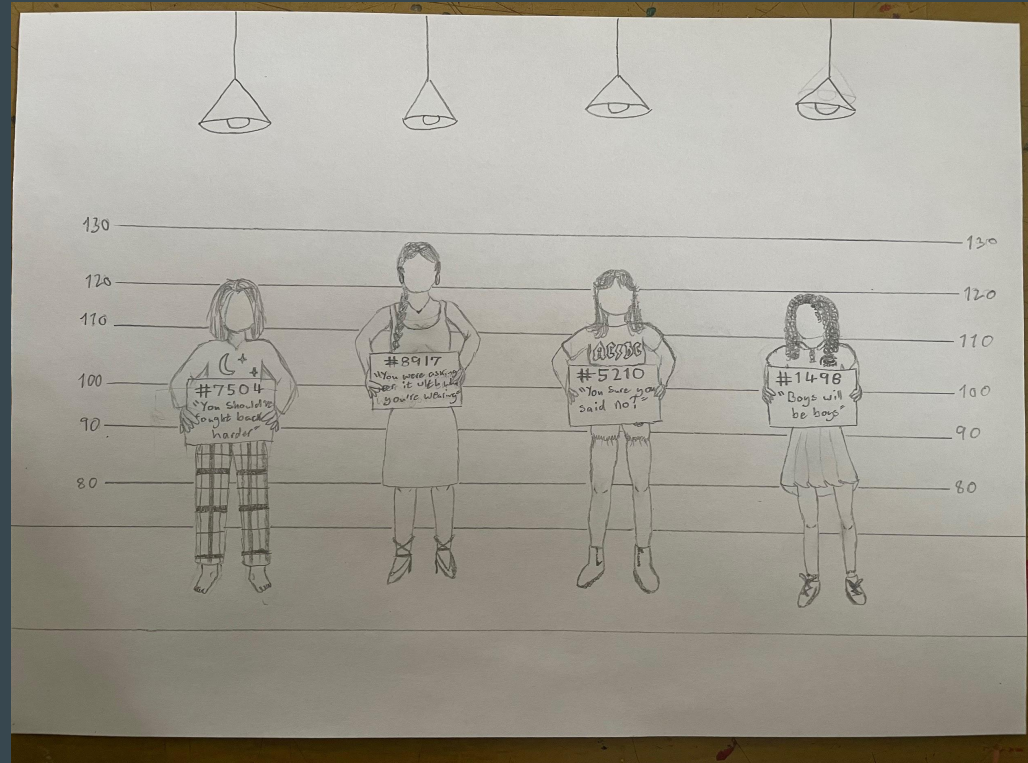


Sexual Violence

Why is it that this is an issue? It's scary to do normal things now because you never know what's going to happen. Women have to watch their drinks because they don't know if they will be tampered with. Companies have made nail polishes that can identify if a drink has been tampered with. It's gotten this far. We no longer feel safe walking down the street alone. That's just sad. Why is it that women are told "don't get raped" when men should be told "don't be rapists"? Cause apparently it's now our fault. "Why didn't you say no?" "Why didn't you try to stop him?" "Why didn't you report it?". Because who would believe them? You end up feeling worthless, small and weak. Cause "Why didn't you do anything?" "It's your fault that this happened". At what time were they supposed to do something? Even if they say no or stop, it doesn't mean they will. No means no! A lot of the time the assaults come with death threats, so they're too scared to report it because they're afraid they might die. Why is this even an issue?! Can people try to understand the issue and learn that this is not okay. It's so sad and sick that this happens to innocent people who then are called liars and are told that for some stupid reason, it's their fault. It's not their fault! People need to understand this better and a change needs to be made. This should never have to happen to someone. Why can't people see this? During their lifetime, 1 in 5 women has experienced an attempted or completed rape. 80% of female victims experienced a completed rape before they turned 25 years old, and almost half experienced a completed rape before they were 18 years old (CCBC). That is a scarily high number. It could happen to anyone. Open your eyes people and understand that this is something that needs to be known and somethings needs to be done about it.

Plan drawing

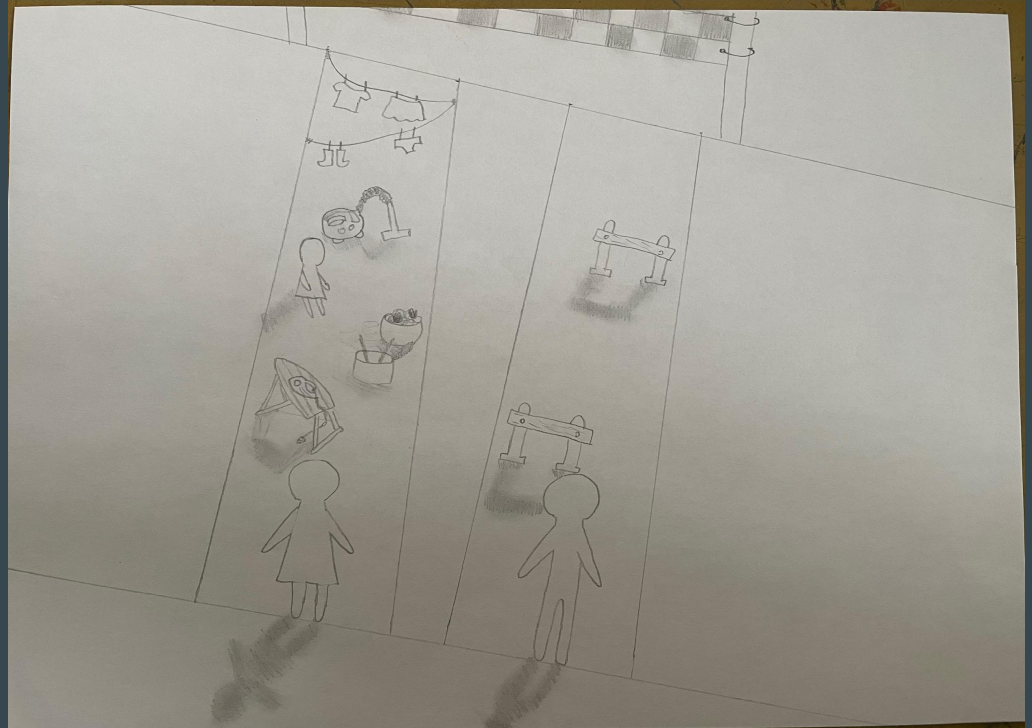
In this drawing I wanted to show how the victims get blamed in sexual violence. I choose to do a mugshot of the victims as if they are in the wrong for what happened to them. There are a lot of things people say to the victim that makes it seem like it was there fault. I also wanted the victims to be wearing different things to show that it could happen anywhere, to anyone. The girl on the furthest left is wearing pajamas where as the girl on the furthest right is wearing school uniform. I also made them different heights to show that it can happen at all ages.



Analysing and improving ideas

Gender Inequality

When I asked my classmates what they thought the social issues was in my drawing they all said they thought it was gender inequality. I think if I were to improve it I would do it in color and everything on the woman's side would be in different shades of pink (because it's a woman's color) and the man's side would be in different shades of blue (because it's a man's color). also, I don't like way some of the things look on the woman's side. you can tell what it is but not very well.



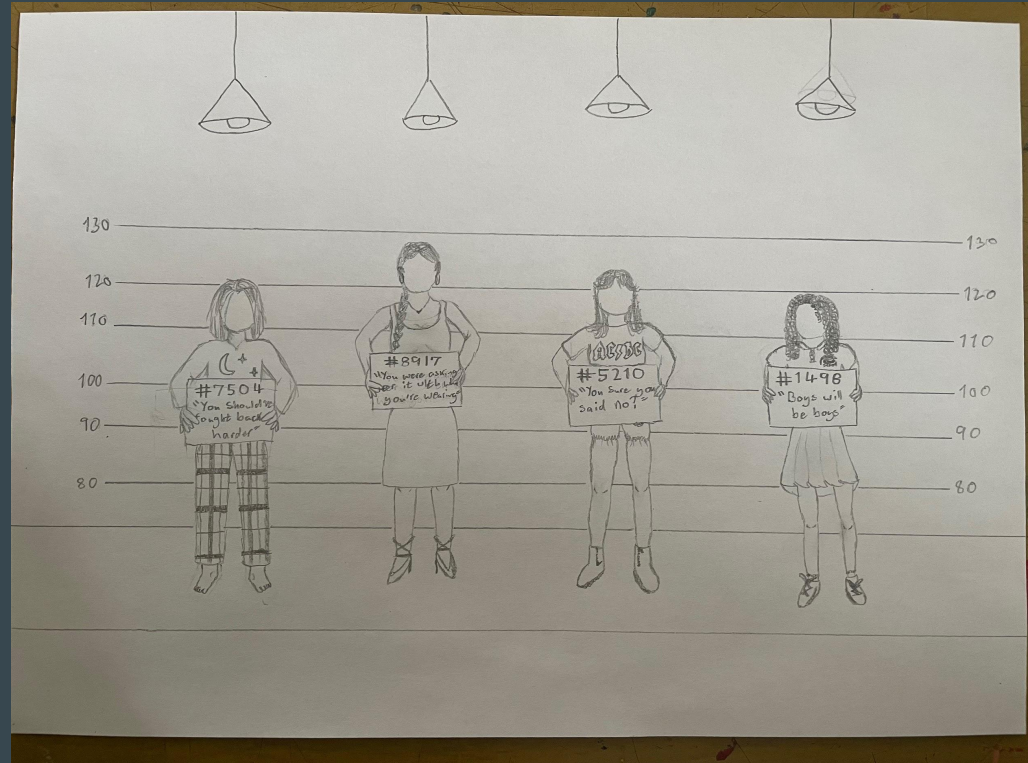
Mental health issues

I feel like the drawing is rather simplistic and it's hard to tell the social issue. I asked my classmates what they thought it was and it took them a while to get it but they said things like "broken" and "falling apart" which is similar to my message. perhaps to make it better I could put black swirls in the background but I don't know if that would help or make it too messy. I could also do the designs in green instead of blue because green ribbons are considered the sign of support for mental health illness.



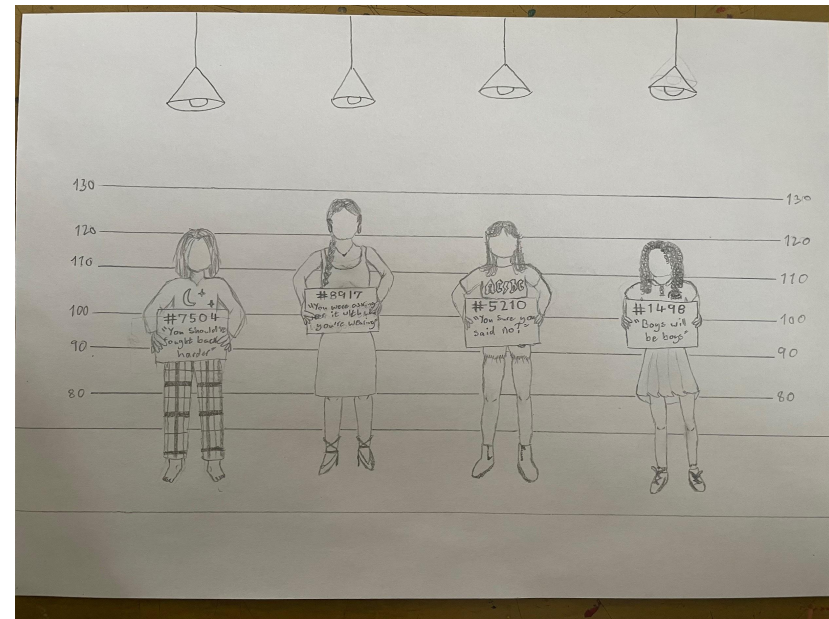
Sexual violence

I asked my classmates what they thought the social issue was behind the drawing and they all got sexual violence. I specifically wanted to focus on victim blaming so I put the women in mugshots to look like they were in trouble for what happened to them. in my final I would make everything in color and make all of the feet in a line. to make the drawing better I could add faces to the people. by adding a face it makes it seem a lot more real. this way people will see that this happens to real people. I might do a fifth women but I think four is okay. I could make a much younger girl but only if I have space. Also, I'm not very good at drawing feet so I need to improve those. I would also change the lights to look the same because they don't look the same.



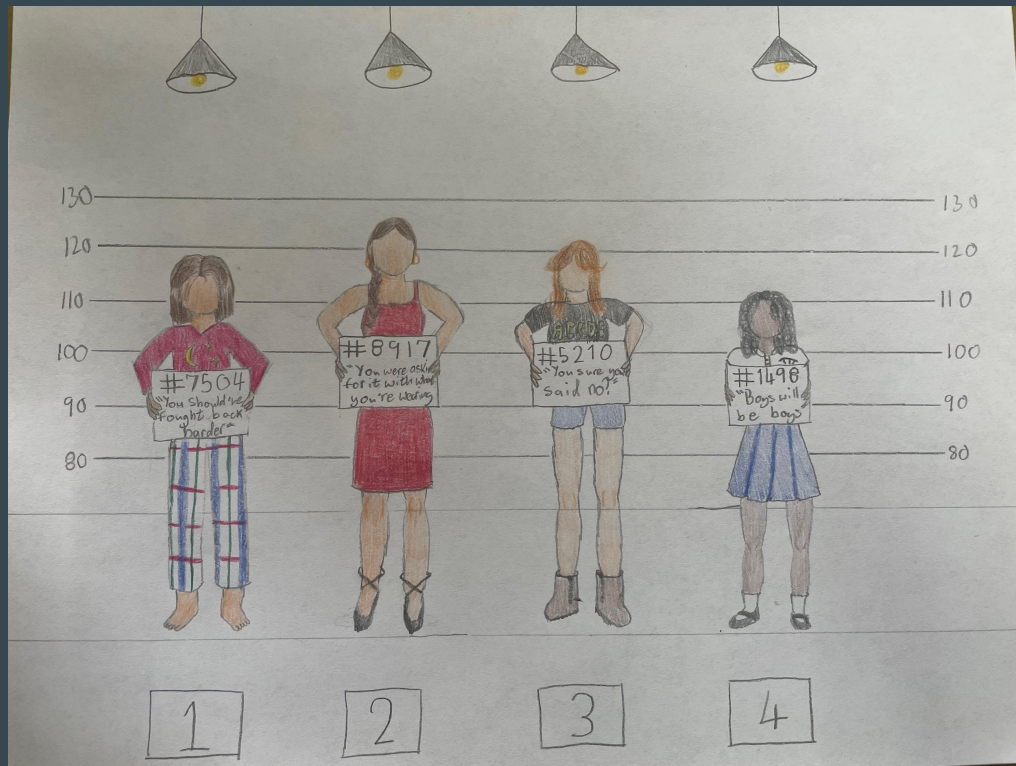
Chosen Drawing

And improvement of ideas



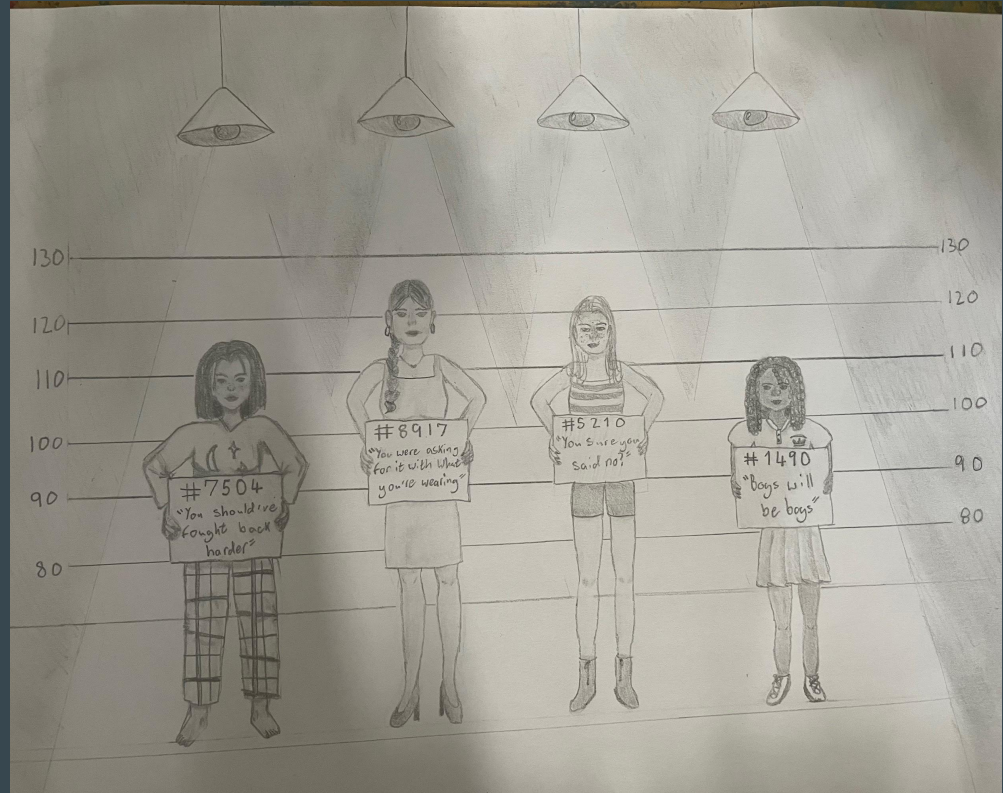
Refined drawing 1

To refine my original idea, I added colour to the drawing. I used colour pencils to add the colour but I drew the women with a pencil so it would be easier to get the right shape. Now that I've added colour I think it looks too bright for the subject that I'm covering and adding the colour didn't really change anything to make it better. For the refinement I think I'll change it back to just pencil but I'll make it much better with shading and facial features to make it more realistic. Also, my figures are too far to the left so they aren't very centered. I also put the numbers underneath their feet and that doesn't look very good so I shall take it away in the next refinement.



Refined drawing 2

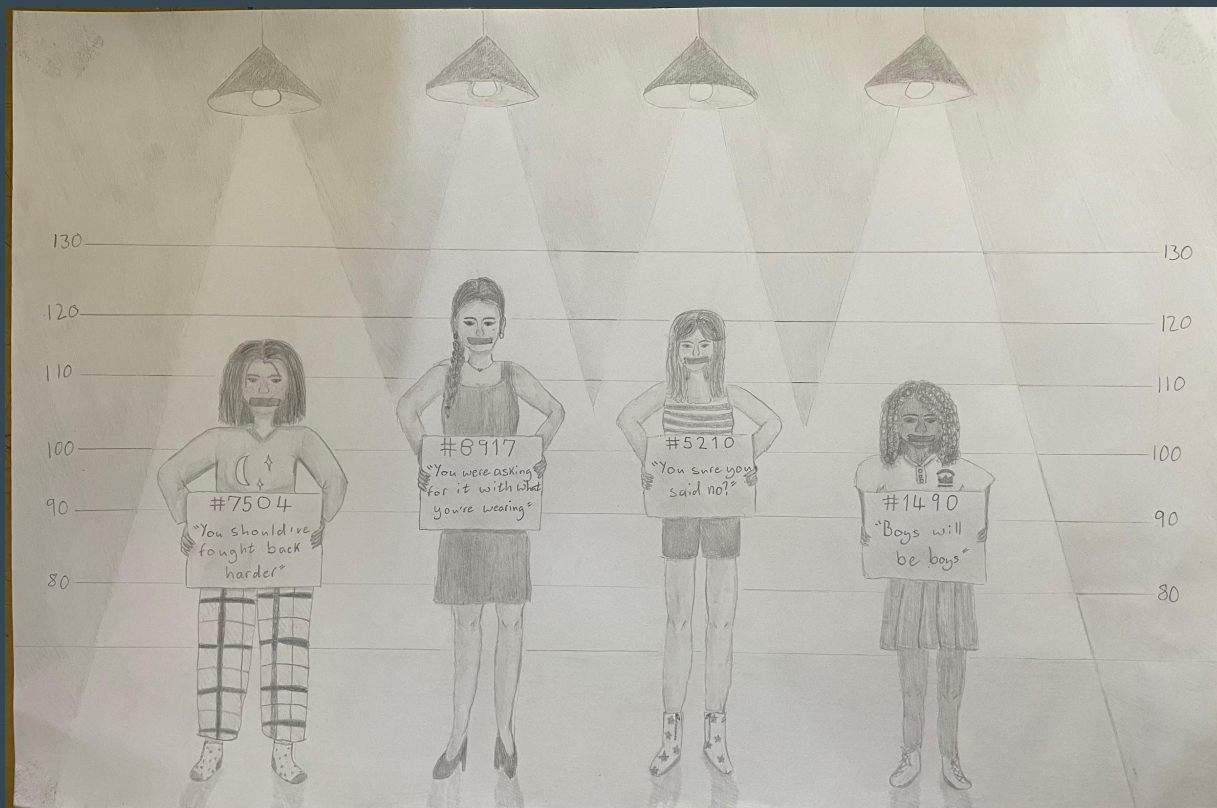
To refine my drawing further I decided to take away the colour because I didn't like how bright it looked and I couldn't get it to look as good as it did with just pencil. In this one I decide to just use sketching and pencil to make it look better. I made it look more realistic and added faces to the the people to make it more humanely so the viewers would have to look into the faces of the victims. This way people can understand that sexual violence happens to real people and the victims shouldn't be blamed for what happens to them.

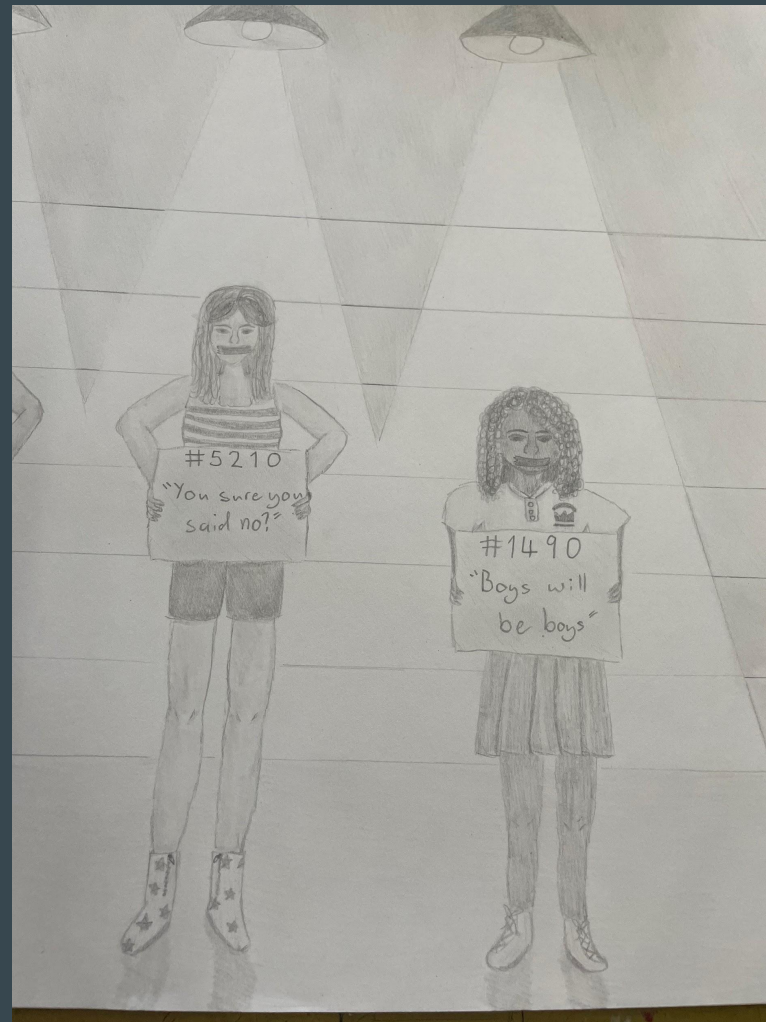
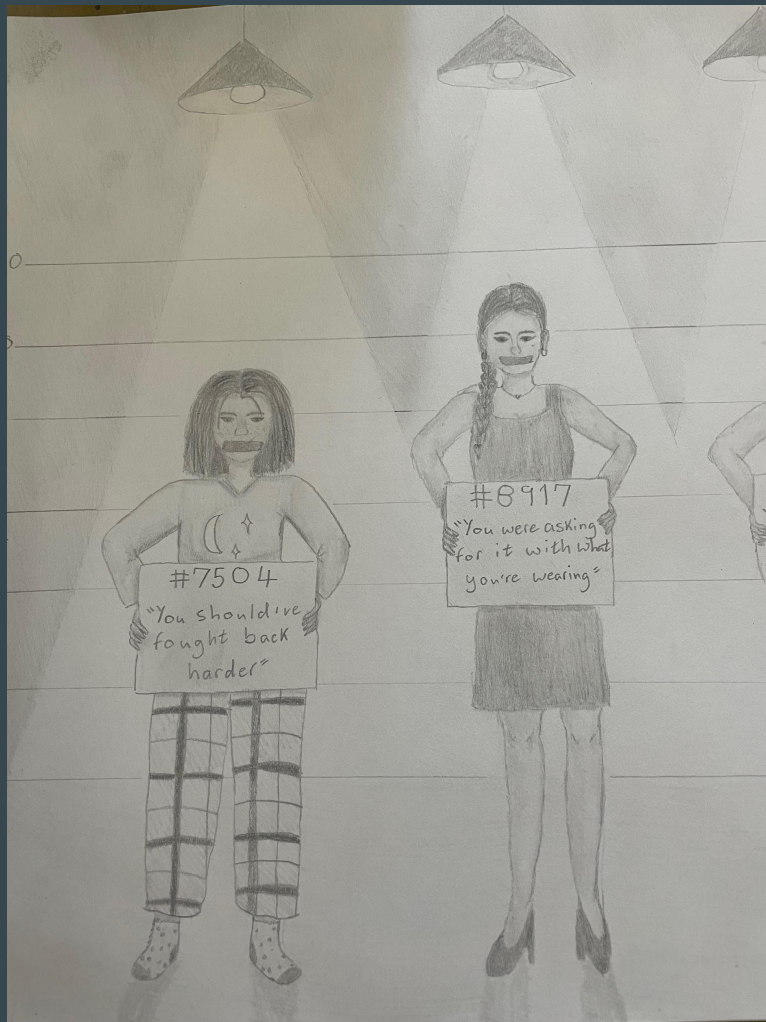


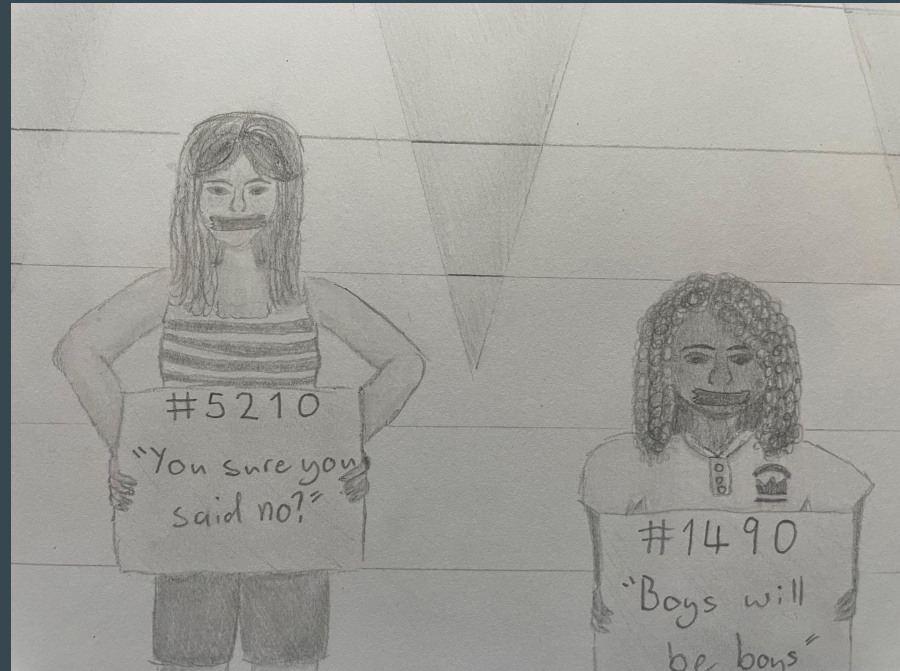
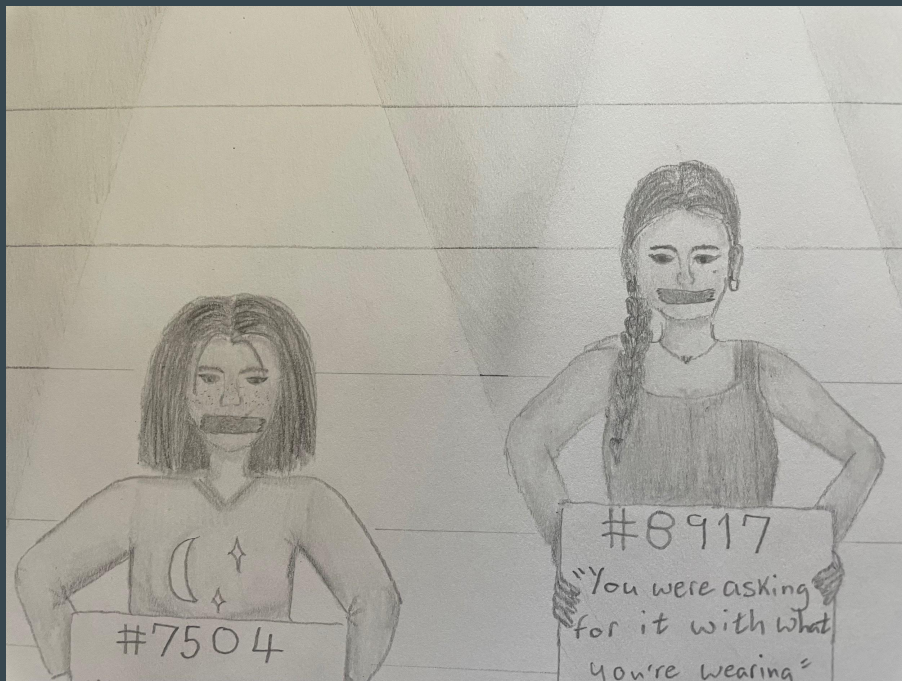
Final drawing

Satirical art

*think of a name







Satirical art reflection

How did you use humor, irony, and exaggeration to convey your messages in the satirical pieces you created?

In my artwork, I wanted to have the women in mugshots because a lot of the time, when someone says that they were sexually assaulted, others don't believe them or blame the victims for what happened. So in the drawing, I used irony to display this by it looking like it is the victim's fault when it actually isn't. I hope by showing people this, they will be able to see how wrong it is. I also used tape over the victims' mouths to exaggerate how the victims feel and how we treat them. I did this because in many situations, the victim either is too scared to speak up because of death threats that they get from the attacker and if they do tell someone, they are often silenced because they don't believe them or they blame them for what happened.

What are the hidden symbols in your artwork? How do they help the audience understand your artwork?(Di)

In my final satirical art piece, I wanted to display how sexual violence can happen to anyone. So I made all the women in the artwork look different. I did this by dressing them differently to having them at different heights to represent different ages. These elements are noticed easily but you have to analyze the art a bit before you understand the reasoning behind it. When people see that all the women are different I hope that it is understood that sexual violence can happen to anyone. Another symbol I incorporated into my work was the tape of the girls' mouths. I did this to show how after someone is assaulted, they can feel silenced and not want to speak up because they're afraid that others won't believe them, which is often the case.

Reflecting on your own creative process, what challenges did you encounter when creating your own satirical artwork? How did you overcome these challenges?(Di)

When creating my process and final piece I struggled a lot with a few things. One of the main things I struggled with was whether I should use colour or not. I wanted the work to be my best and I didn't think colour really suited the topic I was covering. Sexual violence isn't a bright and bubbly topic and I thought that colours made it too colourful and normal. I also struggled with the facial features because they were so tiny and I kept messing it up. The amount of times that I would mess up on something was really irritating because it meant that everything would get erased. After all, the faces were so small. I got it to look okay in the end and I think it's to proportion.

Did your understanding of satire change throughout the unit? If so, in what ways?(Dii)

At the start of the unit, I thought satire was just images with a hidden meaning but now I understand that they have many other components. Satire is a type of artwork that does have a hidden meaning but it uses different things to hide the message. These include humour, irony and exaggeration. They aim to change or ridicule a person or a society's opinion. Satirical art covers controversial topics and current social or political issues. At the beginning of this unit, I didn't know much about satire or satirical art but now that I have created my own piece of artwork and have come to understand it much better, I now really like satirical art. I like satire because I like making art about current issues and trying to change it because I think it's important.

Were there any ethical considerations or potential sensitivities that arose during our exploration of satirical art? How did you address these concerns?

When creating my artwork, I realized that some people may find it difficult and shocking to see a young school girl amongst the other girls but I wanted to have it that because it was the truth. I know that when people understand the message behind my artwork and re-read placards, they might find all of the messages startling but the subject of sexual violence isn't something that is associated with being an easy topic. I wanted to display the truth with this piece of artwork and the truth isn't pretty. I hope that when people view it, they view it with an open mind and try to understand how it may feel to be in that situation.

How did you develop as an artist through this unit? What skills and techniques, concepts did you develop.(Dii)

Throughout this unit, I developed my mental and physical creativity. I came up with three initial creative ideas on how to convey three different social issues through satirical art. I think I came up with really good ideas, some stronger than others. When I chose my final one I looked at how I could improve it further. I used different mediums and got a lot better at pencil drawing. When creating my final I used a blender, which I had never used before, but I had seen other people use it. I think I learned how to use it and am really proud of what I created. I had never created anything that good using pencils and a blender. I think that I have improved a lot in this unit and can use the skills I have gained in upcoming projects.