#MeToo in Macao: Sexual Harassment of Migrant Workers

Fernando Lourenço  
*Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao*

Maria Angelica La Rosa Gutierrez  
*Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.library.tru.ca/cts-proceedings](https://digitalcommons.library.tru.ca/cts-proceedings)  
Part of the [Tourism and Travel Commons](https://digitalcommons.library.tru.ca/cts-proceedings)

**Recommended Citation**  
Available at: [https://digitalcommons.library.tru.ca/cts-proceedings/vol2019/iss1/39](https://digitalcommons.library.tru.ca/cts-proceedings/vol2019/iss1/39)

This Abstract is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ TRU Library. It has been accepted for inclusion in Critical Tourism Studies Proceedings by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ TRU Library. For more information, please contact apaterson@tru.ca.
Title: #MeToo in Macao: Sexual Harassment of Migrant Workers

Authors:

Fernando Lourenço
Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao

Maria Angelica La Rosa Gutierrez
Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao

Abstract:
This study aims to examine the issue of sexual harassment in one of the most popular tourism destinations in the world, Macao (China). As reflected in the literature, the tourism and hospitality industry in general, heavily relies on migrant workers. This is not an exception for Macao because 94.3% of the labour force in the hotel, restaurant and similar activities are non-resident workers. These migrant workers often seek better employment opportunities and higher financial benefits. As these migrants are the main source of labour force to fuel the success of the hospitality industry in Macao, their working conditions and wellbeing must not be neglected. However, due to the nature of the service industry and hospitality industry, and the personal circumstances of these migrant workers, they will inevitably be put at risk of encountering sexual harassment. This study sheds light on a very sensitive issue and yet very common in the service industry. This study used qualitative methodology to explore the views of nine migrant workers from the hospitality industry in Macao, and the findings show serious risks and issues faced by these non-resident workers. As reflected in the study, organisations such as the multinational gaming operators and integrated resorts, must do a lot more to protect the workers from being the silent victims of sexual harassment.