

# KuToo

## Transcript:

Erh, now many corporate firms around the world enforce strict dress codes but one Japanese woman is taking a stand. The actor and writer Yumi Ishikawa, has launched a campaign urging the government to ban companies forcing women to wear high heel shoes to work. She's handed in a petition signed by nearly 20,000 people. She began her campaign after she was forced to wear high heels while working at a funeral parlour. Ramzan Karmali reports:



**Yumi Ishikawa**  
Founder, KuToo Movement

Yumi Ishikawa, the woman forced to wear high heels for a part-time job in a funeral parlour. Now she's campaigning. She wants the Japanese government to ban firms from forcing women to wear high heels to work.

"Many women feel that they should wear heeled shoes in the office or when job hunting. So I wanted to change the situation in Japanese customs.

Ms. Ishikawa handed in a petition signed by around 19,000 to the Ministry of Health. Her campaign has been named KuToo on social media to mimic the MeToo movement. It's also a play on two Japanese words meaning shoe and pain.

This isn't the first time a campaign has been launched to change dress codes at work for women. In 2015, a London receptionist was sent home from work without pay after she refused to wear high heels. Nicola Thorpe set up a petition calling for UK dress code laws to be changed.

"This was never just about a pair of shoes. It's about how women are viewed in the workplace. That there's so much pressure on women to, not just look professional, but to look attractive.

Following media coverage, the firm that sent Ms. Thorpe home changed their policy on high heels. In 2017 a Canadian Province scrapped the dress code which required female workers to wear high heels. The government of British Columbia said forcing women to wear them, was not only a form of discrimination, but wearers face a risk of physical injury from slipping or falling as well as possible damage to their feet, legs and back. Ramzan Karmali, BBC News.

# KuToo

attractive	enforce	mimic	pressure	scrapped
ban	injury	petition	professional	urging
discrimination	launched	policy	refused	situation

**Use the words in the box to complete the transcript. Some words appear more than once:**

Erh, now many corporate firms around the world \_\_\_\_\_ strict dress codes but one Japanese woman is taking a stand. The actor and writer Yumi Ishikawa, has \_\_\_\_\_ a campaign \_\_\_\_\_ the government to ban companies forcing women to wear high heel shoes to work. She's handed in a \_\_\_\_\_ signed by nearly 20,000 people. She began her campaign after she was forced to wear high heels while working at a funeral parlour. Ramzan Karmali reports:

Yumi Ishikawa, the woman forced to wear high heels for a part-time job in a funeral parlour. Now she's campaigning. She wants the Japanese government to \_\_\_\_\_ firms from forcing women to wear high heels to work.

"Many women feel that they should wear heeled shoes in the office or when job hunting. So I wanted to change the \_\_\_\_\_ in Japanese customs.

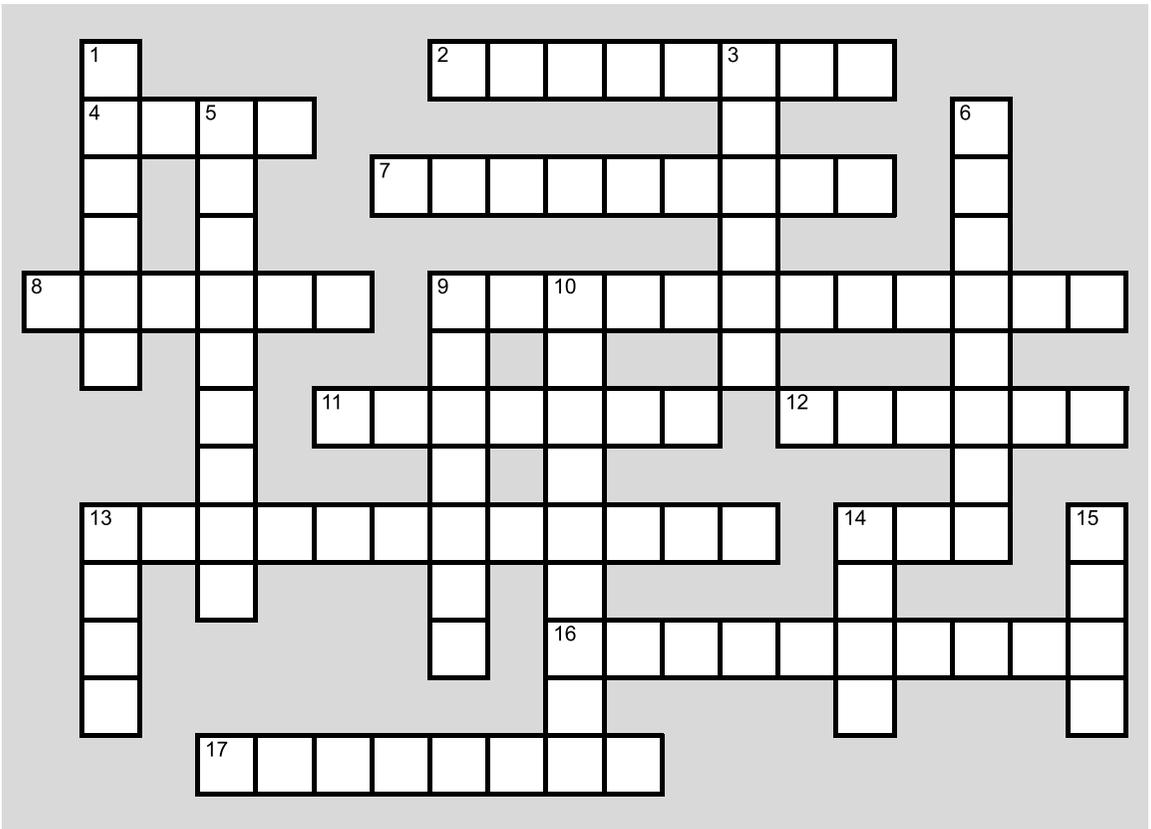
Ms. Ishikawa handed in a \_\_\_\_\_ signed by around 19,000 to the Ministry of Health. Her campaign has been named KuToo on social media to \_\_\_\_\_ the MeToo movement. It's also a play on two Japanese words meaning shoe and pain.

This isn't the first time a campaign has been \_\_\_\_\_ to change dress codes at work for women. In 2015, a London receptionist was sent home from work without pay after she \_\_\_\_\_ to wear high heels. Nicola Thorpe set up a \_\_\_\_\_ calling for UK dress code laws to be changed.

"This was never just about a pair of shoes. It's about how women are viewed in the workplace. That there's so much \_\_\_\_\_ on women to, not just look \_\_\_\_\_, but to look \_\_\_\_\_.

Following media coverage, the firm that sent Ms. Thorpe home changed their \_\_\_\_\_ on high heels. In 2017 a Canadian Province \_\_\_\_\_ the dress code which required female workers to wear high heels. The government of British Columbia said forcing women to wear them, was not only a form of \_\_\_\_\_, but wearers face a risk of physical \_\_\_\_\_ from slipping or falling as well as possible damage to their feet, legs and back. Ramzan Karmali, BBC News.

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## Across →

- 2 Started/founded an organisation (8)
- 4 the chance of something bad happening (4)
- 7 where people do their jobs (9)
- 8 physical damage or hurt (6)
- 9 a worker who answers the phone and sees visitors (12)
- 11 make sure a law is followed (7)
- 12 rules (6)
- 13 serious, proper (12)
- 14 Prohibit/stop something (3)
- 16 pleasing to the eyes - beautiful (10)
- 17 cancelled (8)

## Down ↓

- 1 strongly asking (6)
- 3 wellness: look after this to live a long life (6)
- 5 how things are at a particular point in time(9)
- 6 a formal message with a list of signatures (8)
- 9 said "no" (7)
- 10 a large business is this (9)
- 13 how you know something hurts - ouch! (4)
- 14 Not front or side (4)
- 15 People have two (4)

**Is any dress code a good idea?**

# KuToo Word list

## Word list

attractive	good to look at, pleasing to the eyes
ban	prohibit/stop something
corporate	a large business is this
damage	change something and make it worse
discrimination	unfair action against a person or group
dress code	rules about what people can wear
enforce	make sure rules/laws are followed
feet	One foot, two...
funeral parlour	a place where dead bodies can be seen
health	wellness: look after this to live a long life
injury	physical damage or hurt
launch	start something new, especially a group/business
mimic	copy actions or behaviour
pain	how you know something hurts - ouch!
petition	a formal message with a list of signatures
policy	plans or rules about something
pressure	Force, especially to make something happen
professional	serious, proper, not amateur
receptionist	a worker who answers the phone and sees visitors
refuse	say "no" to someone or something
risk	the chance of something bad happening
scrap	cancel a plan or rule
situation	how things are at a particular point in time
urge	ask in a strong way
workplace	where people do their jobs

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	say "no" to someone or something
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