

RESOURCES

If you feel that you may have been the victim of a hate crime, you may want to contact the resources listed below, starting with your local police department or sheriff's office.

Your Church, Synagogue, Mosque or Temple

Ohio Attorney General's Office, Crime Victim's Assistance Program: 1-800-582-2877

Cuyahoga County Witness Victim Service Center: 216-443-7345

Ohio Civil Rights Commission: 1-888-278-7101

First Call for Help, United Way Services: 216-436-2225

FBI, Civil Rights Program: 216-522-1400

U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights: 216-522-4970

InterAct Cleveland: 216-361-5890

AACCESS-OHIO: 216-252-2900

Anti-Defamation League: 1-800-821-4058

Lesbian/Gay Community Service Center: 1-888-GAY-8761

The National Conference for Community and Justice: 216-752-3000

For TTY/TDD, call the Ohio Relay Service at 1-800-750-0750.

FEDERAL HATE CRIME LAWS

Conspiracy Against Rights, 18 U.S.C. § 241

Prohibits conspiracies to injure any person's free exercise of the rights protected by the laws or the Constitution of the U.S.

Interference with Federally Protected Activities, 18 U.S.C. § 245

Prohibits intentional interference with enrollment in a public school/college, interstate travel, use of public establishments (restaurants, hotels, etc.), jury service, or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Damage to Religious Property/ Obstruction of Religious Activity, 18 U.S.C. § 247

Prohibits the damaging of religious property or the intentional obstruction of any person's free exercise of religious beliefs.

Criminal Interference with the Right to Fair Housing, 42 U.S.C. § 3631

Prohibits interference with the sale, purchase, rental, financing, occupation, or contracting of a dwelling due to race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.

OHIO HATE CRIME LAWS

Desecration of Places of Worship, O.R.C. §2927.11

Prohibits desecrating any place of worship.

Penalty Enhancement, O.R.C. §2927.12

Increases the penalty for Aggravated Menacing, Criminal Damaging or Endangering, Criminal Mischief, or Telephone Harassment, if the violation is committed because of the race, color, religion, or national origin of the victim.

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HATE CRIMES

What Are They?

Where Can Students Get Help?



What is a Hate Crime?

When someone, motivated by their own ignorance and prejudices, attempts a criminal or illegal act against another person or group, to hurt them.

Hate Crimes are based on prejudice against a person or group's:

- < race,
- < color,
- < religion,
- < gender,
- < ethnic/national origin group,
- < disability status, or
- < sexual orientation group.

Hate Crime Statistics

| 1999 | 2001 | |
|-------|-------|---|
| 7,876 | 9,730 | Hate crime incidents reported |
| 4,295 | 4,367 | Motivated by racial bias |
| 1,411 | 1,828 | Motivated by religious bias |
| 1,317 | 1,393 | Motivated by sexual orientation bias |
| 829 | 2,098 | Motivated by ethnicity/national origin bias |
| 19 | 35 | Motivated by disability bias |
| 5 | 9 | Motivated by multiple biases |

Frequently, hate crime investigations are conducted jointly by FBI, State and Local Law Enforcement, and thereafter prosecuted under State Statutes such as murder, arson or more recently local ethnic intimidation statutes.

The Hate Crimes Statistic Act of 1990 was amended in 1994 to include persons with disabilities; and again in 1996 to include the Church Arson Prevention Act.

EXAMPLES OF HATE CRIMES

Institutional Vandalism

The director of a local Jewish community center arrives at the center one morning to find swastikas painted on the building.

Intimidation/Malicious Harassment

A young man is assaulted for no reason other than the color of his skin.

Interference with the Right to Fair Housing

Members of a black family find a burnt cross on their lawn upon arriving home.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE A VICTIM OF A HATE CRIME:

- C Tell your parents or guardians
- Get medical help if necessary
- C Call your local police
- C You may also wish to contact some of the resources listed on the other side of this pamphlet.

**Please Do Not Ignore
HATE CRIMES,
They Will Only get worse!**

Prepared by:
The Northern Ohio Hate Crimes Working Group. *The Federal Bureau of Investigation and U.S. Attorney's Office co-sponsor the Hate Crimes Working Group, which is composed of representatives from community and ethnic groups, law enforcement and education, and is dedicated to fighting hate crimes.*

Information For Students

If you believe that you may have been the victim of a hate crime, here are some suggestions:

Where Do I Go For Help?

- C If an incident happens at school, go to your teacher, principal or counselor.
- C Know your school's policy on hate crimes and look at your student handbook.
- C Tell your parents what happened.

Information For Parents

Parents Need To Ask:

- C What was said/done and by whom?
- C Was a physical assault involved?
- C Who saw it happen?
- C Did someone help you?
- C Did you tell your teacher/principal/counselor? What did they do?

Based On The Response, Parents Should:

- C Call the teacher/principal/counselor.
- C Call the local police department.
- C Find resources to help the child deal with the incident.