

Hate Propaganda and Hate Crime

What is HATE CRIME?

HATE CRIME is a criminal offense committed against a person, group of people or property that is based upon race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

HATE CRIME strikes at the very heart of the victim's identity.

When a person or group of people becomes a victim of a HATE CRIME it affects their family, relatives and an entire community.

- > **INTIMIDATION...**
- > **FEAR...**
- > **TERROR...**

RIPPLES THROUGH THE COMMUNITY.

What is HATE PROPAGANDA?

In terms of law, the Hate Propaganda section of the Criminal Code is broken down into two sections and includes the following:

- > The first section, "Advocating Genocide" states that an offense is committed when anyone advocates or

promotes genocide.

- > The legal definition of genocide is "with intent to destroy in whole or in part any identifiable group", namely:
 - a) Killing members of the group, or
 - b) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction.
- > The second section deals with the "Public Incitement of Hatred".
- > This offense is committed when someone communicates statements in a public place, and incites hatred against any identifiable group where such incitement is likely to lead to a breach of the peace.
- > The section also states that an offense is committed when anyone who communicates statements, other than in private conversation, willfully promotes hatred against any identifiable group.
- > "Communicating" includes words spoken or written or recorded

electronically, electromagnetically or otherwise, and gestures, signs or other visible representations.

- > It should be noted that no proceedings under these sections can be instituted without the consent of the Attorney General.

What to do if You are a Victim of HATE CRIME

At this stage, your help and cooperation is vital in combating this form of criminal activity.

We realize that you may be upset or angry and this may be your first contact with the judicial system.

However, it is important to answer questions put to you regardless of how unrelated or irrelevant some may appear at the time.

The police may be aware of other similar offenses and your answers could help to establish a pattern of criminal activity.

If you come across any hate propaganda, posters or graffiti that promote hate or anyone who is being approached by another or a group promoting hate, take the

following steps:

- Keep all relevant material.
- Record all relevant information regarding the incident (name and description of those responsible, when and where the incident occurred, etc.).
- In situations involving printed material (i.e. letter, poster, flyer) promoting hate, keep all relevant material.
- Do not attempt to touch or remove anything.
- The fewer people that handle the article, the greater the success rate in obtaining fingerprints.
- In cases where there is graffiti in public view, ensure that the police attend or a photograph has been taken before removing the messages.
- If the hate propaganda material is hand delivered, attempt to note the license plate number of the vehicle that the suspect is driving and a description of the person.
- Do not attempt to confront the suspect.
- If the suspect is in the area, call the emergency number 9-1-1.

- If the hate propaganda is in the form of a message left on a telephone answering machine, do not erase the message.
- In any of these circumstances, it is vital that you call the police to ensure that the incident is properly investigated.
- If you suspect that hate motivated crime is taking place, in any form, in your community, call the police and seek assistance.
- You may have questions and concerns. Do not hesitate to ask them either at the time of the investigation or in any follow-up telephone calls to the police.
- If at a later date you are called as a witness in a court trial, ask for a full explanation of the proceedings and your responsibilities.

➤ It is your right to know.

One of the responsibilities of your police service is to offer you help and advice with respect to any form of hate crime.

Please call.

Help us to help you.

Combating hate crime effectively requires a high level of police and

community interaction, as well as citizen involvement.

REMEMBER...

**It is of vital importance that
HATE CRIMES
be reported to the police.**

Contact your local police for more information.