

HATE CRIMES

Preventing and combating hate crimes are among our nation's most important challenges. Violence committed because the victims look different, practice a different faith, or have a different sexual orientation threatens America's most cherished ideals. Law enforcement officers are on the front lines and perform critical services in responding to hate crimes that occur in our communities. Therefore, it is essential that law enforcement officials receive the best possible information to identify and thoroughly investigate hate crimes, aid victims, and prevent such incidents from occurring in the first place. Thank you for joining me in our collective fight against hate crimes.

Janet Reno

Attorney General of the United States

DEFINITION OF A HATE CRIME

A hate crime is a criminal offense committed against persons, property or society that is motivated, in whole or in part, by an offender's bias against an individual's or a group's perceived race, religion, ethnic/national origin, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. Legal definition of hate crimes vary in other states. The federal definition of hate crimes address civil rights violations under 18 U.S.C. Section 245.

Hate incidents are those actions by an individual or group that, while motivated by bias, do not rise to the level of a criminal offense.

Hate crime definitions often encompass not only violence against individuals or groups but crimes against property, such as arson or vandalism, particularly those directed against community centers or houses of worship.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEFINITION

Any completed or attempted criminal act which is motivated by the victim's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender or disability status.

Examples

- Putting racist graffiti on someone's property
- Burning a cross on someone's lawn
- Beating someone with the stated motivation
- Intimidating people by use of force or threats of force
- Interfere with a person because of their status (LISTED ABOVE)

COMMUNITY TRAUMA

Hate crimes victimize the entire community and may involve:

- Victimization projected to all community members
- Sense of group vulnerability
- Community Fear/tension
- Possibility of reactive crimes or copycat incidents
- Community polarization
- Redirection of law enforcement resources
- Loss of trust in criminal justice institutions
- Public damage to buildings, such as churches

VICTIM TRAUMA

Because the basis for the attack is the victim's identity, victim's may suffer:

- Deep emotional crisis
- Increased vulnerability to repeat attack
- Sense of community/system betrayal
- Acute shock or disbelief
- Extreme fear of certain groups
- Hopelessness
- Anger/desire for revenge
- Shame and humiliation

IN ADDITION

Some victims are fearful of reporting the incidents to the proper authorities:

- Fear of re-victimization or retaliation
- Fear of having privacy compromised
- Fear of law enforcement agencies and uncertainty about justice agency responses
- Cultural or language barriers
- Fear of jeopardizing immigration statuses for applicant immigrants
- For gays or lesbians, fear or repercussions of being "cast out" by family, friends or employers

WHAT CAN I DO?

Here are some steps that you can take to help address this problem:

- Learn to recognize hate crimes and characteristics make up a hate crime
- Report these incidents of suspected hate crime to the police department
 - UCI Police Department (949) 824-5223
- Assist and support those victims of hate crime in helping them deal with the emotional and psychological trauma. Simply talking about the incident helps.
- In addition to the Police, report Hate-Related incidents to the:
 - UCI Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender Resource Center
 - UCI Ombudsman's Office
 - The Office of Dean of Students-Judicial Affairs
 - Orange County Human Relations Commission
1300 S. Grand Avenue. Bldg. B
Santa Ana, CA 92705
(714) 567-7470
(714) 567-7474 FAX line
- Work to prevent hate by building inter-group understanding and tolerance
- Speak out against act of hate in your community. Stand up for what you believe.

REPORTING HATE CRIMES & INCIDENTS

The University Of California and the UC Police Department takes a hard stance against hate crimes, prohibiting any violent acts, property damage, defacing of property, intimidation and threats because of a person's personal characteristics. A conviction cannot be based on speech alone, unless the speech itself is based on threats against a person or a group of people. If you are a victim of or witness a hate crime or incident, report it as soon as possible to the appropriate police agency. If the incident occurs on campus, call the UCI Police Department.

Perpetrators of crimes motivated by race, religion, ethnicity, disability or sexual orientation will be prosecuted. Hate crimes are a serious offense under the California law and conviction of a hate crime can result in prison time.

Hate Crimes have an impact unlike most other crimes. They inflict incalculable emotional and physical pain upon their victims. They rend a community apart. They tear at the very bond that makes it possible for us to call ourselves civilized. They are truly intolerable.

Janet Reno
U.S. Attorney General

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

UCI Campus Numbers

UCI PD Emergency 9-1-1 or (949) 824-5223
Crime Prevention (949) 824-6397
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
Resource Center (949) 824-3277
Ombudsman's Office (949) 824-7256
Office for Disability Services (949) 824-7494
Cross Cultural Center (949) 824-7215
Counseling Center (949) 824-6457
Office of Dean of Students-Judicial Affairs
(949) 824-5590

Other Numbers

Orange County Human Relations Commission
(714) 567-7470
Orange County District Attorney (714) 834-3651
U.S. Attorney's Office (213) 894-2434
OC Gay/Lesbian Community Ctr. (714) 534-0862
Museum of Tolerance (310) 553-8403

"We are committed to respecting Human Dignity and to understand the needs and Values of our Community."

Kathy Hooven
Chief of Police

HATE CRIMES



**And the formula
to fight hate**



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
IRVINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

www.police.uci.edu
(949) 824-5223