



Learning about Hate Crime: Teacher Glossary



Hate crime: Any criminal offence that is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity.

Hate incident: A hate incident is any non-crime incident that is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity.

Bullying: Behaviour that is repeated and/or intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally, often aimed at certain groups, for example because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Trolling: Making a deliberately offensive or provocative online post with the aim of upsetting someone or eliciting an angry response from them.

Types of hate crime: Hate crime can fall into one of three main types: physical assault, verbal abuse and incitement to hatred.

Physical assault: Physical assault of any kind is an offence. If you have been a victim of physical assault, you should report it. Depending on the level of the violence used, a perpetrator may be charged with common assault, actual bodily harm or grievous bodily harm. This can include making a fist at someone (intimidation), shoving, spitting, pushing, punching, using a weapon, or throwing/stealing objects.

Verbal abuse (on or off line): Verbal abuse, threats or name-calling can be a common and extremely unpleasant experience for minority groups. Victims of verbal abuse are often unclear whether an offence has been committed or believe there is little they can do. However, there are laws in place to protect you from verbal abuse.

Incitement to hatred: The offence of incitement to hatred occurs when someone acts in a way that is threatening and intended to stir up hatred. That could be in words, pictures, videos or music, and includes information posted on websites or social media sites.

Hate content may include:

- Messages calling for violence against a specific person or group
- Web pages that show pictures, videos or descriptions of violence against anyone due to their perceived differences
- Chat forums where people ask other people to commit hate crimes against a specific person or group.

Source:

Metropolitan Police | What is hate crime?

Homophobic, Biphobic and Transphobic Hate Crime -Prosecution Guidance | The Crown Prosecution Service (cps.gov.uk)
<https://www.cps.gov.uk/crime-info/hate-crime>