



This Is Why The Central Is Number One Across The Region  
Our Top Notch Local Columnist  
*Keeping You Informed*





## Hate Speech in Canada: A Law With Two Edges

By Dale Jodoin  
Journalist and Columnist

Hate speech in Canada has turned into one of those topics where people stop talking the second you bring it up. You can almost hear the brakes squeal. Nobody wants trouble. Nobody wants their name dragged through the mud. Some folks think you should be charged just for disagreeing with a belief. Others feel these laws are being used to scare people into silence. It leaves a lot of Canadians walking on eggshells every time they open their mouths.

The government, mostly the Liberal and NDP side, keeps floating new ideas to expand hate speech rules online. They talk like they are trying to stop danger. They make it sound like they are protecting everyone. Most people know what real hate speech is. It happens when someone pushes others to the point where hurting someone becomes likely. It is when a person winds people up until violence feels close. That kind of threat is what the law should shut down fast.

But the problem is staring everyone in the face. The rules do not hit everyone the same. If you insult or threaten certain groups, the whole system wakes up. Police get involved. Lawyers jump in. The media blasts your name everywhere. But if the same kind of hate is thrown at Christians, nothing happens. It gets brushed off like it is harmless. You can watch people mock their faith, threaten them, insult them day after day, and nobody steps in.

So you start wondering. Why does hate count for some people and not for others? Why is hate towards Christians treated like a joke?

There is a trend now where a small group of people from another faith show up at churches to pray loudly on the property. Some call it hate prayer. Some call it dominance prayer. It is not coming from all Muslims. Most Muslims are good neighbours who want peace. This is coming from a small number who use prayer like a tool. It is pressure dressed up as devotion. It sends a message. It says this is our ground now.

And here is the part nobody wants to say out loud. If Christians tried this at a mosque, the whole country would break out in sirens. The media would shout hate. The government would call it a threat. People would demand charges. And honestly, they would not be wrong. Doing that would feel like intimidation.

So why is it not intimidation when churches face it? Why does the government look the other way?

Take a look at Europe. This stuff started there years ago. People walked into churches during services, prayed over everyone, refused to leave, and acted like they were in charge. Church leaders said it felt like a test. Anyone who has lived through conflict knows that feeling. A group pushes a little to see how far they can go.

If someone walked into your house without permission and started telling you what to accept, you would not call it friendly. You would call it pressure. It feels the same in a church. When a place meant for peace is used like a stage for someone else's message, that is intimidation. And intimidation is a form of hate. Yet the government and parts of the media pretend this is nothing.

And this is where the double standard shows its teeth. Hate speech is supposed to work like a two edged sword. Both sides should be cut the same. But in Canada, only one side ever gets used. The media points one edge at people they do not like and calls them hateful even when they are just speaking plain truth. The other side stays buried when certain groups cross the line.

Think back to all the churches that burned after false stories spread online. These were real places. Families prayed there. Communities depended on them. They went up in flames. Was it treated like hate? Not really. It softened. Explained away. Dropped from the news faster than it appeared.

Or look at the threats shouted at Jewish Canadians. There are videos of people yelling about killing Jews in public. If a neo Nazi had done that, the country would have gone into lockdown. Headlines would be screaming. But when a different group does it, the tone changes. The media steps lightly. They call it frustration. They avoid using the word hate as if it might break their teeth.

Hate should not depend on who you are. Hate is hate. If it only counts for certain groups, then we do not have fairness. We have a rigged system. Christianity being a majority faith does not make hate against Christians harmless. A bigger group can still be targeted.

People are scared to talk about it because nobody wants to get labeled. One wrong word and you can get hit with names that stick to you like glue. That fear shows how messed up the meaning of hate has become. It is thrown around so much that nobody knows what it means anymore.

Canada needs to reset the basics. Hate speech should mean real danger. It should mean real threats. It should mean pushing a crowd toward violence. It should not mean disagreeing with a belief or asking honest questions. A free country needs room for real talk. If people cannot speak without fear, freedom becomes a slogan printed on a poster. Silencing only one side is not protection. It is controlled. A healthy society protects Christians, Muslims, Jews, atheists, and anyone else the same way. No special treatment. No turning a blind eye. No excuses.

This is not about attacking anyone's faith. It is about fairness. Hate is hate. Intimidation is intimidation. And the law should work the same for everyone. If we forget that, we lose a piece of the country we say we are proud of.

As I see it, both sides of the blade should matter. Both sides should be sharp. Both sides should be equal under the law.

That is the truth as I see it.

I am Dale Jodoin, a journalist. I look at both sides of the news and I chase the truth even when it is not pretty.



## Job You Want Is on the Other Side of the Work You Are Avoiding

By Nick Kossovan

"The life you want is in the work you're avoiding," - Sahil Bloom, American writer.

Bloom's words hit because they're true.

During my early adult years, I was eager to find shortcuts. As I matured and shed my sense of entitlement, while observing those who achieved the success I aspired to, I realized that I could only attain the fulfillment, success, and personal growth I sought by confronting and completing the difficult or uncomfortable tasks I'd been avoiding.

Landing a job in today's highly competitive job market requires more than just talking about it, which is all many job seekers do; you need to do the work you're avoiding. Now more than ever, you have to roll up your sleeves and tackle the unglamorous tasks that'll benefit your job search.

### The Habit of Networking

The importance of networking can't be overstated. As I've mentioned in past columns, right now, there are job opportunities all around you. The catch: they're connected to people; therefore, start talking to people! Learn to initiate meaningful conversations. The best networking tip I know is to ask yourself, "How can I help this person?" when you meet someone for the first time. Who can you introduce them to? What can you suggest? What can you offer in terms of sharing knowledge, expertise, or 'tricks of the trade'?

Applying to online job postings is essentially gambling; you're depending on a stranger to hire you. Yes, strangers do get hired; however, they aren't hired as frequently as those who are known to employers and recruiters. Networking builds familiarity, which recruiters and hiring managers rightfully believe mitigates hiring risks.

Indeed, cultivating a professional network can be uncomfortable, and rejection is inevitable. Networking is most effective for people who already have established connections or strong social skills; thus, identifying two actions you should take if you're committed to your job search and career management.

1. If you are currently employed, start building and maintaining a professional network. Networking only when you need a job is asking a stranger for a favour, which you're not entitled to, and often comes across as begging.
2. Develop your social skills, which'll serve you well in both your professional and personal life. Hiding behind the limiting belief that you're an "introvert" does you a huge disservice. We live in a world built by extroverts for extroverts; therefore, you need to adapt to this reality, as it won't adapt to you.

### Four books that'll level up your social skills:

1. How to Win Friends and Influence People, by Dale Carnegie (If you only read one book, read this one. It's foundational and covers all the essential social skills that are crucial to becoming socially adept.)
2. How to Have Confidence and Power in Dealing With People, by Les Giblin
3. Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High, by Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan, Al Switzler
4. The Laws of Human Nature, by Robert Greene

### Optimizing Your LinkedIn Profile

Your LinkedIn profile is active 24/7/365. In contrast, your resume only makes an impression when someone looks at it—likely just a quick glance—making your LinkedIn profile more influential in your job search than your resume. Yet, many job seekers avoid fully optimizing what is essentially their digital handshake and naively believe their subpar profile isn't hindering their job search, or, with many feeling entitled, think it shouldn't be.

Spend a day with your LinkedIn profile and nail down the following:

- Professional Photo: A high-quality headshot where you look approachable (smiling helps).
- Background Image: A custom background image that reinforces who you are and what you do.
- Keyword-Rich Headline: Use the 220 characters to highlight your expertise, unique value, and the problems you solve.
- Story-Driven "About" Section (Summary): Write in the first person and share your professional journey, motivations, and skills through a compelling story.
- Detailed Experience Sections: Use bullet points to highlight your achievements and outcomes in each role. (Simply listing your duties doesn't demonstrate your value.) Include links to projects, presentations, or publications to create a visual portfolio of your work.
- Relevant Skills & Endorsements: List at least 10 relevant hard and soft skills, prioritizing the top three as the most important.
- Recommendations: Ask current and former colleagues, managers, and clients for testimonials to show social proof of your work ethic and skills.
- Customized URL: Customize your LinkedIn URL to boost visibility, appear more professional, and strengthen your online presence. (e.g., <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nickkossovan>).
- Completed Profile: Complete all relevant sections, including education, licenses, and certifications, to enhance your profile's visibility in searches.

### Boosting Your Visibility

The job market isn't a contest of experience and skills; it's a contest for attention. You're invisible if:

- You're not active on LinkedIn.
- Your resume is generic.
- You don't follow up.
- You don't show your personality.

You don't attract attention by remaining in the background. You attract attention by being noticed, so:

- Post and comment confidently, with conviction.
- Message with assertiveness.
- Follow up with purpose.
- Broadcast what your value add (read: show evidence) would be to an employer.

When you avoid doing the necessary work required for a successful job search, you surrender the right to expect results. The job you want is on the other side of networking, LinkedIn profile optimization, and increasing your visibility.