



Malton Women Council



Anti-Hate **AWARENESS**

Tip Sheet



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What is Hate?

- Hate can be conveyed in various forms. This includes racial slurs, hate speech, sharing stereotypes, misinformation, online bullying, violence, refusing services, hate incidents, and hate crimes.
- Examples of hate include hateful comments on social media, microaggressions in the workplace, encountering hostility for speaking in another language, and receiving hateful comments from teammates.
- Religious Hate is an example of hate. An offender targets a victim because of their religious beliefs or lack thereof. These can be committed by individuals who practice the same or different religions.





- Examples include rocks being thrown at a mosque window, graffiti at a temple, and fights and vandalism at gurudwaras.
- A specific example of religious hate is Islamophobia. Islamophobia refers to the fear, prejudice, and hatred of Muslims. This can lead to threats, violence, abuse, and intimidation of Muslims.



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Causes of Hate

- Hate may arise due to a combination of reasons, such as lack of education and exposure, misinformation, mental health issues, need for belonging and identity, feelings of superiority or power, systemic racism, anger around injustice, isolation, fear, cultural and familial influences, and social or political ideologies.
- We may learn hateful behavior through our families, communities, influential figures, and the web. These behaviors become normalized. In search of identity, people may join communities or groups shaped by hate speech or a false sense of superiority.
- Typical hate crime offenders are often thrill-seeking (ex. youth, those seeking a thrill, etc.), reactive (ex. perceive a threat to their way of life), retaliatory (ex. they seek revenge against a group perceived as responsible for a past hate crime or act of terrorism), and mission-oriented (ex. they hold strong prejudice).



Hate Crimes vs. Hate Incidents

Hate Incident

- Hate incidents involve a non-criminal action motivated by hate against an identifiable group. Groups may be distinguished by race, ethnic origin, sex, age, language, mental or physical ability, sexual orientation, etc.
- For example, using a racial slur or insulting a person based on their religious dress, sharing discriminatory material, and making offensive jokes. Hate incidents may not meet the criminal threshold under the Canadian Criminal Code, but they can still cause harm.





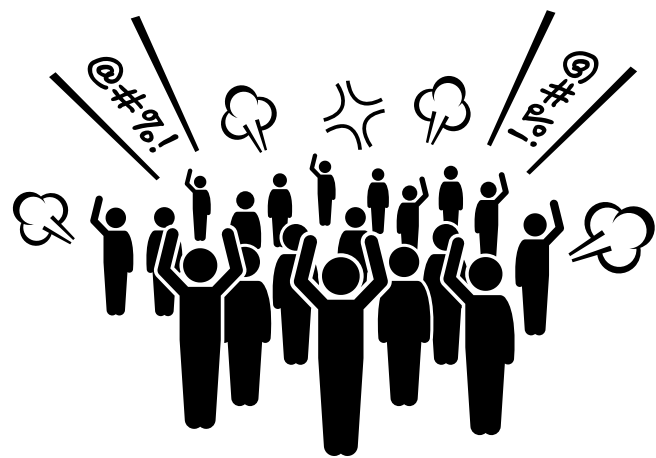
Hate Crime

A hate crime involves a criminal offence against a person or property that is motivated wholly or partially by hate or prejudice against an identifiable group. Examples include assault or damaging property.

There are a variety of provisions under the *Criminal Code* of Canada to deal with hate crime. These include:

- **Advocating genocide.** For example, advocating genocide of a specific religious group.
- **Public incitement of hatred where likely to lead to a breach of the peace.** For example, a protest leader encourages the public to commit violence against another identifiable group.
- **Willful promotion of hatred.** For example, statements of hatred other than in private conversation.
- **Willful promotion of antisemitism.** For example, writing articles denying the Holocaust.
- **Conversion Therapy Offenses.** For example, the promotion of treatment that aims to change an individual's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
- **Mischief motivated by hate in relation to religious property.** For example, vandalizing a place of worship.

Hate crimes can have violent consequences, cause trauma to victims and community members, cause fear of future crimes, create community unrest, and threaten national values.





Strategies to Combat Hate



Everyone plays a role in combating hate in the community:

- Pause and reflect before making or sharing hateful content.
- Speak up calmly but firmly against hate. Refute misinformation with arguments and evidence.

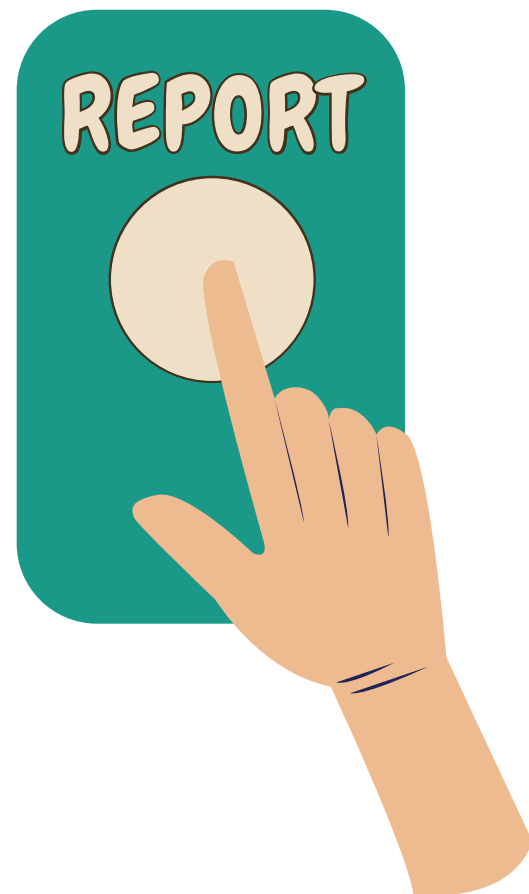
If it is safe to do so, call out hate. Ask a question to understand the reason behind the action. Explain why the action is offensive and its impacts. Saying nothing can also have an impact.

- Leave the situation.
- Challenge hate by sharing positive content, spreading truth, equality, and tolerance.
- Take a public stand and support victims of hate.
- Educate yourself and others about hate and its harms. Encourage good behavior and share resources.
- Join a non-profit or other organization working towards combating hate.
- Examine your hate behavior and biases.
- Encourage leaders to act towards combating hate.



Reporting Hate Crimes

- Stay calm.
- Keep all information and documents.
- Record details regarding the incident.
- If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you are not in immediate danger, report all crime to Peel Police: Police Communications: (Non-Emergency Line at 905-453-3311)
<https://www.peelpolice.ca/en/report-it/hate-motivated-and-bias-motivated-crime.aspx>
- Toronto Police Non-Emergency Line: 416-808-2222. Reports can also be taken at your local police division.
- For general information about hate-motivated crime in Peel, call the Peel Police Hate-Motivated Crime HOTLINE: (905) 456-5905
- Anonymous Reports for Hate Crime can be made to Peel Crime Stoppers
- <https://peelcrimestoppers.ca/> or Toronto Crime Stoppers
<https://www.222tips.com/>





Resources

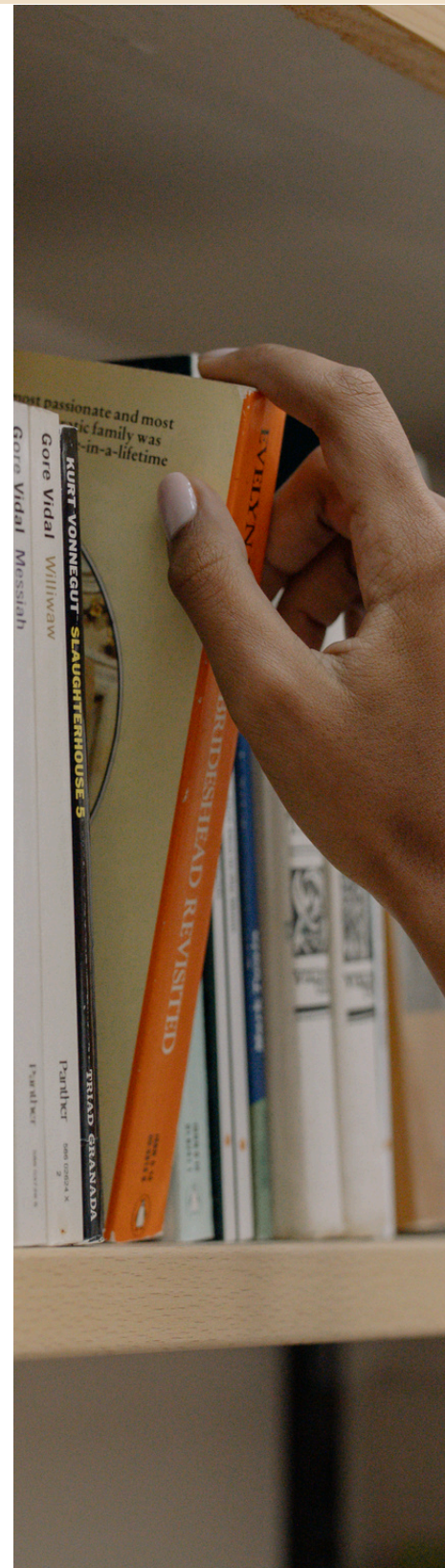
- Canada's Action Plan on Combatting Hate:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/combating-hate/action-plan.html>
- Canada Human Rights Commission: chrc-ccdp.gc.ca
- Human Rights Legal Support Centre:
<https://www.hrlsc.on.ca/en/home>





References

- Government of Canada Islamophobia
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/combating-islamophobia-canada.html>
- United Nations Anti Islamophobia Day
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/anti-islamophobia-day>
- UNICEF Ways to Fight Hate
<https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/5-ways-fight-hate-and-discrimination>
- Safe City Mississauga
<https://safecitymississauga.on.ca/countering-hate-in-our-community/>
- Toronto Police Service Hate-Motivated Crime:
<https://www.tps.ca/hate-motivated-crime/>
- Hate Crimes in Canada
<https://hatecrime.osce.org/canada>
- CASSA Hate Crime Reporting Project Report
<https://www.cassa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/CASSA-HCRP-Report-2023.pdf>
- Religious Hate Crime https://www.report-it.org.uk/religious_hate_crime
- Ontario Human Rights Commission on Hate
<https://www3.ohrc.on.ca/en/taking-action-build-awareness-and-challenge-hate-ontario#5.%20What%20can%20someone>





- City of Kingston Anti Hate Resources
<https://www.cityofkingston.ca/community-supports/community-supports-and-well-being/anti-hate-resources/>
- Together Against Hate Publication
<https://www.dcrs.ca/assets/media/2025/04/Together-Against-Hate-Publication-compressed.pdf>
- Hate Crimes in Canada:
<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/victim/rd16-rr16/p1.html>
- RCMP Hate Crimes and Incidents in Canada:
<https://rcmp.ca/sites/default/files/doc/hate-crimes-and-incidents-canada.pdf>
- Ten Ways to Counteract Hate Speech:
<https://www.nyac.com/files/ten-ways.pdf>
- Responding to Hate Toolkit:
<https://www.torontomu.ca/responding-to-hate/>

