

Discriminatory Abuse, Hate Crime/Hate Incidents/Mate Crime

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Discriminatory Abuse is when values, beliefs or culture result in a misuse of power that denies opportunity to some groups or individuals. It can be a feature of any form of abuse of an adult at risk but can also be motivated because of hostility or prejudice toward a particular characteristic of the person. This could be in relation to any of the 9 protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2009. Discriminatory abuse can lead to Hate Crime. **Hate Crime** is a criminal offence motivated by or perceived by the victim (or anyone else) to be motivated by, hostility or prejudice. **Hate Incident** is an incident that does not constitute a criminal offence but which is motivated or perceived to be motivated by hostility or prejudice. **Mate Crime** is where a person befriends another person, particularly those who are more vulnerable, with the intention to exploit them in some way.

❖ Equality Act 2010 – protected characteristics:

- Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage or civil partnership (in employment only), pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation

❖ Hate Crime Characteristics – Northumbria Police: Any criminal offence motivated or perceived to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards the following strands:

- Disability, Race or ethnicity, Religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender identity

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Hate crimes and incidents can be very frightening for the person subjected to them. They directly strike at who a person is, their community and their way of life. Incidents can be against a person or their property and can include:

- Abuse or threatening behaviour
- Assault
- Robbery
- Damage to property
- Inciting others to commit hate crimes
- Harassment

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For the year ending March 2021 there were: (Home Office)

- **124,091** hate crimes recorded by the police in England & Wales, of which:
 - 92,052 race hate
 - 18,596 sexual orientation hate
 - 9,943 disability hate
 - 6,377 religious hate
 - 2,799 transgender identity hate



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It is important that we understand the impact of hate crime on victims and that we take steps to recognise and report it wherever we have concerns.

Victims of hate crimes/incidents have often experienced this hostility and associated behaviours for long periods of time, sometimes all of their lives. Speaking up and reporting these incidents is a significant step for a victim to take due to fears of retribution or not being taken seriously.

If not dealt with properly, hate incidents and crimes can escalate rapidly having a detrimental effect on victims and communities:

Watch this video about a victim of disability hate crime: [Kelly and Sue's story: Learning disability hate crime - YouTube](#)



DO take **ALL** reports of hate crimes/incidents seriously. The impact on the victim will be significant even if the act may seem minor



DO take positive action to help **STOP** the behaviour. You don't have to be a victim to report hate crimes/incidents. If **YOU** witness it, **YOU** can report it too.



DO NOT assume it is someone else's problem. We ALL have a responsibility to stop Hate Crime.

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**STOP
HATE
CRIME**

For further information & to report a Hate Crime:

- Northumbria Police – 999 Emergency or 101 non – emergency
[Hate crime : Northumbria Police](#)
- Crime Stoppers – 0800 555 111 www.crimestoppers-uk.org
- Citizens Advice - [Hate crime - Citizens Advice](#)
- Stop the Hate UK - [Home - Stop Hate UK](#)