



# Safer Seven

On: Hate Crime



## 1. What is Hate Crime?

A hate crime or hate incident is when somebody is targeted because of their:

- Disability
- Gender identity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation

## 2. What behaviors can hate crime include?

Hate crimes or incidents can take many forms including:

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Verbal abuse or insults                  | Offensive graffiti |
| Threatening behaviour                    | Robbery            |
| Bullying at school or at work            | Harassment         |
| Abuse via phones or the internet         | Damage to property |
| Physical attacks and assaults            | Neighbour disputes |
| Encouraging others to commit hate crimes |                    |

**This is not an endless list**

## 3. What is the impact?

Research shows that hate crimes and incidents cause more emotional harm than similar crimes not motivated by prejudice.

They create fear in victims, groups and communities and can break down community cohesion.

National research shows incidents of hate crime are under-reported. Sometimes victims and witnesses are reluctant to report for a number of reasons, for example they may think it isn't serious enough, they won't be believed or nothing will be done about it.

## 4. Who can report a hate crime or incident?

In Dudley a variety of reporting mechanisms are available to ensure people are able to report in confidence where they feel most comfortable.

**Anybody can report a hate crime or incident whether they are a victim, witness or a third party.**

Partners in Dudley are committed to tackling this behaviour and encourage all hate crimes and incidents to be reported.

## 5. How can a hate crime/incident be reported?

In Dudley, the main reporting options are:

**West Midlands Police:** Call 999 in an emergency. For all other matters please visit [WM Police Online](#)

**Dudley Council Plus** 0300 555 2345

**True Vision** [www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)

**Victim Support** 01384 241511 [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

Or by contacting one of our **third party reporting centres**

## 6. What is a third party reporting centre?

Third party reporting centres are community locations where victims can report hate crimes or incidents without having to contact the police directly. Staff at the centres have been trained to help you report a hate crime through the True Vision website - this can be done anonymously if preferred. The information is then passed directly to your local police force.

For local third party reporting centres visit: [www.dudleysafeandsound.org/hatecrime](http://www.dudleysafeandsound.org/hatecrime)

## 7. What to do next

For more information on hate crime visit [www.dudleysafeandsound.org/hatecrime](http://www.dudleysafeandsound.org/hatecrime)

You can also download the West Midlands Police Hate Crime App by visiting the Apple APP store or Google Play

Visit our Learning Zone to see our selection of briefings and more [HERE](#)