



# HOW TO REPORT HATE CRIME



This EasyRead guide tells you what to do.



# 10 REASONS WHY YOU REALLY SHOULD TELL THE POLICE

## 1. Don't just grin and bear it

Even nowadays people are still being abused or attacked because they are seen as different.

This could be because:



- of your race



- you are gay, lesbian or bi



- of what religion you believe in



- of the sex you are or want to be



- of your disability.



Being treated badly just because you are different is wrong and must be stopped.



## 2. What is a 'hate crime'?

Hate Crime means someone has broken the law doing something bad to you because they think you are different.



People can:

- be shouted at



- be told they might be hurt



- get beaten up



- have their house damaged



- have their money stolen.



If it is a Hate Crime they will get a tougher sentence in court.



You don't have to prove they hate you, just show they were nasty.





If a case goes to court, they look to see if the person was nasty towards you because of what they thought you were.

### 3. Name calling



We hope everyone would say if they had been hurt.



But many people don't say if they have been hurt by words or being called nasty things.



This can still be breaking the law.

It could be:



- someone on the street you don't know



- a neighbour



- someone at college or work saying nasty things on facebook.



They should all be reported.

#### 4. Why bother?



The police can only do something when they know about it.



And someone shouting at you today could be doing something much worse tomorrow if they get away with it.



If the police don't know what's going on, they can't stop things getting worse. So tell them.



Even if you're not sure it's breaking the law.

## 5. Who to call?



If you are in danger, call **999** now!



If it's not urgent, call the police on **101** any time, day or night.



Make sure you tell them you think it was a Hate Crime.



Did they say or do something to make you think it was a Hate Crime? Make sure you tell the police!

## 6. Don't be scared



The police will take you seriously, it doesn't matter who you are.



Some areas have special officers to look into hate crimes so ask if you can speak to one if you want.



## 7. If you don't want to go to the police

There are other ways you can report what's happened.

You can do it on the internet.

Go to a special police website for reporting hate crimes:

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



Or talk to someone else you trust like your:

- support worker



- social worker



- teacher



- manager.



## 8. Getting help

When you have told the police you should hear from Victim Support.



They are people who can help with things like broken locks or windows or can just be someone to talk to.



If your case goes to court you should hear from your local Witness Care Unit.

It is their job to support you and answer any questions you have.

## 9. Going to court



If your case goes to court, they will try to make things as easy as possible for you.



Tell them if you have any special needs or a learning disability.



You can get someone to help you answer the questions in court if you have a learning disability.



Ask if you need a hearing loop or an interpreter.



They may let you answer questions from behind a screen or by video.



They might stop your name going in the papers if you are worried about people knowing who you are.



Ask the Witness Care Unit about anything else they can do.

## 10. Don't be afraid to make a complaint



Organisations need to know if they have done something wrong so they can make things better.

### Information



They all have a way for people to make complaints. Ask for a leaflet or more information.



If you don't like the way you have been treated by the police or others, write down their name or number and what happened.





If you think the police or others have done a good job, tell people about it.



This will help others tell the police about any Hate Crime.



Remember ... It is not ok to be treated badly just because you happen to be different.



Telling the police each time something happens helps them deal with troublemakers.



It's easy to report Hate Crime and not as scary as you may think.



Call **999** in an emergency.



Call **101** to speak to your local police.



Report what's happened online at:  
**[www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

### Stonewall



Website:  
[www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk)



Call:  
**08000 50 20 20**

### Victim Support



Website:  
[www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)



Call:  
**0845 30 30 900**



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