

NYC

LGBT National Youth Council



Hate Crime

A pocket guide

Do nothing

Report it

I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.

Elie Wiesel

Nobel Peace Prize Winner, 1986



4,165 people in Scotland were charged with race related hate crime in 2010-11

About the LGBT NYC

The LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) National Youth Council (NYC) is a group of young people who campaign for LGBT young people in Scotland.

LGBT NYC's Vision

Change – prejudiced views and discrimination, which cause too many LGBT young people harm, stress, worry or fear.

Defend – the rights of all young people affected by prejudice, discrimination, homophobic, biphobic or transphobic bullying.

Enlighten – all young people and enable them to live successful, happy and prosperous lives.

Empower – all young people to work together for a future free from prejudice, discrimination, stereotypes and negative values.



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LGBT National Youth Council

What is a Hate Crime?

It is a crime against you, your friends, your family or your property because of your actual or presumed sexual orientation, transgender identity, disability, race or religion.

Hate crimes can take many forms, such as:

- Physical and verbal attacks
- Vandalism and graffiti
- Cyberbullying
- Abusive text messaging and hate mail
- Offensive signs or gestures
- Threatening behaviours



Email us at:
nyc@lgbtyouth.org.uk

A lot of people don't realise that they have experienced a hate crime. The LGBT NYC want you to flick through this resource and have a better understanding of what hate crime is and what you can do if you experience a hate crime.

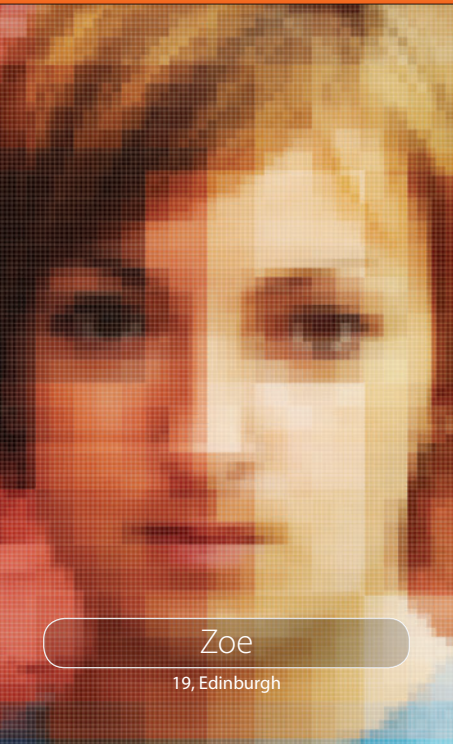
In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

Martin Luther King Jr.
Civil rights activist



Religious related hate crimes rose by nearly 10% in 2010-11

Sexual orientation



Zoe

19, Edinburgh

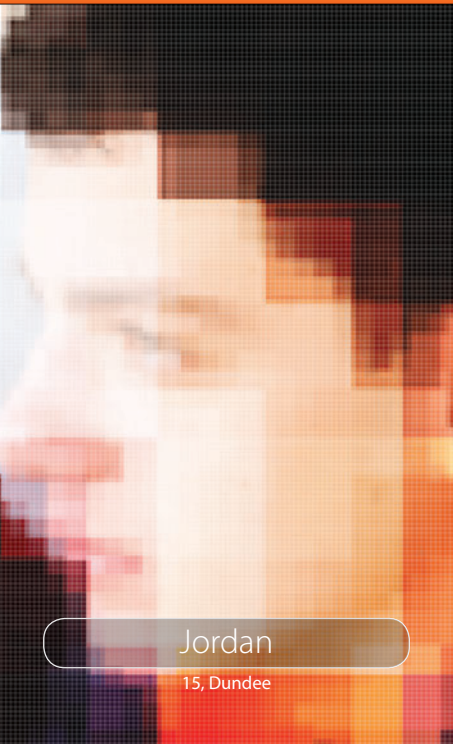
I was on a bus on my way to meet some mates for a night out in Edinburgh when this guy came up to me and called me a '*dyke*' and spat on me. I didn't know what I could do; did I experience a hate crime? Not that it matters, but I'm not a lesbian.

Yes, it's a Hate Crime.

Why?

Homophobic phrases and spitting on someone are examples of verbal abuse and physical assault. Homophobic hate crime can happen to anyone, not just gay, lesbian or bisexual people.

Transgender identity



Jordan

15, Dundee

I tried to join a football team. I went up to the coach and he said he didn't allow girls on the team, I'm not a girl though, I'm a boy! I told him this and he laughed at me, called me by my old name (Lisa) and called me a **'tranny'**. I started to cry and walked away and the coach told all the boys to play a little game called hit the **'tranny'**. I started to run but they were kicking balls at me and calling me **'tranny'**. They hit me in the face and body, it was so scary. I ended up having to go to hospital with a broken nose. Was this a hate crime?

Yes, it's a Hate Crime.

Why?

If you are a trans person and living in your acquired gender role, then you should be treated and referred to with your preferred pronoun. Deliberately referring to Jordan as Lisa is discrimination. Using offensive terms such as **'tranny'** is transphobic. Intentionally hitting someone with a football is assault, this makes Jordan's encounter a hate crime.

Race and ethnicity

A pixelated, mosaic-style portrait of a young person with dark skin and short dark hair, wearing a light-colored garment. The background is dark and textured.

Lee

16, Glasgow

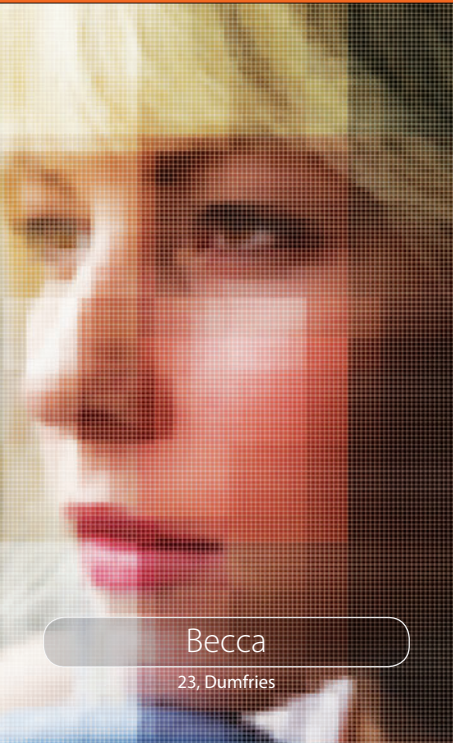
My parents have recently opened a florist. I came to open the shop one Saturday morning and spray painted on our shutters was a message, ***'GO HOME TO UR OWN F*%\$£?G COUNTRY, UR NO WELCOME'*** My parents don't want to call the police, as we are new to the neighborhood. I spent 2 hours cleaning the paint off the shutter. I don't understand, I was born in Scotland and my parents have been in Scotland most of their lives. I don't know what to do? Did we experience a hate crime?

Yes, it's a Hate Crime.

Why?

Graffiti is vandalism and graffiti with racist messages is an example of a hate crime. These types of behaviours are hurtful and must be challenged. This is an example of hate crime based on a person's actual or presumed race or ethnicity.

Religion or belief



Becca

23, Dumfries

I have been a Christian all my life. My boyfriend is also Christian and we are going to wait until we are married until we have sex. This clique of young women in work keep making comments about my faith. Kristy, in particular just has it in for me. It has got to the point that I'm not stopping to eat lunch anymore, just to avoid her. Last week she said ***'All you Christians are frigid. You need to test drive the goods. Religion is pointless, your lot are part of some cult!'*** Then last night I received a text from Kristy. It said: ***'BIBLE BASHER – WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU! WATCH YOUR BACK.'*** Did I experience a hate crime?

Yes, it's a Hate Crime.

Why?

People deserve to be treated fairly and their religious beliefs should be respected. This is bullying in the workplace and verbal abuse. Sending threatening texts to Becca because of her religious beliefs is an example of a hate crime based on a person's actual or presumed religious beliefs.

Disability

A large, pixelated portrait of a young man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a white t-shirt. The background is a warm, orange-brown color with a subtle grid pattern. The portrait is the central focus of the page.

Harry

17, Aberdeen

I got five A's in my Highers the other day. I was so excited, it means I have enough qualifications to get into uni. When I told my classmates, Steven from my class was furious. He said ***'You only got five A's because you're in a wheelchair, they must have felt sorry for you. You think you're a know it all!'*** Steven then pulled out a knife and slashed one of the tyres on my wheelchair and said ***'You think you're moving up in the world, but good luck moving anywhere now your wheel is slashed.'***

Yes, it's a Hate Crime.

Why?

Threatening behaviour and damage to property are crimes and this is a hate crime since the actions targeted Harry because of his disability. In addition to these crimes, carrying a knife is illegal.

What can we all do about it?

What is Hate Crime Legislation (Law)?

It means the police and courts need to take into account the reasons behind the crimes, which can lead to more serious punishments.

Hate crime legislation can be quite confusing and isn't something you really need to worry about, but if you are interested in the details...

Here are a few key pieces of legislation and what they mean for you in relation to hate crimes.

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) (Scotland) Act 2009

This Act means that prejudice relating to a person's actual or presumed disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity is included under hate crime.



%

31% of transgender people reported experiencing threatening behaviour



Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003

This Act defines that prejudice based on a person's actual or perceived religious beliefs and social or cultural group is treated as a hate crime.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

This Act defines that prejudice based on a person's actual or presumed membership to a racial group is treated as a hate crime.



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So what can you do, now that you know how to identify a hate crime?

If you or someone you know experiences a hate crime you have 3 main options:

1. Do nothing
2. Contact the police
3. Contact a third party reporting or remote reporting site (e.g. most LGBT Youth Scotland offices)

I experienced a Hate Crime, but why should I bother reporting it?

If you don't report hate crime, it's hard for things to get better. If the statistics on hate crime are not accurate, people will think that hate crime doesn't really happen in Scotland. This means less will be done to tackle it.

Hate crime is a crime and it's wrong

Not reporting a hate crime may affect your social life, your family life and how you feel about yourself.



For more information, click:
www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/nyc.htm

How to report a hate crime

If you ever feel you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 999!

What is Third Party/Remote Reporting?

It provides another way for you to report crimes to the police without speaking directly to them. This is done through third party/remote reporting agencies, and is slightly different in each police force area.

The key benefits of this?

You can choose to report a hate crime in a confidential and supportive environment without giving your personal details.

The police will only investigate the crime with your consent.

Third party/remote reporting agencies can refer you to local support services.



A third of LGBT people have been physically attacked

Third Party/Remote Reporting contacts

Aberdeen

Terrance Higgins Trust Scotland – 0845 241 2151

Email: confidential.aberdeen@tht.org.uk

www.tht.org.uk/contactus/scotland/

Multi-Ethnic Aberdeen – 01224 645 268

www.multiethnic.co.uk

Dumfries

Dumfries & Galloway

LGBT Centre – 01387 255 058

www.lgbtcentredg.co.uk

Dundee

Victim Support – 01382 305 707

www.victimsupportsco.org.uk

Amina – 0808 801 0301

The Muslim Women's Organisation

www.mwrc.org.uk

Edinburgh

LGBT Youth Scotland – 0131 555 3940

www.lgbtyouth.org.uk

CORE – 0131 467 7990

Community Organisation for Race Equality

Victim Support – 0131 668 2556

www.victimsupportsco.org.uk



Glasgow

British Deaf Association – 0141 248 5554
www.bda.org.uk

LGBT Youth Scotland – 0141 552 7425
www.lgbtyouth.org.uk

Scottish Refugee Council – 0141 248 9799
www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Perth

Victim Support – 01738 567 171
www.victimsupportsco.org.uk

Scottish Borders

Victim Support – 01896 751 212
www.victimsupportsco.org.uk

Stirling

Central Scotland Gay & Lesbian Switchboard
01786 469 483 – 7pm to 10pm every night

Victim Support – 01786 445 782
www.victimsupportsco.org.uk

National contact

Crime Stoppers – 0800 555 111
www.crimestoppersscotland-uk.org

For further Third Party/Remote Reporting contacts, please visit: www.scottish.police.uk

LGBT NYC contacts

If you want to find out more about hate crime or anything else in this guide, then:

Email: nyc@lgbtyouth.org.uk

Facebook: LGBT National Youth Council

Website: www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/nyc.htm

National online information

Scottish Police

www.scottish.police.uk

Commissioner for Children & Young People

www.sccyp.org.uk/rights

Equality & Human Rights Commission

www.equalityhumanrights.com/scotland/

Equality Network

www.equality-network.org

LGBT Centre for Health and Wellbeing

www.lgbthealth.org.uk

Respectme

www.respectme.org.uk



47% of disabled people have experienced a hate crime because of their disability

In Germany, they first came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me – and by that time, no one was left to speak up.

Martin Niemüller

German anti-Nazi theologian and pastor



For more information, click:
www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/nyc.htm



LGBT Youth Scotland

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