



Help and support for people reporting race hate crime

Nobody ever deserves to be the victim of a race hate crime and no victim is ever to blame for it happening to them.

Everyone will react differently when they are the victim of a crime. Often people need help to cope with how they are feeling afterwards. You can pass on information about hate crimes/incidents anonymously to Crime Stoppers.

If you need help, information or support please visit Cumbria Together website and you will find relevant information and signposting to appropriate organisations and networks.

Cumbria together – Support for people affected by Crime

This website provides information and confidential support through a trusted network of support organisations, giving strength back to those affected by crime. See more at: www.cumbriatogether.com

Together, we can tackle Race Hate Crime

If you hear it, see it, or feel it
Report It!



What is race hate crime?

“Any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic.” There are five types of hate crime monitored by police and they are:

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

The victim does not have to provide proof of the perpetrator’s hostility and police officers must investigate it as a reported hate crime or hate incident.

It is important too, that people working with or helping a victim take his/her concerns seriously. The victim should never be dissuaded from reporting a hate crime or incident, if he/she perceives it to be so.

What kind of things can race hate crime involve?

A race hate crime is where you are targeted because of hostility or prejudice based on your race or your perceived race, ethnic origin or nationality and it may involve:

- Physical assault
- Damage to your property, home or any public/private building e.g. graffiti of a racist nature
- Hitting, spitting, name calling or abusive comments
- Malicious phone calls, abusive messages on Facebook, Twitter or other social media

Does race hate crime happen here?

Yes, it does...

Two 16 year olds committed a racially motivated attack on a man who was playing football in North Cumbria. The victim needed surgery to repair damage to his nose after the two kicked and punched him and stamped on his head.

In court, the prosecutor told the court that the victim’s life had dramatically changed and that he had suffered flashbacks, couldn’t sleep and was afraid to go out. The teenagers were each sentenced to 12 month detention orders. The judge said that custody was the only option, given the severity of the offences. During the same month, a group of 11 people were given jail terms of between 10 and 30 months each after racially abusing two men. The judge told them: “Racism must not be allowed to flourish in this city.”

Police in the Lake District launched an investigation after an incident occurred where a man and his family who were in Cumbria on holiday were subjected to verbal racial abuse and threats of violence by a man as they were walking through the town.

The investigating officer said it appeared to be an unprovoked verbal assault which had caused a great deal of stress to an innocent family during their holiday.

How can I report a race hate crime?

If you believe you have been the victim of a crime that you think was motivated by hostility or prejudice against your race, or by a mistaken perception of your race, ethnic origin or nationality then you should report the matter as soon as you feel able to do so.

Reporting allows the police and other agencies to investigate and hopefully prosecute someone for the incident. It also sends a strong message that racially motivated crime is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The police always take reports of hate crimes and incidents seriously:

If it’s an emergency, call the Police on 999. Otherwise you can report the crime by calling 101

Or can report it directly to the Cumbria Police online at:

<http://bit.ly/10a9bbH>

You can ask any support organisation to report it for you. This is called a Third Party Report. It can be anonymous so won’t be investigated by the police, but it could help them join up related crimes. You can find your nearest Hate Incident Reporting Centres online at:

<http://bit.ly/1fbzdvt>