



## TIP OF THE WEEK

### **Hate & Bias Crime**

The Edmonton Police Service Hate Crime Unit advocates for human rights, safety, security and inclusiveness for all identifiable communities in Edmonton. The Hate Crime Unit is committed to sustainable partnerships with our communities to build trust, prevent hate crimes and incidents from occurring and foster an atmosphere of mutual respect in our City.

### **What is a Hate Crime?**

A Hate Crime is an offence committed against a person or property, which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the suspect's hate, bias or prejudice towards an identifiable group based on, real or perceived, race, national or ethnic origin, language, color, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or any other similar factor.

Examples of hate crimes include:

- Violence, threats of violence,
- Acts of mischief or vandalism
- Distribution of hate literature, hate mail,
- Threatening phone calls, and/or
- Destruction of religious property or symbols.

If one of these criminal acts occurs, and the investigating officer feels it is motivated by hatred, the file could be classified as a hate crime.

### **What are Hate Incidents?**

It is important to note that not all incidents of hate are criminal in nature. However, the impact on the individual or community is similar. For a variety of reasons, it is important to report these occurrences to Police.

Some examples are:

- Intimidation against identifiable groups or individuals,
- Distribution of prejudicial material, and/or
- Use of racial slurs against individuals.

### **Hate Propaganda**

Hate Propaganda is defined as any communication, poster and/or graffiti used by a person or group which promotes hatred based on race religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

There are three Hate Propaganda sections in the Criminal Code. These sections are separate from the Criminal Code occurrences.

1. Section 318, Advocating Genocide
2. Section 319 (1), Public Incitement of Hatred
3. Section 319 (2), Willful Promotion of Hatred

#### Advocating Genocide - Section 318

Is to argue or urge people to kill others because on their color, race, religion or ethnic origin. Genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy in whole or in part any identifiable group namely:

Killing members of the group, or

Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of calculated to bring about its physical destruction.

#### Public Incitement of Hatred - Section 319 (1)

Everyone who, by communicating statements in any public place, incites hatred against any identifiable group where such incitement is likely to lead to a breach of the peace is guilty of an offence.



## TIP OF THE WEEK

### Willful Promotion of Hatred - Section 319 (2)

Everyone who by communicating statements other than in private conversation, willfully promotes hatred against any identifiable group is guilty of an offence

#### **Are You A Victim?**

There are a number of indicators that may assist you in your assessment.

Here are a few examples:

- Language of the offender,
- Hate graffiti
- No association between the offender and you, and/or
- The victim and offender are from two different groups
- What to do if you are a victim of a crime motivated by hatred?

If it is a crime in progress, call 911. If it is not a crime in progress, contact the Edmonton Police Service complaint line at (780) 423-4567.

Please make sure that the investigating officer understands that you perceive the crime as being motivated by hatred. The investigation will make its way to the Hate Crimes office for file review and follow up.

*Information obtained from the Edmonton Police Service*

If you have information a crime, contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your identity will remain anonymous, and if the information you provide leads to a conviction, you could eligible for a reward of up to \$2000.00.

***Everybody benefits, except the criminal.***