

What should you do if you are a victim of disability hate crime?

What is a disability hate crime?



If you have a learning disability, or any kind of disability, you could be a victim of disability hate crime.



A disability hate crime is **any crime** that you or someone else thinks has happened to you because the person who did it **does not like disabled people**.



Crimes are bad things people do that are **against the law**.



There are lots of different types of crime.
A crime could be:

- someone calling you **bad names**



- someone **stealing** money or other things from you



- someone **hitting** you or saying they are going to hit you



- someone **coming to your house** and **not leaving** when you ask them to.



If any of these things happen to you, you have been a **victim** of crime.



Not every crime against a person with a learning disability is a hate crime.

But if you are a victim of crime and you think the person who did the crime did it because you have a disability, it is a **disability hate crime**.



If a crime happens to you, or you are worried about a crime happening to you, it can be **scary**. But you are not alone.



In this guide is some information on what you can do if you are a victim of hate crime, so you can stop it happening again.

What should you do if you are a victim of disability hate crime?



Lots of people with a learning disability are victims of hate crime, but **not many people tell anyone about it**.

If you are a victim of hate crime, you are not alone and **you do not have to put up with it**.



If you **tell someone** they can help you make sure it doesn't happen again. You can:

1. Tell the **police**



You can phone them on **999** if it is an emergency. An emergency is something that is serious or dangerous and needs to be stopped quickly.



If it is not an emergency but you still want to tell the police about it you can phone **101** or **0845 6008000** if you live in Northern Ireland.



Or if something happens in public you can tell a **police officer** in person.

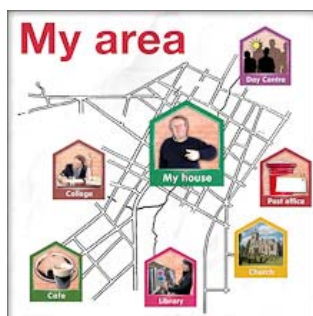


This could be a police officer who is out and about or a police officer at a **police station**.

2. Go to a **third party reporting centre**

A third party reporting centre is a place you can go to tell someone about a hate crime, that is not a police station.

Different areas have different third party reporting centres. The ones in your area could be:





- Your **day centre** or gateway club
- Your local **Citizens Advice Bureau**
- The one stop shop at your **council**

3. Phone the **Stop Learning Disability Hate Crime Helpline**



This helpline is for people in England and Wales who have been a victim of learning disability hate crime or know someone who has. It is run by Stop Hate UK.



The helpline number is **0808 802 1155** and it is free to call from landlines and most mobile phones.



It is open **24 hours a day**, every day of the year.



4. Use the **True Vision** website

True Vision is a website where you can report hate crimes.



You can also get information about hate crime and how to get support if you are a victim of hate crime.



The website address is:

www.report-it.org.uk.

5. Tell a **friend** or **family member**

If you are a victim of hate crime but you don't feel like you can speak to a stranger about it, you can just tell a **friend** or **family member**.



They can **support you** to go to the police or phone the helpline.



Or if you don't want to report the crime, they can help you to **deal with** what has happened and to **stay safe** in the future.

