

Stand Up to Hate in Your Community

STOP HATE PROJECT A Communities Against Hate Partner

Presented by Not In Our Town and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Photo: Jackson Hill



This brochure is a collaboration between Not In Our Town and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. The Lawyers' Committee is a partner in Communities Against Hate, a national coalition of organizations working to document hate and demand action.



HOW TO RESPOND TO HATE, INTOLERANCE, OR BULLYING

Threats, bullying, racial slurs, and violence deeply affect individuals and hate incidents can devastate entire communities. Hate can spread nationally via the press and social media and traumatize millions in targeted communities.

Start by gathering diverse community members and work in partnership with school, civic, city, and law enforcement leaders to make a commitment to stop hate together.

REACH OUT



- Support targets and their families;
- Gather your community for dialogue and action;
- Document and report incidents.

DOCUMENT



- Preserve evidence;
- Take photos of graffiti without removing it. Don't delete texts, emails. Take screenshots of social media posts before removing them.

SEEK HELP



- You have options and you are not alone
- 8449NOHATE.org, 1-844-9-NO-HATE
- Notinourtown.org: Five Quick Actions to Stop Hate
- communitiesagainstshate.org/

HATE CRIME

A criminal act motivated by hate or bias on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability.

HATE OR BIAS INCIDENT

A bias-based act of bullying, harassment, or intimidation that does not rise to the level of a crime.

UPSTANDER

A person who speaks up and stands for themselves or others to stop harm from taking place and to support people targeted for hate.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

Places where people of all backgrounds feel safe, accepted and respected.



Circulate a pledge to stop hate in your community:

"I pledge to stand up to all forms of hate, bigotry and bullying. I will not stay silent in the face of intolerance based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, religion, ability or any other factor. I will work together with my neighbors to create safer, more inclusive communities for all."

— The Not in Our Town Pledge

207,880
HATE CRIMES Occurred in the U.S.

► In the same year

ONLY 5,850

were reported by local law enforcement agencies.

—Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Study 2015 and FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Hate Crime Statistics 2015

Preventing Intolerance and Hate

Fear caused by hate crimes and incidents degrades the quality of life for everyone, especially people in the impacted communities. It can drive decisions about where to live and work and how much one participates in the community.

Core Actions:

- **Initiate** conversations and events to learn about and address intolerance and hate in your town;
- **Find** ways to build bridges between different groups;
- **Develop** community dialogues with local law enforcement agencies outside of crisis situations;
- **Show** support for hate crime victims and impacted communities;
- **Promote** inclusive communities;
- **Engage** local leaders, community organizations, faith groups, law enforcement, educators, and youth to participate;
- **Share** information about rights and laws to protect people from harassment. Educate them about the reporting process;
- **Train** everyone to be upstanders and offer specific ways to support vulnerable populations.

► Learn how to begin: stophateaction.org



RESPOND QUICKLY TO HATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Hate groups and the violence they provoke have created a dangerous threat, but it can be stopped. People like you, working with others in your local community, can create an atmosphere where hate and intolerance are rejected and inclusion is a core community value.

► **FOR MORE TIPS AND RESOURCES GO TO: stophateaction.org**

HOW TO RESPOND WHEN A HATE GROUP COMES TO TOWN

Hate groups are seeking violence and confrontation. Don't let them set the agenda.

- **Convene** city, faith, diverse community leaders, and law enforcement to make a plan for safety and an effective response. Develop a communications strategy.
- **Reach** out and support impacted individuals and communities:
 - › Listen to concerns, assist with their needs, respect requests for privacy.
 - › Engage with diverse local organizations that support targeted groups.
- **Be Visible** in your stand against hate. Encourage individuals and local businesses to support all residents and post signs against hate.
- **Engage** the community:
 - › Hold visible anti-hate events:
 - › Make your opposition visible, but avoid direct confrontations with hate groups. Don't be in the same place at the same time, to prevent violence.
 - › Involve large numbers of people so your events are more substantial and powerful than hate group rallies. Leverage school, faith and civic groups to get the word out.
 - › Create a safety team to work with counter protesters to emphasize nonviolence.
 - › Engage youth as nonviolent leaders and spokespeople.

- › Organize community teach ins and gatherings. Examples:
 - › Screen a Not In Our Town film to spark dialogue and discuss action steps. Find films and discussion guides at: niot.org/videos;
 - › Hold a facilitated town hall meeting where hate incidents can be surfaced and residents can seek and share solutions;
 - › Sponsor interfaith events and community service projects;
 - › Use social media platforms to update and engage the community.
- **Hold** public officials in government and law enforcement accountable:
 - › Ask officials to use their power and voices and engage with concerned residents;
 - › Encourage them to join efforts and denounce hate.
 - › Form a liaison team with law enforcement to ensure safety for residents.
- **Contact** local media:
 - › Meet with the editorial board to express concerns and share your plans;
 - › Write Op Ed pieces and letters to the editor;
 - › Arrange a press conference when appropriate.

ONGOING Inclusive Action

Make a plan for transformation to an accepting and inclusive community:

- **Start** a pro-inclusion Not In Our Town group. Learn more: niot.org/how-to-start-niot-group
- **Create** and implement a plan for change based on your community's concerns and continue to support impacted community members and organizations;
- **Convene** pro-inclusion events:
 - › Sponsor cultural events featuring local musicians, visual and performance artists;
 - › Participate in local parades, festivals, and sporting events;
 - › Take out pro-inclusion billboards in public places and on public transportation.
- **Partner** with civic, faith, and community groups for activities
 - › Learn more:
 - › 8449NOHATE.org 1-844-NO-HATE
 - › Not In Our Town: NIOT.org

Photo: Daily Pantagraph



Photo: Beach Reporter



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