

# What is a Hate Crime?

“ ... A crime committed based on the victim’s perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. ”

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## Ensure Your Safety & Seek Help

**Your first and foremost priority should be to ensure your physical safety!**

- + Seek medical attention immediately, if necessary.
- + Talk to someone you trust about the experience.
- + Remember that hate crimes can happen to anyone. You are not to blame!

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## Record Details About The Incident

**After the initial shock of the incident has passed, write down exactly what happened.**

- + Include as many specific details as possible.
- + Keep and make copies of all documentation (e.g., hate mail or recordings of hate calls).
- + Photograph any physical injuries, offensive graffiti, and/or evidence of vandalism.

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## Report The Incident

+ If you experience hate, you should report it. Contact local law enforcement and provide them with detailed information. Secure the names, contact information, and badge numbers of the investigating officers.

+ **Report a suspected hate crime to the FBI at 1-800-225-5324.** You can state your preferred language for translation services.

+ Consider reporting the incident to a community organization that is tracking hate crimes. This is only for data collection purposes. You should also report to local law enforcement and the FBI.

+ If you are concerned about your immigration status, consider seeking legal advice. U.S. immigration law provides several protections for immigrants who are victims of crime.

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## Contact A Community Organization

Contact a local community organization for assistance and support. Community organizations may be able to assist with dealing with law enforcement, language translation, seeking medical care or psychological counseling, locating an attorney, handling media, fundraising, and identifying a support network.

### Resources for more information on...

Legal aid, working with law enforcement, mental health and more, visit the National Asian Pacific Bar Association’s (NAPABA) Hate Crime Resources at: [www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources](http://www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources)

COVID-19, visit the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum’s website at: [www.apiahf.org/](http://www.apiahf.org/)