Racist, xenophobic and intolerant incidents have consequences

The physical and psychological consequences of hate incidents/crimes may remain with the victims for the rest of their lives.

Their effects ripple out to their families and the community.

A single incident is enough to cause suffering to the victim, the victim’s family and the community.

For further information

Observatorio Español del Racismo y la Xenofobia
(Spanish Observatory for Racism and Xenophobia)
email: oberaxe@meyss.es
http://exploration.mtin.gob.es/oberaxe

Consejo de víctimas de delitos de odio
(Hate Crimes Victims Council)
Phone: 91 528 51 04
delayed@delitosdeodio@gmail.com

Servicio de asistencia a víctimas de discriminación
(Service providing assistance to victims of discrimination)
Free hotline: 900 253 041
email: info@asistenciavictimasdiscriminacion.org
www.asistenciavictimasdiscriminacion.org

Oficinas de asistencia a las víctimas de delitos violentos y contra la libertad sexual
(Bureaus providing assistance to victims of violent crimes and crimes against sexual freedom)

Movimiento contra la Intolerancia
(Movement Against Intolerance)
Phone: 91 530 71 99
delayed@solidaridadmci@gmail.com

Ministerio del Interior
(Ministry of Home Affairs)
http://www.interior.gob.es/web/servicios-al-ciudadano/delitos-de-odio

Report a hate crime

Guardía Civil (Civil Guard)  900 100 062
Policia Nacional (National Police)  900 100 091

PREVENTION AND DETECTION of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance in the field of health

Its objective is to raise awareness among and train health professionals, within the scope of their jobs, to detect and help victims of racist, xenophobic incidents and crimes and those associated with other forms of intolerance.
Why do we speak about racism, xenophobia and intolerance?

Racism divides the world into “races” and holds that certain ethnic groups are inferior while others are superior.

Xenophobia involves hostility towards those whose national origin, culture and values are different.

Intolerance is an attitude of rejection or contempt towards people, their dignity and their rights because their condition or opinion is different.

There is only one race, the human race.

We are not born racists. We learn to be.

Racist, xenophobic and intolerant attitudes harm people’s dignity.

What are hate incidents and hate crimes?

According to the European Institutions, a Hate Crime is: any criminal violation, including those against persons and property, where the victim, the place and the object of the violation are chosen due to their actual or presumed connection, relation, affiliation or membership in a group based on “race”, national, or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or other similar factors.

A hate incident is an incident that is perceived by the victim or any other person as being racist, xenophobic or involving any other form of intolerance, although it may not constitute a crime.

How to detect that a person has been the victim of an incident that is racist, xenophobic or owing to another form of intolerance

Some essential indicators:

- The victim was found in a place where crimes against other members of his/her group had also been committed.
- The aggressor had humiliating expressions of hate, aesthetics and/or tattoos.
- The aggressor was disproportionately large or small compared to the victim.
- There were symbols and/or graffiti that incited hatred at the scene of the aggression.
- The victim belonged to a “target” hate group.
- Lack of monetary or any other type of motivation.
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What are hate messages and hate speech?

Most hate incidents/crimes can be detected by the perpetrators’ symbolism or words before, during or after the incident. Those who commit these acts are spreading a message of hate to the entire group to which their victims belong. These messages may be oral or take on the form of graffiti, tattoos on the perpetrators, or other signs constituting evidence of the motivation. Hate speech encompasses all types of expression that propagate, incite, promote or justify racist hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, or other forms of hatred based on intolerance.

What can HEALTH PROFESSIONALS do to help the victims?

Remain calm and respectful of the victims and the witnesses.

Not ignore the incident and register the occurrence in the injury report, medical history and any other pertinent documents.

Work with forensic personnel, judges and prosecutors so that the hate crime is not left to impunity.

Let a social worker in your centre know in order to potentially help the victim (contact a public service or NGO providing attention to hate crime victims).

Inform the National Police or Civil Guard, particularly if weapons were used in the aggression.

Without causing alarm, clearly explain to the victim the reason for the aggression: hate.

Assess the potential psychological damage to the victim and the impact on the victim’s family.

Provide counsel to the victim on the first steps to be taken to lodge a formal complaint and seek support (specialized NGOs are always helpful).