

ANTI-BLACK BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS

What is Anti-Black Racism?

An indiscriminate negative perception or emotion towards people of Black-African descent rooted in colonization and slavery and expressed as an exaggerated fear, hatred, and/or hostility toward Black people or Black communities. Anti-Black racism is perpetuated by negative stereotypes and social structures that discriminate, marginalize, and exclude the Black population from social, political, and civic life.

What is an Anti-Black Hate Incident

A noncriminal act motivated in whole or in part by prejudice, bias, or hate towards people of Black-African descent. Simply put, **it is** when someone is hurtful or offensive, towards those of Black-African descent, by using derogatory language, symbols, or actions that affect the sense of safety of **the targeted** person or group of people.

Examples

- High school classmates use social media to make offensive jokes against a group of Black-African descent students.
- A person shares an offensive cartoon around the office about a co-worker making fun of them using stereotypes.
- A group of young males of Black-African descent are followed around while in a store by the security guard with no specific reason and are asked to leave the store.

What is an Anti-Black Hate Crime?

A criminal offence motivated in whole or in part by prejudice, bias, or hate towards people of Black-African descent. In other words, **it is** a criminal act that can involve intimidation, harassment, vandalism, physical force, or threat and its motive is resentment or a negative opinion **of** the characteristics of a person **because of** the colour of their skin.

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Examples

- A group of people set up **a cross** and light it on fire on the lawn of a Black person.
- Two **men** plan and attack a neighbour because they think he does not belong in the neighbourhood because of the colour of his skin. Witnesses heard the attackers using racial slurs during the incident.
- A white supremacist symbol is drawn at the entrance of a church where many members of the black community attend.
- An individual with negative views about black people and Muslims **make** publications on social media **inciting** others to harm people of the Somalian community that live in his town

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Hate crimes targeting the Black population remain one of the most common types of hate crimes in Canada (16% of all hate crimes). (Moreau, 2020)

The Law

According to the Criminal Code of Canada subsection 718.2(a)(i), a sentence should be increased to account for aggravating circumstances such as evidence that the offence was motivated by bias, prejudice or hate.

Other sections of the Canadian criminal code specifically deal with hate crime. S.318, s.319, s. 430.

Unwanted jokes or insults when they are targeted at an identifiable group are considered harassment, this is a form of discrimination and is prohibited by the Alberta Human Rights Act.



Report it!

If you or someone else is in immediate danger call 911.

If you are targeted **with a hate incident/crime because of the colour of your skin or suspect someone is being targeted**, contact law enforcement:

Calgary	Calgary Police Service	403-266-1234
Edmonton	Edmonton Police Service	780-423-4567
Lethbridge	Lethbridge Police Service	403-328-4444
Wood Buffalo	RCMP	780-788-4040

If you are not ready to report to the police, call the number below to receive support, information and report the incident:

In Calgary:

If your organization or community group would like to be part of the support network, check the **CCE** website (below) for more information.

In Wood Buffalo:

RMWB Pulse Line:
780-743-7000

In Edmonton:

Shiloh Centre For
Multicultural Roots

Phone:
780-722-9141

Email:
shilohcmr@gmail.com

In Lethbridge:

If your organization or community group would like to be part of the support network, check the **CCE** website (below) for more information.

Provincial:

If your organization or community group would like to be part of the support network, check the **cce** website (below) for more information.

Want to file a human rights complaint?

If a hate incident or **act of** discrimination is committed by a co-worker, employer, prospective employer (**i.e. when** applying for employment), service provider **or** landlord, or involves the public display of materials, you may be able to make a human rights complaint.

If you believe you have experienced discrimination as a result of racial profiling (in a context where authority figures are employed to address issues of safety, security or public protection) based on your race or other **physical** characteristics, you may be able to make a complaint with the Commission.

For information contact the Alberta Human Rights Commission:

Confidential inquiry: (780) 427 – 7661 www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca

To learn more : <http://coalitionscreatingequity.ca/>

Document any hate incidents at:

Stophateab.ca

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