

Homophobic Hate Incidents

What is homophobia?

Homophobia encompasses a range of negative attitudes and feelings towards people from the LGBTQ2S+ community. Homophobia can take the form of fear, aversion, hatred, violence, anger, or discomfort which is then directed at members or perceived members of the LGBTQ2s+ community.

What is a homophobic hate incident?

A noncriminal act motivated in whole or in part by prejudice, bias, or hate towards a specific person or identifiable group of persons due to their sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression.

Something is a homophobic hate incident when it is carried out because of hostility or a negative opinion towards a member or perceived member of the LGBTQ2S+ community. A hate incident can involve derogatory language, symbols, or actions that affect the sense of safety of the person or group of persons.

Examples

- A person makes offensive remarks to his co-worker because of his sexual orientation
- An asexual person is subject to unwelcome lewd sexual comments and innuendos at the workplace
- A couple gets weird looks and glared at when in public spaces

What is a homophobic hate crime?

A criminal offence motivated in whole or in part by prejudice, bias, or hate towards a specific person, identifiable group of persons or property due to their sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression. When a homophobic hate incident becomes a criminal offence, it's known as a hate crime.



Examples

- A group of people assault two men who were holding hands.
- A person repeatedly harasses an LGBTQ2S+ activist by sending online threats causing them to feel unsafe.
- A group of people confront someone entering a restroom who they perceive to be trans. The group pushes and yell slurs at the individual.



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.



Report it!

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

If you are targeted with a hate incident/crime or suspect someone is, 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:

You are not alone! For support, information, and reporting of a Transgender hate incident contact:

In Calgary:

Skipping Stone Foundation
108 13 Ave NE #201,
Calgary, AB T2E 2R9
Phone: 587-333-4342

In Wood Buffalo:

RMWB Pulse Line:
780-743-7000

In Edmonton:

Pride Centre of Edmonton.
Pridecentreofedmonton.ca
780- 488 – 3234
Or Raricanow 587-778-6178
(Safe space for LGBTQ+
refugees and newcomers)
raricanow.org

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 is committed by a co-worker, employer, prospect employer (application of employment), service provider, landlord, or involves the public display of materials (publication), 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 contexts where authority figures are employed to address issues of safety, security or public protection) based on your race or other similar 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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