

Hate Crime

Criminal Justice

Offences aggravated by hostility, and why the figures are hard to read.

An offence in which hostility to a protected characteristic is an element or an aggravating factor.

TWO LEGAL FORMS

Specific offences · sentence uplifts

WIDER HARM

Community-level fear and withdrawal

- Legal definitions and protected traits vary widely
- Recording often rests on the victim's perception
- Repeat and cumulative incidents are common
- Effects extend beyond the person targeted
- Under-reporting is high in most jurisdictions

LOOK FOR IT

Recorded rises can follow awareness campaigns as well as real increases.

Educational reference. Protected characteristics, thresholds and recording rules differ by jurisdiction. Not legal advice.