



# Together against hate crime

## What is a hate crime?

A hate crime is a crime that is committed deliberately in order to offend a person or a group of people on the grounds of their origin, skin colour, belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other similar circumstance.

## What can I do if I become a victim of or witness to a hate crime?

- If the crime is in progress — call the police on 112.
- If the crime has already been committed, report the incident to the police on 114 14 or at a police station.
- Contact Victim Support on 116 006 for support or to make enquiries. You don't need to make a police report first.
- You can advise the police of hate crime anonymously. You can do so by calling 114 14 or online at [polisen.se](https://www.polisen.se).

## Why should I report a hate crime to the police?

The police need to know when a hate crime has been committed in order to investigate the crime and to prevent it from being repeated. Even if your case does not proceed to court action, you are helping to make society safer by reporting the crime.

## Why is it a good thing to be given support if I have been the victim of a hate crime?

It can be quite upsetting to be the victim of a hate crime. The experience of being hurt by someone because of your identity — who you are — often leaves deep wounds. So it could be a good thing to talk with someone who has experience of dealing with people who have been victims of crime. Victim Support is staffed by skilled, sympathetic workers who have the time to listen and provide personal support. There's no requirement that you should report the incident to the police for you to be given their support. Support can be provided in up to 20 languages.

## The information sheet was produced as part of the Swevic project.



With the financial support from the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the Euro-pean Union, European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the European Commission cannot be held re-sponsible for any use which may be made of the information conained therein.