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Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, MI, USA 48197

[webmaster](#)

Hate Crimes

Hate crimes are criminal offenses committed against a person or property which are motivated, in whole or in part, by the offenders bias against race, religion, ethnic/origin, sexual orientation or disability group.

A **bias incident** is an offense occurring against a person or property motivated by race, ethnic origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability which is unlawful but not criminal. Bias incidents include name calling, offensive language, and inappropriate behavior or gestures.

A hate crime is always a bias incident but a bias incident is not always a hate crime.

A hate crime is criminal offense. A bias incident is not.

At Eastern Michigan University we are dedicated to maintaining an environment free from discrimination. We strive for an atmosphere that supports the free exchange of ideas without hindering the overall educational experience of its members. Crimes of violence and hate are not tolerated on EMU's campus. Every incident reported will be investigated. Disciplinary action against any individual or group found in violation of the Student Conduct Code will be pursued by SJS. Any criminal offences will handled by the Department if Public Safety.

Examples of Hate Crimes

- Racial slurs spray-painted on the car of an African American
- Assault on a homosexual student by a protester during a Gay Pride rally
- Threat of personal violence against a Jewish student based on religious practices
- Destruction of a disabled student's wheelchair with a note left promising that more would be done to "others like you"

Reporting a Hate Crime

- **Call 911!** During any emergency, especially one resulting in injury, call 911 first. If any property damage exists maintain conditions/evidence for a police investigation. Do not attempt to clean up the scene.
- File a police report with the [Department of Public Safety \(DPS\)](#) for criminal charges or file a report with [Student Judicial Services](#) to initiate disciplinary proceedings
- For counseling services [contact Snow Health Center](#)
- For any other questions or concerns [contact the Ombudsman](#)