

## What is Religious Hate Crime?

A Religious Hate Crime is any criminal offence that targets someone, or is perceived to target someone, purely because their actual or perceived religion or belief.

These offences cover a range of behaviors, including;

- Assault
- Verbal Abuse
- Harassment
- Theft
- Burglary
- Hate Mail
- Criminal Damage

No matter what the offence is, any Religious Hate Crime can have a serious impact on an individual, their families and the community in general.



## Third Party Reporting



Victims of any Hate Crime can feel uncomfortable with reporting incidents straight to the Police. They might feel concerned that they will not be taken seriously or that their anonymity will be lost.

Individuals can instead contact a Third Party Hate Crime Reporting Centre. These are places in the community, separate to the Police, where Hate Crime victims can seek support and advice from.

Contact details of Reporting Centres in Hampshire, that specifically support people of a particular religion, can be found on the '**Hate Crime Love Don't Hate**' App.

The App can be downloaded on Google Play on Android devices, or the App Store on Apple devices.

## Hate Crime Support Organisations

To get specialist support or advice, there are a number of national organisations that people affected by Religious Hate Crime can contact.

Here are some of them;

Tell Mamma - provides support to anyone affected by Anti-Muslim Hate Crime (0800 456 1226)

CST - helps anyone affected by Anti-Semitic crime. (0800 032 3263)

The Muslim Council of Britain - a national network of Islamic organisations and institutions. (0845 262 267)

There are also organisations which can provide general Hate Crime support;

- Victim Support (0808 78 1641)
- Crimestoppers (0800 555 111)
- Citizens Advice Service (0344 411 1306)
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (0845 604 6610)

## Religious Hate Crime in Southampton



In 2019/20, there were 34 Hate Crimes committed against people in Southampton because of their faith or religion.

This was an increase of 23 from the previous year, showing more people in the area are reporting Religious Hate Crime.

Many incidents where people have been targeted because of their faith or religion are however likely to be unreported.

This is why an increasing amount of work is being done in Southampton to increase awareness of reporting any kind of Hate Crime.

The city's community as a whole can help to stamp out Hate Crime, by encouraging more people to report it.

No one who encounters any type of Hate Crime, should have to put up with it.



If you have any questions after reading this leaflet, please contact Sam Waddington - Southampton Hate Crime Network Co-ordinator;

Email -  
[sam.waddington@spectrumcil.co.uk](mailto:sam.waddington@spectrumcil.co.uk)

Telephone-  
07456 442427

The **Southampton Hate Crime Network** is also on Facebook.



If you need the information on this leaflet in Braille, **LARGE PRINT**, easy read or a different language, please contact Sam.

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