

Justice Education Society

Dealing with Racism and Hate Crimes while Creating a Safe Community

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March 22, 2022

MISSION

JES empowers people to access and deliver justice in Canada and globally.



COVID-19: For current COVID-19 information, see LegalHelpBC.ca
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Everyday issues can become legal problems - we can help.

Justice Education Society improves the legal capability of individuals and builds the capacity of justice systems.

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Introduced 1 million people to BC Courts

1 in 6

British Columbians
use JES web
resources



What about MULTILINGUAL Legal Help?



Ask JES Multilingual Legal Help Program



What is Racism or
Discrimination ?
Is it Criminal?
Is there Protection?



Examples



Scenario 1: At Recess

You are playing with two friends. One of them makes a funny comment about the other person's accent. You can tell that this person feels hurt.



Scenario 2: In the Classroom

You are eating lunch at your desk. You hear a student make fun of another student by saying that they have the "Chinese virus".



Scenario 3: In an Online Chat

As you send online messages to a group of friends, you also share a racist experience that happened to you. A friend messages back, "I'm so tired of people talking about race. We need to stop seeing colour because we are all human beings."



Scenario 4: In the Hallway

As you walk with your friend, you pass by a group of Black students. Then, your friend makes a racist joke about Black people.



Scenario 5: At the Library

You see two students laughing while looking through a book about Indigenous people. They call you over and point at pictures in the book as they make fun of Indigenous people in their traditional clothing.

What is assault?

- Assault (“common assault” in the Criminal Code) is:
 - the intentional use, or threat of use, of force against another person directly or indirectly,
 - without that person’s consent (agreement).



What is assault?

- Assault can range from mere touching to violent punching. It can include kicking someone or shoving someone out of your way.
- Indirect use of force can also be an assault. An example of this is throwing a stone to hit someone.
- Spitting at someone is also considered assault.
- Threatening or trying to use force can be an assault if you could have (or the other person reasonably believes you could have) carried out the threat.

What do I do if I am a victim of assault?

- **If you are in immediate danger, please call 911**
- Try to get out the situation
- Go to a safe place, seek medical attention if needed
- You can report any incidents of assault to police by calling 911, the non-emergency police number in your community, by going to your local police station OR anonymously at bccrimestoppers.com
- If you would prefer to speak with someone other than police, contact VictimLinkBC 1-800-563-0808
- Discuss the incident with supervisors/superiors

When can I use self-defense?

Criminal Harassment

Threatening or harassing you or someone you know can be a criminal offence. Another word used for this type of crime is **stalking**.

Criminal harassment is when someone makes you fear for your or a family member's safety by:

- Repeatedly following you or someone you know
- Repeatedly communicating with you or someone you know
- Continuously waiting for you outside your home, work or other place
- Engaging in threatening behaviour against you or someone in your family

More about criminal harassment

Someone may be harassing you if they are

- threatening you or your children, grandchildren, family or friends
- following you or your children, grandchildren, family or friends
- threatening or damaging your property or hurting your pets
- calling you over and over, hanging up or not speaking when you answer
- sending you unwanted repeated text messages
- contacting you by email or through social networking websites over and over
- calling your children, grandchildren, family, friends or co-workers and asking about you
- sending you things you don't want

Hate Crimes



Racism/Hate Crimes



What is a Hate Crime?

- A criminal offence committed against a person or property which is motivated by the suspect/offender's hate/bias against a racial, religious, ethnic, sexual orientation or disability group.
- Hate crimes can be racially motivated (racist hate crime)

If you are the **VICTIM** of racism or hate

If you are the victim of a racist or hate incident, you can take action in several ways:

- **Ask for help:** If you are in a public place and are being verbally or physically attacked, let others close by know you need help.
- **Document:** If it is safe, make a record of the incident by taking a photo or video of the perpetrator or the incident, or ask someone to do this for you. Note the time, day and location.
- **Report it.**
- **Find Support:** Contact Victim Link for confidential, multilingual support, information and referrals

Report An Emergency Hate Crime

To report an emergency, call 911.

Emergency circumstances involving a hate crime include:

- A crime in progress;
- An immediate threat to your safety;
- An immediate threat to the safety of someone else; or
- Property in immediate danger of a criminal act.

Report A Non-Emergency Hate Crime

Call the non-emergency number or use the online crime reporting tool.

Non-emergency circumstances involving hate crime include:

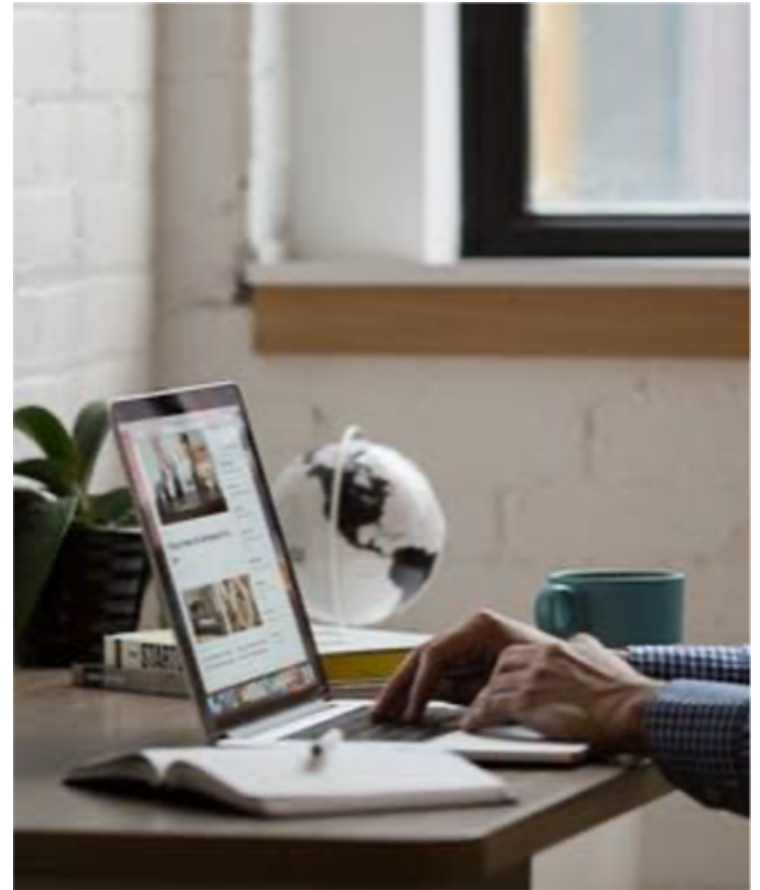
- You/someone else are the victim of a hate crime, but there is no immediate threat to your safety;
- Internet or social media posts that include threats, promote hate, or indicate a criminal act against a person or property; or
- A property was targeted by a hate crime.

The **Human Rights Code** forbids discrimination based only on certain personal characteristics: age, ancestry, colour, criminal conviction, family status, gender expression, gender identity, marital status, mental or physical disability, place of origin, political belief, religion, sex, sexual orientation and income source. You can file a complaint with the BC Human Rights Tribunal.

Website: [BCHRT.BC.CA](https://www.bchrt.bc.ca)

Links to helpful websites

- JusticeEducation.ca
- [VictimLinkBC](https://VictimLinkBC.ca)
 - 1-800-563-0808
 - VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca
 - .
- ResilienceBC.ca
- BCHRT.bc.ca
- Local Police Department
- Counselling Agencies



justice for all

Any questions?



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Thank you for your time!

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