Preventing Youth Hate Crimes & Identity-Based Bullying

Fact Sheet

For more information, visit the initiative’s website.

Hate Crime Statistics

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) works to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and protect children. As part of its Preventing Youth Hate Crimes & Identity-Based Bullying Initiative, OJJDP has made available a comprehensive literature review that addresses the topic of hate crime. Below is a graph of reported hate crime offenses in 2013 and 2020.

In 2013, 5,814 known individuals committed 6,933 hate crime offenses that affected 7,242 victims. When age was reported, juveniles accounted for 32% of known persons who offended and 16% of the victims.

In 2020, 6,780 known individuals committed 11,129 hate crime offenses that affected 11,472 victims. When age was reported, juveniles accounted for 10.9% of known persons who offended and 9.4% of the victims.

Note that actual totals may differ, as not all law enforcement agencies report on this data. Visit the Bureau of Justice Statistics for additional information.

Source: Hate Crimes and Youth Literature Review: A product of the Model Programs Guide.

Virtual Symposium

The initiative kicked off with a 2-day Virtual Symposium that covered current trends and research on identity-based bullying, cyber-hate, and how hate groups use social media to radicalize youth.

Webinars

Between November 2021 and September 2022, OJJDP hosted a total of 13 online presentations as part of the initiative’s webinar series. The series was tailored to the three audiences detailed below and covered topics such as school safety, implicit bias, and extremist hate groups.

Youth Roundtables

In June and July 2022—with assistance from OJJDP’s National Training and Technical Assistance Center and FirstPic Inc.—OJJDP partnered with national mentoring organizations to conduct 19 youth roundtables throughout seven states.

264 youth participated and a total of 361 people, including a state senator and a navy admiral, attended the youth roundtables. The youth shared their thoughts on hate crime, the effects of bullying, and the radicalization of youth. The input that the youth provided has been critical in the development of resources for the initiative.

"People are taught hate at home, and those who weren’t, find comfort in bullying because of their own insecurities."

- Youth Roundtable Participant

Prevention Curriculum

OJJDP used the literature review, youth roundtables, webinars, and virtual symposium as resources to develop a prevention-based curriculum intended for youth-serving organizations and middle and high schools. The curriculum offers an experiential learning model to address youth hate crimes and bullying and covers a multitude of topics, including:

- Bias, Bullying, and Hate
- Conflict and Communication
- Media Literacy
- Extremism and Youth
- Cyberhate and Counterspeech
- Building a Respectful Community