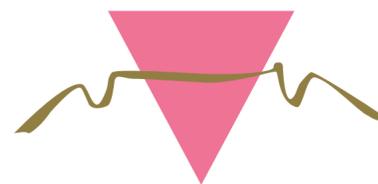


Hate crimes. Know your rights. Raise your voice.



triangle project

Challenging Homophobia
Appreciating Sexual Diversity



OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION
FOR SOUTH AFRICA

* WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

Hate crimes are defined based on two factors:

1. The act is considered a crime under existing South African criminal law (such as intimidation, arson, damage to property, assault, rape or murder);
2. The act is motivated in whole or in part by prejudice or hatred regarding an aspect of the victim's identity (such as their race, nationality, religion or sexual orientation).

* YOUR RIGHTS AS AN LGBTI PERSON

If you wish to report the crime, you should go to the police station closest to where the attack happened. Triangle Project can help you find the correct station if you are not sure. Once there, the SAPS should listen to you and open a case.

- The SAPS is not allowed to turn you away because you are LGBTI;
- The SAPS must give you a case number and a contact person;
- The SAPS must treat you with dignity, respect and professionalism; if they fail to do this, Triangle Project can help you file a complaint;
- If you have survived a sexual assault you have the right to Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (drugs which reduce your chance of contracting HIV) and the right to medical examination. In the same way as the SAPS, healthcare workers must treat you with dignity, compassion and professionalism.

* WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF A HATE CRIME

You should always report these crimes – it is your right to do so!

- If you do not wish to report the crime for any reason, it is still important that you make contact with **Triangle Project** so that we can make a record of what happened to you and offer you support.
- If you do not want to seek prosecution of any kind against the perpetrators, it is important that as LGBTI people, we are aware of all attacks against LGBTI people happening where we live.
- Filling out the form of the *Hate Crimes Working Group* can help the police, NGOs and other LGBTI people know how to start tackling the problem of hate crimes.

* HOW TRIANGLE PROJECT CAN HELP

If you are the victim of a hate crime, get in touch with **Triangle Project**. We offer many different kinds of support for survivors of crime including counseling and preparation for court.

If you want to take the matter to the police, **Triangle Project** can also help by taking the matter to the Department of Justice's Rapid Response Team, which aims to make prosecutions of LGBTI hate crimes move quickly and effectively.

Remember, it is your choice! No one can force you to report an attack and contacting **Triangle Project** means you will only get the support and assistance that you choose.

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