Here someone will listen to you, advise and support you. If necessary, you will be referred to a victim support organisation that can provide you with comprehensive legal or psychological support. It is not absolutely necessary to file a criminal complaint.

Here you can find contact information for counselling centres for victims or witnesses of hate crime:



You can find more information on the following topic page:



Notify the police, if you are an affected person or have become a witness of hate crime.



Report it!



Contact persons of the Berlin Police for group-focused enmity



Berlin Police State Office of Criminal Investigation

Central Office for Prevention
Commissioner for
group-focused enmity
\$\infty\$ (030) 4664 - 979660

BeauftragteGMF@polizei.berlin.de

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Why should I report an incident? What is relevant under criminal law in the first place?

Insults such as "Fuck you, stranger", "Go and get back to your country" or similar can already be a criminal offence. If you feel that your sense of honour has been violated, this is an insult.

Throwing objects, spitting at or other physical assaults based on the perpetrator's prejudices regarding skin colour, nationality, origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, social status, physical appearance, physical and/or mental disability or impairment are also relevant under criminal law. The final assessment of a factual situation is the responsibility of the public prosecutor's office.

How long after the offence can I file a complaint?

In principle, you can still report offences weeks or months after they have been committed. There may be restrictions in the case of offences that are only prosecuted upon application by the victim, as these require the filing of a criminal complaint within three months.

What happens after a criminal complaint?

Either you will receive a summons to appear as a witness or you will be sent a questionnaire. If you have indicated that you might be able to recognise the perpetrator(s), you will



be asked to look at corresponding photos. Please comply with these summonses and provide the police with the necessary information to help identify the perpetrators.

Possible reservations or fears of those affected in connection with a criminal complaint:

"I can't describe or recognise the perpetrator anyway. There are no witnesses after all.

Perpetrators often do not only act once. With your report, you can help to prevent further offences. In addition, the police may already have information, further criminal charges or tips that make identification possible in the long term.

"It's no use anyway. I'm sure I won't be taken seriously.

If the police are not aware of the offences, they cannot take appropriate measures. This means: Report the facts so that the police know where and also how offences are being committed. Only then will the police be able to do anything about it at all.

Support us in shedding light on the presumably large dark field in the area of hate crime!

"They won't be punished either way."
Perpetrators are not always sentenced to prison, but fines can also have a considerable effect.

"Will the person charged find out my home address?"

You can also give an address other than your private address, e.g. that of a victim assistance project. This is called "small victim protection". However, it must be ensured that you can be reached via this address.

How can I file a criminal complaint?

- If you are in an emergency situation, please use the police emergency telephone number 110.
- It is possible to file a complaint with any police section.
- You can use the so-called internet watch. There, you enter your personal details, your availability and the facts of the case as well as any witnesses you may have in the form. You will be contacted in the further course of the procedure. Internet watch: https:// www.internetwache-polizei-berlin.de