

BIAS CRIMES

This community belongs to all of us

Universities, particularly public universities, have the responsibility to provide leadership in enlightened social behavior. As SUNY's premier university center, the University at Stony Brook is doubly obligated to express and demonstrate its commitment to developing a supportive and diverse environment. Central to this process is respect for and acceptance of those from different backgrounds. Our society is still far from the just and equitable ideal that it seeks to achieve. The University at Stony Brook can play an important role in advancing that goal. The University is us: the community of individuals who work and study here, and who must work collectively to develop, integrate and use the full range of human resources in our society. As a University, we cannot and will not permit behavior that violates the rights of others.

The information that follows provides definitions and possible sanctions to those found in violation of this philosophy. Bias-related crimes will not be tolerated on the Stony Brook campus! We urge you to familiarize yourself with these guidelines and encourage your support in accomplishing our goal.

Definitions Associated with Bias Incidents

Bias Crimes:

Those crimes committed against a person or premise which are motivated by an animus against that race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

Stereotypes:

A stereotype is a preconceived or oversimplified generalization about an entire group of people without regard for individual differences. Although not always negative, stereotypes always have a negative impact and can feed into discrimination. Even when stereotypes are positive the impact of stereotyping is negative.

Discrimination:

Discrimination is the restrictive treatment of a person or group based on prejudiced assumptions of group characteristics rather than on individual judgment. It is the denial of justice prompted by prejudice.

Prejudice:

Prejudice is a negative or hostile attitude toward a person or group formed without just or sufficient knowledge and based on negative stereotypes. Prejudice is the result of "prejudgment" and can lead to discrimination.

Racism:

Racism is prejudice and discrimination based on the belief that race is the primary fact in determining human traits and abilities. Racism holds that genetic or inherited differences produce the inherent superiority or inferiority of one race to another. In the name of protecting their race from 'contamination', some racists justify the domination and destruction of races they consider to be either superior or inferior. Institutional racism is racial prejudice supported by institutional power and authority used to the advantage of one race over others.

Religious Bigotry:

Religious bigotry is prejudice or discrimination against one or all members of a particular religious group based on negative perceptions of their religious beliefs and practices or on negative group stereotypes.

Anti-Semitism:

Anti-Semitism is prejudice or discrimination against Jews, based on negative perceptions of their religious beliefs and/or negative group stereotypes. Anti-Semitism can also be a form of racism, as when Nazi and others consider Jews an inferior "race."

Sexism:

Sexism is prejudice or discrimination based on gender. Like other ism's, sexism can be both personal and institutional.

Heterosexism:

Heterosexism is prejudice against people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transsexual. Homophobia (fear of such persons) can lead to discrimination and violence against homosexuals or people perceived to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transsexual.

Scapegoating:

Scapegoating refers to the deliberate policy of blaming an individual or group when the fault actually lies elsewhere. It means blaming another group or individual for things they did not really do. Those who we scapegoat become objects of our aggression in work and deed. Prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory acts leads to scapegoating. Members of the disliked group are denied housing, employment, political rights or social privileges. Scapegoating can lead to verbal and physical violence, including death.

Effects of Bias Crimes

They are more devastating than other crimes because they have detrimental emotional and/or psychological impact on the victim and his or her community. This often leads to reprisals by others and can be a precursor to escalating violence and destruction of property on a large scale!

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed. We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

It's The Law

240.25 Harassment in the first degree.

A person is guilty of harassment in the first degree when he or she intentionally and repeatedly harasses another person by following such person in or about a public place or places or by engaging in a course of conduct or by repeatedly committing acts which place such person in reasonable fear of physical injury.

Harassment in the first degree is a class B misdemeanor.

240.26 Harassment in the second degree.

A person is guilty of harassment in the second degree when, with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another person:

1. He or she strikes, shoves, kicks or otherwise subjects such other person to physical contact, or attempts or threatens to do the same; or
2. He or she follows a person in or about a public place or places; or
3. He or she engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts which alarm or seriously annoy such other person and which serve no legitimate purpose.

Harassment in the second degree is a violation.

240.30 Aggravated harassment in the second degree.

A person is guilty of aggravated harassment in the second degree when, with intent to harass, annoy, threaten or alarm another person, he or she:

1. Communicates, or causes a communication to be initiated by mechanical or electronic means or otherwise, with a person,

anonymously or otherwise, by telephone, or by telegraph, mail or any other form of written communications, in a manner likely to cause annoyance or alarm; or

2. Makes a telephone call, whether or not a conversation ensues, with no purpose of legitimate communication; or

3. Strikes, shoves, kicks, or otherwise subjects another person to physical contact, or attempts or threatens to do the same because of race, color, religion or national origin of such person; or

4. Commits the crime of harassment in the first degree and has previously been convicted of the crime of harassment in the first degree as defined by section 240.25 of this article within the preceding ten years.

Aggravated harassment in the second degree is a class A misdemeanor.

240.31 Aggravated harassment in the first degree.

A person is guilty of aggravated harassment in the first degree when with intent to harass, annoy, threaten or alarm another person, because of race, color, religion or national origin of such person he or she:

1. Damages premises primarily used for religious purposes, or acquired pursuant to section six of the religious corporation law and maintained for purposes of religious instruction, and the damage of the premises exceeds fifty dollars; or

2. Commits the crime of aggravated harassment in the second degree in the manner prescribed by the provisions of subsection three of section 240.30 of this article and has

been previously convicted of the crime of aggravated harassment in the second degree for the commission of conduct prescribed by the provisions 24.30 or he has been previously convicted of the crime of aggravated harassment in the first degree within the preceding ten years.

Aggravated harassment in the first degree is a class E felony.

240.21 Disruption, or disturbance of religious service.

A person is guilty of aggravated disorderly conduct, who makes unreasonable noise or disturbance while at a lawfully assembled religious service or within one hundred feet thereof, with intent to cause annoyance or alarm or recklessly creating a risk thereof.

Aggravated disorderly conduct is a class A misdemeanor.

145.60 Making graffiti.

1. For the purposes of this section, the term graffiti shall mean the etching, painting, covering of, drawing upon or otherwise placing a mark upon public or private property with intent to damage such property.

2. No person shall make graffiti of any type on any building, public or private, or any other property real or personal owned by any person, firm or corporation or any public agency or instrumentally, without the express permission of the owner or operator of said property.

Making graffiti is a class A misdemeanor.

145.65 Possession of graffiti instruments.

A person is guilty of possession of graffiti instruments when he or she possesses any tool, instrument, article, substance, solution, or other com-

pound designed or commonly used to etch, paint, cover, draw upon or otherwise place a mark upon a piece of property which that person has no permission or authority to etch, paint, cover, draw upon or otherwise mark, under circumstances showing an intent to use same in order to damage such property.

Possession of graffiti instruments is a class B misdemeanor.

155.30 Grand larceny in the fourth degree.

A person is guilty of grand larceny in the fourth degree when he or she steals property and when:

Sub 9. The property consists of a scroll, religious vestment, vessel or other item or property having a value of at least one hundred dollars kept for or used in connection with religious worship in any building or structure used as a place of religious worship by a religious corporation, as incorporated under the religious corporation law or the education law.

Grand larceny in the fourth degree is a class E felony.

**On Campus:
Call police at 333
or CrimeStoppers at
2-TIPS**

New York State Civil Rights Law

40c Discrimination.

1. All persons within the jurisdiction of this state shall be entitled to equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof.
2. No person shall, because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, or disability, as such term is defined in section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law, be subjected to any discrimination in his civil rights, or to any harassment, as defined in section 240.25 of the penal law, in exercise thereof, by any other persons or by any firm, corporation or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision.

40d Penalty for violation.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the foregoing section, or subdivision three of section 240.30 or section 234.32 of the penal law, or who shall aid or incite the violation thereof be liable to a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, to be recovered by the aggrieved person thereby in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the defendant shall reside. In addition, any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the foregoing section shall be deemed guilty of a class A misdemeanor. At or before the commencement of any action under this section, notice therefore shall be served upon the attorney general.

I Didn't Speak Up

"In Germany, they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up."

— Martin Niemoeller 1892-1984

***Don't hide from it.
Get involved.
Stop bias now!!!***

If you believe you are a victim of bias crime, call your University Police Department at 632-3333. You may call any time of day or night. The University Police want to help make the University at Stony Brook's campus safe for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. All calls will be kept strictly confidential.

Remember...
**This community belongs
to all of us!**

Important Campus Telephone Numbers

On Campus Emergencies Dial: 333

UNIVERSITY POLICE..... 632-3333

COMMUNITY RELATIONS... 632-7786

CRIMESTOPPERS.....2-TIPS on campus
1-800-220 TIPS
off campus

Volunteer Escort

WALK SERVICE632-6337

Medical Emergencies Dial: 333

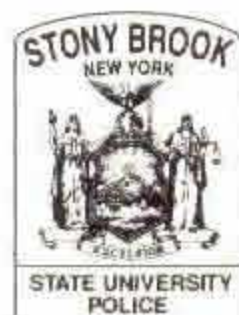
EMERGENCY ROOM..... 444-2465

INFIRMARY.....632-6740

Campus Events and Student Service Information

STUDENT UNION
INFORMATION.....632-6830

COUNSELING CENTER...632-6720



University Police Department
Department of Public Safety
State University of New York at Stony Brook