

NVAA LEARNING ACTIVITY

CHAPTER 22.1: SPECIAL TOPICS, HATE AND BIAS CRIME

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Key Concepts/Objectives to Emphasize in Instruction and Learning Activities:

1. Unique features of hate/bias crime and its impact on the victim. (22.1-9 to 22.1-10)
2. Three types of hate/bias crime offenders. (22.1-6 to 22.1-7)
3. Impact of hate/bias crimes on victims and the community. (22.1-8 to 22.1-9)

Objectives:

1. Review the different types of hate/bias crime offenders.
2. Identify specific needs of individual victims, and the community they represent, as well as ways that victim service providers can effectively meet such needs.

Description of Activity and Faculty Guidelines:

The instructor divides students into groups of ten and provides each group with a worksheet that describes one of the three hate/bias offender types identified by Levin and McDermitt (thrill seeking, reactive, and mission). Students will take five minutes to answer the three questions on the worksheet.

The instructor will ask for two volunteers who can help process the small groups' responses onto tear sheets, and draw out comparisons and differences of the needs of victims and the communities they represent.

Can Be Utilized As:

Individual Activity Small Group Activity Large Group Activity

Anticipated Amount of Time Required: 15 Minutes

- 03 for group division and distribution of worksheets.
- 05 for completing worksheets.
- 07 for small group discussion and processing responses.

RESOURCES NEEDED *(Please check all that apply:)*

- Tear sheets and felt pens
 VCR/monitor
 Overhead projector and screen/LCD and laptop
 Blank overhead transparencies and overhead pens
 Masking tape
 Index cards
 Individual or group worksheets
 Timer
 Other *(please describe):*
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STUDENT WORKSHEET #1

One of the three types of hate/bias offenders identified by Levin and McDermitt of Northeastern University (1993) is the following:

Thrill-seeking offenders are groups of teenagers who go outside their “turf” and spontaneously vandalize property or attack members of groups they consider to be inferior to them (as well as vulnerable). These offenders are not typically associated with a hate group and their manifested hatred of the victim is superficial. Such offenders may often be deterred from repeating the crimes if the community responds with a strong condemnation of their actions.

1. Give an example and identify some of the effects of hate/bias crimes committed by such offenders on victims.
2. How can victim service providers effectively meet such victims’ needs as well as the needs of the community they represent?
3. How can the community effectively respond to such crimes and to the victims of such crimes?

STUDENT WORKSHEET #2

One of the three types of hate/bias offenders identified by Levin and McDermitt of Northeastern University (1993) is the following:

Reactive offenders have a sense of entitlement with regards to their rights and privileges that does not extend to their victims. They victimize individuals or groups of individuals on their own “turf” whom they consider to be a threat to their way of life, community, place of work, or privilege and then apply the rationale that their aggression is a justifiable defensive action. Rarely are they affiliated with an organized hate group although they may approach such a group for assistance in mitigating the perceived threat. If the perceived threat subsides, the criminal behavior generally subsides.

1. Give an example and identify some of the effects of hate/bias crimes committed by such offenders on victims.
2. How can victim service providers effectively meet such victims’ needs as well as the needs of the community they represent?
3. How can the community effectively respond to such crimes and to the victims of such crimes?

STUDENT WORKSHEET # 3

One of the three types of hate/bias offenders identified by Levin and McDermitt of Northeastern University (1993) is the following:

Mission offenders are often psychotic and suffer from mental illnesses that impair their ability to reason and cause them to hallucinate. They typically perceive their victim groups as evil or sub-human, believe that they have been empowered by a higher force to rid the world of evil, and feel intense paranoia and a sense of urgency that they carry out their mission. Generally operating alone, their crimes are violent in nature and may be carried out indiscriminately against any member of the target group in the community.

1. Give an example and identify some of the effects of hate/bias crimes committed by such offenders on victims.
2. How can victim service providers effectively meet such victims' needs as well as the needs of the community they represent?
3. How can the community effectively respond to such crimes and to the victims of such crimes?