

Hate Crimes

Hate Crimes

Typology, Motivations, and Victims

SECOND EDITION

Edited by

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*To my husband Ray, for his love and support, and to my parents
Bob and Nancy, for their unfailing confidence in me.
Love, Robin*

*This book is dedicated to Liz Wood. Without your support and
feedback this project would have never gotten off the ground.
I would also like to dedicate this book to Michael E. Brown,
an incredible mentor and friend—without you my journey
as a social scientist would have never begun.—Kevin*

Contents

About the Contributors	xv
Preface	xix
References	xxi
CHAPTER 1 Why Do We Hate?	3
What Is Hate?	4
Interpersonal Theories Regarding Hate	6
Like versus Dislike	6
Love versus Hate	8
Group Theories Regarding Hate	14
Social Identity Theory	15
Realistic Group Conflict	16
Relative Deprivation	17
Integrating Group Theories	18
Hate-Inspired Action: The Reformulated Frustration- Aggression Hypothesis	18
The Human Element	20
Leaders and Followers	22
Deindividuation: A Loss or a Change in Identity?	24
Revenge Norm	26
Low Self-Control	27
Conclusion	27
References	28
CHAPTER 2 Hate Crimes: An Updated Offender Typology	41
Why Typologies Are Important	42
Offender Motivations	43
Changes over Time	47

The Challenge of Creating a Typology	50
Limitations of Our Typology	52
Rhetoric as a Triggering Event	55
Conclusion	59
References	59
CHAPTER 3 The Law vs. Violent Bigotry: The Utility and Limits of Hate Crime Laws	63
Hate Crime Laws: Policy Rationale and Necessity	66
Hate Crimes Defined: State Laws	69
Penalty-Enhancement Laws	69
Institutional Vandalism Statutes	71
Data Collection and Law Enforcement Training Mandates	71
Cross Burning Statutes	71
Interference with Religious Worship Statutes	72
Constitutionality of Penalty-Enhancement Statutes	72
Penalty-Enhancement Hate Crimes Cases Post- <i>Mitchell</i>	74
Federal Laws	75
18 U.S.C. § 241 Conspiracy Against Rights/Civil Rights Conspiracy	75
18 U.S.C. § 245 Bias-Motivated Interference with Federally Protected Rights	75
28 U.S.C. § 534 Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA)	76
18 U.S.C. § 247, Interference with the Exercise of Religious Beliefs/Destruction of Religious Property	80
18 U.S.C. § 249 Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA) Public Law 111-84 2009, Division E	82
Constitutionality of the HCPA	83
Criminal Interference with Right to Fair Housing, 42 U.S.C. § 3631	85
COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act Public Law 117-13 2021	85
United We Stand Summit	86
Hate Crimes Laws Specific to Colleges and Universities	87
Hate Crimes on the Internet	88
Conclusion: A Hate Crime Prevention Action Agenda for Communities	90
Speak Out Against Hate and Extremism	91

Improve Hate Crime Reporting	91
Improve Government Response to Violent Bigotry	91
Build Community Anti-Hate Capacity	91
Promote Inclusive Education and Digital Literacy	92
Promote Online Safety and Hold Tech and Social Media Companies Accountable	92
References	92
Appendix A: Anti-Defamation League State Hate Crime Statutory Provisions	102
CHAPTER 4 Hate and Race	105
Hate and Race	106
Understanding Patterns of Race and Hate	107
Official Measures of Hate	107
Self-Reported Hate Crime Victimization	109
Unreported Hate Crimes and Race	110
Why Race?	114
Creating Race	115
Organized Hate	117
Race Riots as Economic Hate Crimes	117
Race, Hate, and Motivation	119
Economics and Hate	119
Status and Hate	122
The Media, Crime, and Threat	125
Racial Hate Crimes against Other Groups	126
Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) & the Effect of Rhetoric	129
Conclusion	132
References	132
CHAPTER 5 A Thin Line between Faith and Hate: An Examination of the Christian Identity Movement and Religiously Motivated Violence	139
Christian Identity Movement Roots	141
Christian Identity Movement Ideology	143
The Impact of the Christian Identity Movement	147
The Christian Identity Movement Today	152
Conclusion	155

References	156
CHAPTER 6 Hate Against the LGBT Community	167
The History of Hate Against LGBT Persons	170
Statistics on Hate Crimes against the LGBT Community	174
Gay Men and Hate Crime	182
Motivations for Anti-Gay Violence	184
Consequences of Anti-Gay Violence	187
Lesbian Women and Hate Crime	188
Bisexual Identity and Hate Crime	191
Transgender People and Hate Crime	193
Conclusion	197
References	198
CHAPTER 7 Hate and Gender	209
Including Gender Bias as a Type of Hate Crime	215
Explaining Gendered Hate and Dynamics	217
Gender Dynamics Historically	217
Theorizing Precipitants of Anti-Female Violence	220
Modern Misogyny, the Manosphere, and Hate	222
The Manosphere: Breeding Hatred	224
Violence and Incels	226
Gendered Hate in Cultural Context: Honor Killings	229
Conclusion	231
References	232
CHAPTER 8 Hate Without Hate: Disability and Hate Incidents	241
Hate Without Hate	243
Ableist Systems of Oppression	248
Ideologies of Difference	250
Verbal Harms and Microaggressions	251
Discrimination	254
Bullying	255
Harassment and Intimidation	258
The Disability Con	259
Theorizing Hate	262
Eugenics and the State	264

Contemporary Eugenics in Canada	268
Conclusion	270
References	271
Endnotes	281
CHAPTER 9 Hate Groups	283
Defining Hate Groups	284
Classifying Hate Groups	285
Hate Group Prevalence	287
Defining Hate Group Membership	288
Organized and Loosely Organized Hate Groups	288
Online Participation Only	289
Demographic Characteristics	290
Demographics of OPO Members	296
Why They Join	297
Hate Groups and Violence	301
Terrorism	301
Hate Crimes	303
Why They Commit Hate Crimes	304
Conclusion	307
References	307
CHAPTER 10 Hate Incidents and Hate Crimes at Schools and Universities	313
Why Schools and Universities Are Targeted by Extremists	315
Reporting School-Related Hate Crimes	317
Clery Act	317
FBI Hate Crime Statistics	318
Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act	319
School- and University-Related Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents	319
How Do Children Learn to Hate?	321
Social Learning	321
Friendship	323
Peer Acceptance versus Rejection	324
Bullying and Victimization	327

Juvenile Delinquency	330
Aggression	333
Moral Development and Prejudice	336
Conclusion	341
References	342
CHAPTER 11 Crossing the Divide: From Virtual Hate to Actual Harm	361
Why the Virtual World Matters: We're (Almost) All Connected	362
Virtual Extremist Groups	364
Virtual Extremist Culture and History	366
Virtual Extremist Attacks in the Virtual World	368
Virtual Extremist Attacks in the Physical World	370
Virtual Tools of the Trade	371
Gaming	372
Gaming-Related Platforms	374
Gamification	378
Cryptocurrency	380
The Psychology of Radicalization	382
The Imaginary Audience of an Introverted, Angry Ruminator	382
Social Influence	384
Group Polarization	387
Conclusion	389
References	389
CHAPTER 12 The Experience of Hate Crime Victims and Their Communities: Reactions, Definitions, and Statutes	397
Scope of Hate Crime in the United States	399
Definitions of "Hate Crimes"	399
Experiences of Victims of Hate Crimes	402
Experiences of Victims: Overview	407
Taking Action against Hate Crime Victimization	410
Reactions to Hate Crime by the Community	412
Geographic Community	412
Minority Group Community	413

Patterns of Hate Crime Perpetration	414
Reasons Offenders Commit Hate Crimes	417
Hate Crime Statutes	418
Conclusion	420
References	421
CHAPTER 13 Turning the Tide of Hate	425
The Challenges of Preventing Hate Crimes	427
Expanding Hate Crime Laws	428
Combatting Hate in the Virtual World	431
Combatting Hate in the Physical World	433
Conclusion	436
References	437
Index	445

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Robin Maria Valeri (PhD, Syracuse University) is professor of psychology at St. Bonaventure University. Valeri studies hate, extremism, and terrorism, with an emphasis on the role cyberspace plays in the spread of hate and terrorism, especially on the social influence tactics used by purveyors of hate and terrorism to convince potential acolytes to accept extremist beliefs and act on them. Valeri recently coauthored a chapter entitled “Cybercrime, Cyberterrorism and Information Warfare: Threats to Democracy, Governance and National Security” which appears in *Communicating Global Crisis: Media, War, Climate, and Politics*.

Preface

Robin Maria Valeri

According to the FBI (n.d.), “A hate crime is a traditional offense like murder, arson, or vandalism with an added element of bias.” The bias of the perpetrator stems from prejudice, animosity, or hatred toward the victim because of some immutable characteristic such as the victim’s race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability.

In order to effectively combat hate crimes, an understanding of the motivations, beliefs, and goals of the individuals and groups who commit these crimes is needed. Additionally, an understanding of current hate crime laws, the issues surrounding the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes, and the impact on victims from both the crimes themselves and the ensuing legal process is necessary for preventing and combatting hate crimes as well as helping the victims recover. The current book attempts to address these issues. To help the reader better understand why people hate, the need for hate crime laws, the harm caused by hate crimes, and the impact they have on their victims, each chapter opens with one or more examples of relevant hate crimes.

In Part 1 of the book the rationale for hate crime laws is examined. To begin this discussion, in Chapter 1, “Why Do We Hate?” Valeri discusses the interpersonal and intergroup dynamics that fuel dislike, hatred, and prejudice and lead to discriminatory actions and aggression, including hate crimes. In Chapter 2, Levin and McDevitt present their typology for hate crimes and discuss the different factors which drive the various types of hate crimes. In Chapter 3, “Hate Crime Laws,” Lieberman details existing federal hate crime laws and discusses the rationale and necessity for these laws. Lieberman also provides a look at hate crime laws

specific to colleges and universities. Lieberman concludes the chapter by examining cyberhate and evolving cyberhate laws.

In Part 2, each of the major types of hate crimes, their perpetrators, and the beliefs that engender their crimes are examined. New to this edition is a chapter on hate crimes targeting the disabled. In Chapter 4, Bones and Nichols discuss racially motivated hate crimes and explore how perceived economic, political, and status threats motivate racially biased hate crimes. In Chapter 5, Jackson discusses religiously motivated hate crimes with a focus on Christian Identity and the role it plays in religiously motivated hate crimes. In Chapter 6, Rodgers discusses hate crimes that target the LGBTIQ+ community, and discusses the history of these hate crimes and the motivations behind them. In Chapter 7, Anastasio discusses gendered hate, modern misogyny, the manosphere as a breeding ground for hate, and honor killings. In Chapter 8, Bones, Graham, and Currie examine hate crimes against the disabled and discuss ableist systems of oppression, ranging from microaggressions to harassment and intimidation. Bones and colleagues also examine the current state of eugenics and the targeting of the disabled. In Chapter 9, Borgeson and Bacigalupo examine the prevalence of hate groups, discuss why people join hate groups, explore the similarities and differences between online versus face-to-face hate group members, and examine why hate groups members commit hate crimes.

In Part 3, two settings in which hate incidents and hate crimes occur, schools and the internet, because of their uniqueness, are examined in detail. In Chapter 10, Valeri discuss the academic environment and the challenges it poses for both understanding the motivations for hate and for preventing hate, hate incidents, and hate crimes. To do this Valeri presents instances of hate crimes that have occurred in schools and universities, explores how children learn to hate, and discusses strategies for preventing hate crimes at schools and universities. In Chapter 11, "Crossing the Divide," Valeri and Kellogg explore the unique role cyberspace plays in creating a global community of hate, present examples of people who have been victimized through cyberhate, and discuss when, why, and with whom cyberhate messages are effective. New to this chapter is a discussion of the role gaming, gaming adjacent platforms, and gamification play in spreading hate and encouraging the perpetration of hate crimes.

In Part 4, the impact of hate crimes on their victims and means of mitigating hate crimes are discussed. In Chapter 12, Robinson examines the impact of hate crimes on their victims, and how the consequences from their victimization are both similar to and different from those of victims of non-hate crimes. Robinson also explains why the suffering of victims goes beyond the targeted individual to affect entire communities. In Chapter 13, Valeri discusses the future of hate crimes and possible avenues for combatting hate.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (n.d.). What we investigate: Defining a hate crime. United States Department of Justice. <https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights/hate-crimes>.

