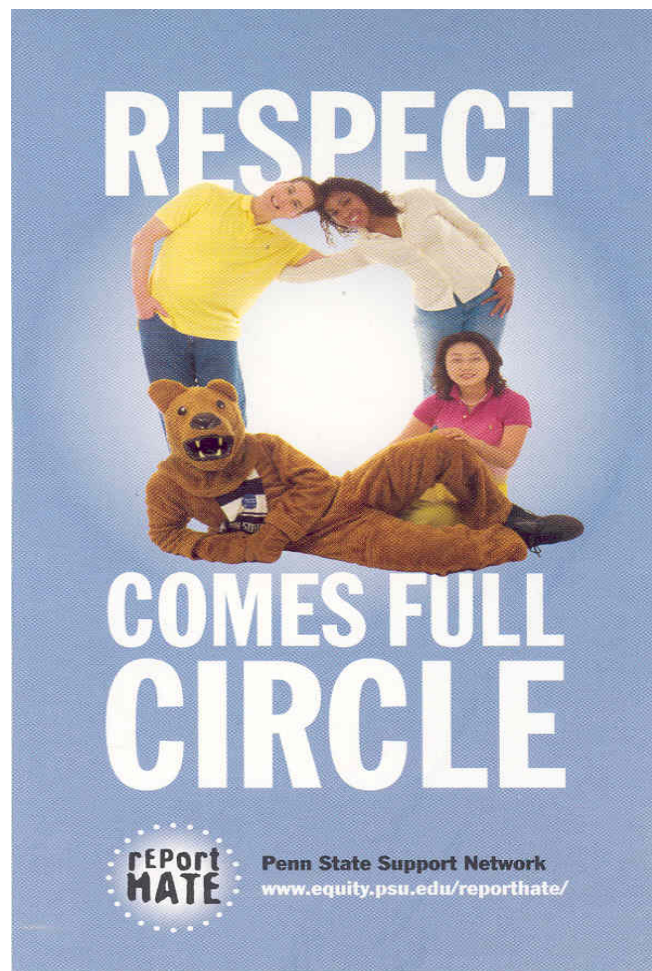


PENNSSTATE



Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

**BIAS MOTIVATED
INCIDENTS REPORT
SPRING 2007**

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT SPRING 2007

Start Date: January 16, 2007

Closing Date: May 11, 2007

The following is a collection of statistical information from reports of bias incidents that occurred during the 2007 spring semester at Penn State.

The criteria for reporting such incidents include the following:

- made by a person with a current Penn State identification number;
- made in response to a bias motivated incident, as defined within this report;
- the incident may occur on or off one of Penn State's campuses;
- the target of the incident is a Penn State student or students;
- the perpetrator is either a member of the Penn State community (faculty, staff, administrator, student) or unknown

Total Number of Reports (All Sources) 25

Report Hate Web Site Reports: 9

4 from undergraduate students

1 from graduate student

2 from staff

2 from unknown

Report from University Police: 13

4 from undergraduate students

0 from police observation

7 from Residence Life assistants (students)

1 from research director

1 from faculty

Reported Directly to the Diversity Advocate: 1

1 from undergraduate students

0 from graduate students

0 from student office

Reported Directly to the Vice Provost for Educational Equity: 1

0 from undergraduate students

1 from other source

Reported Directly to the Associate Vice Provost for Educational Equity: 1
1 from student organization

Distribution of Campus Locations for Reports:
University Park Campus 25
Other Campus 0

Statistical Breakdown for Bias Incidents Reported

Status of Targeted Persons:

Student = 14 (12 single individuals; 2 couples)
RA/Staff = 2
Group(s) = 2 (1 fraternity; 1 athletic team)
University Office or Community in General = 9

Gender of Targeted Persons:

Male = 12
Female = 5
General Population = 8
Unknown = 0

Sexual Orientation (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Person(s):

Heterosexual = 4
LGBT = 6 (5 Gay, 0 Lesbian, 0 Bisexual, 0 Transgender, all LGBT persons
in general = 1)
Unknown/Unidentified = 10
Mistakenly Perceived to be LGBT = 2

Race/Ethnicity (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Persons:

White = 4
Latino/Hispanic = 1
Black = 7
Asian = 0
Arabic Descent/Muslim = 2
Pacific Islander = 0
Indian = 0
Bi/Multiracial = 0
Targeted Anyone "Not white" = 2
Unspecified/ Unrelated = 10

* In 10 cases, the targeted person and the submitter of the report were the same.

Submitter's Status:

Student = 11
Faculty = 1
Staff = 2

Residence Life = 8
Administrator = 1
Unspecified = 2

Submitter's Gender:

Male = 19
Female = 6
Unspecified = 0

Submitter's Sexual Orientation:

Heterosexual = 6
LGBT = 5 (5 Gay; 0 Lesbian; 0 Bisexual; 0 Transgender)
Unspecified = 16

Submitter's Racial/Ethnic Identity:

White = 3
Latino/Hispanic = 1
Black = 2
Asian = 1
Arabic Descent/Muslim = 1
West Indian = 1
Unspecified = 16

Identification of Perpetrator(s) known (most often unknown), or believed to be:

Student = 5
Staff = 0
Faculty = 0
Other = 0
Status Unknown = 19
Gender Unknown/Unspecified = 15
Male (actual or suspected) = 5
Female (actual or suspected) = 1
Males/Females together = 3 groups
White = 4
Black = 0 (includes persons of African ancestry)
Hispanic = 0 (includes persons who identify with
Hispanic/Latino Heritage more than with race)
Asian = 0
(The rest remain undetermined, involving race)
Individuals = 5
Groups/Pairs = 6
Organizations = 1
Unknown = 13
(Some incidents involved multiple perpetrators)

Targeted Issues (motives behind the intolerance of perpetrators; sometimes multiple):

Sexual Solicitation = 0
Sexual Orientation = 7
Race = 10
Color = 9
Ethnicity/Culture = 5
National Origin = 2
Ancestry = 2
Gender = 3
Age = 0
Political Views/ Philosophical Beliefs = 1
Religious/Spiritual Beliefs = 7
Disability/Perceived Illness = 0
Departmental Affiliation = 0
Physical Appearance = 0
A "Joke" = 0
Alienation of Affection = 0
Mistakenly Perceived Sexual Orientation = 2
Mistakenly Perceived Group Affiliation = 2
Unknown = 2

Type of Offense (how bias was demonstrated—may involve more than one type):

Harassment (verbal/written/e-mail/phone) = 6
Verbal Comment = 7
Threat/Intimidation = 4
Physical Assault = 2
Attempted Assault = 0
Graffiti = 11
Vandalism = 1
Written note, fax or e-mail = 2
Poster/Flier = 2
Grading = 0
Media/Newspaper Bias = 1
Hostile Attitude/Environment Created = 3
Blocking the Entrance to a University Building = 0
Stalking = 2

Geographic Location:

On Campus = 20
Off Campus = 5

Month Incident Occurred:

October = 1 (a 2006 incident recently reported)
November = 1 (a 2006 incident recently reported)
January = 1
February = 5
March = 4
April = 10
May = 3

Day of Incident:

Sunday = 2
Monday = 2
Tuesday = 3
Wednesday = 3
Thursday = 6
Friday = 3
Saturday = 2
Undetermined = 4

Time of Incident:

6:00 a.m. to Noon = 1
Noon to 6:00 p.m. = 3
6:00 p.m. to Midnight = 5
Midnight to 6:00 a.m. = 1
Time Unspecified = 15

Intoxicant Involved:

Yes = 1
No or Unknown = 24

Weapon Involved:

Yes = 0
No or Unknown = 25

Bias Motivated Incidents Report Discussion

- A total of twenty-five incidents were reported for spring 2007 compared to thirty-six reports for summer/fall 2006.
- All of the twenty-five reports received were from the University Park campus.
- When it was possible and if the submitter provided contact information, each case submission was followed up with a contact by the Diversity Advocate. In a few instances, the targeted person was encouraged to make an additional police report. Where the perpetrator was known, contact with that individual or that individual's

supervisor was made, or in one instance there was a meeting held between the accused group and the Diversity Advocate. In a separate incident, a referral was made for counseling.

- As always, confidentiality of identities and information will be respected, unless otherwise indicated by the submitter or targeted person.
- “Arabic Descent/Muslim” is used in two instances [see category *Race/Ethnicity (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Persons*]. In one instance, a female student from Egypt who often wears traditional clothing from her country, believed the bias incident she experienced to be related to how she was perceived and the background she was known to be from. In the second instance, a male student was assaulted and called a “Sand Nigger.” He was perceived to be of Arabic descent, although he was from the West Indies.
- Multiple categories often exist for the status of Targeted Persons, Race/Ethnicity, Targeted Issues, and Type of Offense. An effort is made to indicate one choice, and that being what best describes an incident or individual, or how the individual may identify themselves. However, in some instances where appropriate and where overlap exists, more than one category is chosen and indicated. This accounts for the occasional slightly higher numbers within a category than the total number of reports given.