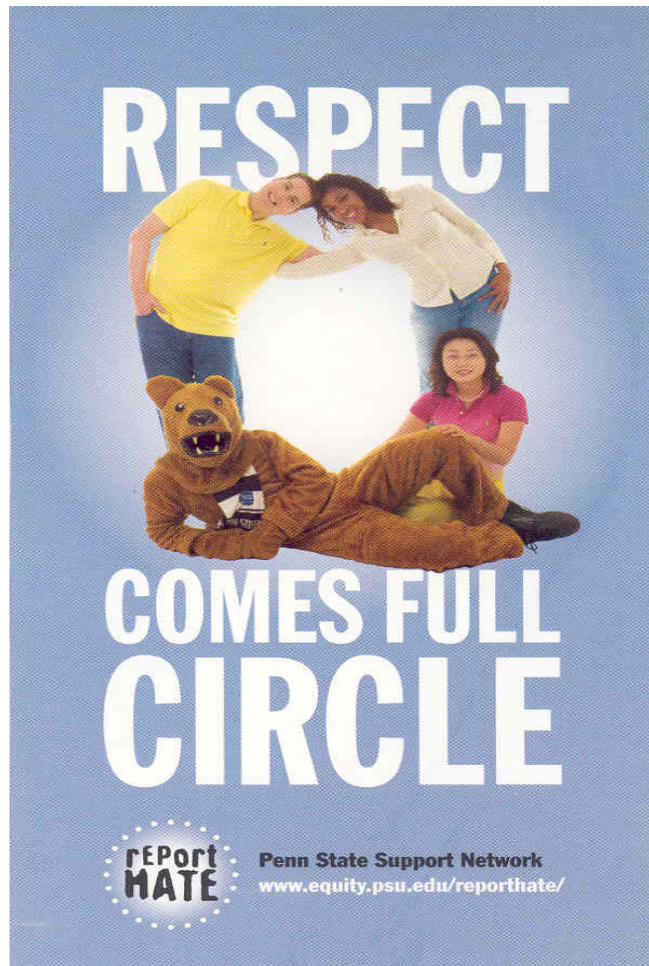


PENNSTATE



Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

**BIAS MOTIVATED
INCIDENTS REPORT
SPRING 2009**

Posted on August 27, 2009

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

**BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT
SPRING 2009**

Start Date: December 21, 2008

Closing Date: May 17, 2009

Total Number of Reports (All Sources) **17**

Report Hate Web Site Reports: **4**
4 from Undergraduate Students

Report from University Police: **7**
1 from an undergraduate student
1 from a college department head (in conjunction with an RA)
2 from Residence Life assistants (students)
1 from a Residence Life coordinator
1 from a staff member from Housing
1 from a staff member (unidentified otherwise)

Referred Directly to the Diversity Advocate: **6**
3 from undergraduate student walk-ins
1 from an anonymous female caller
1 from a student who had withdrawn
1 from a coordinator of a campus multicultural program

Distribution of Campus Locations for Reports:
University Park Campus **14**
Berks Campus **2**
Mont Alto Campus **1**

Statistical Breakdown for Bias Incidents Reported

Status of Targeted Persons:
Students = 15
Penn State Community in General = 6

Gender Identity of Targeted Persons:
Male = 5
Female = 10
General Population = 7 (See discussion)
Unknown = 7

Sexual Orientation of Targeted Person(s):

Heterosexual = 2 disclosures

LGBT = 1 disclosure

Reports where targeted person(s) were perceived to be LGBT, but weren't = 2

Number of reports regarding an LGBT association on campus = 1

Race/Ethnicity (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Person(s):

White = 5

Latino/Hispanic = 3

Black = 4

Asian = 0

Indian (from India) = 1

Pacific Islander = 0 disclosed

Indian (Native American) = 0 disclosed

Bi/Multiracial = 0 disclosed

Religious Belief (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Person(s):

Arabic Descent/Muslim = 2 (1 actually; the other perceived to be)

Jewish = 4 (1 perceived to be, but not; 3 unknown to be)

Christian = 1 (Mennonite)

Submitter's Status:

(In 8 reports, the targeted person and the submitter of the report were the same.)

Undergraduate Students = 11

Withdrawn Student = 1

Department Head = 1

Coordinator of a Multicultural Program = 1

Housing Staff Employee = 1

Residence Life Coordinator = 1

Residence Life Assistants = 3

Submitter's Gender Identity:

Male = 7

Female = 10

Submitter's Sexual Orientation:

LGBT = 1 disclosed (gay)

Heterosexual = 2 disclosed

Unspecified/Unknown = 14

Submitter's Racial/Ethnic Identity:

Latino/Hispanic = 2
Black = 1
Asian = 0
White = 1
Indian (from India) = 1
Indian (Native American) = 0
Multiracial = 0
Unspecified/Unknown = 11

Submitter's Religious Belief

Arab/Muslim = 1
Jewish = 0
Christian = 0
Other = 0

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

Student = 7
Nonstudent = 1
Professor = 4
Male (actual or suspected) = 9
Female (actual or suspected) = 4
White = 4
Black = 1 (includes those of Caribbean and African ancestry who identify as Black)
Hispanic = 1
Arab = 2
Jewish = 1
Fraternity Member = 1

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

Sexual Solicitation = 1
Sexual Orientation = 4
Gender = 3
Race = 6
Ancestry = 2
Religious/Spiritual Beliefs = 6
Retaliation = 2
Disability = 2

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

Harassment (verbal/written/e-mail/phone) = 8
Verbal Attack/Comment = 4
Threat/Intimidation = 4 (1 physical; 2 employment; 2 academic standing)
Physical Assault = 0
Graffiti = 7
Vandalism = 1

Advertisement, written note, fax, text message or e-mail = 8
Offensive Depiction (picture) on Face Book = 1
Stalking = 1

Geographic Location:

On Campus = 16
Off Campus = 1

Month Incident Occurred:

December = 1
January = 3
February = 5
March = 0
April = 4
May = 1
Unknown = 3

Day of Incident:

Sunday = 2
Monday = 1
Tuesday = 2
Wednesday = 1
Thursday = 3
Friday = 2
Saturday = 2
Unknown = 4

Time of Incident:

6:00 a.m. to Noon = 3
Noon to 6:00 p.m. = 2
6:00 p.m. to Midnight = 4
Midnight to 6:00 a.m. = 2
Over a Period of Time / Multiple Times = 4
Time Unspecified/Unknown = 2

Intoxicant Involved:

Yes = 1
No or Unknown = 16

Weapons Involved:

Yes = 0
Threat of Weapon involved = 1
No or Unknown = 16

Bias Motivated Incidents Report Discussion

- A total of seventeen incidents were reported during spring 2009, compared to twenty-five reports for spring 2008.
- Fourteen reports received were from the University Park campus; two reports received were from the Berks campus; one report was from the Mont Alto campus.
- One case was reported by two submitters. When it was possible and if the submitter provided contact information, each case submission was followed up with a contact by the Diversity Advocate for Students. In a few instances, the targeted person was encouraged to make or had already made an additional police report.
- As always, confidentiality of identities and information will be respected, unless otherwise indicated by the submitter or targeted person.
- Multiple categories often exist for the status of Targeted Persons, Race/Ethnicity, Targeted Issues, and Types of Offense. An effort is made to indicate one choice, and that which best describes an incident or individual, or how that 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. In addition, two perpetrators may have acted in concert, or more than one individual may have been targeted during one incident.

Finally, the intended target for a perpetrator may be more than one student or student organization, or the Penn State University community in general or subgroup of the community, and the numbers of those targeted cannot be determined.

- Normally, if the perpetrator identified is a University employee, the complaint may be referred to the Affirmative Action Office or a multicultural director or coordinator of a college, or to the designated Report Hate contact person at a Penn State campus other than University Park. However, the student has the right to go to any “safe space” (i.e., the Report Hate Web Site, the Diversity Advocate for Students, or a member of the Zero Tolerance for Hate—Penn State Support Network) to report such an incident, and it will be included within the Bias Motivated Incidents Report for that period.
- The data collection forms and methods of collection were not always similar from campuses and police to that of the Report Hate form on the web site. Therefore, this statistical account still represents varied information about time, characteristics of targeted individuals, those who submitted reports, and perpetrators. An effort was made to gain clarification in such instances. The compiler of this report made determinations in such instances. Effort is being made to ensure uniformity of data gathered and reported in the future.