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SC 101

A Hate Crime is a crime, typically one involving violence, that is motivated by prejudice on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation or other grounds. In 1990, The Hate Crime Statistics Act was established requiring the Attorney General to collect data on any crimes committed based on race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity. In September 1994, the Act was amended to include crimes against people with disabilities by passing the Violent Crime and Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The Church Arson Prevention Act, was established in July of 1996, requiring the collection of hate crime data be permanently a part of investigation; which prohibits against damaging religious property or obstructing anyone's exercise of religious beliefs.

I believe all crime is based out of some form of hate whether its towards a certain group or the person hates themself or current situation. The most profound Hate Crime in history to date is the Holocaust and I believe things such as that sound be prevented at all cost. With that being said I feel that it should be the same for all offenders no matter the race or belief system they follow. The crime should be investigated the same with each offense and let the facts determine if it is a Hate Crime. I believe that people are quick to judge a crime based solely on the offenders race or religious beliefs before collecting the appropriate evidence to support their claim.

In Conclusion, I believe that there should be separate punishment for offenders of true hate crimes as long as they are equal for all offenders. I believe there should be clear and concise guidelines and laws written for what determines if it is a hate crime and the punishment that will be dealt to the offender. I feel that each hate crime should have its on guidelines and laws and the punishment should be based on the severity of the crime.

Hate Crime. (n.d) in *Oxford Learner's Dictionary*. Retrieved from

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