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TACKLING HATRED HEAD ON
**Working with Hate Crime Offenders
and Extremism**
Middlesex University
21st September 2010

Pat Conway,
Director of Services, NIACRO

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**The Challenge Hate Crime
Project**
**Developing a Model of
Intervention with the
Perpetrators of Hate Crime
in the Context of Northern
Ireland –**
A Societal Challenge



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- **Project Aims**

- To develop a pilot model relevant to Northern Ireland with perpetrators of hate crime
- Develop a discourse within and beyond the Criminal Justice System
- Reduction in incidents of hate crime
- Reduction in the number of victims of hate crime

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- **Objectives**

- **Identify scale of problem**
- **Develop a definition applicable to NI**
- **Strategic Influencing – reduction in HC**
- **Develop a model intervention**
- **Best Practice**
- **Develop a Discourse**
- **Evaluate and mainstream**

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Partnership

A partnership was established between the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) and The Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO)

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STRUCTURE

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graph TD
    Board[Board – NIPS and NIACRO] --> RAG_ICR[RAG ICR]
    Board --> Manager[MANAGER]
    Board --> PAG_VPN[PAG VPN]
    RAG_ICR --> Research[Research Manager]
    Manager --> Film[Film Recording]
    PAG_VPN --> Practice[Practice Manager  
Facilitator Bank]
  
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HATE INCIDENT

What is it? – Same as ACPO definition

**A hate incident is accepted as being:
“any incident, which may or may not
constitute a criminal offence, which is
perceived by the victim or any other
person, as being motivated by
prejudice or hate”**

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HATE CRIME

**There is no such thing in law
specifically**

**However the following legislation
impacts on offences/incidents
motivated by hostility**

LEGISLATION

Relevant Laws – NI Legislation

- **The Criminal Justice (No2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004**
- **Aggravation by Hostility – Race, Religion, (Counts as Sectarian), Disability, Homophobia**
- **The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987**
- **The Human Rights Act 1998**
- **The NI Act 1998 (s75)**
- **Disability Discrimination Act 1995**
- **Race Relations (NI) Order 1997**

WHAT DOES HATE CRIME LOOK LIKE?

- Verbal abuse, threats, insults, nuisance telephone calls, name calling and every other form of verbal harassment;
- Physical assaults and physical violence which can vary from pushing to serious attacks;
- Attacks against someone's property, for example insulting graffiti, vandalism, breaking windows, theft, damaging cars and arson;
- Publishing and disseminating materials such as leaflets and newspapers that are likely to incite hate crime is also a criminal offence;

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Strands of Hate Crime – Data Collected and Monitored in Context of NI

- Race
- Religion/Faith
- Disability
- Homophobic
- Transphobic
- Sectarian

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Hate Crime Statistics

Motivation	Incidents		Crimes		Cleared		Clear Rates		
	07/08	08/09	07/08	08/09	07/08	08/09	07/08	08/09	% Change
Race	976	990	757	771	86	96	11.4	12.5	+1.1
Homophobic	160	179	114	134	18	29	15.8	21.6	+5.9
Faith/Religion	68	46	62	35	10	4	16.1	11.4	-4.7
Sectarian	1,584	1,595	1,056	1,017	152	155	14.4	15.2	+0.8
Disability	49	44	42	28	5	4	11.9	14.3	+2.4
Trans	7	10	4	2	0	1	0.0	50.0	+50.0

Hate Crime Statistics

Motivation	Incidents		Crimes		Cleared		Clear Rates		
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	% Change
Race	990	1,038	771	712	96	115	12.5	16.2	+3.7
Homophobic	179	175	134	112	29	21	21.6	18.8	-2.9
Faith/Religion	46	23	35	15	4	1	11.4	6.7	-4.8
Sectarian	1,595	1,840	1,017	1,264	155	213	15.2	16.9	+1.6
Disability	44	58	28	41	4	6	14.3	14.6	+0.3
Trans	10	14	2	4	1	0	50.0	0.0	-50.0

Sectarian Hate Crime Statistics

Motivation	Incidents		Crimes		Cleared		Clear Rates		
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	% Change
Sectarianism	1,595	1,840	1,017	1,264	155	213	15.2	16.9	+1.6%
	Up by 15.4% (245)		Up by 24.3% (247)		Not all by sanction		* The detection rates for Hate Crimes are in general lower than for other crimes.		
	07/08 1584		07/08 1056						

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- Since April 2007, Out of 5019 reported sectarian incidents of which 3337 translated to sectarian crimes there have only been 520 clearances by PSNI.
- Reported sectarian crimes increased from last year, however it is clear there is a high level of under reporting – statistics do not match experience
- Around 42% of sectarian hate crimes include violence and around 52% attacks on property/criminal damage
- Most sectarian crime occurs in the urban regions of NI

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Attacks on Symbolic Premises

	1/4/08 – 31/3/09	1/4/09 – 31/3/10
Orange/Halls Apprentice Boys	61	72
GAA clubs / AOH Halls	10	15
Churches/ Chapels	37	24
Schools	13	15



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Sectarian Hate Incident

PSNI definition

- The term 'sectarian', whilst not clearly defined, is a term almost exclusively used in Northern Ireland to describe incidents of bigoted dislike or hatred of members of a different religious or political group. It is broadly accepted that within the Northern Ireland context an individual or group must be perceived to be Catholic or Protestant, Nationalist or Unionist, or Loyalist or Republican



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- Sectarianism is more than a few hooded men attacking vulnerable people in their homes. It is a legacy of history which persuades too many people that it is a pattern that has not yet changed, it is a structure which has shaped what we think of as 'normal' in education, in housing, in culture and in politics, it is a behaviour which shapes mundane choices like where we live, where we will go or what we can say and it is a set of attitudes which subtly or otherwise divides the world into us and them and excuses all sorts of discrimination and exclusion.

Duncan Morrow, Community Relations Council, CSI consultation, 2010.

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What is the effect of Hate Crime

- “I’m too scared to leave my own house. I’m too terrified to answer my own door. I’m terrified to walk down the street. My partner is working today and I had to walk him to work because he is terrified and he is usually a very strong, confident man ... People don’t realise the repercussions of hate crime. It debilitates you. It wrecks you. It wrecks lives.”
(Victim statement in relation to homophobic attack)

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Sectarian Hate Crime Time to talk.... Dealing With Difference