150109

BIAS CRIMES

Race, Religion,Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation

ANNUAL REPORT

1993

State of Connecticut
Department of Public Safety
Division of State Police

Nicholas A. Cioffi - Commissioner

Section 29-7m of the Connecticut General Statutes mandates the Department of Public Safety to monitor, record and classify all crimes committed in the state which are motivated by bigotry and bias. Beginning July 1, 1988, the Division of State Police, with the cooperation of local law enforcement agencies throughout the state, began the collection of information on such crimes.

For an incident to be considered a **BIAS CRIME** (that is, a crime motivated by bias against another's race, religion, ethnicity, or sexual orientation), two criteria must be satisfied:

  1. A crime, as defined in Section 53a-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, must have been committed;

  2. There must be probable cause to believe the crime was motivated by bias and bigotry with reference to the race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation of the intended victim.

150109

Copies of this publication may be obtained from:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

■ There were 137 crimes reported during 1993 which were motivated by bias against another's race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. This represents an increase of 52.2% in the number of bias crimes reported during 1993 as compared to the previous year.

■ Two training sessions were held in 1993 to help police officers determine whether a crime was motivated by bigotry and bias. This may have had an effect on the increase in the number of police departments submitting reports in 1993.

■ Crime motivated by racial bigotry accounted for 56.2% of bias crimes, while 2.9% appeared to target both racial and religious groups.

■ Crimes motivated by religious bigotry accounted for 25.5% of bias crimes; Anti-Semitism motivated 29 of the 35 religious bias crimes.

■ Physical force or a dangerous weapon was used in 24.1% of the bias motivated crimes.

Please note that percents may add to slightly greater than or less than 100.0 due to rounding.

Type of Bias

	1992 Frequency	1993 Frequency	1993 Percent
Racial			
Anti-Black	22	58 *	42.3
Anti-White	21	22	16.1
Anti-Asian	1	1	0.7
Anti-Amer.Indian	1	0	0.0
Religious			
Anti-Jewish	19	29	21.2
Anti-Catholic	3	3	2.2
Anti-Protestant	0	2	1.5
Anti-Islamic/Muslim	0	1	0.7
Ethnic/National Origin			
Anti-Arab	0	1	0.7
Anti-Hispanic	7	4	2.9
Anti-German	1	1	0.7
Anti-Indian	3	0	0.0
Anti-Pakistani	0	1	0.7
Sexual Orientation			
Anti-Male homosexual	11	13	9.5
Anti-Female homosexual	1	1	0.7
Total	90	137	100.0

* Four Criminal Mischief incidents contained both Racial and Religious graffiti

Type of Injury Sustained by Victim

	1992 Frequency	1993 Frequency	1993 Percent
Physical injury, medical treatment required	9	8	5.8
Physical injury, no medical treatment required	13	12	8.8
Property destroyed	2	5	3.6
Property defaced	17	55	40.1
Symbolic	4	1	0.7
No physical or property damage	42	55	40.1
Property Stolen	3	1	0.7
Total	90	137	100.0

Type of Offense

	1992 Frequency	1993 Frequency	1993 Percent
Rape	0	2	1.5
Robbery	2	3	2.2
Assault	23	20	14.6
Arson	0	1	0.7
Burglary	4	0	0.0
Criminal Mischief	16	49	35.8
Disorderly Conduct	7	6	4.4
Breach of Peace	10	21	15.3
Threatening	16	9	6.6
Harassment	7	7	5.1
Risk of Injury to Minor	0	1	0.7
Trespass	0	3	2.2
Larceny	1	0	0.0
Intimidation Based on Bigotry or Bias	3	14	10.2
Weapon Offense	0	1	0.7
Inciting a Riot	1	0	0.0
Total	**90**	**137**	**100.0**

Type of Weapon

	1992 Frequency	1993 Frequency	1993 Percent
Gun	4	4	2.9
Knife	1	0	0.0
Other dangerous	10	11	8.0
Physical force	18	18	13.1
No weapons used	57	104	75.9
Total	**90**	**137**	**100.0**

Location of Incident

	1992 Frequency	1993 Frequency	1993 Percent
Residence	38	41	29.9
Business	20	29	21.2
Religious building	3	9	6.6
Government building	1	2	1.5
School	4	9	6.6
Private Club	0	2	1.5
Vehicle	2	5	3.6
Parking lot	1	11	8.0
Street	16	18	13.1
Cemetery	0	3	2.2
Other	5	8	5.8
Total	90	137	100.0

Bias Type by Contributor

Agency	Race	Religion	Ethnicity/National Origin	Sexual Orientation
Bridgeport	1			
Bristol	3		1	
Brookfield				1
Danbury	4	2		
Darien	1			
East Hartford	2			
Easton			1	
Fairfield				1
Glastonbury	2		1	
Greenwich	1			
Groton City	1		2	
Groton Town	2			
Guilford	1	3		
Hamden	1	1		
Hartford				1
Madison		1		
Manchester	1			
Meriden	3			
Milford	2			1
New Canaan	1			
New Haven	11	2		1
New London				3
Norwalk	3			
Norwich	6			
Old Saybrook	1			
Orange	1	2		
Rocky Hill	2			
Simsbury		1		
Southington				1
South Windsor	1			
Stratford	1			
Trumbull	1			
Wallingford	5	2	1	2
Waterbury	3	4	1	
Waterford	1			
West Hartford	3 *	1		1
West Haven	1	4		
Westport	3 *	9		
Windsor	3			
Windsor Locks	1			
Woodbridge	3	1		
State Police				
Troop L	1			
Troop B		1		
Universities/Colleges				
E.C.S.U.	1			1
UConn Storrs	3	1		1
Total	**81**	**35**	**7**	**14**

* Both Racial and Religious Bias, West Hartford 1 and Westport 3

5

Pertinent Legislation

Pertinent Legislation

C.G.S. Sec. 29-7m. Record and classification of crimes motivated by bigotry and bias. On and after July 1, 1988, the division of state police within the department of public safety shall monitor, record and classify all crimes committed in the state which are motivated by bigotry and bias.

C.G.S. Sec. 53a-24. Offense defined. Application of sentencing provisions to motor vehicle and drug selling violators. (a) The term "offense" means any crime or violation which constitutes a breach of any law of this state or of any other state or of federal law or local law or ordinance of a political subdivision of this state, for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment or to a fine, or both, may be imposed, except one that defines a motor vehicle violation or is deemed to be an infraction. The term "crime" comprises felonies and misdemeanors. Every offense which is not a "crime" is a "violation." Conviction of a violation shall not give rise to any disability or legal disadvantage based on conviction of a criminal offense.

C.G.S. Sec. 53a-25. Felony: Definition, classification, designation. (a) Any offense for which a person may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year is a felony.

(b) Felonies are classified for the purposes of sentence as follows: (1) Class A, (2) class B, (3) class C, (4) class D, (5) unclassified and (6) capital felonies for which the sentence of death may be imposed as provided in sections 53a-46a and 53a-46b.

(c) The particular classification of each felony defined in this chapter is expressly designated in the section defining it. Any offense defined in any other section of the general statutes which, by virtue of any expressly specified sentence, is within the definition set forth in subsection (a) shall be deemed an unclassified felony.

C.G.S. Sec. 53a-26. Misdemeanor: Definition, classification, designation. (a) An offense for which a person may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than one year is a misdemeanor.

(b) Misdemeanors are classified for the purpose of sentence as follows: (1) Class A, (2) class B, (3) class C and (4) unclassified.

(c) The particular classification of each misdemeanor defined in this chapter is expressly designated in the section defining it. Any offense defined in any other section of the general statutes which, by virtue of an expressly specified sentence, is within the definition set forth in subsection (a) shall be deemed an unclassified misdemeanor.

C.G.S. Sec. 46a-58 (Formerly Sec 53-34). Deprivation of rights. Desecration of property. Cross burning. Penalty. (a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section for any person to subject, or cause to be subjected, any other person to the deprivation of any rights privileges or immunities, secured or protected by the constitution or laws of this state or of the United States, on account of religion, national origin, alienage, color, race, sex, blindness or physical disability.

(b) Any person who intentionally desecrates any public property, monument or structure, or any religious object, symbol or house of religious worship or any cemetery, or any private structure not owned by such person, shall be in violation of subsection (a). For purposes of this subsection, "desecrate' means to mar, deface or damage as a demonstration of irreverence or contempt.

(c) Any person who places a burning cross or a simulation thereof on any public property, or on any private property without the written consent of the owner, shall be in violation of subsection (a).

(d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except that if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount in excess of one thousand dollars, such person shall be guilty of a class D felony.

C.G.S. Sec. 53-37. Ridicule on account of race, creed or color. Any person who, by his advertisement, ridicules or holds up to contempt any person or class of persons, on account of the creed, religion, color, denomination, nationality or race of such person or class of persons, shall be fined not more than fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both.

C.G.S. Sec. 53-37a. Deprivation of a person's civil rights by person wearing mask or hood: Class D felony. Any person who, with the intent to subject, or cause to be subjected, any other person to the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities, secured or protected by the constitution or laws of this state or of the United States, on account of religion, national origin, alienage, color, race, sex, blindness or physical disability, violates the provisions of section 46a-58 while wearing a mask, hood or other device designed to conceal the identity of such person shall be guilty of a class D felony.

C.G.S. Sec. 53a-181b. Intimidation based on bigotry or bias: Class D felony. (a) A person is guilty of intimidation based on bigotry or bias if such person maliciously, and with specific intent to intimidate or harrass another person because of such other person's race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation, does any of the following: (1) Causes physical contact with such other person; (2) damages, destroys or defaces any real or personal property of such other person; or (3) threatens, by word or act, to do an act described in subdivision (1) or (2), if there is reasonable cause to believe that an act described in subdivision (1) or (2) will occur. For the purposes of this section, "sexual orientation" means having a preference for heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality, having a history of such preference or being identified with such preference, but excludes any behavior which constitutes a violation of part IV of this chapter.

(b) The provisions of this section and section 53a-40a shall not be deemed to expand the civil rights of any person against whom an act described in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section occurs or is threatened beyond those which existed prior to October 1, 1990.

(c) Intimidation based on bigotry or bias is a class D felony.

C.G.S. Sec. 53a-40a. Persistent offenders of crimes involving bigotry or bias. Authorized sentences. (a) A persistent offender of crimes involving bigotry or bias is a person who (1) stands convicted of a violation of section 46a-58 or 53-37a or subsection (a) or (c) of section53a-181b and (2) has been, prior to commission of the present crime, convicted of a violation of section 46a-58 or 53-37a or subsection (a) or (c) of section 53a-181b.

(b) When any person has been found to be a persistent offender of crimes involving bigotry or bias, and the court is of the opinion that his history and character and the nature and circumstances of his criminal conduct indicate that an increased penalty will best serve the public interest, the court shall: (1) In lieu of imposing the sentence authorized for the crime under section 53a-35a if the crime is a felony, impose the sentence of imprisonment authorized by said section for the next more serious degree of felony, or (2) in lieu of imposing the sentence authorized for the crime under section 53a-36, if the crime is a misdemeanor, impose the sentence of imprisonment authorized by said section for the next more serious degree of misdemeanor, except that if the crime is a class A misdemeanor the court shall impose the sentence of imprisonment for a class D felony as authorized by section 53a-35a.

RRES Reporting Form

BIAS CRIME REPORT

RACIAL, RELIGIOUS, ETHNIC AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

1. *Type of Report* (x) 1. ( ) Initial 2. ( ) Supplementary	2. *Department Case #*	3. *Agency Name/Troop*

4. *Town Tax Code* of Offense	5. *Date of Offense*	6. *Time of Offense*	7. *Day of Offense* (x) 1. ( ) Sun 4. ( ) Wed 6. ( ) Fri 2. ( ) Mon 5. ( ) Thur 7. ( ) Sat 3. ( ) Tue

8. *Crime* (x) Up to three entries allowed

1. ( ) Homicide/Manslaughter
2. ( ) Rape/Sex Offenses
3. ( ) Robbery
4. ( ) Assault
5. ( ) Arson
6. ( ) Burglary

7. ( ) Criminal Mischief
8. ( ) Breach of Peace
9. ( ) Disorderly Conduct
10. ( ) Weapon Offense
11. ( ) Trespass
12. ( ) Threatening

13. ( ) Deprivation of Rights
14. ( ) Deprivation of Rights Person Wearing Mask/Hood
15. ( ) Intimidation Based on Bigotry or Bias
16. ( ) Other _____

9. *Place of Incident* (x)

1. ( ) Residence
2. ( ) Business Establishment
3. ( ) Religious Building
4. ( ) Government Building
5. ( ) School Building

6. ( ) Private Club
7. ( ) Motor Vehicle
8. ( ) Parking Lot
9. ( ) Street/ Schoolyard
10. ( ) Vacant Lot

11. ( ) Jail
12. ( ) Cemetery
13. ( ) Other _____
_____

10. *Extent* (x) Up to three entries allowed

A. Personal
1. ( ) No Injuries
2. ( ) Injury/No Treatment
3. ( ) Injury/ Treatment Needed
4. ( ) Death

B. Property
1. ( ) Defaced
2. ( ) Stolen
3. ( ) Destroyed

C. Symbolic
1. ( ) Cross Burning
2. ( ) Swastika
3. ( ) Graffiti
4. ( ) Other _____

11. *Party #1* A. Status (x) | 1. ( ) Victim | 2. ( ) Offender	B. Composition (x) 1. ( ) One individual 2. ( ) Two or more 3. ( ) Organization (name) _____	12. *Weapon* (x) 1. ( ) Gun 2. ( ) Knife 3. ( ) Physical force 4. ( ) None 5. ( ) Other _____

13. *Party #2* A. Status (x) 1. ( ) Victim | 2. ( ) Offender		B. Composition (x) 1. ( ) One individual 2. ( ) Two or more 3. ( ) Organization (name) _____ 4. ( ) Unknown Offender	14. *Type of bias* (x) 1. ( ) Racial 2. ( ) Religious 3. ( ) Ethnic 4. ( ) Sexual orientation

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLOCKS 15 THROUGH 18: Complete only one of these four blocks. Determine the appropriate category based on the type of bias. For example, if the type of bias is racial, complete Block 15 and skip Blocks 16, 17 and 18. For each party, check one descriptor. Remember that Party #1 in Blocks 15 through 18 corresponds to Party #1 in Block #11.

15. *Race* (x)

Party #1
1 ( ) American Indian/Native Alaskan
2. ( ) Asian/Pacific Islander

3. ( ) Black
4. ( ) Multi-Racial

5. ( ) White
6. ( ) Other _____

Party #2
1 ( ) American Indian/Native Alaskan
2. ( ) Asian/Pacific Islander

3. ( ) Black
4. ( ) Multi-Racial

5. ( ) White
6. ( ) Other _____

16. *Religion* (x)

Party #1

1. ( ) Catholic   3. ( ))Islam/Moslem   5. ( ) Protestant

2. ( ) Hindu   4. ( ) Jewish   6. ( ) Other _____

Party #2

1. ( ) Catholic   3. ( ) Islam/Moslem   5. ( ) Protestant

2. ( ) Hindu   4. ( ) Jewish   6. ( ) Other _____

---

17. *Ethnicity/National Origin* (x)

Party #1

1. ( ) Arab   2. ( ) Hispanic   3. ( ) Other _____ _____

Party #2

1. ( ) Arab   2. ( ) Hispanic   3. ( ) Other _____

---

18. *Sexual Orientation* (x)

Party #1

1. ( ) Homosexual male   3. ( ) Heterosexual male

2. ( ) Homosexual female   4. ( ) Heterosexual female

Party #2

1. ( ) Homosexual male   3. ( ) Heterosexual male

2. ( ) Homosexual female   4. ( ) Heterosexual female

---

19. *Remarks*

_____

_____

_____

_____

---

20. *Officer*	21. *ID*	22. *Date of Report*

INSTRUCTIONS

BLOCK 1 - SUPPLEMENTARY: Check this box when a report has been previously submitted, but changes to the initial report are needed. Complete the entire form, not just the blocks that have been changed. If a case is to be deleted, send a copy of the case report with a memo requesting that the case be deleted and the reason for the request.

BLOCKS 2 through 10 - Self explanatory.

BLOCKS 11 and 13 - STATUS: If BOTH parties in a bias crime are at fault, check "offender" for both (Make note of this in the "Remarks" section.) Otherwise, one party should be a victim and the other (even if unknown) is the offender.

BLOCKS 12 AND 14 - Self explanatory.

BLOCKS 15 through 18 - Complete only one of the four blocks (Race, Religion, Ethnicity, or Sexual Orientation.) Check one choice for party #1 and one choice for party #2. If BLOCK 17, (Ethnicity/National Origin) is selected, and the party is neither Arab nor Hispanic, write in the correct ethnicity.

BLOCKS 19 through 22 - Self explanatory.

Send completed forms to:

Department of Public Safety
Crimes Analysis / RRES Unit
294 Colony Street, Building #11
Meriden, CT 06450
(203) 238-6575

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Division of State Police
Bias Crime Reporting Program
1111 Country Club Road
P.O. Box 2794
Middletown, CT 06457-9294

APR 25'94
CT

≡052≡
U.S. POSTAGE

An equal opportunity employer