



Corbin & Associates, Inc.
Lesson Plan of the Month
(April 2000)

Topic: Hate Crimes
Target Group: Middle School (7th & 8th)
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Objectives:

After this block of instruction the student will be able to.....

- I. Understand Hate Crimes
 - A. Definition
 - B. Vs. Hate Incidents
- II. Explain the Effects of Hate Crimes
 - A. Victims
 - B. Community
- III. Write the Definition of Protected Classes

Introduction:

My name is Patty Dikes. I have been in law enforcement for five and one half years with one year being a S.R.O. Three issues I want to stress are attitudes people have about people of different backgrounds, destructive behavior based on stereotypes or biases and how people react violently towards people who fall into the protected classes. Also, how prejudices destroy lives and communities. How can you avoid being involved in discriminatory behavior.

Body:

I. Hate Crime Definition

A. Any criminal act or attempt directed against a person based on that persons actual or perceived race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender. A hate crime includes an act which results in injury. However slight; a verbal threat of violence which can be carried out or an act which results in property damage.

B. Protected Groups or Classes Include:

1. Race
2. Gender
3. Sexual Orientation
4. Nationality
5. Religion
6. Disability

C. Hate Incidents Include:

1. Remarks
2. Distribution of hate material in public places
3. Posting of material
4. Display of offensive material on one's own property

II. Effects of Hate Crimes

A. Victim

1. Helplessness
2. Angry
3. Paranoid
4. Isolated
5. Reluctance to report

B. Community

1. Outraged
2. Retaliation/Revenge

III. Identifying the Problem

A. Where does it come from?

1. Curiosity
2. Peers
3. Family members
4. Someone you look up to

B. Starts as an attitude

1. Stereotyping
2. Setting groups apart by the various protected classes
3. Indirect prejudices

C. Acts of Prejudice

1. Disliked groups are excluded or avoided
 - a) activities
 - b) memberships

D. Hate - Acts of Discrimination

1. Harassment
2. Exclusion of persons

E. Criminal - Acts of Violence

1. Vandalism
2. Terrorism
3. Assault
4. Riots

F. Life Threatening

1. Genocide
2. Assassination
3. Arson
4. Bombing

Review:

- I. Defining Hate Crimes
 - A. Protected classes
 - B. Effects on:
 1. Victims
 2. Community
 - C. Identified the Problem
 1. Curiosity
 2. Peers
 3. Family
- II. Stereotyping Begins
 - A. Prejudice
 - B. Discrimination
 - C. Criminal Acts

Practice:

- Questions about topics.
- List times they've been discriminated against and how it felt.
- Did they tell anyone?
- Did it lead to their own prejudices?

Documentation And/Or Sources:

The Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (1999).

Guidelines for law enforcement's design of hate crime policy and training.

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