

BREAKING NEWS



October 8, 2010

AVP has just learned that seven people were arrested, and two more are sought, in what the NYPD is calling “brutal Bronx gay beatings” that occurred on Sunday. Police Commissioner Ray Kelly [states](#) that three victims were held against their will and brutally assaulted by the assailants, while a fourth individual was beaten and robbed elsewhere in connection with the attacks. Charges against those arrested include unlawful imprisonment, abduction, assault, robbery, sodomy and menacing—all as hate crimes. AVP is working with community-based organizations in the Bronx, as well as New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn’s office and the NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force to respond to this senseless violence.

“We are outraged and horrified. This violence, reported to be motivated by anti-LGBT bias, is unacceptable. In these past few weeks we have seen increasingly disturbing attacks against LGBT people simply for being who they are,” said Sharon Stapel, Executive Director, “This is not a gay issue or a straight issue; it is everyone’s issue and we ask everyone to stand with us and demand that this violence end. AVP is a resource for all communities and we encourage anyone who has experienced violence to call our 24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline at 212-714-1141.”

AVP is working with Bronx-based community groups to organize an event for tomorrow morning. Details will be sent and posted on our Facebook page as soon as we have them.

AVP encourages you to report any anti-LGBTQ bias, including hate speech, bullying, harassment, and physical violence, to our **24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline at 212-714-1141** where you can speak with a trained counselor and seek the support you need. More information about the New York City Anti-Violence Project can be found at our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).