

MEDIA RELEASE



Serving the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
Queer and HIV-affected Communities

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National Report on Hate Violence Released; LGBTQ New Yorkers faced increased in violence in 2010

- Reports of hate violence increased 11% for LGBTQ and HIV-affected New Yorkers
- Majority of hate violence victims in New York identify as people of color
- Hate violence incidents in “safe havens” for LGBTQ people, including Chelsea, the West Village and the Stonewall Inn

New York—The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) today released its report [*Hate Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected Communities in the United States in 2010*](#). NCAVP collected data concerning hate violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) and HIV-affected people, from 17 anti-violence programs in 15 states across the country including from the New York City Anti-Violence Project which coordinates NCAVP.

From 2009 to 2010, reports of hate violence in New York increased by 11%. This is similar to the increase in reports in New York from 2008 to 2009. In 2010 New York saw a troubling increase in hate violence against LGBTQ and HIV-affected New Yorkers,” said Sharon Stapel, Executive Director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project. “The violence in New York mirrors the increasing reports of violence nationally. This increase is a wakeup call to all New Yorkers. We all have a responsibility to work together to end this culture of violence against LGBTQ people and make the city safer for all people.”

In 2010 the New York City Anti-Violence Project, provided services to nearly 400 survivors of hate violence, including individual counseling, support groups, advocacy, accompaniment, and assistance with accessing crime victims’ benefits. **The majority of those who provided their racial/ethnic identity (54%) identify as people of color.** “Similar to the national findings, in New York we saw a disproportionate targeting of LGBTQ and HIV-affected people of color for violence,” said Jarad Ringer, Coordinator of the Hate Violence and Police Relations Programs at the New York City Anti-Violence Project. “In a city as diverse as ours, we are especially concerned about community members facing multiple forms of discrimination based on race, gender identity and other factors.”

Several high profile incidents occurred in what many consider “safe havens” for LGBTQ people, including in Chelsea and the West Village, perhaps most notably at the Stonewall Inn, the birthplace of the modern LGBTQ rights movement. “These incidents show us that anti-LGBTQ hate violence affects all of us no matter where we live,” said Ejeris Dixon, Deputy Director in charge of Community Organizing and Public Advocacy at the New York City Anti-Violence Project. “We must work collectively to build safety for all communities in all neighborhoods throughout New York City.”

The New York City Anti-Violence Project (NYC AVP) is dedicated to eliminating hate violence, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ), and HIV-affected communities through counseling, advocacy, organizing, and public education.