



WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

IF YOU FIND YOURSELF THE VICTIM OF A HATE CRIME, HERE'S WHAT TO DO

There's still plenty of violence directed at gay men, lesbians, and transgender people every day. Kim Fountain, the deputy director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project, talks about what to do should you ever be the unfortunate target of a bias-related incident:

1. **PAY ATTENTION:** "While the attack is still in progress, look for any identifying marks. Do they have anything that might stand out if you are looking for someone on the street? Listen for any language that might be used, how someone approached you. It helps establish the fact that you were targeted based on someone's perception."
2. **CALL 911:** "There are gay-friendly officers out there. But if you don't want to call the police, call the Anti-Violence Project at 212-714-1141."
3. **DON'T SHOWER:** "If there is a sexual assault as well, the body is where the evidence is kept at that point. If that has happened, keep your clothes, don't wash your clothes, don't wash your body."
4. **CALL FRIENDS:** "We encourage people not to do too many things alone. The tendency to isolate can be strong. We encourage people not to be alone."
5. **TALK IT OUT:** "There are all kinds of studies out there that say if you talk out what happened to you, the healing process moves along more quickly. Why just sit with it when you can work through it?"

Call the Anti-Violence Project at 212-714-1141 or visit AVP.org for more info.