



# ODOJ - Bias Response Program: An Overview

SB 577 (2019)

# 2019's SB 577

80th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2019 Regular Session

**Enrolled**

## **Senate Bill 577**

Sponsored by Senators FREDERICK, PROZANSKI, Representative POWER, Senator MANNING JR, Representatives BYNUM, WILLIAMSON; Senators DEMBROW, FAGAN, TAYLOR, WAGNER, Representatives HOLVEY, KENY-GUYER, KOTEK, NOSSE, PRUSAK (at the request of Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum) (Presession filed.)

# SB 577 Key Features



**Bias Crime vs. Bias Incident:** a criminal offense vs. a hostile expression of animus committed against a person or property, which is motivated in whole or in part, by the offenders' bias against another person's perceived race, color, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.



**Law enforcement's mandate:** victims of bias incidents must be referred to qualifying local victim services or the Bias Response Hotline.



**Hotline:** statewide, victim-centered, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, support services.



**Reporting requirements:** Oregon DOJ, District Attorneys (DA), Oregon State Police (OSP), and Criminal Justice Commission (CJC).

# SB 577: Bias Incident vs. Hate Crime

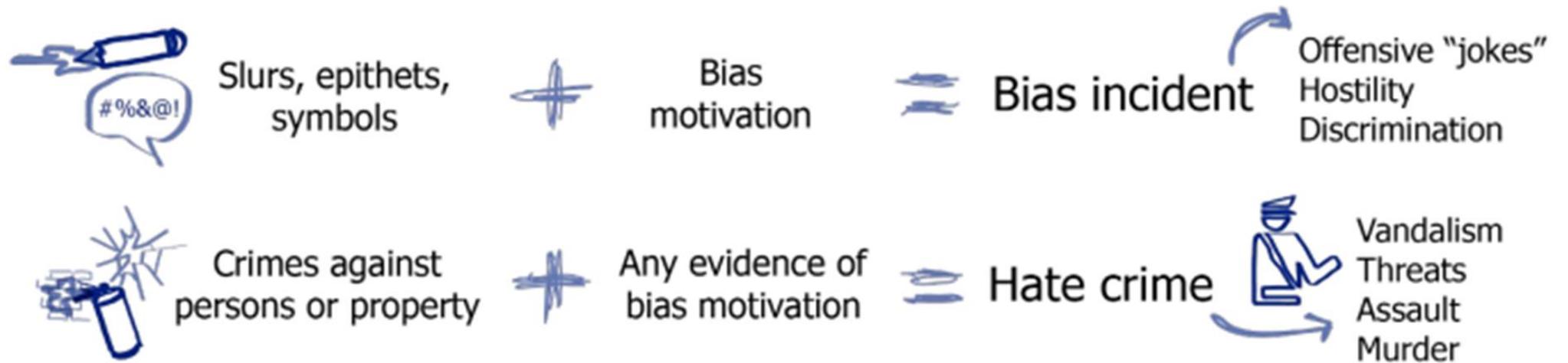


# Oregon's protected classes under SB 577

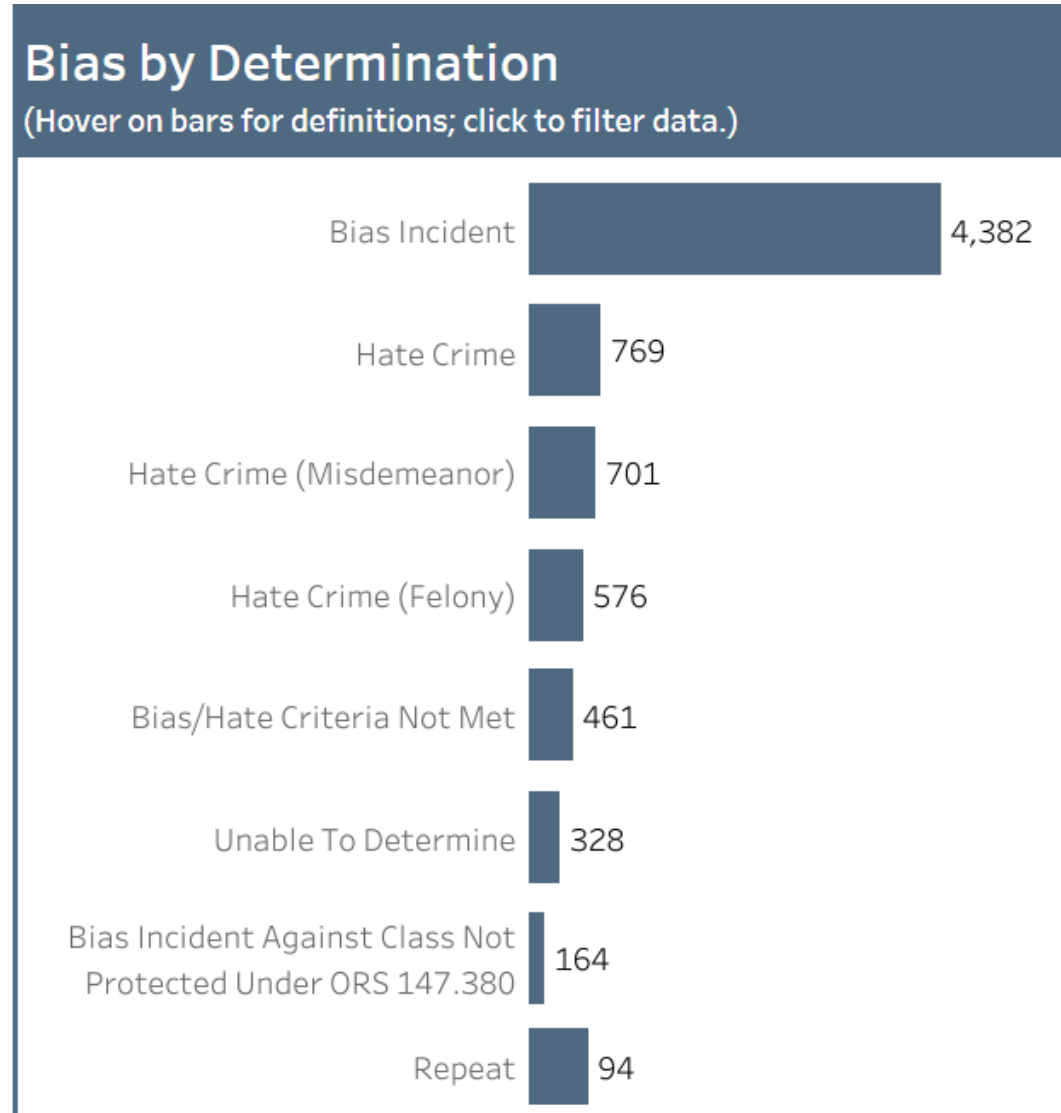
Motivation: *Perception* of the other person's:

- race
- color
- religion
- gender identity
- sexual orientation
- disability
- national origin

# SB 577: Bias Incident vs. Hate Crime



# BRH Data (January 2020 - June 2023)



# What about Free Speech?

- Hate speech and bias incidents are not crimes.
- Law enforcement does not have the authority to interrupt, silence, or arrest a person for perpetrating hate speech or bias incidents.
- In many cases, hate speech and bias incidents perpetrated in certain environments constitute a Civil Rights Violation.



# OREGON DOJ'S BIAS RESPONSE HOTLINE

Were you targeted with bias due to your race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion?

Make a report, receive support, learn about your options.



## Call the Hotline

**1-844-924-BIAS (2427)**

240+ Interpreters/Languages  
We Accept All Relay Calls



### Live Operator

- Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
- Receive support
- Options for next steps
- Options for community support



### Leave a Voicemail

- After Hours
- Request a call back
- Leave as much or as little detail as you'd like



## Report Online

[StandAgainstHate.Oregon.gov](https://StandAgainstHate.Oregon.gov)

8 Languages

Additional Languages Upon Request

**-OR-**



- Make a report anytime
- Request a call back
- Leave as much or as little detail as you'd like

# We all have a role to play



Want to know what the Civil Rights Unit is up to? Follow us on social media!



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