



Discrimination, Hate Crime and Equality

This information is taken from the NSPCC website

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/about-us/listening-to-children/>

WHAT IS DISCRIMINATION?

Discrimination is when someone treats you differently, unfairly or worse because of your age, being disabled, your gender, gender identity, being married or in a civil partnership, being pregnant or having a child, your religion or beliefs, your race, skin colour or where you were born or your sexuality.

Discrimination is against the law and can include:

- being excluded from a sports team
- being bullied by being ignored
- not getting a job or being asked to change part of your religious beliefs for work
- buildings that don't allow you access because of a disability
- not being allowed into shops or restaurants.

It can sometimes be difficult to describe your experience as there are many types of discrimination. Remember, you have the right to be treated fairly and with respect.

What to do if you're worried about a child

If you're concerned about a child you can encourage them to contact Childline anonymously on 0800 1111 or direct them to the Childline website.

If you're an adult worried about a child you can contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 for advice and support.

HATE CRIME

This is crime which includes prejudice or discrimination. You might be assaulted or have your belongings damaged. Hate crime is where the person focuses on your:

- disability
- race or ethnicity
- religion or beliefs
- sexual orientation
- gender identity.

It's still a hate crime if someone makes an assumption about your identity. For example, if someone thinks you are Muslim when you are Sikh.

Hate crime can happen online, in the street, at school, college, work or at home. You might feel frightened, threatened or angry about the abuse. Remember, hate crime is wrong and is never your fault. If you think you may be the victim of hate crime you can report it to the police on [999](#) in an emergency and [101](#) at other times.

Disabled children have an equal right to protection from abuse

Better protection is achievable if we redress the balance,
says NSPCC's Jon Brown

All children have the right to be safe. In the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#) it is stated that every child has the right to be protected "from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse".

And yet, we know that disabled children are three times more likely to be abused. Disabled children face many injustices in their lives. What is even more concerning about their increased vulnerability to be abused is the fact that they are still less likely to get the protection and support they need when they have been abused.

Disabled children are **more likely** to be abused
than non-disabled children

