

Ten Ways to Fight Hate

1. ACT

Do something. In the face of hatred, apathy will be interpreted as acceptance — by the perpetrators, the public and, worse, the victims. Decent people must take action; if we don't, hate persists.

2. UNITE

Call a friend or co-worker. Organize allies from churches, schools, clubs and other civic groups. Create a diverse coalition. Include children, police and the media. Gather ideas from everyone, and get everyone involved.

3. SUPPORT THE VICTIMS

Hate-crime victims are especially vulnerable, fearful and alone. If you're a victim, report every incident — in detail — and ask for help. If you learn about a hate-crime victim in your community, show support. Let victims know you care. Surround them with comfort and protection.

4. DO YOUR HOMEWORK

An informed campaign improves its effectiveness. Determine if a hate group is involved, and research its symbols and agenda. Understand the difference between a hate crime and a bias incident.

5. CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE

Do not attend a hate rally. Find another outlet for anger and frustration and for people's desire to do something. Hold a unity rally or parade to draw media attention away from hate.

6. SPEAK UP

Hate must be exposed and denounced. Help news organizations achieve balance and depth. Do not debate hate-group members in conflict-driven forums. Instead, speak up in ways that draw attention away from hate, toward unity.

7. LOBBY LEADERS

Elected officials and other community leaders can be important allies in the fight against hate. But some must overcome reluctance — and others, their own biases — before they're able to take a stand.

8. LOOK LONG RANGE

Promote tolerance and address bias before another hate crime can occur. Expand your community's comfort zones so you can learn and live together.

9. TEACH TOLERANCE

Bias is learned early, usually at home. Schools can offer lessons of tolerance and acceptance. Sponsor an "I Have a Dream" contest. Reach out to young people who may be susceptible to hate-group propaganda and prejudice.

10. DIG DEEPER

Look inside yourself for prejudices and stereotypes. Build your own cultural competency, then keep working to expose discrimination wherever it happens — in housing, employment, education and more.

I will respond to hate.

I, _____ pledge to respond to hate: I will not project acceptance with my apathy. I will help others who are victims of hate with my support and my activism with friends and allies in my church, school or other civic organizations. I will speak up, expose hate, create alternatives that are based in love and acceptance, and lobby leaders to implement long range plans against discrimination in housing, employment, education and more. I will teach tolerance and strive to look inside myself for prejudices and stereotypes, building my own cultural competency.

DATE: _____

To report a hate crime, contact Longmont's Public Safety Chief Mike Butler at (303) 651-8555
Boulder County's District Attorney is Stan Garnett: (303) 441-3700 (Main Office)
(303) 682-6800 (Longmont Office)

Download the complete resource guide, "Ten Ways to Fight Hate"
from the Southern Poverty Law Center • splcenter.org