

Chron

—



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance

A Policymaker's Guide to Hate Crimes

To Sylvia Mathews
New Orleans
New Orleans Mayor
Dennis W. Bz

I just
got this
P.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
5-26-97

Copied to:
Mathews (original)
COS (copy to, cover)

Monograph

Nancy Gist

May 8, 1997

Hillary-

I'm gratified that you and the President have made racial reconciliation and addressing hate crimes priorities for the second term. I'm enclosing a recent BJA publication which I funded, and of which I am very proud. I hope it will be useful to the Administration's

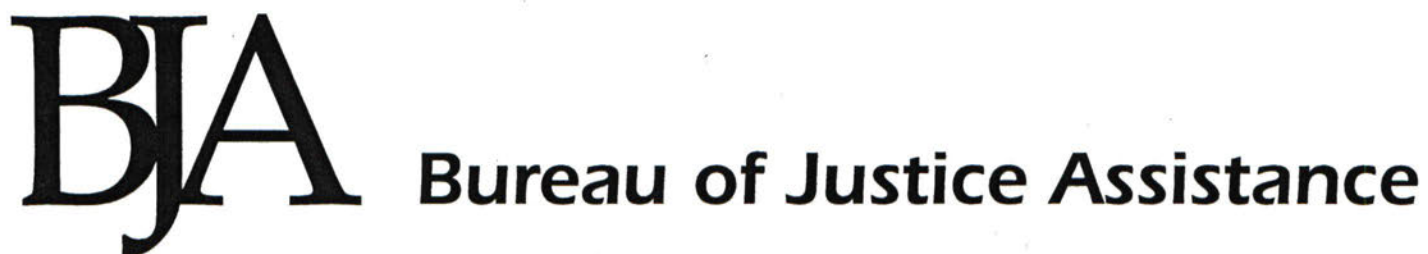
efforts in this area. Please feel free to call upon me if there is any way in which I can be of assistance in this critical work.

On another note: Stanford ?!?! Oh well.

Looking forward to seeing you at the D.C. Youth Violence Forum on the 16th

Be well—

Nancy



A Policymaker's Guide to Hate Crimes

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	ix
Introduction	
Origins and Definition of Hate Crimes	1
Hate Crimes Then and Now	1
Defining Hate Crimes	2
Chapter 1	
Scope of the Hate Crimes Problem	5
Introduction	5
Hate Crime Statistics Act	5
Hate Crime Trends	6
Disparities in Statistics	8
Factors Influencing Reporting	9
Chapter 2	
Understanding Hate Crimes	13
Characteristics of Hate Crimes	13
African Americans: Most Likely Victims	14
Arsons at Black Churches	15
Role of the Black Church	16
Public Responses	16
Federal Responses	18
Other Targets of Hate Crimes	19
A Climate for Hate Crimes	19
Trigger Incidents	20
External Influences	20
Scapegoating	20
Who Commits Hate Crimes?	20
Significance of Hate Crime Statistics	21
Chapter 3	
The Role of Hate Groups	23
A New Strategy	23
A New Definition?	25
Chapter 4	
Hate Crimes and the Law	27
<i>R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul, Minn.</i>	29
<i>Wisconsin v. Mitchell</i>	30
Other Decisions	31
The American Civil Liberties Union's Response	33

Table of Contents (continued)

Chapter 5	Other Responses to Hate Crimes	35
	Government Responses	35
	Organizational Responses	37
	A Closer Look at Responses in the States	38
	Hate Crime Response Networks	38
	Tracking Hate Crimes	39
	Responding to Reported Incidents	40
	Court Monitoring	41
	Diversity and Tolerance Education	42
	Multilingual Reporting and Education Services ..	43
	Youth Leadership and Empowerment Programs	44
	Police-Minority Partnerships and Associations ...	44
	Diversity Awareness Media Campaigns	45
	Community-Based Dispute Mediation Services...	46
	Support for Victims	47
	Counseling Offenders	47
	Other Suggestions	48
Notes		51
Appendix A	Bibliography	59
Appendix B	Sources for Further Information	63