

# MISOGYNY HATE CRIME

## What it is, what it's not, and what's next

### How We Got Here

Whilst the last stage of this campaign in Parliament is in the news, this campaign began in civil society. It is rooted in communities coming together to think about their multiple experiences of hate - women's centres, Black majority churches, LGBTQ+ organisations, synagogues, mosques, schools, universities, student unions, and many more. Here's a little of the history of the campaign...



Nottingham Citizens, an alliance of local community groups including Nottingham Women's Centre, undertakes the largest peer led research on hate crime.

In 2016, as a result, Nottinghamshire becomes the first place in the UK to record misogyny as a hate crime.



Later that year, the leaders from Nottingham and London meet City Hall officials in London to try and extend this work to the Capital



In 2018, London Citizens school students take action in Lewisham to try and get London police to enact it



In 2018 Tyne & Wear Citizens took action to 'Reclaim the Metro' as a result of Islamophobic and misogynistic abuse. They won a hate crime transport charter.

Stella Creasy MP tabled an amendment to the Upskirting Bill to make misogyny a hate crime. It was removed - but a Law Commission review was announced.

200 Citizens UK leaders took the issue to the National Police Chiefs Council to ask them to record misogyny as a hate crime. They declined.



Citizens UK partnered with the Law Commission to put on civil society hearings. Over 200 women came and shared their experiences of misogyny in Cardiff, Birmingham, London, Tyne & Wear and Manchester. We [wrote a report](#) to record the different ways race, religion and sexual orientation all play into misogyny hate crime



Greater Manchester Citizens held public assemblies, took public action and began marching to call for misogyny to be recorded.

The Law Commission made a preliminary recommendation for gender or sex or misogyny to be made a hate crime. In March 2021, following a debated amendment on the DA bill, Parliament announced all police forces would record misogyny hate crime

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### What We Do Next

This campaign was never about just changing the law on a page - it's about real people's experience of misogyny, often at the intersection of Islamophobia, homophobia, racism, and antisemitism. It was built by a diverse alliance of ordinary women, around what they actually want - which is rarely an extended process through the criminal justice system or punitive punishment, and instead is about changing our society to ensure women's safety. Here are some ideas of what Citizens UK chapters might do with this next step:

- Engage with members to build a strategy - and ask for PCC money to execute it - on how **women are going to be communicated with** that results in them being able to record misogyny hate crime and hate incidents - and receive a positive response. Could women's centres, bars, churches, mosques, synagogues, migrant centres, LGBTQ+ organisations and student unions be involved as reporting centres, for training of those taking the calls or to help craft the publicity, or translation services that actually make it accessible?
- Ensure **intersectional recording** - that a woman attacked for being both Muslim and a woman, for example, can record it as under both Islamophobia and misogyny.
- **Redistribute budgets** to make sure women have options of both support and strategy when they report - so that they can access both specialist service counselling and non punitive options. For example, that perpetrators are engaged in training on the impact of misogyny if survivors want (and potentially to engage in a transformative justice process).
- Build a team to examine the results of recording misogynistic hate and make asks **beyond policing** - this has implications for transport providers, schools, public policy, urban design, and so much more.

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#### What MHC recording is not

- ✗ It does not give more powers to police
- ✗ It does not create any new crimes
- ✗ It does not increase sentencing

#### What MHC recording allows

- ✓ It allows us to map and record for the first time the level of hate against women
  - ✓ It allows us to better understand how other forms of racism are enacted because we don't assume they're just the 'default male' experience and can break down by gender
  - ✓ It gives survivors of misogynistic hate options outside the criminal justice system for redress
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