



Partnerships

Hate Crime Against Disabled People in Scotland:

A Survey Report

Scotland



CAPABILITY SCOTLAND

TURNING DISABILITY INTO ABILITY

The Disability Rights Commission

The Disability Rights Commission (DRC) is an independent body, established by Act of Parliament to eliminate the discrimination faced by disabled people and promote equality of opportunity. When disabled people participate – as citizens, customers and employees – everyone benefits. So we have set ourselves the goal of “a society where all disabled people can participate fully as equal citizens.”

The DRC has offices in England, Scotland and Wales. For further details of how we can help you, please contact our Helpline – contact details are featured on the back cover of this publication.

Capability Scotland

Capability Scotland is the country’s leading disability organisation working for a just Scotland. We work with children, adults and families living with disability to support them in their everyday lives.

For further information on our services, disability issues and cerebral palsy please contact:

Advice Service Capability Scotland
11 Ellersly Road
Edinburgh
EH12 6HY
Tel: 0131 313 5510
Fax: 0131 346 1681
Textphone: 0131 346 2529
Email: ascs@capability-scotland.org.uk

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Summary of Findings | 3 |
| Recommendations | 5 |
| Methodology and Sample | 6 |
| Aims and Purposes of the Research | 8 |
| Profile of Respondents | 9 |
| Prevalence of Hate Crime | 13 |
| Nature of Attack | 16 |
| Person Responsible for the Attack | 19 |
| Impact of Being Frightened/Attacked | 22 |
| Support to Stop Being Frightened/Attacked | 26 |
| The Role of the Police | 27 |
| What Needs to Change | 29 |
| Hate Crimes Questionnaire | 30 |

'I quite often get called a spastic in the street and get spat at. I get shaken up - I don't know what to do.'

Summary of Findings

- Disabled people living in urban areas are more likely than those living in semi-rural and rural areas to have been frightened or attacked¹ .
- Seventy-three percent of respondents who have reported being frightened or attacked have experienced verbal abuse and intimidation. Just over a third of incidents reported (35%) were physical attacks.
- Approximately half the disabled people (47%) who responded to the survey have experienced hate crime because of their disability.
- Hate crimes are most likely to occur in public places, such as in the street or park, in shops or on public transport. Although respondents from rural areas reported that incidents took place primarily in domestic settings, in urban areas attacks were most likely to have occurred in public places.

¹ The term 'attack' is defined for the purposes of this research as:

- Verbal attack, such as taunts, name calling, threats and intimidation
- Spitting
- Physical attack, such as hitting, pushing, shoving and kicking
- When something is stolen from your person
- Damage to property
- Harassment on the street

- Thirty-one percent of disabled people surveyed who are the victims of hate crimes, experience attacks at least once a month.
- Strangers were the most likely people to be carrying out the attack (see table 10).
- Respondents described feeling scared, embarrassed, humiliated and stressed by the attacks. Nearly half the respondents (45%) did not try to stop the attack, as they were frightened and concerned about repercussions.
- Ninety percent of respondents have told someone about the attack, with family/friends the most likely people to be informed. Forty percent of those who have been frightened or attacked informed the police. In general, the police are perceived as unable to provide help due to the difficulties in providing proof, and in some cases, lack of interest.
- The attacks have a major impact on disabled people: around a third have had to avoid specific places and change their usual routine. One in four have moved home as a result of the attack.
- Respondents, particularly in rural areas, are not confident that they can get help to stop the incidents.

Recommendations

- There is overwhelming support for a new law to protect disabled people against hate crimes. Our research indicates that many disabled people silently endure this type of behaviour. It largely goes unreported and is not tackled because people feel unsupported when it comes to dealing with attacks. New legislation would raise awareness of this crime, send a strong message to society that it will not be tolerated and establish a consistent approach to monitoring and policing of this type of attack.
- There are issues arising from our research around how the police are able to deal with disabled complainants as part of their wider diversity strategy. In particular, we need to consider innovative approaches to how evidence can be collected and used to prosecute a hate crime, given that some disabled people may have impairments which make identification difficult.
- Legislation can play a role in preventing hate crimes, but we also recognise the need for a resourced and sustained long-term campaign to tackle the prejudice which some people in society have towards disabled people.

Methodology and Sample

Self completion questionnaires were sent out to participants and focus groups were carried out. Both of which were undertaken by an independent research agency, Scotinform Ltd.

A total of 716 questionnaires were sent out to disabled people and their carers, with 158 completed questionnaires included in the analysis. The overall response rate was 22%.

The sample was sourced from:

- The Disability Rights Commission's events database
- Members of Capability Scotland's 1 in 4 Panel
- Selected users of Capability Scotland's services

The response rate from each source is shown below.

| Response rate | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Number of questionnaires sent out | Number returned | Response rate |
| DRC database | 390 | 70 | 18% |
| 1 in 4 Panel | 126 | 71 | 56% |
| Service users | 200 | 17 | 9% |

The completed questionnaires have been analysed by gender, age, ethnic group, disabled respondents or carers/relatives of disabled people and geographical location. Where the totals in the tables add up to more than 100% this is due to multiple responses. Survey respondents were self-selecting, as the nature of the research was looking at personal experience of hate crime.

Two focus groups were conducted, recruited from people who had responded to the self-completion survey. The groups were held in Perth and Glasgow and consisted of a total of 15 participants. Participants included a range of mobility impairments, visual impairments, learning disabilities, mental health problems and hidden disabilities. Four participants were carers (two participants cared for disabled adults and two participants cared for disabled children). Four participants at the focus group in Perth were Capability Scotland service users and had not completed the questionnaire.

Aims and Purposes of the Research

Hate crime has been moving up the political agenda, including debates in the Scottish Parliament. Arising from this, the Scottish Executive established the Hate Crime Working Group in the summer of 2003, following a proposed amendment to the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill 2003, by Robin Harper MSP. This amendment sought to create an offence in which crimes aggravated by prejudice against social groups because of their age, disability, gender or sexual orientation received a higher sentence or punishment. The amendment was not adopted and the Executive set up the working group to look at the issue more closely

Capability Scotland and the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) are both members of the Hate Crime Working Group. Although useful research has previously been undertaken looking at the impact of hate crime on mental health service users and people with learning disabilities, there was a need for a broader picture, focusing on the nature and extent of hate crime committed against disabled people in general. Both organisations were concerned that there was insufficient awareness of the prevalence and impact of hate crime on disabled people's lives and that the topic had not been systematically researched.

Evidence from the DRC **Awareness Survey 2003** shows that 1 in 5 disabled Scots have experienced harassment because of their disability, and over a third (35%) of people who know someone who is disabled have witnessed that person being harassed. The National Schizophrenia Fellowship (Scotland) publication **Give us a break: exploring the harassment of people with mental health problems** (2001) reports that 41% of people with mental health problems have experienced harassment, compared with 15% of the general population.

As result of this evidence and the existence of the working group, Capability Scotland and the DRC collaborated to research the issue more thoroughly. There has been research in the area of violence against members of the Gay and Lesbian community, but no comparable research looking at the extent of crime against disabled people. This research is intended to provide such information and to facilitate and enlighten the hate crime debate in Scotland.

Profile of Respondents

Table One: Demographic profile – all respondents

| | No of respondents | % |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----|
| Male | 67 | 42 |
| Female | 82 | 52 |
| Not stated | 9 | 6 |
| White | 148 | 94 |
| Pakistani | 4 | 3 |
| Chinese | 2 | 1 |
| Mixed | 1 | 1 |
| Other/none of these/not stated | 3 | 2 |
| Under 16 years old | 2 | 1 |
| 16-24 | 4 | 3 |
| 25-44 | 66 | 42 |
| 45-64 | 70 | 44 |
| 65 plus | 11 | 7 |
| Not stated | 5 | 3 |

Table Two: Geographic profile – all respondents

| | No of respondents | % |
|------------|-------------------|----|
| North | 23 | 18 |
| South | 26 | 20 |
| East | 37 | 29 |
| West | 41 | 32 |
| Urban | 55 | 43 |
| Semi-rural | 29 | 22 |
| Rural | 43 | 33 |

The geographic analysis of respondents shows that over 60% of respondents were from the East or West of Scotland (the majority from Edinburgh and Glasgow). There was a good spread across urban, semi-rural and rural locations (based on population density from the Office of National Statistics).

Table Three:Type of respondent

| Base = all respondents | No of respondents | % |
|---|-------------------|----|
| A person with a disability | 108 | 68 |
| A person with a medical condition/illness | 52 | 33 |
| Carer of a disabled person | 14 | 9 |
| Parent of a disabled person | 16 | 10 |
| Friend or relative of a disabled person | 17 | 11 |
| Not stated | 2 | 1 |

Nearly 70% of respondents were disabled and a third had a medical condition/illness (33 respondents classified themselves in both categories). 24% of respondents were carers, parents or friends of disabled people. 9 respondents who were carers/friends/relatives were disabled and, therefore, answered both sections of the questionnaire.

Table Four:Type of disability/illness

| Base = respondents with disability/illness (129) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Wheelchair user | 39 |
| Someone with a mobility problem (not in a wheelchair) | 41 |
| Someone with a visual impairment | 18 |
| Someone with a hearing disability | 13 |
| Someone with a learning difficulty/disability | 19 |
| Someone with a mental health problem | 13 |
| Someone with a hidden disability | 17 |
| Not stated | 2 |

In total, 82% of respondents classified themselves as disabled and/or with a medical condition/illness. Of these the majority had mobility problems or were wheelchair users. Just over one in five had a visual impairment or a learning difficulty.

The questionnaire was split into two sections: one for disabled people and/or people with a medical condition/illness and the other section for friends/carers or other family members. The majority of respondents (82%) were disabled (or had a medical condition) and the results of this section of the questionnaire form the main part of the report. 24% of respondents were 'carers', representing 38 respondents. Due to the small sample size of carers these results are described in the text of the report where relevant, but are not included in the summary tables.

Prevalence of Hate Crime

It is clear from this research that hate crime against disabled people is prevalent across Scotland. Nearly half the disabled respondents (47%) have experienced being frightened or attacked because of their disability. Many participants feel that being frightened and attacked was part of their everyday lives.

Table Five: Experience of being frightened/attacked because of disability

| Base = respondents with disability/medical condition (129) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Yes | 47 |
| No | 46 |
| Don't know/not stated | 7 |

Table Six: Experience of being frightened/attacked by type of disability

| Base = respondents with disability/illness (129) | | |
|---|-------------------|----|
| | No of respondents | % |
| Wheelchair user | 50 | 36 |
| Someone with a mobility problem (not in a wheelchair) | 53 | 49 |
| Someone with a visual impairment | 23 | 57 |
| Someone with a hearing disability | 17 | 41 |
| Someone with a learning difficulty/disability | 24 | 63 |
| Someone with a mental health problem | 17 | 82 |
| Someone with a hidden disability | 22 | 45 |

Disabled people with a variety of impairments reported being frightened or attacked. However, there appears to be a greater predominance of attacks against people with mental health problems, learning difficulties and visual impairments.

Carers confirmed the high proportion of disabled people who experienced hate crimes because of their disability: 55% of carers (21 respondents) said that someone they knew had been frightened or attacked because of their disability.

Twelve respondents who were disabled said that they had been frightened or attacked for reasons other than their disability. Their perceptions of the reasons for the attack related to:

- generally feeling threatened, especially when alone (5 respondents)
- sexual assault
- being attacked by someone with a mental health problem
- sectarian attack
- wearing glasses
- frightened and bullied by social services

For many disabled people hate crime is a feature of their day-to-day life. One in five respondents suffered an attack once a week or more often, with women (26% - 10 respondents) and under 44 year olds (37% - 13 respondents) most vulnerable to frequent attacks. Many people felt that it was something that they had to live with on account of their disability.

"We've been attacked since my disabled bay was put down, and that was six years ago. I get verbally attacked by the people who live next door every time I go out in my back garden. I can't go to my bin or to my car. The tyres on my car were let down not so long ago. It's because they can't see something wrong with me - I have MS and I have a spinal tumour."

Participant with a mobility impairment

Table Seven: Frequency of attacks²

| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Once a week or more often | 21 |
| Once or twice a month | 10 |
| Every two – three months | 14 |
| Once or twice a year or less often | 23 |
| Once or twice in my life | 27 |
| Not stated | 5 |

Nature of Attacks

It is clear from the research that hate crimes against disabled people take place in public spaces. Attacks on disabled people are most likely to occur in the street, while out walking or in the park. Nearly 30% of those who have experienced an attack have done so in a shop, sports centre, pub or cafe and a fifth in their own home/day service or drop-in centre.

Urban and semi-rural residents were twice as likely as those living in rural areas to have been frightened or attacked when out in the street or out walking. In contrast, rural respondents were much more likely than average to have been frightened or attacked at home or day centres.

² This table is based on the respondents who had been frightened or attacked (61) because of their disability and the 12 respondents who were frightened or attacked for other reasons.

Over a fifth of people had experienced attacks on public transport. This confirms previous research conducted by Capability Scotland **Attitudes Toward Public Transport** (November 2003) that identified that 27% of disabled people had concerns about personal safety on public transport, and a fifth were prevented from using public transport because of passenger attitudes.

'I was with my sister and these two young people came along and they grabbed my bag out of my hand and pulled me down off my feet. The police seemed to think that it was actually because I was vulnerable. Some people see me as disabled, some don't'. Participant with a learning disability

Table Eight: Location of attacks³

| | % |
|--|----|
| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (82) | |
| In the street/park/out walking | 55 |
| In shops/sports centre/pub/café | 28 |
| At home/day service/drop in day centre | 21 |
| On public transport | 21 |
| At college/university | 12 |
| At work | 11 |
| None of these places/not stated | 21 |

³ This table is based on the respondents (61) who had been frightened or attacked and those that did not know if they had been frightened or attacked because of their disability (9), plus the 12 respondents who were frightened or attacked for other reasons.

In addition to the places mentioned above, nineteen respondents mentioned other places where they have been frightened or attacked. The main locations were school (7 respondents), in hospital (4 respondents), in a stair/landing/close (3 respondents), in church (2 respondents).

The research shows that disabled people are most likely to be attacked verbally, such as being taunted, called names or intimidated. Over a third of disabled respondents who have been frightened or attacked are likely to have suffered physical attacks and/or harassment in the street. This high level of verbal and physical attack was confirmed by carers: over 80% of carers said that the person they cared for had been verbally attacked and nearly 40% had been physically attacked.

“I had to move because the upstairs neighbour was spitting on the door, kicking the door and throwing eggs at the window. He used to phone me and I had to go ex-directory. My dad had to stay over at my bedsit” **Participant with mobility problems**

Table Nine: Form of attacks

| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (82) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Verbally attacked | 73 |
| Physical attack, such as being pushed, shoved or hit | 35 |
| Harassed in the street | 35 |
| Had something stolen/taken away | 18 |
| Spat at | 15 |
| Damage to property | 12 |
| Not stated | 12 |

Person Responsible for the Attack

Strangers, either individually or in groups, are most likely to be responsible for the attacks, but one in five disabled respondents have experienced an attack by a friend or colleague and the same proportion have been frightened or attacked by a teacher or carer. Under 16 year olds are most likely to be seen as responsible for attacks in urban areas, whereas in rural areas 16-44 year olds are viewed as the perpetrators.

Table Ten: Persons responsible for attacks

| | % |
|--|----|
| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
| A group of strangers | 48 |
| A stranger | 44 |
| Friends/someone at work | 22 |
| Teacher/carers/other professional | 21 |
| Neighbours | 18 |
| Family/relatives | 11 |
| Other* | 13 |
| The other* answers were: schoolchildren (4 respondents), doctors (2), nurses (1) and drivers (1) | |

It is clear that people who frighten or attack disabled people are of all ages, and are most likely to be unknown to the victim.

Table Eleven: Age of attackers

| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Under 16 | 47 |
| 16-24 | 41 |
| 25-44 | 42 |
| 45-64 | 26 |
| 65 plus | 5 |
| not stated | 4 |

"I was coming home on the minibus from the learning disability club that I go to. I got off the bus before my usual stop as I was going to visit a relative. However there were a few men hanging around trying to follow me. I didn't know who they were. They kept shouting at me and coming up behind me. One of the men started masturbating in front of me and following me around. I kept trying to cross the road to get away from them. They kept following me.

Eventually they left me when I got to the police station. Once inside the police station I asked the policeman to get me a taxi to get me home. I didn't want to report the incident because I didn't think the police could do anything. I'm not very good at describing things or describing what people look like and I was worried I would get confused.

Ever since then I have had a lot of anxiety. I do my best not to become a target, but it's difficult, some people just take advantage."

Participant with a learning disability

Impact of Being Frightened/Attacked

Hate crimes have a considerable emotional impact upon disabled people's lives. Seventy-seven percent of disabled people who have been frightened or attacked reported feeling scared and a high number of respondents (68%) state they felt embarrassed or humiliated.

Table Twelve: Feelings about being frightened/attacked

| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Scared | 77 |
| Embarrassed/humiliated | 68 |
| Stressed | 66 |
| Lacking self-confidence | 51 |
| Lonely or isolated | 51 |
| Other* | 11 |

Survey respondents also said that they felt*:

- angry (5 respondents)
- helpless
- self loathing
- demoralised
- worthless

"I'm afraid to go out on my own." - "I froze inside."

The impact of hate crimes on disabled respondents is such that, around three quarters had made significant changes to their lives to avoid being frightened or attacked. Forty-seven percent now avoided going to certain places and 38% have changed their routine. One in four (25%) said that they had to move from their home.

Table Thirteen: Impact of being frightened/attacked on daily life⁴

| | % |
|--|----|
| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
| Avoided going to some places | 47 |
| Changed usual routine | 38 |
| Moved houses/flats | 25 |
| Changed jobs | 7 |
| Other | 22 |
| No action taken | 4 |
| Not stated | 18 |

⁴ The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001, schedule 2, paragraph 8 states a landlord (subject to specific circumstances) may require a tenant to move to other accommodation if the tenant is guilty of causing a nuisance or annoyance, or harassed a person living in, visiting or otherwise engaged in lawful activity in the area.

Other survey responses illustrated the changes disabled people made to their daily routine:

"I got kicked and bullied at school, because of that I had to go into different schools. I went to a mainstream primary school, and from there to a mainstream primary school with a special needs unit, from there to a primary school specialising in special needs and from that to a secondary special needs school. I wasn't bullied at the last school, but the other ones I was."

Participant with a learning disability

Just over half (52%) of the disabled respondents that have been frightened/attacked have tried to do something to stop it. Forty-five percent said they have not tried to stop the people. Residents in rural areas are more likely than those in other areas to have tried to stop the attackers.

'You don't do things with confidence any more.'

Participant with a visual impairment

'I got head butted on my way home at the beginning of November, and ever since then, whenever I see a group of youths coming towards me, I cross the street and try not to make eye contact with them. I avoid situations now.'

Participant with mental health problems

Respondents felt they could not stop the attack because they felt the attackers were stronger/fitter/faster, or the attackers were in a big group and they felt scared. Respondents were also worried that it would make things worse and there might be 'repercussions'.

"I am unable to go into my back garden as they threaten me and use abusive language. They have followed my husband and me to the supermarket. We now use a different supermarket. I saw the neighbours with an air rifle and they said to me, 'You make good targets.' They are harassing my husband because of me. We got the police out after they had stolen the edging from around our garden. Once the police had left they threw stones at the house. The police don't know how to deal with it. I've only been on a short holiday once in the last six years, as I'm frightened what they'll do to the house. The Council have told us to move house to get away from them."

Participant with a mobility impairment

Support to Stop Being Frightened/Attacked

The statistics clearly show that the majority of respondents, nearly 60% of those who have been frightened or attacked, did not feel confident that they can get help to stop the incidents. Less than one in ten (7%) are 'very confident' that they can get help. Respondents living in rural areas are much less likely than average to be confident that they can get help.

Table Fourteen: Confidence in getting help to stop being frightened/attacked

| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
|--|----|
| | % |
| Not at all confident | 25 |
| Not very confident | 34 |
| No opinion | 15 |
| Quite confident | 18 |
| Very confident | 7 |
| Not stated | 1 |

One in ten of those who have been frightened or attacked have not told anyone about the incident/s. Sixty percent have told a relative and 44% have told friends. Carers or key workers were the most likely professionals to have been told (37%).

Table Fifteen: Persons told about frightened/attack

| | % |
|--|----|
| Base = disabled people who have been frightened or attacked (73) | |
| Family/relative | 60 |
| Friends | 44 |
| Carer/key worker | 37 |
| Employer/someone at work | 18 |
| Other person* | 40 |

*Other people that were informed were: social workers, Community Psychiatric Nurses, head teachers, GPs, solicitors and social services

The Role of the Police

Forty-one percent of those who have been frightened or attacked (30 respondents) reported the incident to the police. Rural respondents are more likely than those living in urban locations to report attacks to the police.

Nearly one in five of those who reported the incident to the police said that the police did nothing as a result. Three quarters of those who reported the incident to the police (23 respondents) mainly said that whilst the police had taken details of the incident, they were generally unable to stop the attackers.

A small number of survey respondents (5) found the police unhelpful:

"I felt as though I was the attacker, the police gave me a hard time of it."

"Told me to ignore the name callers."

"Investigated the person, but said it would be their word against mine."

Respondents' (who have been frightened or attacked) reasons for not reporting the incident to the police reflects concerns about the police's attitude and the extent of police powers. Focus group respondents discussed the problems they encountered when reporting incidents to the police:

'We got the police to come up, and once they were gone we got stones thrown at the window. The police say that it's not criminal, but I don't see how anyone has the right to think they can attack or tamper with someone's property.'

Participant with a mobility impairment

'The police came when I was attacked, but they said there was nothing they could do because I couldn't identify who had done it.'

Participant with mental health problems

'A friend of mine with a guide dog was attacked by kids. They kicked and punched him, then took the harness off his dog and scared the dog away. He said there was no point in going to the police because, as the two young people who attacked him rightly said, he can't identify them.'

Participant with a visual impairment

'The police don't know what to do with someone with a learning difficulty – but there are some police that want to help.'

Carer

What Needs to Change

There is very strong support for a new law to protect disabled people against hate crimes.

- 85% of all disabled respondents believe there should be a new law.
- 93% of disabled people who had been frightened or attacked believe there should be a new law.
- 95% of carers who know someone who has been frightened or attacked believe there should be a new law.

Survey results suggest overwhelming support for a change in the criminal law to ensure hate crime against disabled people is more effectively tackled in the future. However, focus groups also point to the need for any legislative change to be complemented by wider changes to attitudes:

'When it comes to kids, it is about education and understanding. But when it comes to adults, they should know better.'

Carer

'The law might be a beginning, a threat.'

Participant with a mobility impairment

'We are fair game. Legislation would send out a message...'

Participant with a mobility impairment

'It's about attitudes, because you could have legislation, but people will sit there and say that it's not their responsibility.'

Carer

Hate Crimes Questionnaire

Right now, there is talk about a creating a new law for certain kinds of crimes committed against disabled people. These crimes are called hate crimes. A hate crime is carried out by a person that hates someone else because they have a disability. Capability Scotland and the Disability Rights Commission believe disabled people need to be protected from hate crimes. They want to find out the personal experiences and views of disabled people on hate crimes, and also the experience and views of disabled people's families, carers and friends.

If someone attacks or frightens you because you are disabled they might do some of the following things:

- Physically attack you, such as hit, push, shove, kick you
- Spit at you
- Verbally attack you, such as taunt you/call you names/threaten you/intimidate you
- Steal from you
- Damage your property
- Harass you in the street

This questionnaire is trying to find out how often disabled people are attacked or frightened because they have a disability and how often this happens. The information you give us will be used to help change the law to protect disabled people.

SECTION A

This section should be completed by disabled people and/or people with a medical condition or illness.

A1 Are you ? Please tick all the boxes that apply to you.

A wheelchair user

Someone with mobility problems
(not in wheelchair)

Someone with visual impairment

Someone with hearing disability

Someone with learning difficulties/disability

Someone with a mental health problem

Someone with a hidden disability
(eg diabetes, epilepsy)

A2 Have you ever been frightened or attacked because of your disability?

Yes Please go to QA4

No Please answer QA3

Don't know Please answer QA4

A3 If you have been frightened or attacked for another reason, what do you think the reason is? If you have not been frightened or attacked please go to A17.

.....
.....

A4 Were you frightened or attacked in any of these places?
Please tick the boxes to show where you have been
frightened or attacked or tick 'none of these'.

- In the street/park/out walking
- At work
- At college/university
- At home/day service/drop in day care
- In shops/sports centre/pub/café
- On public transport
(bus, underground/taxi/ plane/ferry)
- None of these places

A5 Have you been frightened or attacked in any other
places? If yes, please describe the place.

.....
.....

A6 How were you frightened or attacked? Please tick all
the boxes that apply.

- Physically attacked, for example being hit,
pushed, shoved or kicked
- Spat at
- Verbally attacked, for example taunted,
called names, threatened or intimidated
- Had something stolen/taken away
- Damaged your property
- Harassed you in the street

If no one has frightened or attacked you in these ways please go to Section B on Page 7.

If someone has frightened or attacked you please answer A7

A7 Which of the phrases below best describes how often you have been frightened or attacked? Please tick one box only.

Once a week or more often

Once or twice a month

Every two – three months

Once or twice a year or less often

Once or twice in my life

A8 Please tick the boxes to show who has frightened or attacked you.

A stranger

A group of strangers

Friends/someone you work with

Teacher/carer/other professional

Neighbours

Family/relative

Someone else: please describe

.....

EXPERIENCE OF BULLYING/HARASSMENT

A9 What is the usual age of the people that frighten or attack you? Please tick all the boxes that apply.

Under 16

16-24

25-44

45-64

65 plus

A10 How do you feel about being frightened or attacked? Please tick all the words that apply to you or write in your answer.

Scared

Stressed

Embarrassed/humiliated

Lacking self confidence

Lonely or isolated

Other feeling – please write in

.....

A11 Have you tried to stop the person or people who frightened or attacked you?

Yes

Please go to A13

No

Please answer A12

A12 What were the main reasons for not trying to stop them?

.....
.....

Everyone should answer A13

A13 Have you told any of the following people that you were being frightened or attacked?

Family/relative

Friends

Carer/key worker

Employer/someone at work

Other person

If other please write in

.....

No one

A14 Have you ever reported that you had been attacked or frightened to the police?

Yes, reported to police Please answer A15

No, not reported to police Please go to A16

A15 What did the police do after you reported it to them?

.....
.....

If you have answered A15, please go to A17

A16 If you have not reported to the police, could you write in any reasons for not doing so?

.....
.....

Everyone should answer A17

A17 Have you ever done any of the following to stop someone frightening or attacking you? Please tick all the boxes that apply to you.

- Moved houses/flats
- Changed jobs
- Avoided going to some places
- Changed your usual routine
- Other please write in

.....

A18 How confident are you that you can get help to stop someone frightening or attacking you? Please tick one box only.

- Not at all confident
- Not very confident
- No opinion
- Quite confident
- Very confident

A19 Do you believe that there should be a new law to protect disabled people against hate crimes – this includes being frightened or attacked?

Yes

No

Don't know

Thank you for completing Section A. Please go to Section C on Page 11. If you are a friend, carer, parent or other family member of a disabled person please answer Section B

SECTION B

This section of the questionnaire should be completed by friends, carers, parents or other family members of disabled people

B1 Has someone frightened or attacked anyone you know because of his or her disability?

Yes Please answer B2

No Please go to Section C (page 11)

B2 Which of the following mostly closely describes their disability. Please tick all the boxes that apply.

A wheelchair user

Someone with mobility problems
(not in wheelchair)

Someone with visual impairment

Someone with hearing disability

Someone with learning difficulties/disability

Someone with a mental health problem

Someone with a hidden disability
(eg diabetes, epilepsy)

B3 Has someone frightened or attacked them in any of these places? Please tick the boxes to show where they have been frightened or attacked or tick 'none of these'.

In the street/park/out walking

At work

At college/university

At home/day service/drop in day care

In shops/sports centre/pub/café

On public transport
(bus, underground/taxi/ plane/ferry)

None of these places

B4 Have someone frightened or attacked them in any other places? If yes, please describe the place.

.....
.....

B5 How has someone frightened or attacked them? Please tick all the boxes that apply.

Physically attacked, for example being hit, pushed, shoved or kicked

Spat at

Verbally attacked, for example being taunted, called names, or intimidated

Had something stolen/taken away

Damaged their property

Harassed in the street

B6 Which of the words/phrases below best describes how often someone has frightened or attacked them?
Please tick one box only.

Once a week or more often

Once or twice a month

Every two – three months

Once or twice a year or less often

Once or twice in my life

B7 Please tick the boxes to show who has frightened or attacked them.

A stranger

A group of strangers

Friends/someone they work with

Teacher/carers/other professional

Neighbours

Family/relative

Someone else: please describe

.....

EXPERIENCE OF BULLYING/HARASSMENT

B8 What is the usual age of the people that frighten or attack them? Please tick all the boxes that apply.

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| Under 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 45-64 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 65 plus | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Everyone should answer B9

B9 How do you think the disabled person feels about being frightened or attacked? Please tick all the words that apply or write in your answer.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Scared | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Stressed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Embarrassed/humiliated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lacking self confidence | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lonely or isolated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other feeling – please write in | <input type="checkbox"/> |

.....

B10 Have they tried to stop the person or people who frightened or attacked them?

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Please go to B12 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Please answer B11 |

B11 What were the main reasons for not trying to stop them?

.....
.....

B12 Have they told any of the following people that they were being frightened or attacked?

Family/relative

Friends

Carer/key worker

Employer/someone at work

Other person

If other please write in

.....
No one

B13 Have they ever reported that they had been attacked or frightened to the police?

Yes, reported to police Please answer B14

No, not reported to police Please go to B15

B14 What did the police do after it was reported to them?

.....
.....

If you have answered B14, please go to B16

B15 If they have not reported to the police, could you write in any reasons for not doing so?

.....
.....

Everyone should answer B16

B16 Have they ever done any of the following to stop someone frightening or attacking them? Please tick all the boxes that apply.

- Moved houses/flats
- Changed jobs
- Avoided going to some places
- Changed your usual routine
- Other please write in

.....

B17 How confident are you that they can get help to stop someone frightening or attacking them? Please tick one box only.

- Not at all confident
- Not very confident
- No opinion
- Quite confident
- Very confident

B18 Do you believe that there should be a new law to protect disabled people against hate crimes which include being frightened or attacked?

Yes

No

Don't know

Thank you for completing Section B. Please go to the next page.

Disability Rights Commission
Marketing Department
FREEPOST NWW5473A
Manchester
M4 3AQ

Response flap
width 140mm

The DRC welcomes feedback. If you have any comments about this publication please complete this form and return it to us free-of-charge.

Alternatively you can contact our Helpline about this publication or any other aspect of our work by phone, fax, textphone or email.

Your feedback

Please complete and return this form to let us know what you think about this publication.

How helpful and/or interesting was this publication?

Very Quite Not very Not at all

Was it easy to understand?

Very easy Quite easy
 Not very easy Not at all easy

What do you think of the design and layout?

Good Quite good
 OK Poor

Please use this space for your comments and suggestions

Name

Address

Post Code

Telephone

Organisation

(providing your contact details is optional)

Do you want to subscribe to our monthly free-of-charge email bulletin?

Yes No

Email

Response flap
width 140mm

You can contact the DRC Helpline by voice, text, fax, post or email. You can speak to an operator at any time between 08:00 and 20:00, Monday to Friday.

If you require this publication in an alternative format and/or language please contact the Helpline to discuss your needs. It is also available on the DRC website: www.drc-gb.org

FOCUS15

March 2004

Telephone 08457 622 633
Textphone 08457 622 644
Fax 08457 778 878
Email enquiry@drc-gb.org
Post DRC Helpline
FREEPOST
MID 02164
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 9BR
Website www.drc-gb.org



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



photography by Anne Worthington