#### **RIGHT-WING HATE CRIMES**

Acts of far-right violence are attacks shaped by hostility towards minorities and prejudice against certain groups within society. Victims are not being attacked because of their individual character or behavior. Rather, their offenders are attributing characteristics to the victims which do not fit into a far-right world view. Whether these attributions are actually correct or not does not matter. Motives for far-right violence include:

- · racism in different forms,
- antisemitism, hostility towards jewish people,
- hostility towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\*
   and queer people,
- hostility towards perceived political enemies and those who refuse to accept a far-right world-view,
- resentment towards the homeless and other marginalized groups and towards people with disabilities

The deciding factor when categorizing an attack as far-right violence is your personal perception of it. What witnesses or the police think is of secondary importance.



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Funded by



# **ASSISTANCE**

# FOR VICTIMS OF RIGHT-WING HATE CRIMES

Counseling services are available for victims, their families and friends, as well as witnesses of right-wing attacks.

**0331 8170000** www.opferperspektive.de

#### WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU

# **OUR COUNSELING SERVICES**

# **ABOUT THE OPFERPERSPEKTIVE**

# We will support you

and the people you know, when right-wing offences, harassment or physical attacks have occurred. Our counselors can offer advice on how to deal with the experience of right-wing violence and their effects. In some cases, a single consultation is enough; in others, more time is needed. Minors can also contact us without the permission of their parents or legal guardians.

#### **Know your rights**

We will explain to you the course of criminal proceedings in Germany. We can also accompany you to the police, to the courts, or help you find a lawyer.

#### Your social situation

We will talk to you about your social and financial situation and can assist you in claiming compensation for the pain and suffering you have endured. We can advise you on issues related to insurance and health care matters.

# Your mental and physical healt

We can provide for medical treatment if needed. You can talk to us about your fears and anxieties. If you should need psychotherapeutic assistance, we can refer you to professionals.

# **Contacts to other organizations**

If you are interested in going public by discussing what has happened to you and help expose the threat of right-wing violence, we can connect you with other NGOs, political organizations and the media.

#### locally

Our counselors will come to you, anywhere in Brandenburg. You can decide where you would like to meet.

# free of charge

You will not have to pay for any of our services. There are no financial obligations involved.

# in different languages

We can provide interpreters for almost all languages.

#### based on your needs and decisions

Everything we do is on a voluntary basis. You are the one who decides whether to use our counseling services and which steps you would like to take. We are only there to assist you.

#### confidential

Everything you tell us will be treated with absolute confidentiality. We will not pass on any information to third parties without your agreement.

# independent

Our counseling service is independent from all political parties and state authorities.

# on your side

Everything we do is based on your personal needs and interests. Our organization was founded on the principle that all survivors of right-wing crimes are to be treated with respect.

Every week there are incidents of far-right violence. People get beaten and harassed because they clash with the ideologies and world-views of right-wing offenders. Frequently, these attacks lead to the victims feeling insecure and vulnerable; feelings that remain with them in their daily lives. In many cases, the victims are left alone with their fears.

A lack of compassion for the victims of far-right violence can lead to a situation where right-wing offenders believe that they act on behalf of the majority of society. Silence means consent. The aim of our organization is to break this silence and to create a climate where everybody can live in peace and without fear.

The Opferperspektive is a counseling center for victims of right-wing violence and is operated by an association. The association under the name Opferperspektive – Solidarisch gegen Rassismus, Diskriminierung und rechte Gewalt is officialy recognised as charitable and is politically independent. Our work is funded through the support program Tolerantes Brandenburg, supporting memberships and donations.

# **Every donation helps!**

Donation account 3813100
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