



## Concerned Women for America

FACT CARD

### “Hate Crimes”

“Hate crimes” creates special classes of victims based solely upon their “sexual orientation” or “gender identity.” Victims who engage in homosexual, transgender, fetish, or other sexual behaviors would get preferential treatment over victims who are grandmothers, veterans or children. In other countries, it has led to punishing people for their Biblical views on sexuality.

- ***It violates the U.S. Constitution***

The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution affords equal protection to every citizen, regardless of their sexual choices. “Hate crimes” would treat victims differently because of their sexual choices. An assault on a homosexual man would trigger a harsher penalty than committing the same violent crime against a child. That’s wrong.

- ***There is no need for special status***

Crimes against people who engage in different sexual behaviors are already prosecuted. Thus, there is no reason for special protection above any other citizen.

FBI statistics reveal that in 2007 about 1.4 million violent crimes were committed in the U.S. Of these, 1,512 were reported as “hate crimes” motivated by “sexual orientation” bias. Two-thirds were name calling, pushing or



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## *“Hate Crimes” = Thought Crimes*

shoving. Only 247 cases were aggravated assault (including five deaths) allegedly motivated by “sexual orientation.” In each case, where appropriate, offenders were prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The victims received the exact same justice guaranteed every American.

- ***“Hate crimes” is an overreach and overbroad***  
“Hate crimes” laws politicize crimes, pressuring police and prosecutors to devote more resources to some cases at the expense of other victims. They unnecessarily expand the power of the federal government to intervene in local matters. Forty-five states already have some form of “hate crimes.” States are already prosecuting to the fullest extent of their laws. Over 30 kinds of sexual behaviors could be covered, including pedophilia and bestiality.
- ***“Hate crimes” laws lead to religious discrimination***  
These laws have been used in Europe, Canada – and even in America – to intimidate and punish people who honor natural sexuality and value marriage as the union of a man and a woman. If a person speaks out against various sexual behaviors, they may be accused of “hate speech” and promoting “hate crimes.”

### ***ACT on the FACTS***

Regrettably, Rep. Herseth-Sandlin voted Yes on H.R. 1913.

Please call Sen. Johnson and ask him to vote NO  
on the Senate hate crimes bill, S. 909.

Sen. Johnson 1 202-224-5842 (Washington office)  
Toll free 1-800-537-0025 (Sioux Falls office)

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