

MODULE #5A HANDOUT: DANGEROUS SPEECH AND HATE SPEECH

Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):

Article 19: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

Case Study

A community member reports that there are subjects handing out paper brochures in public in both a commercial area and in a residential neighborhood. The subjects are not aggressive toward anyone nor are they forcing people to take the brochures. The subjects are also leaving the brochures on car windshields like an advertisement (under the windshield wiper). Examination of the brochures reveal the following:

- Hateful remarks about a minority group (name calling)
- Language blaming the minority group for economic problems in the country
- Language blaming the minority group for ruining the community and society
- Language stating that society needs to remain “pure” and people need to avoid interacting or procreating with the minority group
- Information on how to join the organization that the subjects belong to in order to aid “spreading the word”

Community members and local politicians are demanding you take immediate action on the group, and they say this hate speech must be stopped.

Describe the situation.

- How would you handle the demands for action by the community and politicians?
- What could happen as a result of your actions?

MODULE #5B HANDOUT: TOOLS FOR PREVENTION: COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

US Government Atrocity Assessment Frameworks:

- USAID and US Department of State, [Atrocity Assessment Framework](#) (2015)
- US Department of State, [US Atrocity Risk Assessment Framework](#) (2022)

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, [Early Warning Project](#)