HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER AND HELP A TARGET OF RACISM/HATE CRIME

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DEVELOPED BY ACCT Foundation

DELAY - After the incident has occurred, check in with the person who was harassed. You can ask them if they are okay, offer to accompany them to somewhere safe, express how sorry you are that this happened, and/or give them documentation if you were able to capture the incident on your phone.

DOCUMENT - If you can keep a safe distance, you can try to document the incident with your phone. Make a note of the time, date, location, and/or landmarks. Always ask the target what they want to do with the footage and NEVER post it online without their consent.

DIRECT APPROACH - This can be risky so assess your own safety and trust your instincts. If you choose to take this approach, be assertive and keep your response short. Do not engage in an argument or dialogue with the aggressor as the situation may escalate.

DELEGATE - Approach a third party member (e.g., bus driver, store employee, teacher, or other co-witnesses). Contact 911 or police with the permission of the target. Some people may not feel comfortable involving law enforcement due to their own personal/community histories and or fear/mistrust of police interventions. If you cannot get to the target you will need to use your best judgement.

DISTRACT - Focus on the target of the racism rather than the aggressor. You can start a conversation with the target, drop something, or play music loudly. If you feel safe, you can stand between the target and the aggressor.

Report a racist incident by texting to 1-587-507-3838.

ACT 2 END RACISM

CALGARY FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY, FOREVER

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Source: Ishiyama, I. (2001). Active Witnessing Responses Developed for Anti-racism Response Training (A.R.T.) Program. University of British Columbia

The 5 D's of Bystander Intervention. (n.d.). Hollaback!. Retrieved May 7, 2020 from https://www.ihollaback.org/bystander-resources/