

CONVERSATION STARTERS

HOW TO TALK ABOUT HATE BASED VIOLENCE



With a friend

"Hey, I've noticed that one of our friends is posting weird things. I'm kind of worried about him/her and don't want anything bad to happen. Will you go with me to talk to a teacher?"

With an acquaintance

"Hey, we've never really talked about this topic before. What did you mean when you said that about [person or group]?"

With a parent

"[Mom or Dad], I'm really worried. I overheard two kids talking about bringing a gun to school but I can't tell if they were serious or not. Will you help me tell someone about it?"

With a teacher or school counselor

"Hi [school counselor], I've been feeling lonely and disconnected lately. I'm not sure how to talk about how I'm feeling."

With a trusted adult (about a concern)

"Hi [Trusted Adult's Name], I overheard someone talking about solving a problem with violence. I wanted you to be aware in case they decide to act on that idea."

With a coworker

"Hey, you spoke really negatively about [person or group]. It seemed unlike you, is there a specific reason you feel that way?"

With someone online

"I know we all laughed, but don't you think that video is actually a little mean? Think about how you'd feel if you were a [insert identity group] person watching that video."