

1:58pm Tuesday, 20 March 2001

100 Held in 'Hate Crime' Raids

Police investigating "hate crime" have arrested up to 100 people in dawn raids.

Metropolitan Police officers swooped on dozens of addresses across London, targeting people suspected of racist, homophobic and domestic offences.

A spokesman said between 80 and 100 people was detained and more arrests are expected.

The alleged offences range from racially aggravated threats to kill, homophobic harassment, the publication of racist and homophobic material and domestic assault.

Detective Chief Superintendent John Godsave said: "Today's arrests are another example of the Met's commitment to show hate crime will be robustly dealt with.

"Put simply, hate crime will not be tolerated in London."

The arrests follow the launch of a Metropolitan Police campaign targeting hate crime of all forms in the capital.

Officers have visited schools to speak to pupils about the issue and have handed out leaflets and put up posters.

A cinema campaign has also been launched with an advertisement urging Londoners to report hate crime.

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