Social Worlds Sound Bites
Identity and Belonging: The Mirror

Dr Stevie-Jade Hardy
Department of Criminology
The Leicester Hate Crime Project

• Key aims:
  – to discover as much as possible about people’s experiences of hate, prejudice and targeted hostility
  – to understand the physical and emotional harms suffered by victims and their families
  – to identify ways of improving the quality of support offered to victims
Ever been victimised because of who you are?
To be honest I thought I was untouchable until two, three years ago. I don’t know why. But it’s suddenly came home how vulnerable I really am.

Male with physical disabilities

It makes you feel demoralised. It makes you feel hated. It makes you feel isolated, unwanted.

Muslim man

The stuff they’re saying about you is the same stuff you have fought for years. To be comfortable in your own skin. To come out and say “This is who I am and I’m happy with it”.

Gay man

You try to forget these things but somehow it becomes almost a part of you. You can’t get rid of it. It’s like a bad smell: you try and try and try and you just can’t get rid of it.

Female with mental ill-health