HATE AID
-
DEFENDING THOSE AFFECTED AGAINST DIGITAL VIOLENCE

The contribution of law enforcement
What we do

Counselling for those affected
- We work closely with those affected
- „First Aid“: emotional support
- Cyber-Security counselling
- Communication Advice

Enforcing the rights of those affected
- Support those affected with legally secure documentation of digital violence
- Litigation financing: we pay the legal fees (litigation and law enforcement)

Creating public awareness: Attorney of those affected
The Internet – a legal vacuum?

No, but there is rarely any law enforcement.
The (German) situation

- **Strong protection of personality rights** against *defamation, insults and threats*

- **Strict laws to defend society** against *anticonstitutional activities* (racist hate speech/incitement, symbols, instigation of violence)

VS.

- No law enforcement on the internet
Reasons

• Investigation on the Internet is complex and time consuming

• Biggest problem: identification – most perpetrators act anonymously

• No cooperation from platforms even if severe crimes are committed

• Lack of awareness of destructive effects of digital violence

• Lack of understanding for those affected
Consequences

• Perpetrators know that the worst consequence is deletion of content
• Those affected no longer file complaints
• Law enforcement agencies conclude that there is no problem
• Right wing extremist organize online undisturbed to intimidate activists, women, politicians, journalists...
How we tackle the problem

1. Education
   Educate law enforcement, judiciary and politics

2. Collaboration
   Cooperate with specialized prosecution offices

3. Encourage and support those affected
   Provide competent legal support and create low threshold options to file and increase the number of criminal complaints
Thank you for your attention.