

BREAKING NEWS



October 27, 2010

Charges Dropped Against 3 Suspects in Bronx Bias Attack

AVP has learned that [charges have been dropped](#) against 3 of the 11 suspects who had been arrested and charged in connection with the unlawful imprisonment, abduction, assault, robbery, sodomy and menacing—all as hate crimes—[against 3 victims in the Morris Heights neighborhood in the Bronx](#) on October 3, 2010. The Bronx District Attorney's office announced that charges were being dropped due to a lack of evidence against these individuals. One suspect, 26-year-old Luis Garcia, has been indicted on charges of gang assault and robbery in connection with the attack and announcements are expected regarding the other 7 suspects in the days ahead. Please visit our [Facebook page](#) for any **breaking news** announcements as well as any upcoming community outreach, actions and activities.

"AVP is calling for the Bronx District Attorney's office to provide a clear and direct explanation for this decision to drop all charges to LGBTQ people and our allies throughout New York City," said Sharon Stapel, Executive Director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project. "LGBTQ people deserve an explanation for what happened in the Bronx and in any future cases involving LGBTQ victims and survivors. Without an explanation the District Attorney is sending a message to LGBTQ people that he does not feel accountable to our communities."

AVP is working with New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn's office, the NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force and the NYPD to keep our communities informed about developments.

AVP encourages you to report any anti-LGBTQ bias, including hate speech, bullying, harassment, and physical violence, to our **24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline at 212-714-1141** where you can speak with a trained counselor and seek the support you need. More information about the New York City Anti-Violence Project can be found at our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).