

# Mate Crime

Most friends really are friends... but sometimes people might pretend to be your friend

Mate Crime happens when a vulnerable person is befriended by someone who goes on to exploit or take advantage of them in different ways.



Says they have no money, giving money to 'friends', bills start not being paid

Changes in routine behaviours or appearance, including unexplained injuries



Lots of new 'friends' visiting the home, and more noise and mess than usual

Secretive internet or mobile phone use



To report a hate crime, visit [www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)

If you have concerns for someone's wellbeing or safety call Mencap's helpline on 0808 808 1111

