

Checking Situational Safety: The **PALMS** Assessment

Fear of escalating an incident of hate can often prevent us from confronting it. This resource will guide you through the factors you will need to consider to assess situational safety and decide what is the best approach to take in any given situation.



PACE

- How fast is the situation escalating?
- If it is escalating quickly, intervene by calling the police or immediate supports.



AUDIENCE

- Who else is witnessing the incident?
- Coordinate with someone to call for help, record the incident, or just provide some extra support.



LOCATION

- Where is the incident taking place?
- If it is a private and confined space, prioritize arranging a safe exit route for the victim.



MENTAL **S**TATE

- Do you feel stable enough to intervene and it not be harmful to you?
- Is there anyone involved in the situation who is of an impaired mental state? If so, prioritize calling resources and professional supports.



SUPPORTS

- Do you know places and people to refer the victim to, should they need extra support?
- Refer to the [North Shore Racism Response Protocol](#) to see where to direct the victim.