

Need another word that means the same as “defame”? Find 30 synonyms and 30 related words for “defame” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Defame” are: asperse, besmirch, calumniate, denigrate, slander, smear, smirch, sully, libel, malign, cast aspersions on, traduce, blacken the character of, blacken the name of, give someone a bad name, defame someone's character, sully someone's reputation, run down, speak evil of, speak ill of, run a smear campaign against, vilify, tarnish, stigmatize, disparage, discredit, decry, insult, lie about, tell lies about

Defame as a Verb

Definitions of "Defame" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “defame” as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone.*
- *Damage the good reputation of (someone); slander or libel.*
- *Charge falsely or with malicious intent.*

Synonyms of "Defame" as a verb (30 Words)

aspersion	Charge falsely or with malicious intent. <i>He aspersed the place and its inhabitants.</i>
besmirch	Make (something) dirty or discoloured. <i>The ground was besmirched with blood.</i>

blacken the character of	Make or become black.
blacken the name of	Burn slightly and superficially so as to affect color. Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone. <i>He has been calumniating the Crown and all the conservative decencies.</i>
calumniate	
cast aspersions on	Choose at random.
<u>decry</u>	Publicly denounce. <i>They decried human rights abuses.</i>
defame someone's character	Charge falsely or with malicious intent.
denigrate	Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone. <i>Doom and gloom merchants who denigrate their own country.</i>
<u>discredit</u>	Reject as false; refuse to accept. <i>The paper discredited the politician with its nasty commentary.</i>
disparage	Regard or represent as being of little worth. <i>She disparaged her student s efforts.</i>
give someone a bad name	Cause to have, in the abstract sense or physical sense.
<u>insult</u>	Speak to or treat with disrespect or scornful abuse. <i>You re insulting the woman I love.</i>
libel	Defame someone by publishing a libel. <i>The jury found that he was libelled by a newspaper.</i>
lie about	Be and remain in a particular state or condition.
malign	Speak unfavorably about. <i>Don t you dare malign her in my presence.</i>
run a smear campaign against	Cover by running; run a certain distance.
run down	Cause to emit recorded audio or video.
<u>slander</u>	Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone. <i>They were accused of slandering the head of state.</i>
smear	Stain by smearing or daubing with a dirty substance. <i>Someone was trying to smear her by faking letters.</i>

smirch	Charge falsely or with malicious intent. <i>I am not accustomed to having my honour smirched.</i>
speak evil of	Make a characteristic or natural sound.
speak ill of	Make a characteristic or natural sound.
stigmatize	Mark with stigmata. <i>She was stigmatized by society because she had a child out of wedlock.</i>
sully	Charge falsely or with malicious intent. <i>They were outraged that anyone should sully their good name.</i>
sully someone's reputation	Make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically.
tarnish	Make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically. <i>Lemon juice would tarnish the gilded metal.</i>
tell lies about	Inform positively and with certainty and confidence.
traduce	Speak badly of or tell lies about (someone) so as to damage their reputation. <i>It was regarded as respectable political tactics to traduce him.</i>
vilify	Spread negative information about. <i>He has been vilified in the press.</i>

Usage Examples of "Defame" as a verb

- *The journalists have defamed me!*
- *He claimed that the article defamed his family.*

Associations of "Defame" (30 Words)

abase	Behave in a way that belittles or degrades (someone). <i>I watched my colleagues abasing themselves before the board of trustees.</i>
aspersion	A disparaging remark. <i>In the 19th century any reference to female sexuality was considered a vile aspersion.</i>
belittle	Express a negative opinion of. <i>Don't belittle his influence.</i>
calumniate	Make false and defamatory statements about. <i>He has been calumniating the Crown and all the conservative decencies.</i>

calumny	A false accusation of an offense or a malicious misrepresentation of someone's words or actions. <i>A bitter struggle marked by calumny and litigation.</i>
decry	Express strong disapproval of. <i>They decry human rights abuses.</i>
defamation	The action of damaging the good reputation of someone; slander or libel. <i>She sued him for defamation.</i>
degrade	Treat or regard (someone) with contempt or disrespect. <i>When exposed to light the materials will degrade.</i>
demean	Cause a severe loss in the dignity of and respect for (someone or something). <i>I had demeaned the profession.</i>
demote	Move (someone) to a lower position or rank, usually as a punishment. <i>The head of the army was demoted to deputy defence secretary.</i>
denigrate	Charge falsely or with malicious intent. <i>Doom and gloom merchants who denigrate their own country.</i>
denigration	A belittling comment. <i>Their constant denigration by a hostile media.</i>
deprecation	The act of expressing disapproval (especially of yourself).
derogate	Cause to seem less serious; play down. <i>This does not derogate from his duty to act honestly and faithfully.</i>
derogatory	Expressive of low opinion. <i>She tells me I m fat and is always making derogatory remarks.</i>
detract	Take away a part from; diminish. <i>These quibbles in no way detract from her achievement.</i>
detraction	The act of discrediting or detracting from someone's reputation (especially by slander). <i>Let it be no detraction from his merits to say he is plainspoken.</i>
disparage	Express a negative opinion of. <i>She disparaged her student s efforts.</i>
disparagement	The act of speaking contemptuously of.
disparaging	Expressing the opinion that something is of little worth; derogatory. <i>Disparaging remarks about council houses.</i>
downgrade	An instance of reducing someone or something's rank, status, or level of importance. <i>Some jobs had gradually been downgraded from skilled to semi skilled.</i>

<u>insult</u>	Speak to or treat with disrespect or scornful abuse. <i>The movement of the bone causes a severe tissue insult.</i>
opprobrium	A state of extreme dishonor- F.D.Roosevelt. <i>The name was a by word of scorn and opprobrium throughout the city.</i>
<u>relegate</u>	Assign an inferior rank or position to. <i>They aim to prevent women from being relegated to a secondary role.</i>
<u>slander</u>	Words falsely spoken that damage the reputation of another. <i>He is suing the TV company for slander.</i>
smirch	Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone. <i>The window was smirched by heat and smoke.</i>
sully	Make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically. <i>Sully someone s reputation.</i>
traduce	Speak unfavorably about. <i>It was regarded as respectable political tactics to traduce him.</i>
vilification	Abusively disparaging speech or writing. <i>The widespread vilification of politicians.</i>
vilify	Speak or write about in an abusively disparaging manner. <i>He has been vilified in the press.</i>