

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)

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

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

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

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

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

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