

Stop Hate UK Helpline Areas: Coronavirus Update and Advice

The current Covid-19 pandemic is undoubtedly showing us the best in communities coming together. However, isolated incidents of Hate Crime and Hate Speech still remain in our society. In these difficult times, Stop Hate UK need your help in trying to reduce these incidents, especially when directed at and experienced by the most vulnerable people and groups in our communities.

What can you do?

Use Social Media

As you may know, Stop Hate UK is very active across most social media platforms. You can find us on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram, by searching for Stop Hate UK. If you follow/like our pages you can get up to date information.

 **@stophateuk**  **stop.hate.uk**

 **linkedin.com/company/stophateuk**  **stop_hate_uk**

You can promote our helpline on community pages you belong to, or direct people to our website if people want help, advice or maybe just to talk about an incident - **<https://www.stophateuk.org/>**

Why does it matter more now?

Nationally, we are seeing a rise in the number of Hate Crimes targeted at members of the Asian community and, in particular, members of the Chinese community. Prior to the outbreak of Coronavirus (Covid-19), there were very few instances of Chinese nationals being targeted by incidents of Race Hate. As such, we believe that those now being targeted may not know where or how to access help, or feel comfortable seeking it.

Please help us to inform people that Stop Hate UK is here to help and would want to hear about any such incidents. We also have an information leaflet, for the Chinese community, on how to report incidents of Hate, which is available in both traditional and simplified Chinese.

In times of a crisis, many people will feel that incidents of Hate are, perhaps, relatively trivial. However, we feel that raising awareness is key, and that the authorities, including the police, being informed is critical at a time where community cohesion is essential for all. We are all fully aware that police resources will be stretched over the coming weeks. However, the local police also recognise the need for cohesion, and prioritising Hate Crimes is key - **if we work together, this can be achieved.**

Extremist groups are adept at using a time of crisis to spread hatred and misinformation, particularly online. Stop Hate UK can help to get Hate Speech and harmful materials removed, but the more people and organisations we have working with us, the more effective we can all be at recognising local incidents of online abuse which, when reported correctly can be removed.

Given the recent restrictions on people's movement and social interaction, it has never been more vital for vulnerable individuals to be able to go online without fear of abuse.

If you would like to get in touch with us, with ideas about how we can work together to tackle these issues, please email **talk@stophateuk.org** - we'd love to hear from you. Thank you and stay safe.


0800 138 1625
24 HOUR HELP LINE

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