

Muslim engagement
& development

2019

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mend

Newsletter



Islamophobia is real
Report it! Stand up to it!

Islamophobia Facts

For every 1 “moderate” Muslim mentioned in the press, there are 21 references to “extremist” Muslims.



Source: Paul Baker, Costas Gabrielatos & Tony McEnery- Discourse Analysis & Media Attitudes: Representation of Islam in the British Press (Cambridge: University Press, 2013)



Between March 2016 and March 2017, 143,920 tweets were sent from the UK that are considered to be derogatory and anti-Islamic.

This amounts to 393 a day

Carl Miller and Josh Smith, Anti-Islamic Content on Twitter - Demos, accessed June 05, 2017.

People submitting CVs with ‘Muslim-sounding’ names are 3 times less likely to get job interviews.



Source: 'Is it easier to get a job if you're Adam or Mohamed?' BBC News, 6th February 2017



The NSPCC has reported that some children, including Muslim children, have experienced religious bullying "so cruel" they have resorted to self-harm.

Source: 'Charity sees rise in race and faith-based bullying', STV News, 28th June 2017

1264 Islamophobic hate crimes in London 2016/17. A 13% increase on previous year.



Source: Metropolitan Police Service Crime Statistics 2016/17
Photograph: Cynthia Vanzella - Finsbury Park Mosque Attack

Online Presence

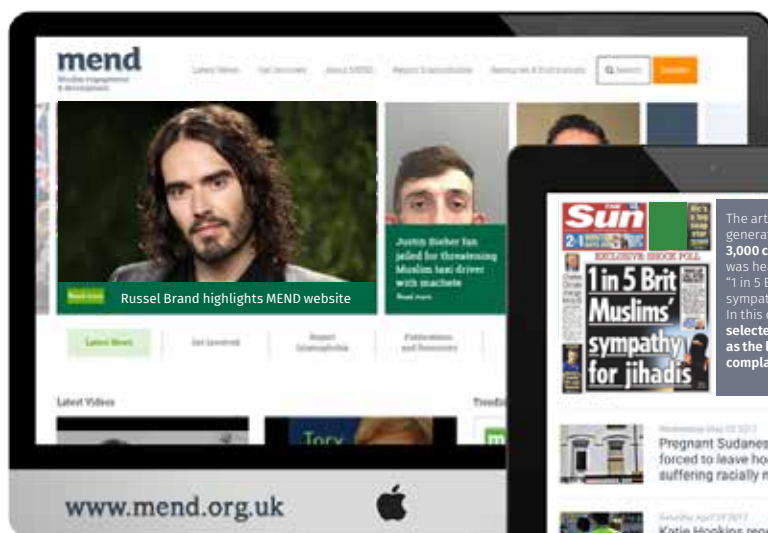


5,000+ stories featured

MEND's website provides **regular daily news and commentary** on news stories impacting British Muslims. Such is the quality and originality of our content, we count high profile personalities such as Russell Brand among our fans!

MEND Website & App

In 2017, we launched our new website and mobile Apps. The new MEND website includes an in-built "Eventbrite" style ticketing system, cutting-edge campaigning tools, including action alerts and has provided **over 100% increase in traffic**.



60,000+ followers on Facebook



16,100+ followers on Twitter



Facebook & Twitter

The last 12 months have witnessed an exponential increase with our combined facebook likes and twitter followers exceeding the **75,000** mark!

Join our community:     @mendcommunity

Police, Councils, Schools and Interfaith work

MEND believes that Islamophobia can only truly be eliminated when society at large embraces the challenge at hand. MEND works with local councils, police forces, schools, interfaith organisations, charitable bodies and community organisations to address this challenge.

Partnering with Police Constabularies

Since MEND successfully lobbied for Islamophobia to be recorded under a separate hate crime flag in 2016, we have been working with forces to increase police recruitment from the Muslim community, ensuring race is not conflated with religion when recording hate crime and working towards increased numbers of third party reporting centres. MEND delivered an awareness session at Scotland Yard to senior counter-terrorism officers.



Cooperation with Local Councils

MEND actively works with local councils to ensure Islamophobia is part of their hate crime awareness strategy. Local MEND teams host events in council buildings, libraries, and within civic institutions to invite everyone to tackle Islamophobia.



Inspiring Positive Change, Networking Dinner with Councillors from Leicester



Leeds City Council



Building Interfaith Bridges

Al Madina Mosque in Barking, east London, hosted a panel discussion with a local imam, Archdeacon, rabbi and a senior representative of the Sikh faith to discuss the challenges of faith in today's society. The faith leaders spoke of the need for all communities to work together to tackle Islamophobia, anti-semitism and other challenges to faith groups in modern society.



Locals Flock to #ShareIftar

During Ramadan 2015, MEND joined the #ShareIftar initiative run by the Myriad Foundation. Hundreds of work colleagues, neighbours, friends and family joined local Muslims in the breaking of the fast.

Schools materials

MEND has developed 'lesson plans' on tackling Islamophobia. At a Yorkshire event, over 230 students were in attendance, learning more about Islamophobia and some of the most common misconceptions of Islam and Muslims. MEND also conducts 'teacher training' sessions.

You can download our material at www.mend.org.uk/schools

National Education Union

The National Education Union (formerly NUT) invited MEND to deliver a keynote address at the Black Teachers Conference. Founder of MEND, Sufyan Ismail, spoke on 'Islamophobia - the new racism'. The session was very popular with many delegates naming it the highlight of their conference.



Advocacy & Policy

Westminster Advocacy

Muslim Manifesto 2017 – In March 2017, MEND launched its ‘Muslim Manifesto’ for the 2017 General Election with cross-party support. The manifesto addressed key issues affecting Muslims and advanced policy recommendations on tackling Islamophobia, enabling Muslim labour market access, reforming the media, improving diversity in politics and public life, overhauling the counter-terrorism strategy and advancing British Muslim integration. MPs from all the mainstream parties attended and spoke at the launch.



Briefing Papers

MEND has authored over a dozen briefing papers on topics ranging from Islamophobia and media reform to Schedule 7, Palestinian statehood recognition and profiling at ports and airports.

Counter Terrorism and Security Bill

Prior to the passage of the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill, MEND prepared regular briefings and updates for MPs and lobbied for key amendments to the legislation to introduce essential legal safeguards to new powers on passport seizure and temporary exclusion orders. The Act, passed in February 2015, adopted several of our supported amendments and will include changes from February 2019.



Iain Duncan Smith MP at launch of
Islamophobia Awareness Month 2018

Party Conferences and Political Engagement

MEND have actively participated in annual party conferences hosting popular fringe sessions on topical issues such as 'The Potential of the Muslim Vote'.

Speakers at our recent events have included Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham, Conservative Party election campaign consultant Sir Lynton Crosby, former chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee Keith Vaz, and journalists Peter Osborne and Owen Jones.



SNP Conference with Aamer Anwar, Tasmina Sheikh and Angela Crawley MP in Glasgow



Lynton Crosby and Peter Osborne speak at MEND fringe at Conservative conference 2014



Lynton Crosby and Peter Osborne speak at MEND fringe at Conservative conference 2014



MEND at The EU

MEND were invited to participate at the EU's first ever Colloquium on Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism. MEND addressed the meeting highlighting the shocking rise in Islamophobia in the UK and articulated examples of our work with government, police and communities to tackle the problem.



Andy Burnham MP and Stephen Kinnock MP at Labour Conference 2016



Jeremy Corbyn MP at the launch of Islamophobia Awareness Month #IAM2017



Vince Cable MP helping to promote Islamophobia Awareness Month #IAM2017

People Power | MEND in the Community



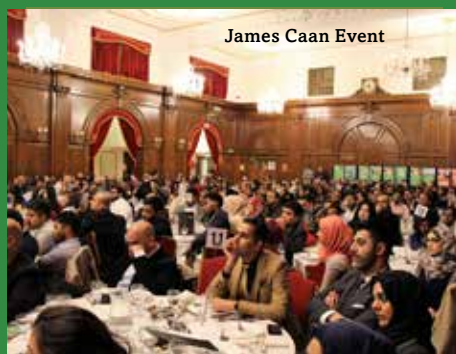
Losing My Religion Conference - Harrogate



Losing My Religion Conference - London



Islam in Britain Conference - Manchester



James Caan Event



Losing My Religion Conference - Harrogate

Raising Awareness in Communities About Islamophobia

MEND's landmark presentation 'Islamophobia – causes and cures' is an unparalleled visual exposé of the causal factors resulting in the steady growth in Islamophobia today. It also lists practical steps on how to make a real difference in tackling the problem. The presentation has been delivered on hundreds of occasions across the UK in mosques, community centres, offices and homes.



Leicester Vintage Tea Party



London Pre-Election Conference



Schools Training in Chelmsford



Leeds Working Group Event



Blackburn Aunties Rule!

Community Empowerment

James Caan Delivers Keynote at MEND Professional Dinner

Legendary entrepreneur and Government advisor James Caan CBE showed his support for MEND and delivered the keynote address at a professionals dinner in London where nearly 500 people paid to attend from the City. The evening saw James impart valuable business lessons as well as a presentation on the vital work of MEND.



Advanced Training Course

MEND has developed a seven-day advanced training course to further boost the knowledge base of its core team. Content includes key legislation governing hate crime, press regulation, key UK legislation impacting Muslims, counter-terror law and UK foreign policy.



Scholarly Backing for MEND

MEND has the backing of major Muslim scholars. MEND has created regional councils for Imams in Yorkshire, Midlands, and London. These groups help MEND in raising awareness about Islamophobia amongst mosque congregations and enhancing community resilience in tackling this problem.



Over 500+ community events

Over 40,000 people in attendance

Over 3,000 people have benefited from our masterclasses



MEND Masterclasses

Media and political literacy are much needed skills among BME communities, particularly Muslims. The recent rise in negative media coverage of Islam and Muslims has encouraged more Muslims to want to engage effectively with the media and politics and our masterclasses are designed to help them learn how. Our masterclasses up-skill grassroots Muslim communities with training on how media and political institutions work, key legislation, lobbying and media regulation.

Working Groups and Local Teams

Local working groups are the heartbeat of MEND. We already have over 25 working groups across the UK with many more planned for the future. Local groups bring together individuals from diverse professional, ethnic and social backgrounds from entrepreneurs and retired grandmothers to doctors, teachers and Islamic scholars - all working together to promote active citizenship.



DOCTORS GALA DINNER



MLE EXPO 2018



LEEDS - IAM2018



LABOUR CONFERENCE 2018



IAM2018 - LONDON



MLE EXPO 2018



CHELMSFORD SCHOOL



REGIONAL DINNER - YORKSHIRE



Yorkshire & Humber

- Leeds
- Bradford
- Sheffield
- Wakefield
- Doncaster
- Rotherham
- Scunthorpe
- York

Midlands

- Birmingham
- Leicester
- Nottingham
- Wolverhampton
- Walsall
- Sandwell

North West

- Manchester
- Blackburn

Wales

- Cardiff
- Swansea
- Exeter
- Bristol
- Newport

Home Counties

- Reading
- High Wycombe

London

- Waltham Forest
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Hackney
- Central London
- Ealing
- Croydon
- South West London



RIZ TEST



IAM2018



IAM2018 - BIRMINGHAM



IAM2018 - LEICESTER



IAM2018 - SHEFFIELD



ISLAMOPHOBIA EXHIBITION



Bus Tour - #IAM2018



BYLINE FESTIVAL

Campaigns



General Election - Get Out and Vote (GOAV)

www.getoutandvote.info

MEND ran an energetic election campaign in 2017 producing a Muslim Manifesto and featuring a dedicated elections website 'Get Out and Vote.' Our election activities ranged from raising awareness on the importance of voting to dozens of local election hustings with prospective candidates. Our GOAV Campaign is now a household name which will only grow further in successive elections.



Hustings

With moderate to large Muslim populations spread across several marginal and other constituencies, hustings form a key plan in our election campaigning. MEND has organised hustings in London, Manchester, the Midlands and Yorkshire with candidates attending from all mainstream parties. Analysis shows that the Labour vote increased in areas with large Muslim populations.



Universities' Tour

Islamophobia on university campuses is a growing area of concern. MEND was hosted at a number of Russell Group universities throughout IAM bringing our expertise to student societies and student unions across the country.

www.islamophobia-awareness.org

**ISLAMOPHOBIA
AWARENESS MONTH 2018**

November is Islamophobia Awareness Month. This initiative, started by a coalition of Muslim groups in 2012, is now spearheaded by MEND. The entire month is dedicated to events across the UK raising awareness about Islamophobia and inviting local communities and civil society groups to come together to challenge anti-Muslim hatred and prejudice and promote social integration. Thousands of individuals have joined our events since IAM's inception.



Tackling Islamophobia locally



Islamophobic
Attack, Leicester

Paul Moore ran over Sister Zaynab, made a U-turn and ran over her again. MEND volunteers helped her story be heard across the country and provided her family the vital support when they needed it. Zaynab's story is not unique, in 2017-18 the police recorded over 8000 Religious hate crimes.



Hijab Ban, Newham

St Stephen's school in Newham introduced a hijab ban without consulting parents and it was MEND that empowered local parents to hold the school to account and thereby ensure the voice of the community was heard. The ban was overturned in weeks and the school apologised to the parents of the children.

**Islamophobia
Response Unit (IRU)**
Report it! Stand up to it!

THE IRU
HAS HELPED OVER
450 PEOPLE



Muslim Family Suffered Years of Abuse From Neighbours



Abdullah settled the case out of court

Muslim Teacher Unfairly Dismissed

The Islamophobia Response Unit is a free service run by MEND staff, caseworkers and legal supervisors. It provides advice, emotional and practical support to Muslims who have suffered hate-crime attacks and discrimination at work.

Contact The IRU: Tel: 020 3904 6555 Email: iru@mend.org.uk

Visit: www.mend.org.uk/iru

mend in the Media



ComRes Poll 2018 commissioned by MEND

Islamophobia is a real problem in society

58% agree

Concerned if a mosque is built in my neighbourhood

26% Younger

50% Older

THE SUNDAY TIMES
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13 2018
LOG IN

A third of Britons would stop their children visiting mosque

Nicholas Hellen, Social Affairs Editor
October 28 2018, 12:01am, The Sunday Times

A fifth of Britons do not think a person can see themselves as both Muslim and British.

ALERT

About two-fifths of the population would be concerned if a mosque was built in their neighbourhood or if a family member married a Muslim.

One in five would be concerned if a Muslim family moved to their neighbourhood.

48% people felt that there was more negative discrimination towards Muslims than people from other faiths.

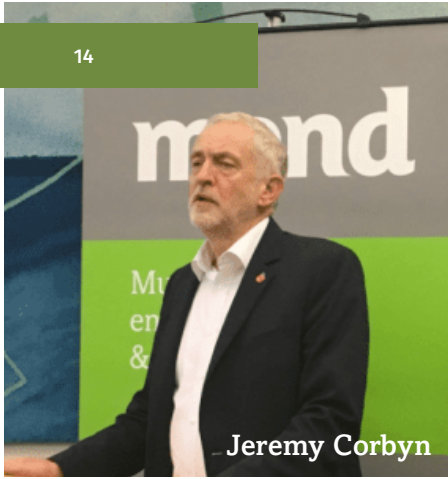
Can a person see themselves as both Muslim & British?

67% Agree
20% Disagree

81% Younger
62% Older

74% Scotland
81% London

The Big Names



Jeremy Corbyn



Vince Cable MP



Prof. Tariq Ramadan



James Caan CBE



Dr. Shaykh Yasir Qadhi



Naz Shah MP



Ustadh Nouman Ali Khan



Shaykh Omar Suleiman



Andy Burnham



Baroness Warsi



Maryam Amir



Iain Duncan Smith

Wider Relationships



Byline Festival 2018



Co-chairing a meeting with Hacked off at Labour Party conference 2018



Stand Up To Racism

Recognition and Accolades



The World Economic Forum has commended MEND's work as an example of 'best practice' in 'human rights protection and promotion'.



The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) have commended MEND's annual reports on Islamophobia as 'best example' for civil society organisations.



MEND sits on the CPS' hate crime accountability forums.



MEND is a partner with the electoral commission, thus encouraging Muslim voter registration and turn-out.



APPG – MEND served as Secretariat to the first Islamophobia APPG.



EU Parliament Magazine – stated that "The EU could learn a lot from MEND's work on counter-radicalisation through engagement".

Resources



Media Toolkit

Our media monitoring toolkit helps readers to respond to media output in 3 easy steps. Our 'Commend or Complain' guide provides details of regulatory codes and allows readers to respond to news stories or TV programmes in just 5 minutes!



Islamophobia Exhibition

The MEND Islamophobia Awareness Exhibition is a resource designed to raise public awareness about Islamophobia and its impact on British Muslims. The exhibition showcases the enormous contributions by British Muslims to the UK in the fields of medicine, business, sport, finance and economy. It features Sir Mohamed Farah, James Caan CBE, Nadiya Hussain, Sadiq Khan and more.



Factsheets & British Muslims, Facts and Figures

MEND has produced over 30 fully-referenced factsheets as a 'one stop shop' on key issues impacting British Muslims. MEND has published these factsheets as a book that will be an invaluable resource for journalists, students and policymakers alike.



Guides and Publications

MEND has produced a vast array of easy read guides and publications on topical issues such as press regulation, counter-terror law, Police and Crime Commissioners, foreign policy and more.

Email: info@mend.org.uk | Telephone: 020 8980 4591





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