

Muslim engagement
& development

mend

Newsletter

    /mendcommunity



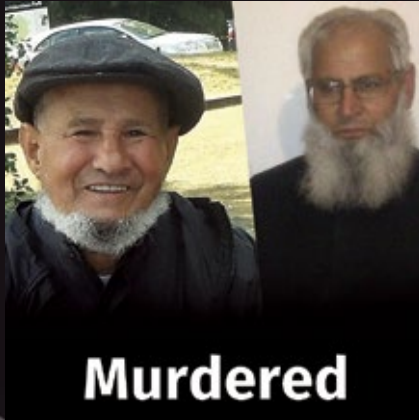
Islamophobia is real
Help us make it history

'Islamophobia Response Unit' now Live!

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

Islamophobia Facts

Finsbury
Park
Attack



Murdered

6561 incidents | 41% Increase RACIST AND RELIGIOUS ABUSE

The number of incidents of racist and religious abuse recorded by police in England and Wales reached 6561 – an increase of 41% – in the month after the UK voted to leave the EU. Recent years have witnessed at least three Islamophobic murders of elderly Muslim males.¹



143,920 TWEETS | 393 a day MARCH 2016 - 2017

Between March 2016 - 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.²



21 to 1 Suicide Bomber, Terrorists, Extremist

For every one reference to a 'moderate' word occurring next to a word about Muslims or Islam there are 21 such 'extremist' type words.³



69% increase Racist bullying in the classroom

Childline recorded a 69% increase in racist bullying in playgrounds with the most common terms used being 'bomber' and 'terrorist'.⁴



Muslims less likely to get jobs Three times less likely to be offered an interview

Job applicants with a 'Muslim-sounding' name were three times less likely to be offered an interview compared to candidates with an English name.⁵

1. Race and religious hate crimes rose 41% after EU vote. BBC News, October 13, 2016

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

3. Paul Baker, Costas Gabrielatos, and Tony McNery, Discourse analysis and media attitudes: the representation of Islam in the British Press (Cambridge: University Press, 2013).

4. "Charity sees rise in race and faith-based bullying", STV News, June 28, 2017, accessed July 14, 2017.

5. Zack Adesina and Oana Marocico, "Is it easier to get a job if you're Adam or Mohamed?," BBC News, February 06, 2017, accessed June 05, 2017.

Positive Muslim contributions

British Muslims give more to charity, per capita, than all other religious groups.



British Muslims gave approximately **£100 million** to charitable cause during the month of **Ramadan** on 2016 – that equates to approximately **£38 a second.**



The **NHS** is reliant on health professionals drawn from countries with large Muslim populations, such as India, Pakistan and the Middle East. Indeed, **26% of all doctors** working in the NHS are Asian or Asian British.

NHS



British Muslims contribute over **£31 billion** to the UK economy.

In London alone, there are **13,500** British Muslim businesses that create **over 70,000 jobs.**

95% of British Muslims feel

LOYALTY
to the **UK.**



Generation M

Muslims between the ages of **15-35** are leading consumer trends.

Young **British Muslims** will have accounted for **one quarter** of the growth in the **UK's working age population** between 2008 and 2018.



Online Presence

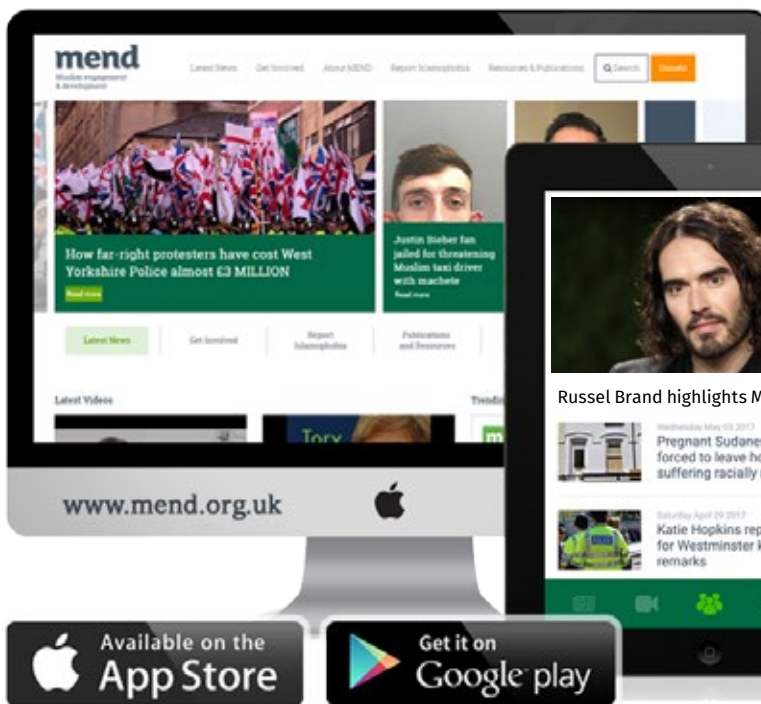


4,000+ stories featured

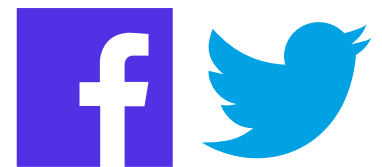
MEND's website provides **regular daily news and commentary** on news stories impacting British Muslims. Such is the quality and originality of our content, we count high profile personalities such as Russell Brand among our fans!

MEND WEBSITE & APP

In April 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**.



47,000+ followers on Facebook



12,300+ followers on Twitter

Facebook & Twitter

The last 12 months have witnessed an exponential increase with our combined facebook likes and twitter followers exceeding the **60,000** mark!

Join our community:   @mendcommunity

BuzzFeed



Quran at Oscars Video
980,000 Views



Rohingya Crisis Video
921,000 Views



Dr Siema Iqbal, National Events Lead, MEND

mend in the Press



A Muslim community group has raised £14,000 for affected families on a page called "Muslims For Manchester victims", set up by Shazad Amin, chief executive of Muslim Engagement and Development, among several others.



One effort led by non-governmental organisation Muslim Engagement and Development has raised more than £2,300.
Dr Shazad Amin, CEO of MEND said, "It is a fundamental part of our faith to help those in need, irrespective of their background."



"The Muslim community stands shoulder to shoulder with victims (and their families) of these atrocities."
MEND said it would appoint a local law or accountancy firm to handle the money and distribute to victims.



Sufyan Ismail, the founder of Mend, which monitors Islamophobia, said he would be asking "why the government's counter-terrorism strategy does not focus enough on the far right".

He added: "In the weeks following Manchester and London Bridge we have seen a huge increase in the number of Islamophobic incidents and crimes, this terrorist attack being the worst case. It is important police and government deal with this threat facing Muslims urgently and robustly. At the same time we call for calm and state that this Islamophobic terrorist attack must not be allowed to divide our great capital city, we are one London.

"We also condemn the initial ambivalent response of, and language used by parts of the media in reporting this as a terrorist attack. We would contrast this with their response to the similar Westminster attack that was immediately described as a terrorist attack. We call upon the media to ensure even-handedness and objectivity in their reporting of such incidents regardless of the alleged perpetrator or victims."



Ilford Recorder

Vaseem Ahmed, chairman of Redbridge MEND, said the police and Redbridge Council need to make hate crime a priority issue.

"Residents have reached the level where they are scared to get on a tube for fear of being a victim," he said.

East London acid attack: When Muslims are the victims, we refuse to call it terrorism

The differences in how we talk about attacks on Muslims, as opposed to those perpetrated by Muslims, reveal a double standard rooted in Islamophobia

Sufyan Ismail | Saturday 1 July 2017 09:43 BST | 2333 comments



"Meanwhile, groups such as the Muslim Engagement and Development (MEND) have started campaigns urging British Muslims to vote in the general election and unveiling a "Muslim Manifesto" outlining key policies it believes represent the needs of British Muslims."



Police, Local Councils and Schools

MEND realises 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.

MEND will continue to work with police forces to ensure anti-Muslim hate crimes are clearly identified and duly recorded taking into consideration 'victim perceptions' of hostility.



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.





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.



Trade Unions

The National Union of Teachers 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.

Locals flock to #ShareIftar

During Ramadan 2015, MEND Manchester 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.



Schoolchildren and teacher training

MEND has recently developed 'lesson plans' on tackling Islamophobia. At a recent Yorkshire event over 230 students and around 18 teachers were in attendance, learning more about anti-Muslim hate 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.



Advocacy & Policy

Westminster advocacy

Muslim Manifesto 2017 – In March 2017, MEND launched its 2017 Muslim Manifesto for the 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.



Lord Rosser with MEND

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.

Party conferences

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



Andy Burnham and Stephen Kinnock at MEND event.



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



SNP Conference 2016 with Aamer Anwar, Tasmina Sheikh and Angela Crawley MP in Glasgow

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



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.



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



Keith Vaz MP and Owen Jones at MEND fringe at Labour conference 2014

PEOPLE POWER | MEND in the Community



James Caan Event



Losing My Religion Conference - London



Islam in Britain Conference - Manchester



Losing My Religion Conference - Harrogate



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



Ulema/Scholars training



Leeds Working Group Event



Blackburn Aunties Rule!

Community Empowerment

James Caan delivers keynote at MEND professional dinner

Legendary entrepreneur James Caan 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.



Imam regional MEND working groups

MEND has created regional Imam working groups in Yorkshire and the Midlands, with London shortly to be created. These imams groups help MEND in raising awareness about Islamophobia amongst mosque congregations and supporting Imams on tackling extremism in their mosques.



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.

Over 400 community events have been delivered

Over 40,000 people have attended our presentations

Over 3,000 have sat through masterclasses

General Election 2017 - Get Out and Vote

MEND ran an energetic election campaign in 2017 producing a Muslim Manifesto and featuring a dedicated elections website 'Get Out and Vote.' Our GE2017 activities ranged from awareness raising 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 plank in our election campaigning. In 2017, MEND organised hustings in Ilford, 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.

Islamophobia Awareness Month

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.

Universities' Tour

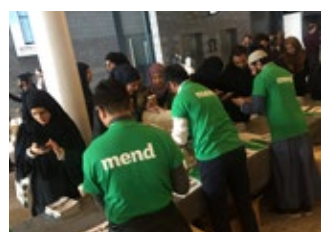
Islamophobia on university campuses is a growing area of concern. MEND was hosted at a number of Russell Group universities throughout IAM bringing our expertise to student societies and student unions across the country.

Campaigns



Working groups and teams

Local working groups are the heartbeat of MEND. MEND 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.



North

West

- Blackburn
- Bolton
- Liverpool
- Manchester
- Oldham
- Preston

Wales

- Cardiff
- Swansea

Home

Counties

- Brighton
- Bristol
- High Wycombe
- Luton
- Reading



Yorkshire & Humber

- Batley
- Bradford
- Dewsbury
- Leeds
- Sheffield
- Huddersfield
- Kirklees & Wakefield

Midlands

- Birmingham
- Derby
- Leicester
- Nottingham
- Loughborough
- Peterborough

London

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

Baroness Warsi



The Big Names

Prof. Tariq Ramadan



James Caan



Dr. Shaykh Yasir Qadhi



Shaykh Omar Suleiman



Andy Burnham

Ustadh Nouman Ali Khan





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".



MEND has the backing of major Muslim scholars.

MEND is 100% community financed.

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.

Exhibition Guide

Our exhibition guide accompanies our Islamophobia Awareness Exhibition and is an invaluable 'reader's guide' to Islamophobia in Britain today.

Factsheets

MEND has produced over 30 fully-referenced factsheets as a 'one stop shop' on key issues impacting British Muslims. The factsheets cover Muslim demographics, Muslims and counter-terror law, halal meat facts, Shariah courts and more.

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.