Islamophobia is real
Help us make it history
‘Islamophobia Response Unit’ now Live!
Tel: 020 3904 6555  Email: iru@mend.org.uk
Islamophobia Facts

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

Positive Muslim contributions

British Muslims gave approximately £100 million to charitable causes during the month of Ramadan in 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.

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

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.

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: twitter @mendcommunity

4,000+ stories featured

4,000+ stories featured

47,000+ followers on Facebook

12,300+ followers on Twitter
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.

"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."

Dr Siema Iqbal, National Events Lead, MEND

Dr Shazad Amin, CEO - MEND
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.

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.

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.
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.

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.

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.
Party conferences

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

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 Oborne 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.
PEOPLE POWER | MEND in the Community

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!
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.
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.
The Big Names

Baroness Warsi

James Caan

Prof. Tariq Ramadan

Dr. Shaykh Yasir Qadhi

Shaykh Omar Suleiman

Ustadh Nouman Ali Khan

Andy Burnham
## Recognition and Accolades

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<tr>
<th>Logo</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="World Economic Forum" /></td>
<td>The World Economic Forum has commended MEND’s work as an example of ‘best practice’ in ‘human rights protection and promotion’.</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="ODIHR" /></td>
<td>The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) have commended MEND’s annual reports on Islamophobia as ‘best example’ for civil society organisations.</td>
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<td><img src="image3.png" alt="CPS" /></td>
<td>MEND sits on the CPS’ hate crime accountability forums.</td>
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<td><img src="image4.png" alt="The Electoral Commission" /></td>
<td>MEND is a partner with the electoral commission, thus encouraging Muslim voter registration and turn-out.</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="APPG" /></td>
<td>APPG – MEND served as Secretariat to the first Islamophobia APPG.</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="EU Parliament Magazine" /></td>
<td>EU Parliament Magazine – stated that “The EU could learn a lot from MEND’s work on counter-radicalisation through engagement”.</td>
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<td><img src="image7.png" alt="MEND" /></td>
<td>MEND has the backing of major Muslim scholars.</td>
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**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.