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16. COVID, Xenophobia, and Hate Speech

Module 3 – Human Rights, Equity and Anti-racism
(Secondary)

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Learning Goal: To learn about the rise of racism and xenophobia against Asian-Canadians during COVID-19 and learn how hate speech denies people their human rights.

Minds On...



Where have you seen anti-Asian sentiment related to COVID-19?

In the news?

In entertainment media?

In conversations with family and/or friends?

Other? _____

Meaning/ Message of the Image?



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Analyzing Statistics – Examples of Xenophobia or anti-Asian racism

Angus Reid Poll (June 22, 2020)

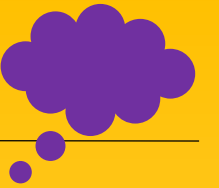
- Half of Chinese Canadians reported being called names or insulted as a direct result of COVID-19,
- 43 per cent said they had been personally threatened or intimidated.
- 61 per cent said they had adjusted their routines "to avoid run-ins or otherwise unpleasant encounters" since the pandemic began.

• Source: <http://angusreid.org/racism-chinese-canadians-covid19/>

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Xenophobia



As humans, we thrive on social connections and group associations. But this tendency can also lead to us to be suspicious of people outside our group. This is especially true during times of stress such as a pandemic. This fear -- **xenophobia** -- can often fuel online communication that's offensive, hateful, or even threatening. In the video, teens share their candid thoughts about online hate speech, including why they think it happens, and the ways they respond when they encounter hate speech online.

Teen Voice: Hate Speech Online



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Video Reflection and Discussion



1. What is hate speech?
2. Have you ever encountered hate speech online?
3. Why do you think people post hate speech?
4. How does hate speech affect you? Others? All of us?

Student Self-Reflection.....



What ways can you disrupt hate speech?
For example: Have a conversation with friends and family. People are much more likely to listen to someone they have a relationship with.