

Share Some Good Creator Guide

good
share some



You have the power to champion good. Read on to learn more about how you can take action against hate speech and share some good.

What's the Creator Guide all about?

Australians spend an increasing time online, using the Internet to connect and communicate and to consume news on a daily basis.

Yet, in comparison with our in-person experiences, our online experiences can quickly escalate to hate-filled, abusive, and racist comments. The online space is perceived as a place where usual social norms no longer apply: a place where insulting and offensive comments can go unchecked.

Such online threats, degrading comments, and digital harassment — when based on a person's race, nationality, sexual orientation/gender identity, gender, or religion — are forms of hate speech, and are unfortunately becoming a large part of our online experience.

Over 60% of Australian adults reported that they had experienced some form of online abuse in their lifetime. 25% of Australians have been threatened online with physical violence, and almost 18% have experienced race-based offensive or degrading messages or comments.

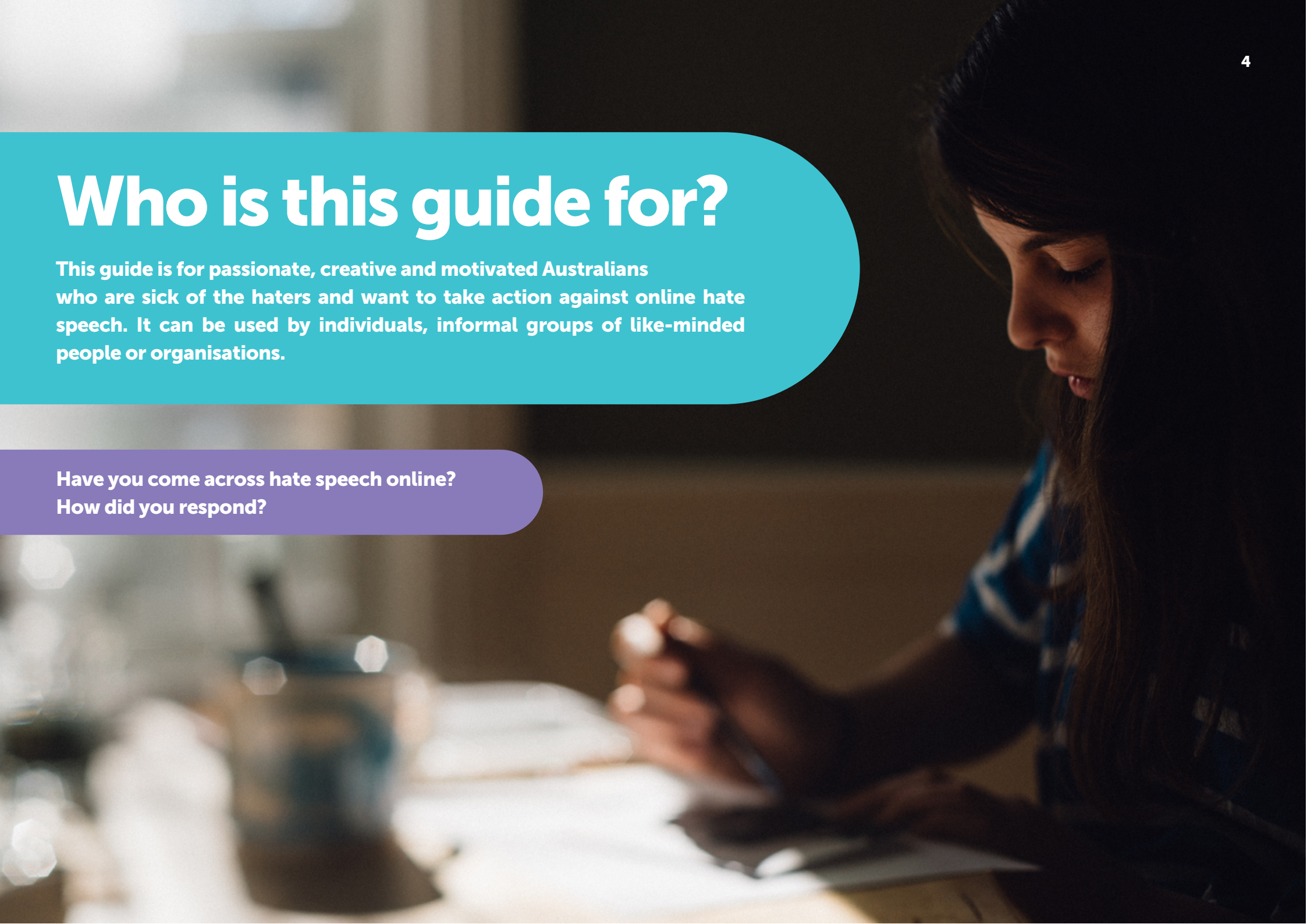
Hate speech is everywhere, can take many different forms, and can have serious effects on others. But there is something you can do about it and that's where this guide comes in! It's your primer on hate speech and answering your questions such as:

- 1 What is hate speech and why is it a problem?
- 2 Who is affected by hate speech?
- 3 Why should I care?
- 4 What can I do about hate speech?

Who is this guide for?

This guide is for passionate, creative and motivated Australians who are sick of the haters and want to take action against online hate speech. It can be used by individuals, informal groups of like-minded people or organisations.

**Have you come across hate speech online?
How did you respond?**



How to use this guide

Use this guide as a reference that you can draw on for statistics, facts, case studies and other resources about hate speech. It also contains a glossary of terms and a guide about how to prevent hate speech by promoting tolerance and inclusion through video campaigns.



What's in the Creator Guide

Where you can find it

What is hate speech?

Chapter 1

7 reasons you should care about hate speech

Chapter 2

What can you do about hate speech?

Chapter 3

How to report hate speech when you see it

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Chapter 1

What is Hate Speech?

Hate speech is any expression of hate towards a person or a group of people based on who they are, their identity or certain personal attributes. It can be communicated in person – at university, on the bus, on the street; or online – via social media, blogs, websites and emails.

Online hate speech is especially problematic since it can be done anonymously, it can spread quickly, and many people believe their online words may not have real-life consequences.

But online hate speech does have real-life negative consequences. It can lead to depression or suicide, promote the use of violence, encourage discrimination, and increase societal divisions. What's more, for witnesses it's disturbing to read and makes our online life unpleasant.

As more young Australians are exposed to online hate, this guide focuses on various forms of hate speech and what you can do about it.

There is no universally accepted definition of hate speech. It can differ by country, online platform or organisation with some applying a broad catch-all definition, while other apply a narrower definition.

Since this guide focuses on online hate speech, we adopt YouTube's definition of hate speech :

Hate speech refers to content that promotes or condones violence or hatred against individuals or groups based on certain attributes, such as race or ethnic origin, religion, disability, gender, age, nationality, veteran status, or sexual orientation/ gender identity, or whose primary purpose is inciting hatred on the basis of these core characteristics.⁽¹⁾



“Yes they're evil. Let's kill them all”

– A tweet by a US TV commentator referring to Muslims

1. <http://shr.gd/definition>

A few examples of what online hate speech may look like

Where have you seen hate speech online?

Threats of violence (such as death threats or threats of rape)

Racial or ethnic slurs

Symbols of hate such as swastikas

Encouraging others to harass someone online because of their identity

Gay bashing or insulting someone due to their sexuality or gender identity

Xenophobic comments telling immigrants and foreigners to leave the country

Images or videos with the intention to insult or degrade a particular race, religion, nationality, or gender-identity

Can we take action against hate speech without addressing racism and prejudice?

Neo-Nazi

Stereotyping

Anti-Immigrant

Intolerance

Transphobia

Prejudice

Homophobia

Anti-Intersex

Discrimination

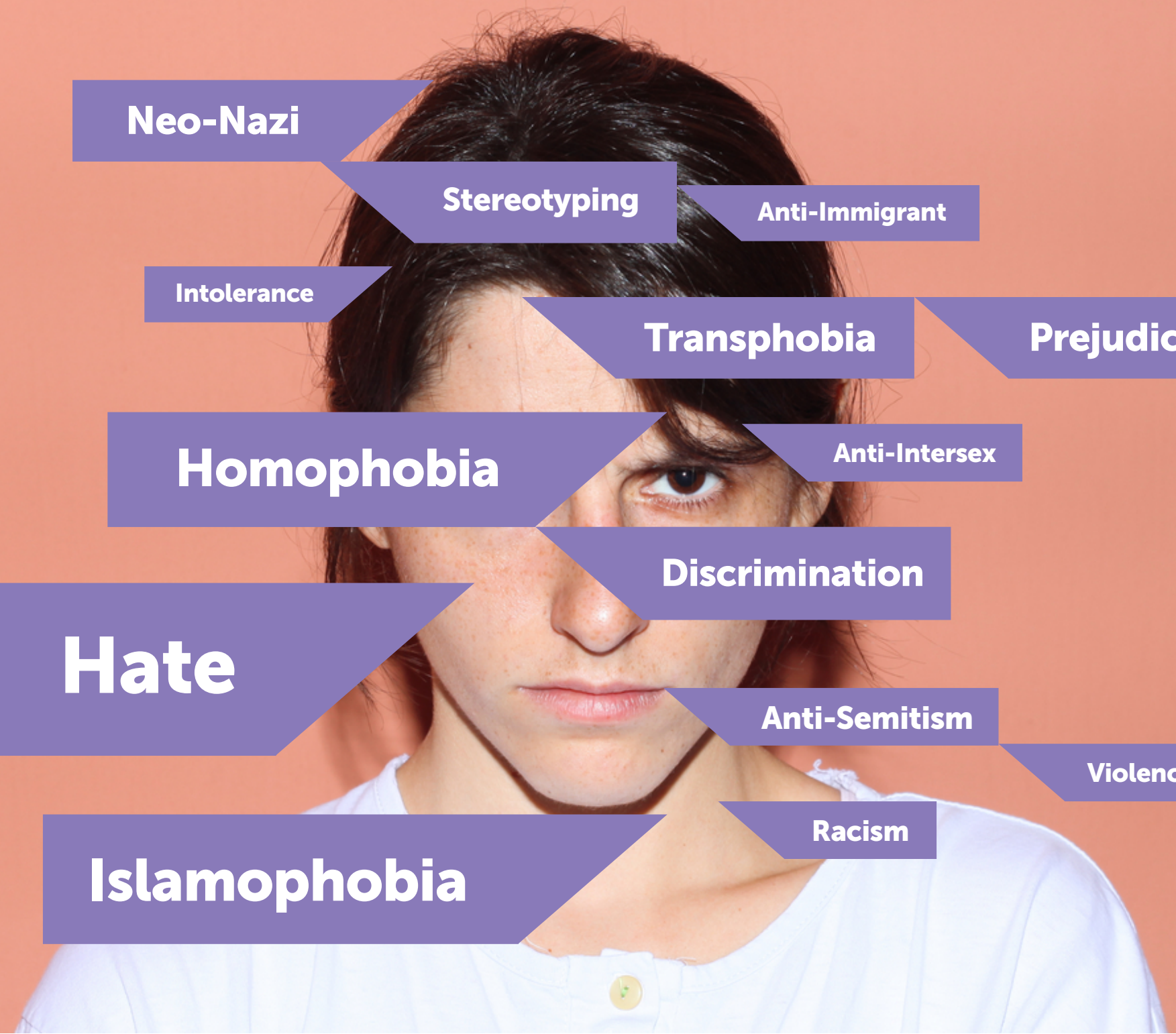
Hate

Anti-Semitism

Violence

Islamophobia

Racism



Chapter 2

Why should you care about online hate speech?

Why do you think young people should care about online hate speech?

Did you know? The most common and widespread forms of online hate speech are based on race, nationality and sexuality, but hate based on religion is also on the rise.

Here are our top 7 reasons why you should care about hate speech

Hate speech affects everyone, undermines human dignity and can have serious effects on people's mental health. It can also lead to violence, extremism and divides societies.

1

Hate speech affects everyone's online experience.

While hate speech affects those who are the victims most profoundly, even if you have never been a direct target of hate speech it also affects you, as an Internet user who may also be disturbed and angered by haters and feel helpless about what to do.

2

Hate speech especially affects young people.

In a study of youth across 4 countries, 42% of young people reported having been exposed to hate speech online with Facebook and YouTube being the top two sites where hate material was found.

Everyone has an equal right to be treated with dignity and respect.

3

Hate speech undermines human dignity.

Hate speech makes people feel unsafe, powerless, isolated, excluded and threatened. What's more, it's dehumanizing, degrading and undermines human dignity.

Do you think we should apply the same social standards on the Internet that we come to expect in public?
Why should the online world be any different?

"Mr Turnbull, and many commentators on this [gay marriage] subject, don't understand that for gay and lesbian Australians hate speech is not abstract. It's real. It's part of our everyday life."

— Labor Senator Penny Wong

4

Hate speech can have significant consequences on people's mental health.

The impact of online hate speech, discrimination and cyberbullying especially affects LGBTI youth's mental health, who have the highest rates of suicidality of any population in Australia.

What if we could stop the online hate?
Could we stop the violence?

5

Online hate speech can lead to real life violent crimes.

Online hate speech often incites or promotes the use of violence against a certain group of people. But they are only *talking* about violence, right? Wrong. Studies have shown that when there is an uptick in hate speech against a certain group of people, it is usually accompanied by an increase in hate crimes and identity-based violence.



Hate Speech 101

#IStandWithMariam
against Islamophobia

What do you think can be done to prevent Islamophobic and racist abuse online, like the abuse Mariam experienced?

Mariam Veiszadeh is an Australian lawyer who has been repeatedly attacked online by racist and Islamophobic individuals. This has included hundreds of tweets, emails, and posts directing racist and misogynistic abuse at her because of her Muslim identity. She has even received death threats and other clear threats of violence to her and her family.

Some of the worst attacks came after she publicly objected to a Woolworth's t-shirt with a xenophobic message. Although she was one of many people who objected to the singlet's message, she was singled out by hate groups because she was Muslim.

The online abuse continued for months and took a toll on Mariam.

To counter the hate speech, friends, followers and supporters of Mariam adopted the hashtag #IStandwithMariam, which was used 3,000 times in just 2 days.

"#IStandWithMariam against racism, bigotry, discrimination & Islamophobia. So does Australia," wrote one Twitter user.

"Death threats in the virtual world meant I had to worry about my safety in the real one. It has affected my physical and mental health," — Mariam Veiszadeh

Check out Chapter 3 to learn more about what you can do

What if we could stop the online hate?
Could we stop the violence?

“Hate speech online does not appear out of nowhere,
but reflects the surrounding social and cultural
climate.”

6

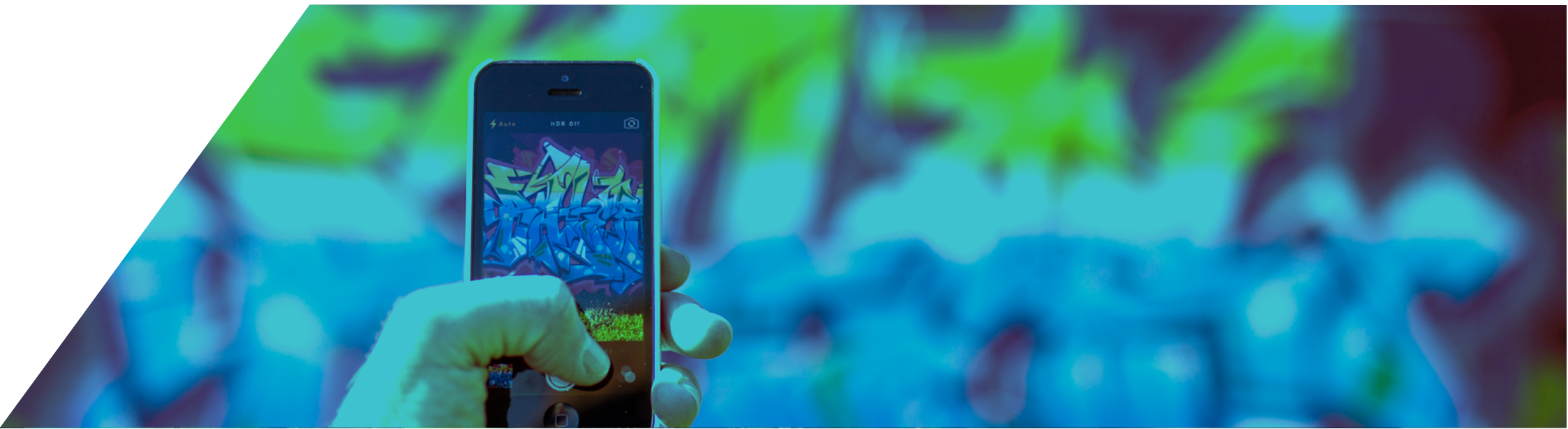
Hate speech is a tool to spread violent extremism.

Online hate speech is used by organized extremist groups to recruit young people to their cause and promote an “us-vs-them” worldview. They use hate speech when talking about races, religions, or nationalities that are seen as “the other”, or they make false claims against these groups, claiming they are terrorists, infidels, violent, etc.

7

Hate speech divides societies and reinforces discrimination and inequality.

If hate speech remains unchallenged, over time it reinforces discrimination against already vulnerable groups and encourages their continued marginalisation and isolation. It can also lead to increased social tensions, disputes and, in some cases, violent conflict.



Hatespeech 101

Speaking out against religious discrimination
#AsAMother

In a discussion on the TODAY Show about the terrorist attack in Nice, France, presenter Sonia Kruger said “Personally, I would like to see [Muslim migration] stop now for Australia. “Her subsequent comments linking the number of Muslims in a country to the number of terrorist attacks, and her call to ban Muslim migration to Australia, were criticized for being discriminatory and intolerant.”

Ms. Kruger defended her views on Twitter, stating she was concerned “as a mother” and there should be an open discussion about these issues. This prompted responses using the hashtag #AsAMother, where Sonia was called out for creating divisions among Australians, encouraging religious discrimination and for being racist.

What do you think the role of media is in contributing to or preventing hate speech?

Chapter 3

What can you do about hate speech?

Many people feel helpless when they see hate speech online, believing there is nothing they can do about it and choosing to ignore it.

But, we all have an obligation to work towards a world we want to live in and this includes creating an online space that is free of discrimination and hate.

There are many ways to address online hate speech. Here are two simple and effective ways to respond to and prevent hate speech that anyone can do:

- 1 When you see hate speech online you can report it.
- 2 Be a part of the solution and actively promote positive alternative narratives.

What can you do when you see hate speech online?

Most websites, including Facebook, YouTube and Twitter, have clear policies against the use of hate speech on their sites. If you see something online that you believe is hate speech, you can report it.

Reporting it is easy and quick. If the site administrators determine that the post is considered hate speech, it may be removed. This means fewer people will view and share the post, and it sends a signal to the perpetrator that what they said isn't welcome on the platform.

If you're not sure how or when to report posts on popular websites, the Online Hate Prevention Institute's How-To-Guides⁽²⁾ can take you through the process for several popular sites.

2. <http://ohpi.org.au/how-to-guides>

Take a pro-active stance against hate

While reporting hate speech is important, it does not address the root of the problem. It is reactive, rather than pro-active.

In fact, actions that focus solely on removing or banning hate speech content can sometimes provoke perpetrators and lead to more aggressive responses.

Alternative narratives, on the other hand, are typically more effective in addressing the problem.

Alternative narratives can serve as both educational tools that fight prejudice and racism, and as cheerleaders for minorities by expressing support for minorities and challenging stereotypes.

Did you know?

Every day, Facebook has 5 billion new items posted.
Every minute, over 300 hours of videos are uploaded to YouTube.

Every second, there are 6,000 tweets on Twitter.
That's a lot to keep up with!

What are alternative narratives?

Alternative narratives are positive stories that show what you are for, not what you are against.

They promote respect, diversity, tolerance and encourage inclusivity.

Where to find out more

If you're ready to take action, but are less familiar about a particular issue or community, take some time to do some research first. A quick read through some of the websites below should get you up to speed on the main challenges and debates relating to race, religion and gender-identity-based hate.

I want to do something, but I need to learn more about...

Then you need to check out....

Racism and Discrimination

[All Together Now](#)

Islamophobia

[Islamophobia Register](#) [Islamophobia Watch](#)

Violent Extremism

[People Against Violent Extremism](#)

LGBTI Equality

[Minus18](#) [BeyondBlue](#)

Migration and Immigration

[Welcome to Australia](#)

Cyberbullying

[Project Rock It!](#) [End Cyberbullying](#) [Reach Out](#)

Human Rights in Australia

[Australian Human Rights Commission](#)

Chapter 4

Change the narrative and #sharesomegood

As a young Australian, what can you do about online hate speech? Drown out the hate by amplifying your voice and sharing some good online.

Most people aren't racist and most don't agree with discriminatory policies, but this majority is often silent, allowing the haters to gain traction and media attention. It's time to undermine the hate by sharing alternative narratives that highlight your community's diversity.

#sharesomegood and share videos and stories that:

- 1 Are positive! Show what you are for, not what you are against**
- 2 Promote and celebrate tolerance, diversity and inclusion**
- 3 Educate people about minority groups or hate speech targets**
- 4 Present minority groups in a positive way and challenge stereotypes**
- 5 Show empathy and solidarity with victims of hate speech**

How can you #sharesomegood?

By developing and sharing content that promotes respect, tolerance, diversity and inclusion.

How to develop alternative narratives

Get fired up
Get creative
Get out there

You don't need a big budget or fancy equipment to develop an authentic and engaging alternative narrative.

You do need to be passionate about what you're doing, to be creative when telling stories, and to be ready to get out there and share your narrative with the world.

Read on to learn more about developing alternative narratives and to take a look at a few examples of successful narratives.

Step 1

Get fired up

Ok, you have the passion to do something about hate speech and you're determined to create a killer piece of content. Great! Before you get going, the first step is to start with the "why". This means you must identify the problem or issue you want to address and ask why it exists.

Think about problems you see in your own community, or discrimination you have experienced or witnessed in the past. Are you interested in sharing a positive story about immigrants in Australia? About LGBTI inclusion?

You may be tempted to jump ahead to a solution, but to make sure you're developing the right solution, take a step back and consider the problem first:

1

Do some research to better understand the issues and current debates. This can be done online or by speaking with experts and community members.

2

Put yourself in the hater's shoes and try to understand their experiences and opinions. Why might they think the way they do?

3

Ask the 5 Ws:

1. What is the problem?
2. Who does the problem affect?
3. When does it happen?
4. Where does it occur?
5. Why does the problem happen?

Your tool:

Check out the "Where to find out more" box on Page 17 for a list of resources on issues like racism, violent extremism, immigration, and LGBTI inclusion.

Step 2

Get Creative

Now that you've defined the problem, you need to get creative about what you want to say about it (your message) and how you want to say it (your concept).

Your Message

What is the message you want to share with the world about the problem? What story do you want to tell? Take some time to think about the message you want to get across, who your audience may be, and how you can tell a positive story that people will relate to. Discuss your ideas with friends and people who identify with the issue to get their feedback.

Your Concept

Now that you know what you want to say, you need to find a creative way to tell the story. To help you get started, we've got 3 inspirational concepts you may choose to explore in your video, or you can always develop your own.

Your tool:

See the #sharesomegood inspirations on pages 22-27.



#sharesomegood Inspiration ①

Spark conversations about tough topics

Simply talking about problems is an important step to combatting hate. A great way to help people understand the impact of hate speech is by listening to what people have to say about it.

You can do this by starting conversations around difficult topics, like racism, sexuality, discrimination, and stereotypes; topics that people usually don't talk about.

Your video could be in the form of an intimate discussion between people with opposing views, a one-on-one interview with someone sharing their experience, a voxpop survey of university students, or anything else.

The questions can range from being provocative and thought provoking to ridiculous.

How you could do it

- ① Challenge stereotypes by asking "Why do certain stereotypes exist? Are they really accurate?"
- ② Shed light on how we treat each other online, by asking "Would you say that to a person's face?"
- ③ Share opinions by asking "What do you know about cyberbullying, hate speech, Islam, etc.?"
- ④ Use humour & ask silly questions that highlight the absurdities of hate speech, racism and intolerance

#sharesomegood 101

Take a seat, make a friend

Content creators Soul Pancake set out to spark conversations by bringing people together in a childish and fun environment: a ball-pit.

The ball pit was set up on a busy street corner and has just enough room for two people to sit in it. Curious passersby – young, old, straight, gay - jump in and find that the balls in the pit carry questions to get them talking, such as “Who is your hero?”, “Share 3 things on your bucket list”, and “Find something you have in common with each other.” People put stereotypes behind them and learn more about their new friend.

The 5-minute video was viewed 2 million times on YouTube. ⁽³⁾

#sharesomegood 101

One Parramatta encourages conversations & self-reflection about racism

All Together Now’s “One Parramatta” campaign was a collection of one-minute voxpop videos aimed at reducing racism in the Parramatta neighbourhood of Sydney. They filmed interviews with people on the streets and asked them questions such as “Who are your neighbours?”, “What are your values?”, “Who is responsible for preventing racism?”

The videos were then screened at local theatres where they reached 46,500 individuals. Viewers responded to the screenings saying the films were “challenging and genuine” and “thought-provoking”.

You can view the videos and find out more about the campaign. ⁽⁴⁾

3. <http://shr.gd/takeaseat>

4. <http://shr.gd/oneparramata>

#sharesomegood Inspiration 2

Experience the Other

People who do not have experience with certain religions, cultures or groups may be more likely to develop prejudiced views against those people.

An "Experience the Other" narrative helps shape people's attitudes about others by helping them to experience what life is like in their shoes, what their culture is like, or what their values are.

How you could do it

- 1 Document people experiencing a part of someone else's culture, perhaps through dress, food, sports or religious events – is it what you expected?
- 2 Simulate a "Day in the Life of..." and document your experience.
- 3 Tell the stories of people who have been targets of online hate speech, such as refugees, migrants, LGBTI people, or Indigenous Australians.
- 4 Highlight similarities between people, rather than differences.

#sharesomegood 101

What it's like in my shoes

This 6-minute video, produced by the Transgender Anti-Violence Project, simply shares the voices of transgender youth in Australia by asking them "What's it like growing up transgender?"

The interviewees talk about what life is like in their shoes: what it was like coming out to their friends and family, the challenges they have faced, and what they're excited about in their future. Since being posted in 2014 it's been viewed 77,000 times.

You can view "In my shoes" on Youtube.⁽⁵⁾

#sharesomegood 101

We have more things uniting us than dividing us

The video campaign, The DNA Journey, shows a diverse group of people reacting to DNA test results that expose their ancestry. The video begins with short cuts of interviews with the participants, representing various European nationalities, talking about their heritage and its importance to them.

Later in the video the participants are given their test results, which reveal that they have connections to many more countries than they originally thought. Their reactions vary from surprise to shock to tears when they realise how closely related they are to others in the group. According to the campaign creators, "The purpose of the video was to show that we, as people, have more things uniting us than dividing us." The video was viewed more than five million times on YouTube.⁽⁶⁾

5. <http://shr.gd/inmyshoes>

6. <http://shr.gd/ancestrydna>

#sharesomegood Inspiration ③

Celebrate diversity

It's not news that Australia is made up of people from different nationalities, cultures and religions. In fact, 30% of Australians were born in another country and 20% speak two or more languages at home. Diversity is part of everyday Australian life.

This is your chance to showcase and celebrate that everyday diversity – whether it's at your local café, your school, or your neighbourhood.

How you could do it

- 1 Tell stories about relationships and friendships that cross racial, ethnic, religious or other barriers.
- 2 Show the value of diversity in your community – what makes it great?
- 3 Document day-to-day instances of cultural or other exchanges.



#sharesomegood 101

#spreadhummousnohate

Motivated by Pauline Hanson's maiden Senate speech, which was wracked with anti-Islam sentiment, one Australian-born Muslim decided to do something to counteract the fear-mongering and stereotyping in her community. Lina Jebeile took to her 22,000 strong Instagram account and started using the hashtag #spreadhummousnohate in an effort to "pave the way for more conversation, understanding and new friendships".

Aside from using the hashtag, Ms. Jebeile is also actually spreading hummous to her neighbourhood. "As uncomfortable as it might be to go up to strangers and say, 'Hey, I'm Lina, would you like some hummous?' and start a conversation, talking to people and asking questions is the only way we're going to be able to move forward," she said.

By spreading hummous not hate, Ms. Jebeile is sparking conversations and de-mystifying Muslim Australians. "I want to hopefully give people the opportunity to actually sit down and chat to me, to my friends and my family over food and just realise that we're just normal, average people going about our lives like everybody else," she said.

Step 3

Get out there!

10 Tips to creating high-impact, alternative narrative videos

Time to record your video and share it with the world! Shooting a video doesn't have to be elaborate or require a big budget. There are tons of free resources online for video editing and production. Here are a few tips to consider when making an alternative narrative video.

1 Don't be afraid to use humour or satire

Humour has been shown to play an effective role in undermining hateful narratives and can make your video more engaging to your audience.

2 Going viral is not always the aim

While going viral may sound great, it's not the only way to have an impact. Some successful narratives target very specific audiences or platforms and may naturally have a smaller audience, yet still have a profound impact.

3 Emotions rule

Simply reciting statistics and facts may be dismissed by your audience as boring, or they can be refuted using opposing statistics. Instead, it is more powerful to appeal to their emotions, such as happiness, excitement or nostalgia.

4 Celebrate diversity with diversity

Stories that are co-created with people in the target audience will resonate more. For example, if you want to share a story about Islamic Extremism and you want it to resonate with young Muslims, you should plan to co-create your video with young Muslims.

5 Use the news to your advantage

Are there current events or debates that people may feel strongly about? Consider how you can use these to contribute to the conversation in a positive way. This also applies to drawing on social media trends for inspiration, such as new hashtags or trending content on YouTube.

6 Share your ideas and collaborate

Not sure if you're on the right track? Want to get more viewers for your video? Collaborating with your peers or with established YouTubers can help ensure you're creating content that will resonate with viewers.

7 Make it a snackable size

People are more likely to watch shorter videos. If you can make it shorter without losing your message or impact, do so. Consider breaking a longer video into smaller parts that can be posted separately.

8 Take advantage of free tools

The YouTube Creator Academy⁽⁷⁾ has free tutorials for everything from how to write a script and develop a storyboard, to getting your lighting, editing and music right.

9 It's all about your audience

Define your audience: who is your video for? Is it for a wide, general audience, or a targeted one? Take time to think about who your audience is, what they respond to and do a reality check to make sure you're creating something they'll love. Getting your audience to view your video can be as simple as having a search-friendly title or a catchy thumbnail.

10 High quality doesn't always come at a high price

Effective videos don't always have a large budget or a high-tech camera. If you have access to a mobile phone, you have all you need to make a powerful video. The focus of an alternative narrative video should be on the story and message you share, rather than the production quality or special effects.

Get schooled.

Do you have more questions about how to make a rad video? Or how to get more views?

The YouTube Creator Academy⁽⁷⁾ has got you sorted with online tutorials geared towards helping you make awesome videos that your audience will want to watch.

Staying safe while fighting hate

When recording and disseminating content, always be aware of your own safety first. Here are some tips about how to stay safe while fighting hate.

- 1** Avoid potentially dangerous situations. Do not continue recording if you risk physical abuse or violence.
- 2** When posting your content online, you may also get negative responses and, potentially, experience hate speech yourself. Report any inappropriate comments to the website administrator. Avoid engaging with the person and do not respond to them, as this can escalate the situation.
- 3** Do not share personal information, such as your phone number, email address or home address.
- 4** If you are threatened with violence, tell an adult, report the threat to the website, and go to the Police if it continues. Online harassment and abuse can be considered illegal.

Key Words to Know

How is hate speech different from discrimination? Is hate speech the same as Cyberbullying?

To address hate speech it is important to understand how it relates to other similar or overlapping concepts, which are described in the table below.

Term	Definition
Bigotry	Intolerance towards those who hold different opinions from oneself.
Cyberbullying	Any electronic communication that is severe, persistent or pervasive and creates an intimidating or threatening environment.
Discrimination	The unjust treatment of different categories of people.
Hate Speech	An expression that promotes violence or hatred against individuals or groups based on certain attributes, such as race or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender, disability, age, veteran status.
Prejudice	A preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience. Prejudice refers to opinions or thoughts. Actions based on prejudice are considered discrimination.

Key Words to Know

Term

Definition

Racism

A belief that some races are inherently superior to others, a belief that some groups of people are different and do not 'fit' into the 'Australian way of life', aggressive, abusive or offensive behaviour towards members of other races based on those beliefs.

Racial Vilification

According to the Australian government, racial vilification is any public act that encourages or incites others to hate people because of their race, nationality, country of origin, colour or ethnic origin.

Stereotype

An oversimplified idea of what a particular type or person or thing is like. Stereotypes are applied to the entire group of people and can also exist for animals or things, like cities or countries. For example, "cats are moody."

Trolling

To make a deliberately offensive or provocative online post with the aim of upsetting someone or eliciting an angry response from them.

Violent Extremism

Activities (beliefs, attitudes, actions, strategies) that support or use violence for political, religious or other identity-driven beliefs. This includes terrorism and other forms of identity-motivated violence from hate crime to genocide.

Xenophobia

An irrational fear of people from other countries.

Frequently Asked Questions

1

How can we prevent hate speech without restricting freedom of speech?

Even though each person has the right to freedom of speech, they also have the right to freedom of religion, freedom from discrimination and freedom from fear, harassment or abuse. These rights are enshrined in the UN Declaration of Human Rights, and all of these rights must be balanced with one another. One person's right to freedom of speech should not take away another person's right to freedom from discrimination.

Finally, the right to free speech comes with responsibilities and does not permit individuals to incite violence, intentionally do harm, or psychologically abuse others. In Australia, for example, the government can and does limit certain freedoms should they curtail other's freedoms.

For more information about our rights to free speech and how they relate to hate speech, you can check out Article 19's "Hate Speech Explained Guide".⁽⁸⁾

3

Is cyberbullying the same as hate speech?

Yes and no. Cyberbullies may use hate speech against their victims, but not all cyberbullying is motivated by identity-based hate. If the cyberbully is attacking someone because of their race, religion, sexuality or nationality then that is considered hate speech.

2

Is online hate speech illegal?

Yes, in some cases online hate speech can be illegal. In Australia, the Racial Discrimination Act makes discrimination and racial hatred against the law.

Racial hatred refers to a public act based on a person's race, nationality, or ethnicity which is likely to offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate.

This also applies to racially offensive material on the Internet, including blogs, social networking sites and video sharing sites.

Similarly, the Sex Discrimination Act makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status. Laws against vilifying LGBTI people differ state by state.

For more information, please see the Australian Human Rights Commission's website.⁽⁹⁾

4

Is trolling the same as hate speech?

To be considered hate speech the expression must be based on a person's protected characteristics, and this is not always the case.

8. <http://shr.gd/hatespeechtoolkit>

9. <http://shr.gd/racialdiscrimination>

5

Is hate speech the same as discrimination?

No, but the two are often interconnected. Discrimination refers to an action that is based on race, ethnicity or other protected characteristics. For example, deciding not to give someone a job because of their race is a discriminatory practice.

Hate speech is a form of communication. At times it may call for certain discriminatory actions, but other times it may simply be expressing anger or inciting violence against others.

Groups working on fighting racism and promoting multiculturalism

All Together Now — alltogethernow.org.au
Reconciliation Australia — reconciliation.org.au
The Point Magazine — thepointmagazine.com.au
Mapping Frictions — thepointmagazine.com.au

Groups monitoring and fighting Islamophobia

Islamophobia Register Australia — islamophobia.com.au
Islamophobia Watch Australia — islamophobiawatch.com.au
Creative Ummah — creativeummah.com

General information about Human Rights in Australia

Australian Human Rights Commission — humanrights.gov.au

6

How can I get more involved in this issue?

If you're interested in doing more to support victims of hate speech and want to do something about online hate speech in Australia, then get in touch with one of these groups.

Groups working on tackling hate speech and cyberbullying

Online Hate Prevention Institute — ohpi.org.au
Project Rock It! — projectrockit.com.au
End Cyberbullying — endcyberbullying.org

Groups that support LGBTI youth

Foundation for Young Australians — fya.org.au
Minus18 — minus18.org.au
Reach Out — au.reachout.com
Just Equal — equal.org.au

Groups working on combatting violent extremism

People Against Violent Extremism — pave.net.au

Groups that support migrants and refugees

Welcome to Australia — welcometoaustralia.org.au
Australia Refugee Association — australianrefugee.org
Amnesty International Australia — amnesty.org.au

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