

VIRUSES DON'T DISCRIMINATE *AND NEITHER SHOULD WE*

Coronavirus and Stigma



Coronavirus doesn't recognize race, nationality, or ethnicity. 2019 novel coronavirus was first identified in Wuhan, China. That's just geography. Having Chinese ancestry – or any other ancestry – does not make a person more vulnerable to this illness.



Everyone deserves to feel safe, whether they wear a face covering or not.

Discrimination, harassment, racial profiling, violence, and other hate crimes for wearing or not wearing a face covering is against the law and should not be tolerated.



You can interrupt stigma. Start by sharing accurate information.

Avoid spread misinformation. Stay informed through reputable, trusted sources:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Washington State Department of Health](#)
- [Clark County Public Health](#)



Speak up if you hear, see, or read misinformation or harassing comments.

Gently correct the false information, and remind the speaker: prejudiced language and actions make us all less safe. If a serious harassment occurs, consider reporting it. *Find resources here:*

doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020COVID19/StigmaReduction



Show compassion and support for those most closely impacted.

In schools and workplaces, create learning opportunities for students and staff that dispel racist and misinformed ideas. Listen to, acknowledge and, with permission, share the stories of people experiencing stigma, along with a message that bigotry is not acceptable in your community.

