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Rwanda Issue: A foolish idea

By Eli-Azriel Ayoola SHIRO

Britain is a popular place. Hundreds of thousands of people migrate here every year. For numerous reasons - some to escape war, some for safety, some just for a better life.

However, the UK is a very small place (alone, the American state of Colorado is bigger than the UK, while its population is over a dozen times smaller than the UK's) and if too many people immigrate to the UK, it can negatively affect the lives of rapidly increasing 67 million people that live there. However, taking illegal immigrants and asylum seekers out of the country and sending them to Rwanda? That's not the solution to the problem - and here's why.

Rwanda is a rapidly developing country. Its GDP is growing fast, it is rising the ranks in the Human Development Index and its people are getting an improved quality of life living there. However, it has its vulnerabilities - it's a geographically small country and it already has quite a high population density. So, removing the population of people that illegally immigrate or seek asylum in the UK (there are 56,495 asylum seekers and around 594,000 to 745,000 illegal immigrants) and sending them to a small country like Rwanda will surely create a lose-lose situation for both governments.

The UK is paying Rwanda for taking the illegal migrants however, if the UK sends too many migrants there it will overpopulate Rwanda causing them to eventually cancel the deal due to the negative effects overpopulation brings on a country. If Rwanda cancels the deal, this leaves the UK with the migrants again bringing us back to square one.

The deal also negatively affects Rwanda. If Rwanda takes in too many migrants. It can overpopulate their country. Rwanda is the 51st smallest country in the world and 12 million people inhabit it. Imagine how rapidly that number will increase as more people are sent there. If too many people get sent to Rwanda, it can cause infrastructure to be strained, famine, disease and many other negative effects of overpopulation.

To conclude, I would like to say that with all the reasons given & all the public outcry regarding this topic of interest, one thing is evident - Priti Patel deporting people to Rwanda is a foolish idea.



« THE BIG ISSUE



By Megan Lee 9LSK

Pride month starts on the 1st of June and finishes on the 30th of June, however some believe that LGBTQ+ should be celebrated all the time rather than just a month a year.

What is Pride Month?

Not many people know this but pride month was created in honour of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan in the United States. The uprising was sparked when The Stonewall Inn, a gay club, was raided by NYPD officers. During this period many venues where gay or trans people gathered were raided in order to arrest and punish attendees. On June 28th 1969 the police forcibly arrested people at Stonewall. This situation led to six days of violence and clashes with the law enforcement. This is now known as the Stonewall Uprising and as the start of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement.

In the United States the last Sunday of June was originally the only day people celebrated gay pride. As other countries began to celebrate

the day, the number of days pride was celebrated began to grow, first increasing to a week and now into a month of pride! Celebrations and memorials are also held during this month to remember those in the community who have been lost in LGBTQ+ hate crimes, HIV or AIDS as well as many other reasons.

In London, the first official gay pride march was on the 1 July 1972 (chosen as the nearest Saturday to the anniversary of the Stonewall riots of 1969) with approximately 2,000 participants. The first marches took place in November 1970 with 150 people walking through Highbury Fields in North London.

During this period many venues where gay or trans people gathered were raided in order to arrest and punish attendees.

Why Pride is important to me and should be for everyone

We at Norwood should all celebrate Pride as we should respect and support our LGBTQ+ community. Pride gives comfort and security to those who can sometimes feel excluded from society. We have all felt isolated at one point in our lives, pride is a time where we can all come together and celebrate whilst ensuring no one feels alone.



« PROFILES

Meet the Team.



Alba Hagjani

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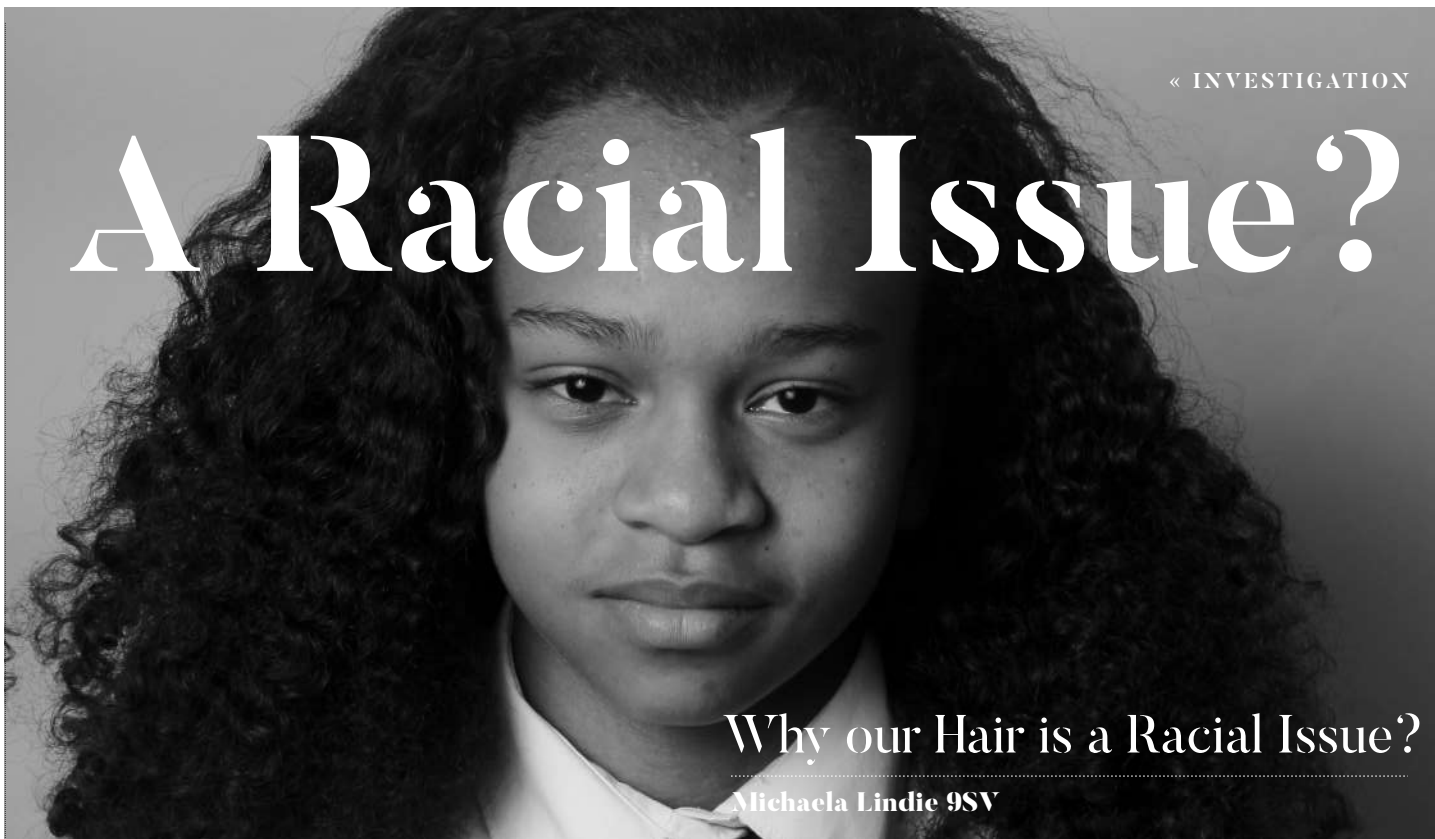
Vivienne Sharkey

7AFG



Willow Snowdon

7AFG



« INVESTIGATION

A Racial Issue?

Why our Hair is a Racial Issue?

Michaela Lindie 9SV

« SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The Norwood School Garden

Mr Foster & Seb Pizzani 7GFW

The Norwood School has a Garden! It's easy to miss but take a look next time you come through the front gates and on your left and you'll see a green, vibrant and relaxing space.

Why is it important for the school to have a garden? Seb Gili Pizzani explains "I really enjoy gardening because whenever I feel annoyed or stressed then gardening refreshes my mind and makes me smile."

The garden was started by Mr Isitt, Mr Foster and Ms Fabian but much of the work has been done by students planting and looking after the crops. This means that the garden is a community space where people have worked together. Seb says "I especially enjoy seeing and chatting to my friends in the garden and working with teachers."

One of the rewards of the garden is being able to pick the food you have grown. "The most popular fruit in the garden are the strawberries. At the moment we are making a strawberry bed so that I can harvest and share these incredible fresh fruits." The strawberries we grow at the Norwood School are as good as any you could buy in a supermarket and they are a lot eco-friendlier.

Seb sums up the reason for spending time in the garden like this. "Gardening is overall an amazing chance to discover more of nature's potential and to make new friends. Our garden is going very well :)"

Students are welcome to join us in the school garden on Wednesdays from 3-4pm. It's a relaxing place to spend some time.



Hair is an important part of our identity. It is often the first thing you notice when meeting new people. It can also tell us about our health and culture. In 2020, the world took a turn after the death of George Floyd.

We started to focus on prejudice against black people perpetrated by the police and other institutions. This then started a conversation about the importance of hair in relation to culture and if racial discrimination includes hair.

There were many arguments on the internet on if Black hairstyles such as Box Braids and Dreadlocks were actually racial issues. I and a lot of other black people have heard the argument that "black people are being too sensitive" and are "stuck in the past" in relation to our hair and its importance. But the discussion of how hair relates to culture and how racism can also be displayed through how someone treats a black person who doesn't have European hair isn't a new thing.

The natural hair movement (also known as the 'Black is beautiful' movement) is a movement that originally started in the 1960s but has recently made a resurgence. This movement is all about embracing black beauty such as our facial features, skin tone and hair. This movement was the start of the Black community not wanting to assimilate into white society. Before this point, black people often straightened and permed their hair so they could be more accepted and have their hair be "professional." Many black people wore afros and their natural hair as a political statement and as a way to go against the extremely Eurocentric society at the time.

When talking about discrimination against black hair in society, it is clear we have made progress in embracing and celebrating the diversity of hair. However, there is still a way to go. In 2011 a black

woman from Alabama named Chasity Jones, got denied a job because she refused to cut off her dreadlocks. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed a suit on Chasity's behalf. However, in 2013 they lost their battle, and in 2016 they dismissed the case altogether. This further proves that black people can be discriminated against for their hairstyle.

Interestingly, I often hear the argument that "it's just hair" and that "they can/should just change their hair." People saying such comments often don't understand the significance of hair in black cultures and where it came from. A good example of this is Rastafarians and the wearing of dreadlocks. Rasta's consider dreadlocks a sign of their African identity and a religious vow of separation against White-European imperialist structure that has oppressed black people and other people of colour for centuries. This is the reason why dreadlocks can't just be "changed" as it is both a spiritual and cultural symbol.

However, often non-black people wear black hairstyles such as dreadlocks and their argument may be that they're "respecting other cultures." Well, no. Wearing dreadlocks that Rastafarians usually wear as a non-black person goes against why Rastafarian people wear the hairstyle. So, in fact you're actually disrespecting the culture as dreadlocks are used as a way to go against the white oppressors and connect to their African identity.

I believe it is a mistake not to teach students about hair and its importance. If we inform everyone about hair and its importance fewer people will culturally appropriate and there would be less discrimination against hair. Please make sure to do thorough research on hair styles, especially if you're not a part of that culture, to make sure you're not disrespecting it.

"Rasta's consider dreadlocks a sign of their African identity and a religious vow of separation against White-European imperialist structure that has oppressed black people and other people of colour for centuries."



Bangladesh Flooding's

The water was sweeping away everything...

Alimah Ahmed 9JUG

"The water was sweeping away everything. It was raining heavily along with thunder."

Bangladesh, a developing country in South Asia, is a land of many rivers and as a result, it is prone to annual floods. However, the disaster in the northeast is the worst Bangladesh has seen in over a century.

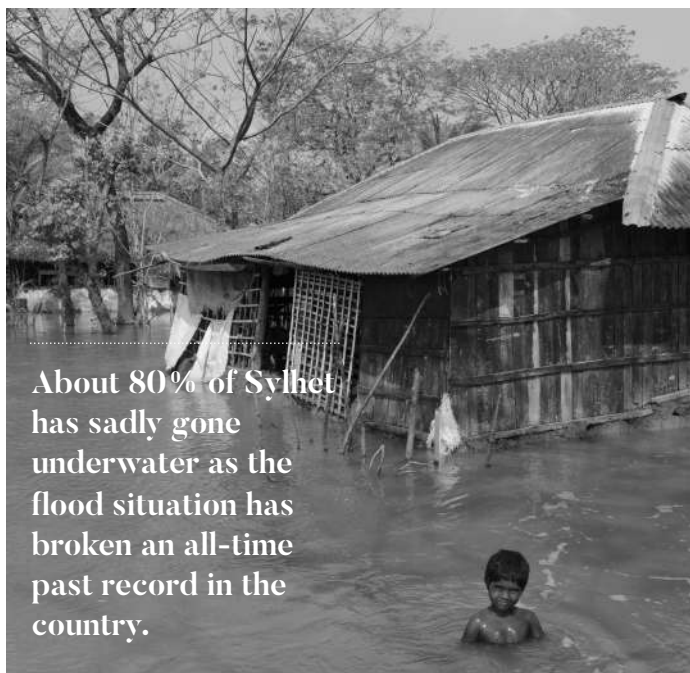
The north-eastern district of Sylhet has been engulfed by heavy rain and floods, leaving millions of people stranded with no power, food, access to roads or safe shelter. Some homes have been completely destroyed by the flooding.

About 80% of Sylhet has sadly gone underwater as the flood situation has broken an all-time past record in the country.

The heavy rainfall has caused mass devastation across Sylhet, however unfortunately this is just the beginning and the flood situation may go further. Due to this, many people have been forced to flee their homes and villages in order to escape the danger.

**How to help?
Donating to Fundraisers**

The East London Mosque is working in partnership with charities to aid Bangladesh and help the flood victims.



About 80% of Sylhet has sadly gone underwater as the flood situation has broken an all-time past record in the country.

Mental Health In Schools

Alba Hagjani 7AFG

Mental health within school is a serious topic and an issue which is prevalent everywhere. In school it can affect students in many different ways and can make their time at school very painful.

It can influence every step you take, even every word you speak. You can suffer in silence or you can suffer out loud, it can and could affect you both physically and/or mentally.

Statistics show that 1 in 6 children are likely to have mental health problems. And the likelihood of children having mental health issues has increased by 50% over the past

3 years. 75% of children do not have access to the help they so very need. 41% of people who experience bullying reported thinking it would happen again. And 3 to 4 more times bullying happens to men more often than women.

The physiological effect of mental health can continue after school. This could continue to be life threatening as when you are older you do not have teachers around to help and it can be more difficult to access help. A victim of bullying could go on to experience PTSD or depression. This is why we must care and act now whilst at school.

US & Abortion?

Ivy Gold 7AFG

In the USA right now, eight entire states have banned the right for women choose abortion. This can and will put young and old women in severe danger.

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Wisconsin. These are the states that abortion have been banned in.

If you are against abortions you are not 'pro-life', you are pro

death. Some women are impregnated because of rape or incest. If this happens and the woman is forced to go through with the pregnancy, her life will change course forever and no longer be in her control. There is also no guarantee that she will live through the painful inevitable feeling of labour.

Did you know the women who voted against abortions on the supreme court had been reported to have had two abortions

previously and one had had female ligation? To me, this is extremely hypocritical as they have both benefited from procedures that they have now voted to ban for other women.

This new law, although only in America at the moment, is very scary to think about. I hope that things change for the better so that women everywhere can have the opportunity to have a choice.



Linden McLelland

Megan Rapinoe

Willow Snowdon AFG

Megan Anna Rapinoe is an American professional football player and is one of the only openly lesbian players in history.

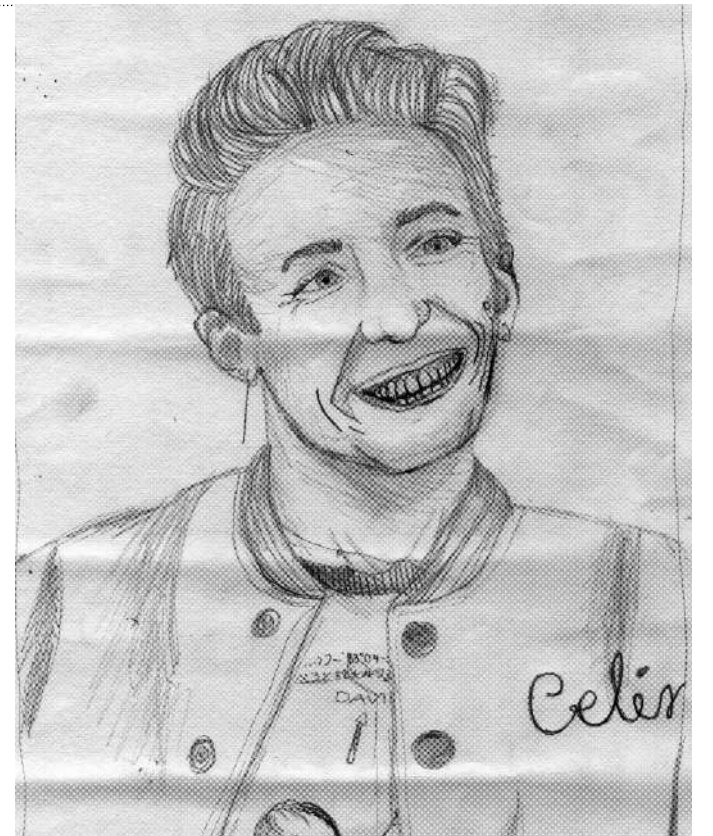
Rapinoe's talent is undeniable. She has scored 52 international goals and has played 139 games. This means that she has scored almost half every game she's played. She has participated in 3 FIFA Women's World Cups and has led her contributions into her team's victories in 2015 and 2019. She is considered one of the greatest women's football players of all time.

Rapinoe was also selected in the Dream Team, an XI selected by

fifa.com users. Rapinoe was named alongside Christiane Endler, Lucy Bronze, Wendie Renard, Millie Bright, Delphine Cascarino, Barbara Bonansea, Veronica Boquete, Pernille Harder, Vivianne Miedema and Tobin Heath. And despite the fact the FIFPro World XI is voted for by players, Rapinoe felt her consideration undermined the work of her 'phenomenal' team-mates and opponents.

Rapinoe stated that she knew she was lesbian by her first year in college. She publicly came out in July 2012. Many footballers hide their sexuality because they are afraid of the hate they would face.

I believe Megan Rapinoe is an inspirational role-model because she has helped others realise who they really are and that it is ok to express themselves.



Willow Snowdon



Rose Sharville

How can school help?

First of all, Norwood could educate students on the topic. We could have mental health focussed assemblies that explore the subject giving a space for students to discuss how they feel and make the subject less taboo. These assemblies should also feature facts and resources to further guide students and their learning.

Clubs for minorities or just genuine people who feel that they want a community to access things they don't normally have could further help students feel safe. We already have clubs such as LGBTQIA+, and feminist groups so maybe making students more aware of these spaces could also help.

Continuing with positive postcards and sharing students' achievements along with historical achievements could also inspire and remind people who may be suffering to keep going and trying even if they face setbacks.

Profile:



Sebastian Gili Pizzani

Elon Musk + Tesla Accusations of Rampant Racism and Poor Safety

Having recently become the richest man on earth with a net worth of over 220 billion USD, the media spotlight has become increasingly focused on the polarising nature of Elon Musk.

Some sources present Musk as a man of the people who often jokes and engages with his fans on twitter. Other sources depict a more worrying side of Musk, bringing up accusations of unsafe working conditions, racism and use of child labour in his car and tech company Tesla.

Currently, Musk's flagship company is Tesla, and this is also where many allegations against him have been made. In 2018, workers at Tesla car factories have reported that Musk is against forklifts in his factory making a beeping sound when they reverse, an important feature of machines such as these to preserve the safety of people who work

around them. Some also claim that pedestrian walkways are not clearly marked in yellow, and are instead labelled in grey. This is because, according to a boss at the company, 'Elon does not like yellow.' Most damning of all, there have been accusations of Tesla undercounting its injury reports: dismissing ailments such as sprains, strains and repetitive stress injury as personal medical issues or minor incidents requiring only first aid.

There have also been accusations of racism in Tesla's Fremont factory, with black workers allegedly being given the most physically demanding jobs, and some areas of the factory reportedly being referred to as the

'slave ship' or 'the plantation'. According to black employees, this is an ongoing issue that has been overlooked for years by management. In a lawsuit filed in an Alameda county court in California, the agency claims 'Tesla has continued to deflect and evade responsibility. While it claims to not tolerate racial harassment or discrimination at its factories, Tesla's investigations of complaints are not compliant with law.'

Finally, claims have been made that Tesla and Musk, alongside other companies, are complicit with the use of child labour in cobalt mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A legal complaint has been filed on

behalf of 14 families whose children have been injured or killed working in these unsafe mines. The complaint says that some children were paid as little as £1.13 a day for 6-day work weeks. Siddharth Kara, a researcher on modern slavery who is an expert witness in the case, said the case was perhaps "the worst injustice of slavery and child expert exploitation that I've seen in my two decades' research".

In conclusion, the sheer volume of accusations against Tesla reflects a worrying image of Musk's beliefs, and it is deeply troubling to see his growing monopoly on electric cars, and newfound control over popular internet forum twitter.

The Emu War Australia

Daniel Gover 9JLT

Lasheon Sookka



During the great depression in the 1920s, America wasn't actually the only country that was affected, in fact, halfway across the world, Australia was hit very hard by it as they relied on American imports for a lot of their food.

This was because Australia had no natural resources (or very low at least) of their own and when they couldn't use food they bought from America they had to rely on their own crops. Because of Australia's hot climate and harsh wildlife, it was very difficult and a lot of people almost starved. But they eventually managed to start producing enough crops for their country.

However, with this new abundance of crops and food popping up everywhere, Australia's national bird (the emu) started to become a large pest due to them often destroying entire crop farms while looking for food and sometimes attacking the farmers. The farmers couldn't even

defend themselves because the emus were very fast and could dodge the shotguns of the farmers. And that was if the farmers had shotguns (Australia had an incredibly low number of firearms across the entire country at this point in time). As the emus were eating more, their population was growing which caused them to eat more which caused the government to eventually get fed up and declare war on emus on the 2nd November 1932.

The government hired 20 professional soldiers, bought 2 jeeps and 2 browning machine guns, and then attempted to kill 2,000 emus by December of that year. However, they only managed to kill slightly over 200. This was because of the emus causing their jeeps to crash and outrunning them. In the end Australia lost a war on birds in December of that year and it was so embarrassing that they had to reform their government because of it.

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Memes Improve Mental Health

Vivienne Sharkey 7AFG

Well, it's not clinically proven but they're quite fun! So you're scrolling on the media full of war and pain when you see a duck on a skateboard. Wouldn't your mood be improved? There is so much darkness in the world so it's important to shine a light on the happy things too.

Did you know that when you smile your brain releases tiny molecules called neuropeptides to help fight off stress? As they say "A meme a day keeps the doctor away". Smiling more often can help the mind and body reduce stress naturally. It's a

proven fact that women smile 62 times a day whereas men smile only 8 times. It's sad but true! According to the latest social media behaviour survey, 75% of 13-36 year olds [and 79% of 13-17 year olds] share memes. 55% of 13-35-year-old send them every week and 30% send them every day!

In my opinion, the best memes are the ones that resonate with your day-to-day life. They help us see the brighter side whilst in bad situations. They may be old news but they always make me smile.



Making small edit

Breaking entire page because of one slash

