

STOP INDIAN HATE.

Written by youth of our community

A call for recognition: **dignity, inclusion & respect**

The Indian community must work towards realizing these 3 values through individual, social, and political change.

OUR FOUNDING PRINCIPLE

"We dream of a world where Indian pride isn't punished, where we can be comfortable with our culture, and where our dignity is upheld. Not a world of supremacy, but one of equality".

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Declaration of Intent

Why this movement exists, whom it serves, and what it refuses to become.

Today, Anti-Indian sentiment is thriving. Our community faces open hostility, institutional neglect, social isolation, and violence. From youth to adults, the Indian community experiences bigotry and hatred, and is often reduced to a convenient target for xenophobic extremists. Meanwhile, the Indian community, particularly the Indian youth, is silent.

We refuse to accept that reduction, and let our community be victimized. We refuse to be scapegoats. As Desi youth, we're organizing Stop Indian Hate as a civil-rights organization to advocate for all people of South Asian descent. We've chosen the label "Stop Indian Hate" in particular, not because of nationality, but because people of our heritage are unfortunately grouped and targeted under the "Indian" umbrella. We're calling on every member of the global Desi community — whether they're recent immigrants or long-established immigrant families — to stand with us in our movement.

We refuse to become those we're standing against. We renounce racial, cultural, or religious supremacy. However, we absolutely seek equality and equity. That means institutionalized protection, accurate representations of our people, inspiration of cultural confidence, and political engagement with our issues.

Our movement is nonviolent, democratic, evidence-driven, and isn't politically affiliated in any manner. Our 4-Pillar Program articulates our goals, and we intend to use public education, litigation, policy advocacy, research, peaceful protest, media pressure, electoral participation, and institutional legitimacy to fulfill it.

We call on representatives of our culture: social media content creators, government officials, celebrities, and business leaders to aid us in our cause. By utilizing your connections and networks to spread our message, fund anti-hate initiatives, and bring legislative change, you can turn this declaration into our reality.

Hate will always exist, and bigots never back down. But that isn't an excuse for us to forsake our heritage. We come from a beautiful culture, one worth being proud of. Like everyone else, our community deserves respect and parity. It's time we stand up for what we're worth, and be unapologetically proud of who we are.

In Unity,

The Desi Youth

Our 9 Key Beliefs

01 Human Dignity

Every human being has equal moral worth. Ancestry, color, religion, accent, name, caste, citizenship, and birthplace must never justify cruelty and suffering. Furthermore, we reiterate that discrimination and violence against the South Asian community (and any other group) is morally wrong.

02 Equal Citizenship

People of South Asian descent must not be villainized as foreigners or aliens. Furthermore, we reject the “great replacement theory” or any other ideas of immigrant replacement. The Desi people’s right to citizenship and belonging cannot be infringed upon on the basis of their ethnicity, culture, or religion.

03 Community Development

The goal of our movement is not only to *Stop Indian Hate* by targeting external oppression, but also to promote internal growth. We want greater education and intellectual development — especially for our youth — stronger community bonds and connectedness, greater economic and political leverage, and a strong support system to help each other.

04 Cultural Confidence

We believe in unapologetic identification with constructive traditions, habits, languages, and practices from all across South Asia. We believe in being able to engage in them without shame.

05 Practical Action

We will fulfill our ideals by rooting action in realistic, measurable, and pragmatic approaches. We will cooperate with rational, clear, and organized methods, while using the most efficient means to resolve issues.

06 Morality

We adhere to nonviolence and refuse to engage in insults or ad-hominem attacks. However, we are not passive. We will actively pursue fairness within moral bounds, rapidly innovating and problem-solving to secure justice.

07 Independence and Pluralism

The movement refuses to be a proxy for political parties, foreign governments, religious institutions, corporations, caste groups, or ideological factions. We stand with humanity and the right of peoples to live with dignity and respect.

08 Opposition to Dog-Whistle Ideologies

We are firmly opposed to ideas of mandatory “assimilation” of immigrants, enforced expectations of behavior that are rooted in bias and prejudice rather than logic, derogatory stereotyping, and “humor” that relies on cultural mockery.

09 Institutional Legitimacy

We want our community’s struggle recognized by the media, government, the education system, and businesses. We want these institutions to support and work with the South Asian community to resolve our pains.

The 4 Pillars of Reform

The foundation of our movement, our core demands that determine whether we've truly stopped Indian hate.

01 Stronger Action Against Racial, Cultural, and Religious Harassment in Education

- **Mandatory Surveys:** Schools should be required to implement or strengthen mandatory anonymous surveys that measure harassment and discrimination, including the basis, frequency, severity, and location of reported incidents. The aggregated, de-identified results of these surveys should be made publicly available. Publishing this data enables local communities to hold school officials and administrations accountable for persistent or systemic discrimination. Furthermore, standardized reporting would also enable researchers and policymakers to track patterns nationwide, compare outcomes across schools and districts, and identify where stronger intervention is needed.
- **Task Forces:** State, local, and federal governments set up task forces to investigate and take action against Anti-South Asian (and all other hate) in schools.
- **Employee Training:** Mandatory "anti-discrimination" training for employees at schools. These will teach educators how to identify racial discrimination, common slurs and stereotypes, how to respond, and how to engage constructively.
- **Fix Misrepresentative and Biased Curriculum:** Not covering atrocities, famines, and justifying colonial rule in South Asia. Ignorance or misappropriation of South Asian contributions to history and intellectual development, including mathematical, medicinal, and philosophical discoveries. Exclusion of South Asian immigrant contributions to national histories. Oversimplification and misrepresentation of Hinduism as simply "cow worship," "idolatry," and casteism. Presenting Sikhism as purely an offshoot of Hinduism and Islam while minimizing its own unique history.

02 Stronger Action Against Social Media Hate Speech

- **Algorithmic Transparency:** Platforms should be mandated to disclose when and how their recommendation system amplifies engagement-driven hate content, including content that profits from racist stereotypes (e.g., mockery of South Asian food, accents, or traditions). Furthermore, platforms should refuse to profit by promoting racism, and adjust algorithmic weighing accordingly.
- **Coordinated Network Detection:** Platforms should be required to identify and dismantle bot networks and inauthentic coordinated campaigns that manufacture anti-South Asian (and all other races) hate. This is not free speech or free expression, but rather profit-driven and commercialized hatred.
- **Enforcement Benchmarks:** Platforms should publish measurable standards for hate speech response which include average time-to-removal, appeals outcomes, and repeat-offender consequences, so that existing policies are enforced consistently and effectively.

03 Government and Regulatory Intervention

Federal Government

- **General Anti-South Asian Hate Task Force:** Establish a federal interagency working group on anti-South Asian and anti-Indian hate, including civil rights, education, labor, homeland security, and justice agencies, similar to the one formed by California in 2020 through AB 3121 to study anti-Black harms and propose remedies.
- **Nuanced Labeling:** The FBI should begin tracking Anti-South Asian hate crime statistics as a distinct category from broader Anti-Asian hate crime statistics.
- **Investment into Cultural Preservation and Security:** Fund grants to create community-based prevention organizations, improve security at targeted places of worship, and expand research on the South Asian community, hate against it, and the impact of that hate.
- **Stronger Protections against Abuse of Immigrants:** Require proactive, risk-based federal audits of employer-sponsored visa arrangements to identify coercion, retaliation, recruitment debt, threats involving immigration status, passport confiscation, unlawful contract penalties and blacklisting—without requiring workers to file individual complaints.
- **Cultural Recognition:** Recognize Diwali, Eid, and Vaisakhi as federal holidays due to widespread practice and cultural adoption by millions of people.

State and Local Government

- **State & Local Cultural Recognition:** Recognize Diwali, Eid, and Vaisakhi as holidays due to widespread practice and cultural adoption by millions of people in the absence of central/federal regulation.
- **Funding Educational Diversity:** Fund grants for cultural and religious clubs in schools to increase exposure to, and the sharing of, diverse experiences between the youth.
- **Local Advisory Boards:** Form community advisory councils that, alongside other groups, also include youth, women, workers, religious minorities, and recent immigrants in order to advise on discrimination and equity issues in localities and neighborhoods.

Employers and Professional Institutions

- **Expanded Oversight of Employee Management Practices:** Require large employers and professional institutions (which can afford the financial and administrative burden) to conduct annual, privacy-protected reviews of compensation, promotions, performance ratings, high-value assignments, involuntary departures, sponsorship decisions, admissions, fellowships, leadership appointments, professional discipline, and credentialing. Furthermore, employers must report Indian and South Asian outcomes separately from aggregate Asian outcomes. Require a documented investigation and corrective plan whenever a pre-established disparity threshold is met.
- **Expanded Checks and Balances on Immigration Sponsorship:** Remove immigration sponsorship decisions from the unilateral control of direct supervisors. Require written sponsorship criteria, independent HR or legal approval, written reasons for withdrawal or nonrenewal, and automatic review whenever an adverse sponsorship decision follows a workplace complaint, refusal of unequal work demands, request for legally protected leave, or report of misconduct.
- **Better Conflict Resolution Systems:** Require discrimination and immigration-coercion complaints involving supervisors or senior officials to be handled by an independent compliance office, ombudsperson, or outside investigator. The accused official may not select the investigator or control

the complainant's assignments, evaluation, compensation, promotion, or sponsorship while the complaint is pending. Establish written investigation deadlines, conflict-of-interest rules, and an appeal process.

- **Preventing Weaponization of Success:** Prohibit employers and professional institutions from using aggregate Asian representation or income statistics as sufficient grounds to dismiss an Indian-specific discrimination complaint or decline further review. Diversity assessments must not infer an individual's caste, religion, immigration status, socioeconomic position, cultural background, or professional aptitude solely from Indian or South Asian identity.

04 Better Representation in the Media

Media, Society, and Entertainment

- **More Representation:** TV shows and movies significantly increase Desi representation across the diverse cultures of South Asia. This isn't limited to casting, but expands to plot, creative direction, visuals, and music as well.
- **Better Quality of Representation:** A moratorium on derogatory and abusive characters, along with stereotypes. A diverse range of representation ensures that Desis aren't boxed into negative expectations because their ethnicity / culture was weaponized as a tool for comedy. Furthermore, we want Desi characters who are represented positively and realistically, which can happen through representation in athletic fields, music and arts, the humanities, and as socially fluent individuals.
- **End the "Slumdog Millionaire Effect":** The only or dominant narrative portraying South Asia as a hub of poverty, corruption, and backwardness. We want more coverage of positive aspects of life, religion, culture, and our nuanced histories. We also want positive and constructive stories that inspire South Asians and create positive impressions of South Asia. This does not mean ending representation of the ugly side of South Asia, but rather balancing it with representation of the good side as well.
- **Cultural Appropriation:** Fashion companies credit Indian-inspired or made clothing adequately, both in terms of finances and recognition.

How can you get involved?

A personal message to you from the founders

Starting off in this movement is simple. Contact us and state your interest, verify your identity, and schedule a call with us. That's right, it's that easy.

The bigger issue is whether you think you can start off with this movement. We're sure a lot of you are reading this, and you're doubtful. Confused. Afraid.

Our community isn't one that teaches us to advocate for ourselves. We're often told to stay silent, keep our heads down, and work hard. But when our people can't live in peace, and when hate reaches a tipping point, somebody has to stand up.

You don't need to start off as a skilled activist, a revolutionary leader, or as the greatest orator. You just need passion, and the drive to improve this world, not just for our community, but for everyone.

If you share that passion, don't hesitate a second longer. Contact us, take the initiative, and we'll equip you with the skills you need to put your passion to use.

Someone needs to have the courage to stand up for what they believe in. We get it — it's really intimidating for you to stand with us. But who's going to do it if not you? If not us.

We have the opportunity to write history. All it takes is a small change to make a massive impact.

If you want to make that impact, we'll be looking forward to working with you.

Organizational Function & Structure

How we work, and the different parts of our movement

01 Core Activism Council

A team of leaders across prominent South Asian communities across the globe, made up of regional chapter leads or prominent volunteers. They work together and make decisions on the future of the organization.

02 Regional Chapters

A chapter greenlit by the Core Activism Council, covering a prominent hub of Desi populations anywhere in the world. Led by a regional chair.

03 Allies of the Desi Community

Activists and volunteers aside from the organizational leadership structure who have had a profound impact on the movement and its work, recognized by leadership as prominent figures. These can include normal students, politicians, celebrities, and everyday people.

04 Youth Organization

The movement will primarily be led by youth & students, guided with the oversight and balance of prominent social advocates of the Desi community. However, trust is primarily placed in the youth to be the bringers of change.

05 Social Media Activism

The use of social media and online information channels to spread our message, encourage action, and organize Gen-Z Desis.

06 Policy Activism

Organize legislative action (in accordance with the 4 pillars), and continue to advocate for change and government action to solve community issues.

07 Community Organization

Uniting and enhancing the bonds between the Desi community, ensuring that a shared appreciation and cultural connection survives political, racial, and religious division, while securing a united front against hate.

08 Cultural Development Activism

The preservation and growth of cultural representation, including artifact preservation, educational curriculum reforms, media representation, and any other actions that improve and preserve the representation of Desi culture.