Appendix

Supplementary Material

S1 Analysis of Police-recorded Race Hate Crime in London

This analysis drew on publicly available police-recorded hate crime data from the London Metropolitan Police special crime dashboard (note: all raw data is available at Metropolitan Police, 2021). Given the limited categories of hate crime that are available through this service, sinophobic hate crime was operationalised as race hate crime, that is, criminal offences driven by bias towards the victim's race, colour, nationality, or ethnic or national origin. 'Race hate crime' can be calculated by subtracting 'anti-Semitic hate crime', 'Islamophobic hate crime' and 'faith hate crime' from 'racist and religious hate crime'. We analysed whether and how police-recorded race hate crime counts changed between July 2019 and July 2020.

Results showed that for race hate crime, a breakpoint model with one structural break in May 2020 fitted the observed data best (Table S1). After the national lockdown was lifted (and only then), race hate crime count increased significantly. There is thus no evidence of an increase in race hate crime following the COVID-19 outbreak.

Table S1. Model Fit Indices

Hate crime type	Model	AIC	BIC	MAE	RMSE
Race	Intercept-only	191.15	192.28	224.33	323.51
	Structural breakpoint (1*)	159.75	161.45	73.45	89.53
Anti-semitic	Intercept-only	104.26	105.39	9.40	11.44
	Structural breakpoint (1*)	103.25	104.94	8.20	10.19
Faith	Intercept-only	125.08	126.21	18.19	25.48
	Structural breakpoint (2*)	114.19	116.45	10.99	14.37
Islamophobic	Intercept-only	111.48	112.61	11.74	15.10
	Structural breakpoint (1*)	103.76	105.46	7.93	10.39

Note. * indicates number of breakpoints.

S2 Sensitivity Analyses

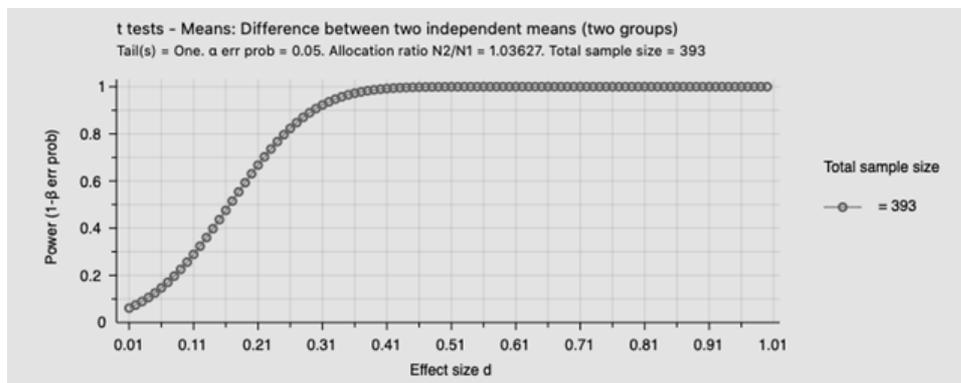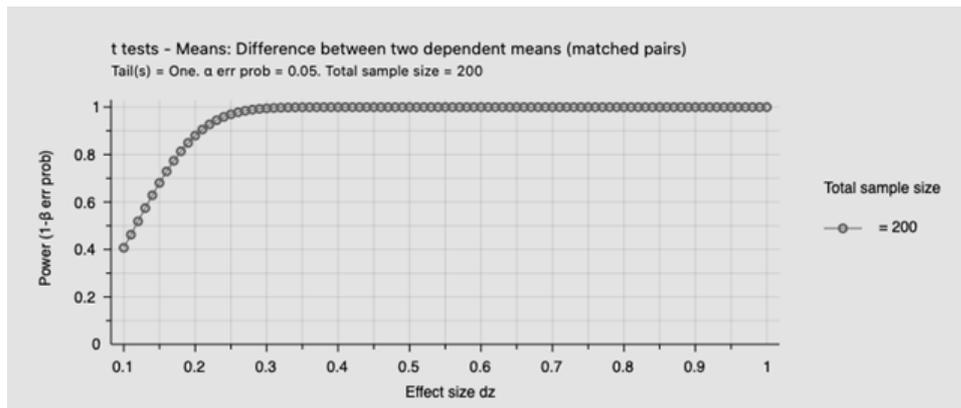Figure S1. Sensitivity Analysis Plot for Between-group Differences. Source: G*Power

t tests - Means: Difference between two independent means (two groups)
Tail(s) = One. α err prob = 0.05. Allocation ratio N2/N1 = 1.03627. Total sample size = 393

Figure S2. Sensitivity Analysis Plot for Within-group Differences. Source: G*Power

t tests - Means: Difference between two dependent means (matched pairs)
Tail(s) = One. α err prob = 0.05. Total sample size = 200

Total sample size
—○— = 200

S3

Recruitment Text (some information is removed to allow for blind peer review)

I am a researcher from [text removed], and conduct a study on 'Hate during the COVID-19 crisis'. The aim of this study is to better understand people's experiences with hateful comments or behaviour during the COVID-19 crisis in the UK. The study will take between 5 and 10 minutes to complete and you will be compensated £1.10 for your efforts.

You will be asked questions about your own experiences with hateful comments or behaviour in the last weeks, whether you have made such experiences and, if so, where these occurred. To be eligible for this study, you must currently live in the United Kingdom and NOT describe your ethnicity as White (e.g., White-British, White-Irish, White Other). Please follow the link, if you would like to learn more about the study and want to participate.

S4

Analyses including South-East Asian participants

Table S2. Characteristics of Hate Crime/Incidents before February 2020

Table S3. Characteristics of Hate Crime/Incidents after February 2020

	Reported frequency - whole sample	Reported frequency – EA/CH/SEA	Reported frequency – All Other Ethnicities
	Reported frequency - whole sample	**Reported frequency - CH/EA/SEA**	**Reported frequency - Other Ethnicity**
Location	**(N=466 responses)**	**(N=259 responses)**	**(N= 207 responses)**
On the street	28%	31%	25.12%
Near home	13%	11.97%	13.50%
Commercial setting	10%	10.04%	10.14%
Public transport	15%	14.29%	14.98%
School or college	12%	13.13%	11.11%
Parking lot	4%	2.32%	5.78%
At home	2%	1.93%	1.93%
Online, social media public setting	6%	5%	8.21%
Online, social media private setting or email	4%	4.26%	3.86%
Comment sections of news outlets	2%	2.32%	1.45%
No answer	4%	3.87%	3.86%
Crime Type	**(N= 265 responses)**	**(N= 148 responses)**	**(N=117 responses)**
Verbal harassment	70%	68.24%	72.65%
Assault with injury	4%	2.03%	6.84%
Assault without injury	2%	1.35%	1.71%
Robbery	3%	2.03%	3.42%
Household crime	18%	23%	12.82%
None of the above but I felt uncomfortable - hate incident	3%	3.38%	2.56%

Time of Incident	N=287 responses	N=219 responses	N=68 responses
1.2-29.2	16.03%	18.96%	7.89%
1.3- 23.3.2020	30.66%	35.07%	18.42%
24.3.-13.5. 2020	23.69%	23.22%	25.00%
since 14.5. 2020	9.41%	6.16%	18.42%
Unsure	19.86%	16.11%	30.26%
No Answer	0%	0.47%	0%

Location

On the street	32.40%	36.49%	21.05%
Near home	10.10%	11.85%	5.26%
Commercial setting	18.82%	17.54%	22.37%
Public transport	13.24%	15.64%	6.58%
School or college	4.18%	4.27%	3.95%
Parking lot	2.44%	1.90%	3.95%
At home	0.70%	0.95%	0%
Online, social media public setting	13.59%	8.06%	28.95%
Online, social media private setting or email	0.70%	0.47%	1.32%
Comment sections of news outlets	0.00%	0.00%	0%
No answer	3.83%	2.84%	6.58%

Crime Type	(N= 299 responses)	(N=219 responses)	(N= 80 responses)
Verbal harassment	66.89%	61.18%	82.50%

Assault with injury	1.67%	0.91%	3.75%
Assault without injury	3.01%	2.28%	5.00%
Robbery	0.33%	0.45%	0%
Household crime	0.67%	0.45%	1.25%
None of the above but I felt uncomfortable - hate incident	27.42%	34.70%	7.50%

S5

Analyses in which we weighted data in line with the distribution of different ethnic groups in the UK population

To take into account that the distribution of participants from Chinese/East Asian descent and those of other ethnic minority groups in the sample did not reflect their distribution in the UK population, we weighted data in line with information available in the 2011 UK census.

According to the latter, in England/Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, Chinese persons make up 5.65% of the non-White population; other non-White ethnicities represent 94.35%. Accordingly, sampling weights of .113 (for Chinese and East Asian participants) and 1.887 (for other participants) were computed.

We conducted the Chi-square test with the respective weights (Rao-Scott Method to take into account sampling variability and variability among the assigned weights) and identified significant differences between Chinese/East Asian persons and other participants ($F(1) = 24.24$, $p < .001$) with respect to the likelihood of having been victimised after the COVID-19 outbreak in the UK. Inspecting the weighted observed frequencies (Table S4), participants of Chinese/East Asian descent were OR = 2.89 times more likely to be victimised. Regarding victimisation after the COVID-19 outbreak, no between-group differences were detected ($F(1) = 2.15$, $p = .144$ (Table S5).

Table S4. Weighted frequency table - victimisation after the COVID-19 outbreak

Ethnicity	Victimised	Non-victimised
Chinese/East Asian	10	12
Other Ethnicity	81	281

Table S5. Weighted frequency table - victimisation before the COVID-19 outbreak

Ethnicity	Victimised	Non-victimised
Chinese/East Asian	12	11
Other Ethnicity	213	149