

Resisting migrantification



We asked our participants what gave them hope in order to find out about what resources they use to challenge the effects of migrantification



Faith was important in terms of churches and mosques as places where people came together, but also in providing relief and hope in circumstances which were out of their control.

“Okay, we also have come together as other members of ... immigrants, we go to the same church... it gives you that sense of belonging as well.”

you have this mechanism that you are having now of you're holding onto that hoping that God will answer our prayers and that you will get the status in this country.

“When I listen to [Gospel music] I have stress relief, it just comforts me, if that makes sense”



Jahdiel, Nigerian gospel singer (click on the image for her Youtube channel)

Many mentioned music, and shared examples from the countries they had left



Nubian music, Sudan (click on the image to see a performance suggested by one of our participants as part of Coke Studio Raw)



Click on the image for a Kurdish (Zaza) song (Turkey) - Tuncay Balcı-Emanet-Dertli Gönülüm



Lyrics to first song:

We as black nations

We are crying for our land

That was taken by the whites

Let them leave our land

Second song:

“This is a touching song that was composed by politicians who were at exile in Zambia before Mandela came out of Polsmoor Prison.

The lyrics are saying:

One day we will come back home (repeat)

There will be thunder

Some will cry

There will be fireworks

They sang the song with hope because at that time Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life in prison. Nobody knew that he would be released one day but their hope never died”

One participant from South Africa shared a song from the anti-apartheid struggle (click on the link to the South African Parliament commemorating the reburial of JB Marks)

Others mentioned music and films that had become personally meaningful to them since coming to the UK



Tracey Chapman, *Talking 'Bout a Revolution*
(click on the image to see a live recording)



One of our participants (from Nigeria) had become a fan of Bollywood films since coming to the UK, particularly those starring Shah Rukh Khan and Priya Chopra. Click the image above for a Youtube mix of Shah Rukh Khan

News comedy was popular both as entertainment and for keeping informed on global politics.

“Stephen Colbert, Seth Meyers, who else, Samantha Bee, her. So I’ve been following the story in the States because of this, because that’s what they talk about a lot and it just makes me laugh and in a way, it’s not just making me laugh but I’m listening to what is going around the world, yes.”



Click on the image above to see a clip of comedian Trevor Noah comparing Donald Trump to dictators in Africa (Facebook video)

Clips and images were shared on WhatsApp and other social media platforms

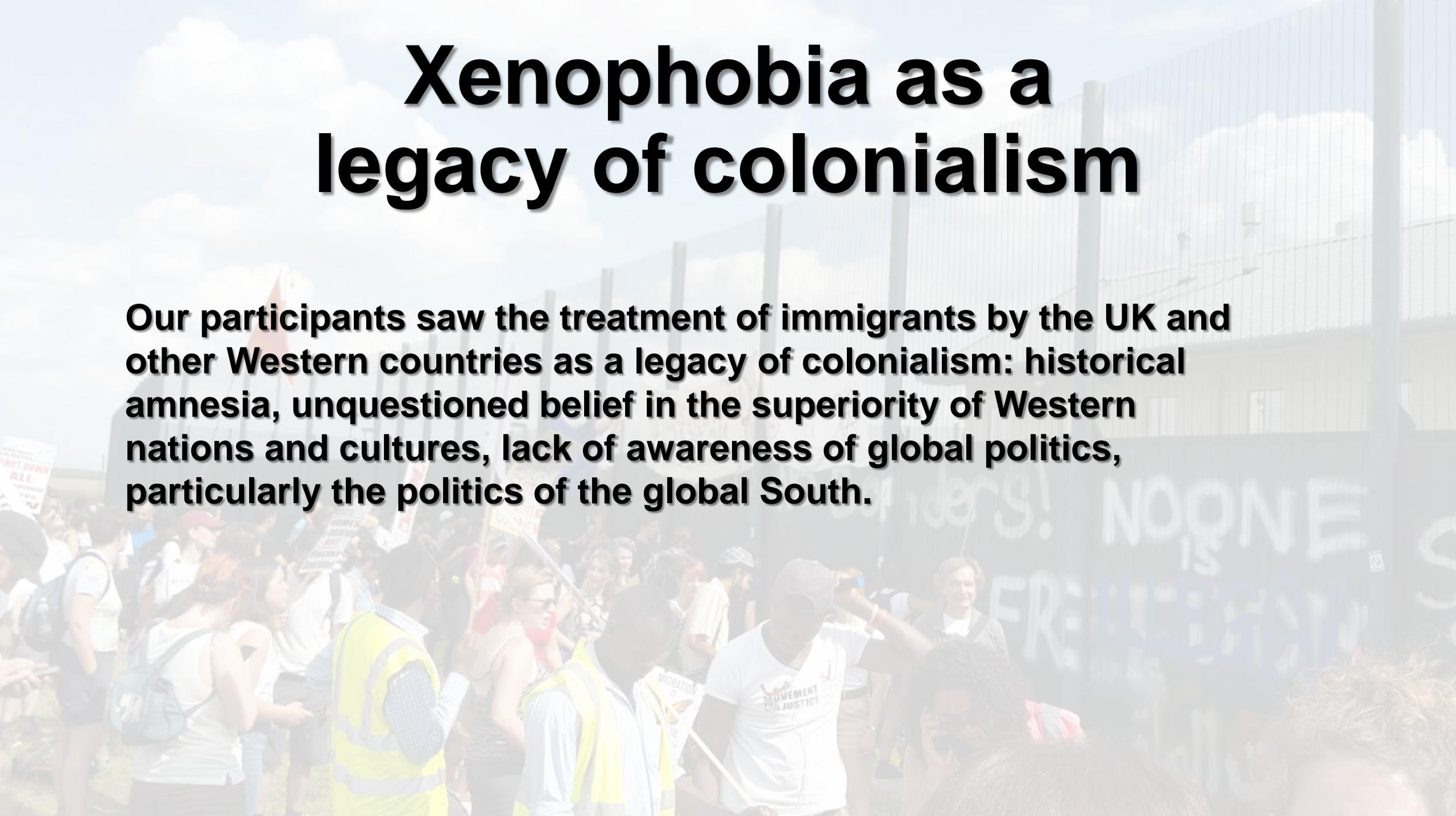
Click on this [link](#) to see a comedy clip from BBC3 about PM Theresa May calling a snap election in 2017, shared by one of our participants (Facebook video)

Supporting each other

Our respondents felt that being part of groups like Birmingham Asylum and Refugee Association and the Women's Cultural Exchange allowed them to share experiences and support each other.

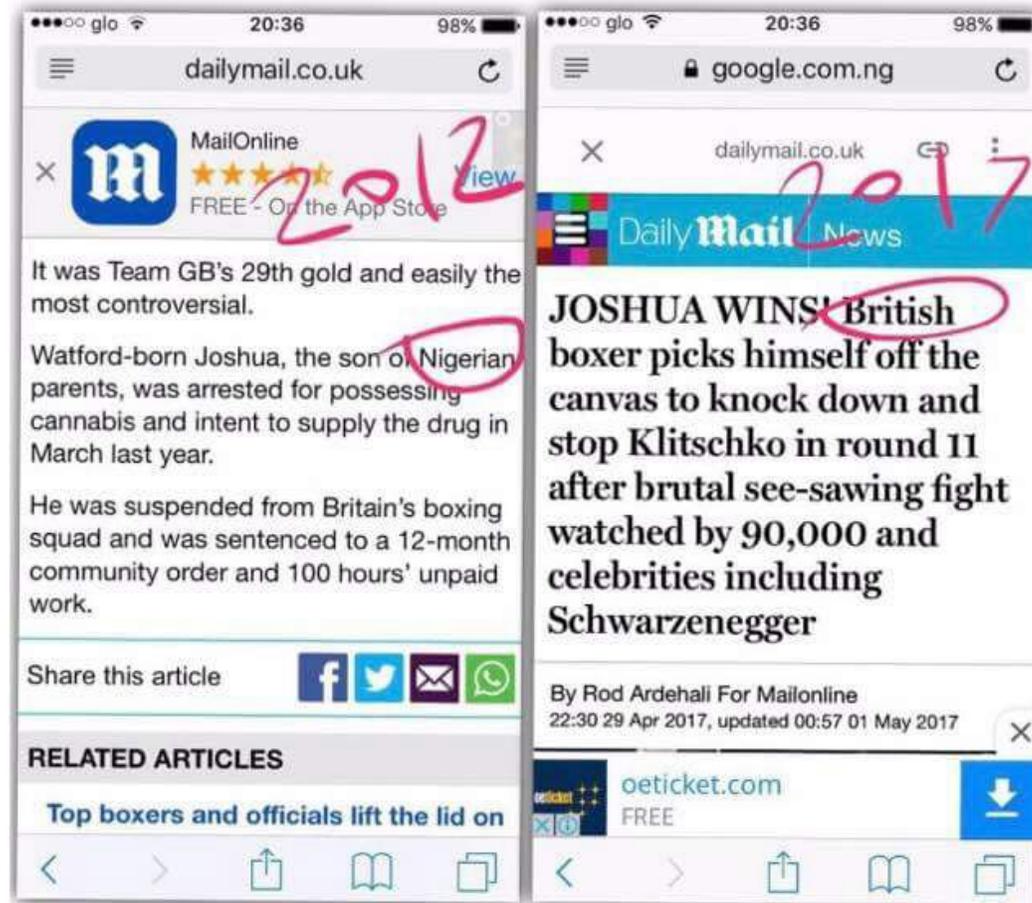
Xenophobia as a legacy of colonialism

Our participants saw the treatment of immigrants by the UK and other Western countries as a legacy of colonialism: historical amnesia, unquestioned belief in the superiority of Western nations and cultures, lack of awareness of global politics, particularly the politics of the global South.



Identifying double standards

Our participants shared this photo with us (which also circulated on social media) – it shows how the same person was identified as “British” or “Nigerian” dependent on circumstances.



Ok! Kontinu