



Hull Youngsters shared their thoughts and experiences of the recent happenings in the city they call their home.

We woke up this morning with lots of messages from the young people we support in Hull who are sad and disappointed about the level of violence, hate and racism they witnessed in a city they call their home. While some of them are sad, scared, disappointed and deeply depressed, others think it is no longer safe for them to live in Hull. We have collated and shared their responses for your attention here using pseudonyms for confidentiality. There is a pressing need to restore the trust and confidence of our young people.

“The events that have occurred made me feel sad and disappointed but more than anything, I feel very unsafe in the city I have called home for 10 years. I saw violence and chaos and genuinely thought to myself that this is not a city I would raise my child in, I began to think of it as a place that would be temporary because who wants to stay where they are not welcome? Who wants to be scared to leave their home”? ~AB

“For me as a young person, Hull on August 3, 2024, was a really disturbing event. I was deeply depressed after learning that, despite initial reports suggesting a peaceful protest, the situation quickly deteriorated and led to violence and looting. In this day and age, I am afraid to reside in the city as a young person because I feel unsafe there. Currently, I suspect everyone, therefore I move with the utmost awareness and security. I am unable to go site seeing or simply take a leisurely stroll through the city because the fallout of the incident has significantly affected my current plans”. ~Daniella

“I am not feeling safe because we are not allowed to move freely like before, and if we want to get something in town or anywhere the riot has occurred, we can't because we either get chased, beating or killed or even though we have to suffer any of that we can't have peace of mind to walk or drive freely”. ~Anas

“The whole situation was terrifying and upset me for a number of reasons. It upset me that we have not as evolved as I once thought we were. I never thought that something so distasteful could occur so close to me, right here. It upsets me that the focus shifted from the victims and their families to something as simple as the perpetrator's skin colour. Of course, their acts were violent and deserving of punishment but People of colour (POC) all over the city shouldn't have to fear getting attacked or harassed in the streets because of the vicious acts of one man. I'm

scared to go outside again. It was such an unpredictable event that I don't even know when it will be safe again, when I or my family will be safe again". ~**Yemi**

"I feel unsafe, and restricted. It's like I'm on house arrest and I just think it's unfair that others have to put a stop in their life because others want to protest. As a community we have to wonder if we're going to life another day and understand that Violence is never the answer". ~**Eugene**

"Due to the recent riot in Hull, this has made me feel uncomfortable and scared of my skin colour because it isn't safe anymore and it is really sad to know that all this is still happening even after everything that has happened in history" ~ **Sandra**

"I am upset about the recent riots in Hull because they are causing harm to the community and making people feel unsafe. The violence and destruction that is happening is not the right way to address issues or bring about change. I wish that people could find peaceful ways to express their frustrations and work together to make positive improvements in our city" ~ **Uzo**

"The protest has affected me in many ways. Firstly, by feeling unsafe in a community of love and understanding. The violence was huge which is why I felt dejected. This has been a huge pain to think that this happened in a lovely community, knowing that a lot of people died due to the protest is so sorrowful". ~**Ola**

"In my opinion, this is very appalling and disappointing that most British people decide to do this to people of coloured even though they (or their ancestors in this case) welcomed us to work AND live in this great nation. Honestly, it shows how society is crashing down as a citizen and a Christian" ~ **David**

"The recent events in Hull have made me feel unsafe with racist and violent attacks. Hearing the news on places being burnt, people still rioting even at night-time. I feel scared to go out and I'm even more afraid that they will go even while school begins". ~**Micah**

"In my opinion, I think it really disappointing and scary thing, the fact that a 17-year-old could easily take a life of little children without feeling any remorse is very disturbing, but the fact that his actions alone has affected a whole community is shocking and scary. My mum is very worried for me and my siblings and is scared for us to go outside. When though we don't leave necessarily close to the protest thing, she still very worried especially when she goes to work. It's not comfortable thing to be scared of your surroundings and being trapped inside your own home" ~**Peace**

We have launched different programmes to support young people in this difficult and trying times to reassure them, restore hope, trust and confidence across different communities in Hull and together, we will build the Hull we want devoid of hate, violence and racism.

For any form of support, please feel free to contact us at: Email info@youthaspireconnect.org.uk or youthaspireconnect@gmail.com. Tel: 07578549799/01482690329

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