



Hate Crime & Risks of Escalation

#No2Hate #HateHurtsWales

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Who are we?

VS is the leading independent victims' charity in England and Wales. Our purpose is to help and empower people affected by crime and traumatic incidents to move beyond crime and recover to the point where they feel they are back on track with their lives.

We are independent of the police and local authorities but work with them and the whole of the criminal justice system and other relevant bodies to improve services for victims and provide much needed support.

We are LOCAL

We are NATIONAL

We are INDEPENDENT



Impact of Online Hate - Communities

17th September 2020

Far-right activist Tommy Robinson dubs Penally asylum seeker plans as 'sickening' amid social media storms



By Ruth Davies
Reporter



Right-wing activist Tommy Robinson has commented on the Penally proposals. Main pictures: Gareth Davies Photography



FAR-RIGHT activist Tommy Robinson has added his voice to the Penally Camp protest campaign.

The founder of the English Defence League dubbed the prospect of the camp housing up to 250 asylum seekers as 'sickening'.

There have been further statements by other people on social media about the issue which have led to one comment: "The protest has now been taken over by out-of-town violent racists".

And the Facebook group Penally Camp Protest shut itself down yesterday after its admins admitted it had got 'totally out of control'.

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Penally: Protest over asylum seekers' camp

17:35 September 2020



Police blocking one group outside the camp on Saturday

About 150 protesters and counter-protesters have demonstrated outside an Army training camp in Pembrokeshire being used to house asylum seekers.

There was a visible police presence at the site in Penally, near Tenby.

One group of protesters carried banners including one which read "not racist, not extremist, just concerned locals". A second group has placards saying "migrants and refugees welcome".

It could house up to 230 asylum seekers while their claims are processed.

Some asylum seekers are already being housed at the camp.

- **Asylum seeker delays continue to rise**
- **Asylum seekers 'in limbo and unable to work'**

Several protests have been staged in the area since it was revealed the site was one of several identified by the Home Office as suitable for asylum seekers.

First Minister Mark Drakeford said the Penally camp had become a target for "hard-right extremist" protesters.



Some people are carrying banner reading "migrants and refugees welcome here"

One woman, who did not want to be named, said the "wasn't racist" but was concerned about the number of migrants being brought to the camp.

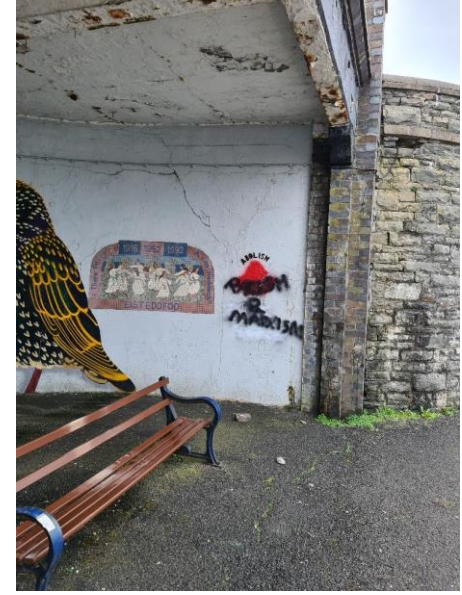
Public Perceptions of Extremism

“ Personally, I think if we live in a democracy, freedom of speech, etc., then [...] I think we've got to define exactly what point does that become threatening to you? At what point does it become a problem? ”

“ Views that will cause harm to other people, I don't think that's acceptable. I don't know. It's a fine line. ”

Public Perceptions of Extremism

Community Impacts



What We Do

- Advocacy - Police and Housing
- Reporting - 3rd Party Reports & anonymous reporting
- Emotional Support - Face to Face and telephone
- Confidence and resilience building - Beyond Crime workbooks
- Personal Safety
- Home security
- CICA signposting
- Practical Support
- Community / Organisation Awareness
- Live Chat
- My Support Space



VS VICTIM SUPPORT

Hate crime hurts. We'll help.

Victims come from all walks of life - so do we. If you have been the victim of hate crime we are here to help you. Our services are confidential, free and available to everyone. You don't have to report the crime to the police to get support from us.

Contact us today:
[Name, Job title]
Victim Support [Location]
[email]@victimsupport.org.uk
Supportline: 08 08 16 89 111

www.victimsupport.org.uk

As an independent charitable work for a world where people are made by crime and fear - we exist to get the help they need and the support they deserve. We find out how you can help us help more people. victimsupport.org.uk/get-involved

Registered charity number 246031
Registered address: Victim Support, Maitland House, 26-40 Maitland Street, London W1W 8UJ

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