

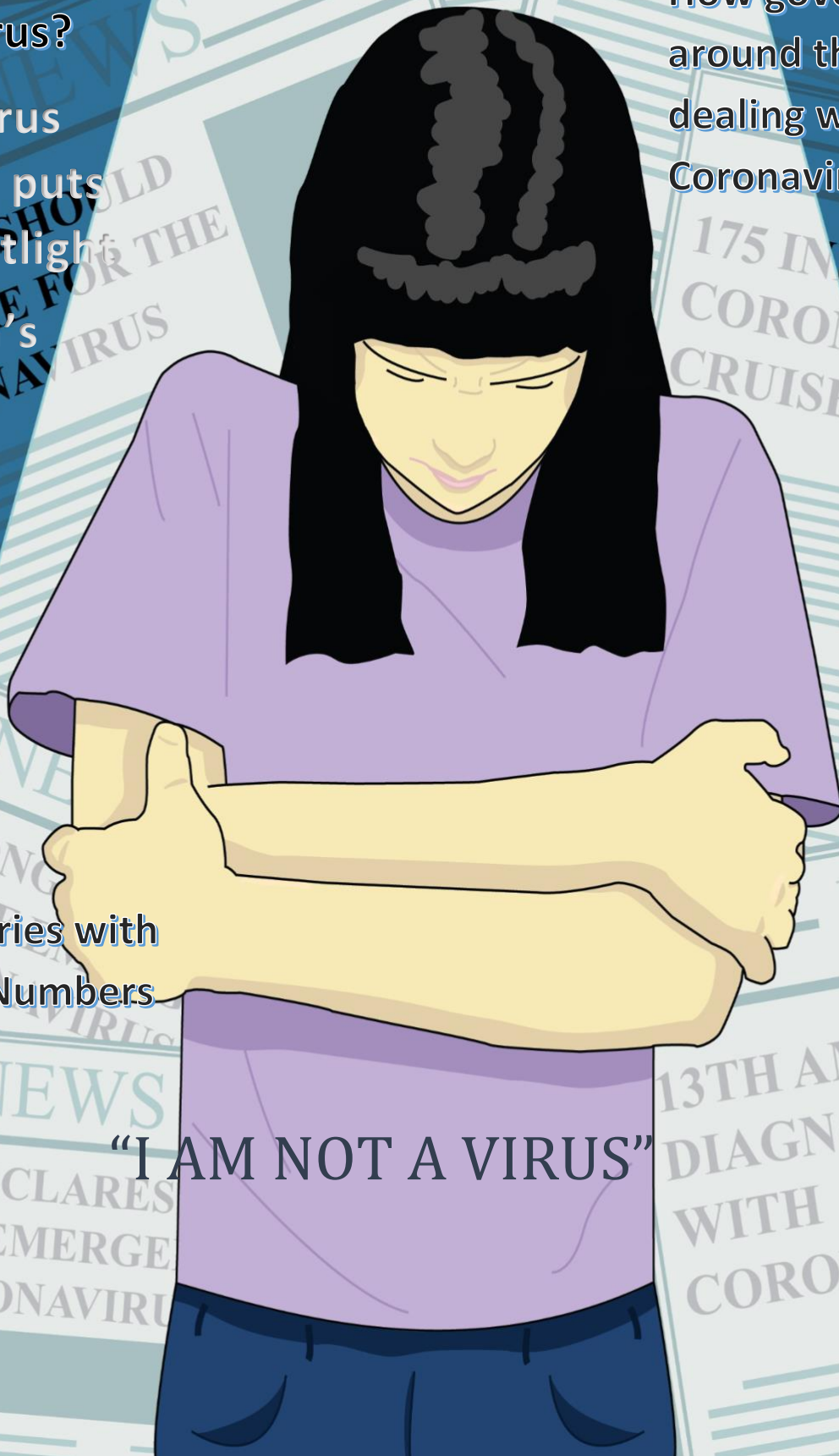
WORLD GEOGRAPHIC

Latest Update on Covid-19

What is spreading faster than Coronavirus?

How government around the World are dealing with the Novel Coronavirus Outbreak

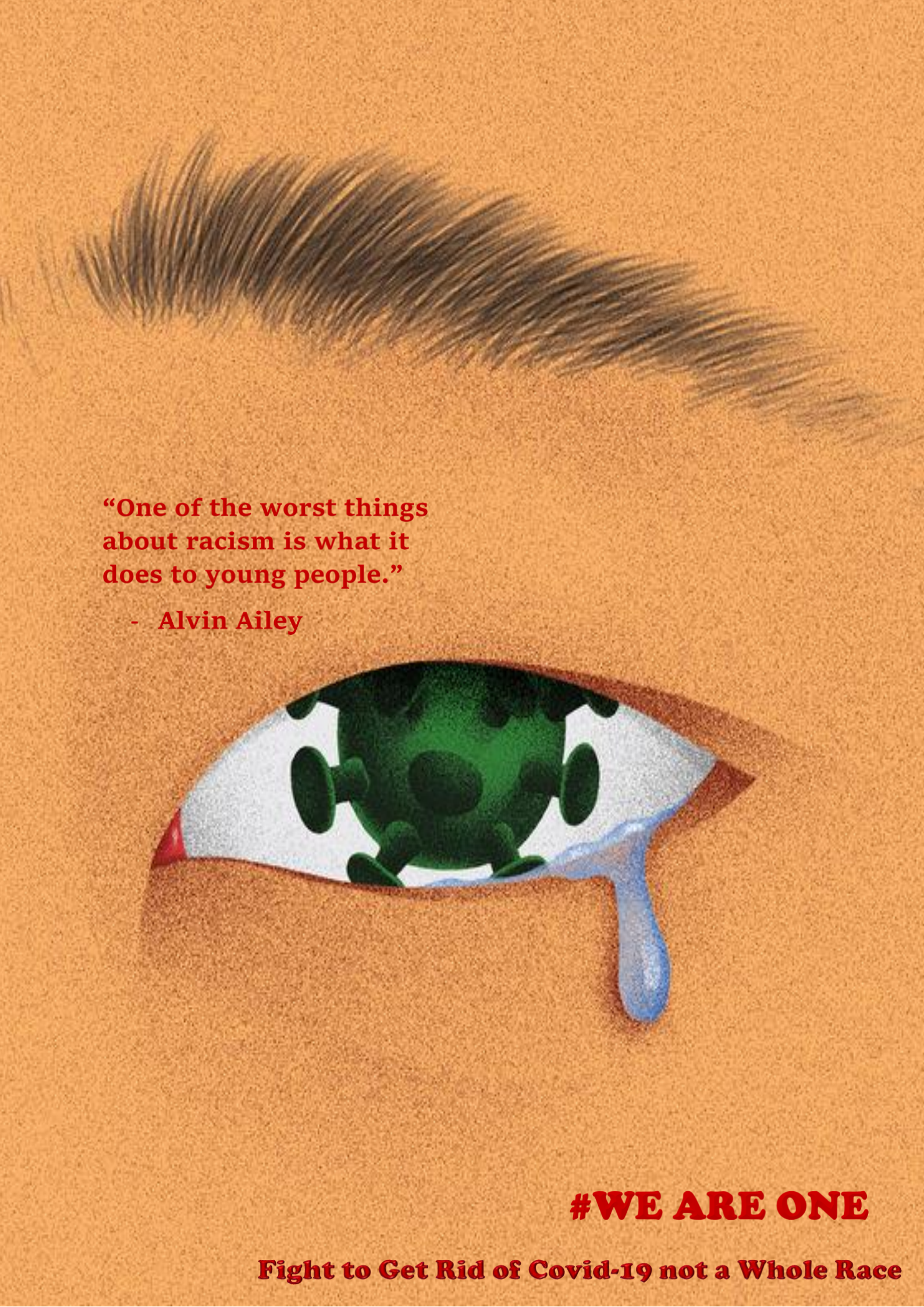
Coronavirus outbreak puts fresh spotlight on media's racism



Top Countries with the Most Numbers of Cases

"I AM NOT A VIRUS"

13TH AMERICAN DIAGNOSED WITH CORONAVIRUS

A close-up illustration of a person's eye. The eye is brown with a red iris. Inside the eye, a large, green, spherical coronavirus particle with several protruding spikes is visible. A single, large, blue tear is falling from the bottom of the eye. The background is a textured, light brown color.

**“One of the worst things
about racism is what it
does to young people.”**

- Alvin Ailey

#WE ARE ONE

Fight to Get Rid of Covid-19 not a Whole Race

“Racism is taught in our society; it is not automatic. It is learned behaviour toward persons with dissimilar physical characteristics.”

- Alex Haley.

As Australians, we are very privileged to be living in this land because we have great access to many necessities, it is safe and full of natural wonders. In a multicultural Australia, we have many positive things to learn from one another, but sadly, not everyone thinks that way. Racism is still a major issue in our society; in fact, it appears to be on the rise during this time.

Racism discrimination refers to any act where a person is treated unfavourably because of their race, nationality, colour, descent or ethnic origin. As Australians, we've always been taught that we are one human race despite our colour skin, religion or culture because everyone deserves freewill and it's what make our country so great.



For decades racism has always been present in Australian society, racism experienced by Aboriginal Australians is also a historically informed experience tied to the colonisation of Australia by sovereignty and land dispossession associated with this to the current day. For Aboriginal this impacts their mental health. Although, by acknowledging Aboriginal as the original owner of the land racism against Aboriginal has decreased, 80% of indigenous Australians feel as though they're not valued by society, these people don't deserve to feel this way because this is

their home, as Australians we need to treat each other equally.

In recent weeks, there has been increase of the novel Covid-19 with almost 6000 cases, but the virus isn't the only thing increasing these days. The issue of racism has taken a rise, targeting Asians, not just verbally but also physically assaulting them, not only is this happening in Australia but globally like America France who has numerous reports on xenophobia against Asians, Australia isn't any different from those countries.



Hatred towards China is growing at an alarming rate and it's absolutely disheartening. Chinese people all over the world, including people who even remotely look like Chinese are being targeted and suffering because of the ignorance displayed by people. The virus is not an excuse to discriminate one another. A recent incident occurred in Sydney, where a 17-year-old girl spat on and threatened two Asian women with a knife after accusing them of bringing Covid-19 to Australia, she was eventually arrested. People even take racism onto social media, reports of people messaging others to stop eating dogs and bat. "Hate crimes against Asians have increased and I've seen disgusting videos from all around the world. This is what racism and xenophobia can do." Says Sophie in an interview, the girl and her sister who

were threaten by the 17-year-old girl in Sydney.

Such horrific and dangerous incidents like these present major issues in the community. There have been 20 racial discrimination complaints around Australia, not including the unreported ones.

“Racism is not just for the Government to solve. Racism is everyone’s responsibility.”



What right do we have to discriminate a whole race who are also working as hard, or even harder to contain the virus? The Chinese-Australian community were praised by Scott Morrison for doing an amazing job at containing limiting the spread of the virus during the early days, they displayed an early example to Australians before the measures and implications were taken.

“People of all backgrounds are dealing with this crisis. No group can be singled out, and we must all work collectively to defeat it”



- **Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.**

People who are experiencing anti-Asian racism are urged to share their stories. A group of Asian-Australians launched a survey where incidents can be reported. This project is a collaboration between the Asian Australian Alliance and Per Capita.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AsianAustralian>

In Australia, you can file a complaint under the Racial Discrimination Act (RDA) anyone can use the RDA to get fair treatment, for example, employment, education, accommodation, getting or using services and accessing public places. People can file their complaint to the Australian Rights Commission by filling out a form, the president of commission will try to resolve by conciliation. Conciliation refers to get both sides of the story and help those involved resolve the complaint.

These people are NOT the virus, they are human just like everyone of us so they should not be treated any different because the virus can affect anyone. Racism should not be tolerated; we should all work together to eradicate xenophobia and racism during this time.

