

# Ask: Is this word OK?

**What does it mean?**

**What are its links with history?**

Has this word come to have certain meanings or associations?

**Is it 'loaded'?**

Has this word become a 'trigger' word that people find hurtful?

*For example*

**'Go home'**

When said to people who have settled here or whose parents came here, it is experienced as racist. This is their home. Our country is made up of many waves of migration over centuries.

Do you think people chanting at a football match realise the meaning of what they are chanting? Why do you think police and stewards do so little to stop this? Should clubs take a lead in sending messages to their fans?

**That's so gay!**

When this is used to mean 'so rubbish, stupid or useless' how do you think it makes people feel if they are or might be gay?

What does using words without thinking say about the user? Is it possible to be racist or homophobic unintentionally?

**Did you know that in our country Hate Crime is against the law?**

You could lose your job as it is not allowed in a workplace. You could be prosecuted. Hate crimes are any crimes that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person's: disability, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, transgender identity. [Find out more about Hate Crime.](#)



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Equality activities