

# CORONAVIRUS AND STIGMA



## **Coronavirus doesn't recognize race, nationality, or ethnicity.**

2019 novel coronavirus started in Wuhan, China. That's just geography. Having Chinese ancestry-- or any other ancestry -- does not make a person more vulnerable to this illness.



## **Wearing a mask does not mean a person is ill.**

People wear masks for a variety of reasons, including to avoid pollen and air pollution and for cultural and social reasons. We should not judge someone for wearing a mask or assume they are sick.



## **You can interrupt stigma. Start by sharing accurate information.**

Avoid spreading misinformation. Stay informed through reputable, trusted sources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 website



## **Speak up if you hear, see, or read misinformation or harassment.**

Gently correct the false information, and remind the speaker: prejudiced language and actions make us all less safe. If a serious harassment occurs, consider reporting it.



## **Show compassion and support for those most closely impacted.**

Listen to acknowledge and with permission, share the stories of people experiencing stigma, along with a message that bigotry is not acceptable in your community