

# Writing the Global Majority Experience



## Introduction

Hi my name is Kate, I am a writer and a poet and for the past seven years I have been working in prisons and probation settings across the UK as the National Programme Manager for The Reader and now a creative writing facilitator. I was born in the Midlands in the early 1980s to dual heritage parents. When my father met my mother in the 70s she already had four children from an earlier marriage and together, they had my sister and me, the first people of colour in our family. We grew up in a predominantly white council estate and hostility towards us was constant and unrelenting. Bricks through windows, threats, physical attacks: all regular occurrences. The National Front often loomed on our doorstep, their presence a menacing reminder that we were not welcome. I left school and home at 16 and got myself in all manner of trouble. But at 27 years old I gained my first GCSE, discovered writing and went on to get a degree in Literature and a Masters in Creative Writing. During my time working in prisons I have met so many men and women with a story to tell, with a voice to be heard but no means of doing so. I know that writing has helped me to feel valued and given me a sense of self, The Jasmine Project aims to give that voice to others.

## The Project

Thanks to the Royal Society of Literature and their Literature Matters award, I am looking to run a series of creative writing workshops across England that caters to people of the Global Majority who have had experience of the CJ System. The writing we create can be in any form, short stories, poetry, lyrics, flash fiction and aims to capture the experience of growing up as a person of colour in England. The works will then be collated into a book that we will be hoping to publish.

## How can you help?

We are looking for:

Organisations who work within these communities to get in touch. Are you able to support this project? Do you have any central spaces we can use? Any residents or service users that might be interested?

If you are a member of the Global Majority, who has experience (in any way) of the CJ system and would like the opportunity to have your voice heard, please get in touch!

## To Note

You do not have to write under your own name, pieces can be printed anonymously or under a pseudonym if preferred.

## Contact

If you would like to hear more about this project, or to get involved, please contact:

[thejasmineproject@outlook.com](mailto:thejasmineproject@outlook.com)