

# I am sickened by the politics of the indifference to ot...

Published: January 13, 2026, 7:32 am

---

I met with three friends yesterday to share the pleasure of their company, to talk about at issues in the way never possible over Zoom, and to enjoy the sunshine in Alexandra Palace. It was great to be able to do that, and so life affirming to see them.

But we all recognised the issues. We wore masks when appropriate. We socially distanced from other groups. The hugs that were so much part of our past lives did not happen. We know that this pandemic is not over yet.

Then I saw this:

[https://twitter.com/doctor\\_oxford/status/1386044009974583297?s=21](https://twitter.com/doctor_oxford/status/1386044009974583297?s=21)

And of course I agree with Rachel Clarke. She is right. What is on display here is the politics of selfishness. We are used to it. It is rampant in Downing Street. It permeates from there. And it is a killer. Modi has shown that. The politics of populism is all about mass spreader events that puts the lives of others at risk. This was one.

I am sickened by the politics of the indifference to others.