

I 've received a lot of phone calls and messages from my families and friends lately concerned about how I am and asking if I 'm planning to return to China soon. I 'm doing a master 's degree in Media and Communications at the London School of Economics, and I 'm determined to stay here until summer. That may seem like a silly decision for most of people, but I have work to finish here and other obligations to fulfil.

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In early February I joined a WeChat group in which LSE students from Shaanxi province could offer help to families and friends back home. We overcame a lot of difficulties to raise money, buy things and then pack them and have them delivered, and we were pleased to be able to send more than 10,000 masks to hospitals in Xi'an, Shaanxi's capital.

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After the protest was over a Korean friend told me how much the protest meant to her and how important it was in sending a signal to the world. She told me that it would raise people's awareness and make the world a better place.

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A few weeks after the protest, the UK government announced its stay-at-home policy, which suddenly made it more difficult for me to study with my friends, including working on our film projects. We had been shooting documentaries about how tough it could be for Chinese studying abroad to fight against COVID-19 and racism. The virus can stop us from going out, but nothing can stop us from raising people's awareness of racial equality. I and several other students from universities around the UK are now working on a reading list project named "Racism and Disease" which aims to gather and collate journalistic and academic articles related to the topic and write English and Chinese abstracts for them. once the project is done, the results will be published on every social media account of "Chinese against racist virus" to expand its visibility.

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I think we have every reason to hope that the world will become a safer place in which people are treated equally, as humans and not a virus.

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And another thing that makes me very optimistic is to see how the coronavirus pandemic is forcing the governments to rethink their priorities and realize that economies are there to work for people, and not the other way around. In the UK, new hospitals are being created to care for the sick, heartless immigration laws are being relaxed, and posh hotels are being commandeered to house the homeless.

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I've never felt a stronger bond with the world or a greater appreciation of the work that nurses, food workers, doctors, cleaners, rubbish collectors and so on perform for all of us. We often take their work for granted, and now they should be given the dignity and wages they deserve. British National Health Service has been facing shortages of clothing and equipment to keep its staff safe, and I have donated money to a fund to support its staff and other essential workers. I have also signed up to be a volunteer to help 1.5 million people in the UK who have been asked to shield themselves from coronavirus because of the underlying health conditions.

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Many Chinese students in London and elsewhere in the UK decided it was the best choice for them to return home,

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