

**By Learnmore Nyamudzanga**

## **Introduction**

COVID-19 have accelerated the embracement of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), and it encouraged the use of the digital platform than before. This year I decided to be an [active youth](#) who follows government issues such as policies and [budget statements](#). I do this by attending events to do with these issues and using social media on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), WhatsApp, and Linked In, etc. I realized that there is so much hate speech online and it was so easy to join or to be involved than to prevent it. It is from this background that motivated me to undertake the online course on Hate speech. The essay will start with this introduction, followed by lessons learned, then conclusion and last but not least recommendations

## **Lessons learned**

I learned that **HATE SPEECH** is intentional or unintentional public discriminatory and or defamatory statements; intentional incitement to hatred, violence and segregation based on a person's or a group's real or perceived race, ethnicity, language, nationality, skin colour, religious beliefs or lack thereof, gender, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, political beliefs, social status, property, birth, age, mental health, disability, disease.

I have realised that it is common in my country where women politicians are castigated because of their political affiliation. That motivated me to stand with #GirlsGetEqual against online abuse and harassment for example through **Hate speech**. I signed the open letter calling for action against online abuse. Strong reporting mechanisms are required so perpetrators are held to account. But in the meantime, online courses such as this one on Hate speech by INACH Training Space (which is bringing the Online In Line with Human Rights) is of great importance and can help to reduce hate speech.

Furthermore, I learned about media literacy in areas such as fake news and how is becoming difficult to differentiate facts from fiction. Also, learn about fact-checking and content analysis in an effort to avoid spreading fake news. In addition, not only did I learned about what hate speech is, but also how to fight it. And part of it is aligning our legislation to fight the dangers of hate speech because currently there is no universal law to hate speech.

## **Conclusion**

As we embrace the fourth industrial revolution and increased use of digital platforms exacerbated by COVID-19, it is important to be mindful of **hate speech**. It is important to know what it is, its dangers, and how to fight and prevent it. Taking online courses on hate speech such as the one offered by [INACH](#) will go a long way in understanding and fighting hate speech in the 4IR. As youth, we should discourage the use of hate speech and promote peace.

## **Recommendations**

Given the lessons learned and the conclusion above, the following recommendations are worth considering

- People to avoid and prevent hate speech
- To take online courses
- Propose legislation that prevents and fight hate speech
- To unite and fight hate speeches and its dangers.