# We need to talk about

## racist dog whistle politics and how it's being used by election candidates

Voters across Fingal are living in towns that are more ethnically diverse than 20 years ago, and that is good material for people who want to stoke fear and hate.

They say that ethnic diversity is a problem, and that people can't get along. They exaggerate local issues for their own ends, and they make us worry about what Ireland will look like in future.

#### But here's the thing...

Their agenda does not reflect the truth about immigration in Ireland. We take a tiny number of refugees, and a much much larger proportion of skilled migrants from Europe. Migrants have next to no impact on housing, healthcare or transport, the issues that really affect people across Fingal.

But candidates will blame migrants because they believe it is

#### **EASIER TO GET YOUR VOTE**

### **Fingal Together**

In Fingal, our communities have pulled together against inequality and poverty. We felt the sharp end of austerity. We lost family and friends to emigration. We rose up against bank bailouts and double taxes. We won the fight against water privatisation. We are proud of this history. Now it's time to pull together again, and make our voices heard against those candidates who would use our neighbours, friends and families as a rallying cry for their hate.

One candidate in our constituency has justified the massacre of 51 people in Christchurch New Zealand and has called for the expulsion of all migrants and minorities from Ireland. She has used language in her campaign straight from the 'manifesto' of the white supremacist Oslo Terrorist Anders Breivik who massacred 77 people including 33 children. This candidate, who poses as 'anticorruption' is supported by the so-

called National Party, which has fascist politics, links to German neo-Nazi and Italian supremacist organisations and a leader with criminal convictions for violence. But she won't put their name on her campaign literature, because she knows you won't like the sound of that. This candidate poses as 'anti-elite' but is funded by elites, boosted by the media for clickbait and tolerated by other politicians afraid to call her out.

So let's talk about racist dog whistle politics; coded racial appeals by far right political candidates designed to use race as a wedge issue to break us apart. This is strategic racism: using race as the basis upon which to campaign for votes.

Because it's easier for her to get elected on **fear** than by talking about the **issues** that really affect you, your family and your community.



We call on you to stand with us in this election and drive out this racist politics

#### Are you with us?

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