CONNECT THE D-TS.

BY AISHAT BELLO

CONTEXTUAL STATEMENT

When we think of migrants, the narrative usually comes with more negative undertones than positives, often perpetuated by the media and political rhetoric deeming migration problematic and using terms to criminalize and dismiss the human experience. In an article project, I conducted interviews from the BBC, a study by the Migration Observatory at Oxford University examined 58,000 UK newspaper articles and found that "illegal" was often used to describe immigrants.

Connect the dots seeks to challenge this narrative by seeing the bigger picture of what It means to be a migrant from stories of people who have migrated for a better life.

It investigates the use of public spaces as a medium of storytelling. Illustrated stories of everyday immigrants are dotted around the public area to engage and connect with people.

The Audience is also encouraged to submit their stories through a website. The website serves as a platform to archive the illustrations them. and to reach a wider audience.

During the development of this with people who wanted to share their stories and experiences as migrants.

The migrant experiences and how we familiarize ourselves with the unfamiliar are diverse and filled with challenges, some greater than others.

I am deeply grateful to the interviewees, trusting me and being vulnerable in sharing their experiences.

Migrants remain resilient and have continued to battle through all the obstacles and barriers forced upon

Connect The Dots illustrates these stories with words and drawings to humanize the migrant experience.





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