There is now the terrible possibility that Britain may match or even overtake Italy and Spain as the country in Europe that [suffers most from the coronavirus pandemic](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/07/uk-will-be-europes-worst-hit-by-coronavirus-study-predicts). This tragedy has a political, as \_\_\_\_\_ as a biological, epidemiology. On 20 \_\_\_\_\_, Boris Johnson [announced the closure](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/live/2020/mar/20/uk-coronavirus-live-confusion-over-key-workers-list-as-schools-close) of \_\_\_\_\_\_ , clubs and restaurants. Even as he \_\_\_\_\_\_ so, however, he made it clear that \_\_\_\_\_\_ decision was an assault on the \_\_\_\_\_ character. “We’re taking away the ancient, \_\_\_\_\_\_ right of free-born people of \_\_\_\_\_\_ United Kingdom to go the pub,” \_\_\_\_\_\_ said. “And I can understand how \_\_\_\_\_ feel about that.” “I know \_\_\_\_\_ difficult this is, how it seems \_\_\_\_\_ go against the freedom-loving instincts \_\_\_\_\_ the British people.” The Sun  [\_\_\_\_\_ the prime minister’s remarks](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/11242643/brits-beat-coronavirus-lockdown-diy-pubs/) rather differently: “ \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson said he realised it went \_\_\_\_\_ what he called ‘the inalienable free- \_\_\_\_\_ right of people born in England \_\_\_\_\_ go to the pub’.” In this \_\_\_\_\_ , the freed- om to go to the \_\_\_\_\_ was conferred by genetics and history, \_\_\_\_\_ on the “people of the United \_\_\_\_\_ ” or “the British people”, but on “ \_\_\_\_\_ born in England”. It does not \_\_\_\_\_ to Scots, Welsh or Northern Irish \_\_\_\_\_ and certainly not to the 9.4 \_\_\_\_\_ people living in the UK who \_\_\_\_\_ born abroad. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ Anglo-Saxon privilege. What Johnson is \_\_\_\_\_ evoking is a very specific English \_\_\_\_\_ of exceptionalism, a fantasy of personal freedom as a marker of ethnic and national identity.

**AGAINST** - **APPLY - BORN - DID - HE - HOW** - **INALIENABLE** - **KINGDOM - MARCH - MILLION - MR - NATIONAL - NOT - OF** - **PARTICULAR - PEOPLE - PEOPLE - PEOPLE - PUB - PUBS - REALLY - REPORTED - SENSE - THE - THIS - TO - TO - VERSION - WELL - WERE**

There is now the terrible possibility that Britain may match or even overtake Italy and Spain as the country in Europe that [suffers most from the coronavirus pandemic](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/07/uk-will-be-europes-worst-hit-by-coronavirus-study-predicts). This tragedy has a political, as **well** as a biological, epidemiology. On 20 **March**, Boris Johnson [announced the closure](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/live/2020/mar/20/uk-coronavirus-live-confusion-over-key-workers-list-as-schools-close) of **pubs**, clubs and restaurants. Even as he **did** so, however, he made it clear that **this** decision was an assault on the **national** character. “We’re taking away the ancient, **inalienable** right of free-born people of **the** United Kingdom to go the pub,” **he** said. “And I can understand how **people** feel about that.” “I know **how** difficult this is, how it seems **to** go against the freedom-loving instincts **of** the British people.” The Sun [**reported** the prime minister’s remarks](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/11242643/brits-beat-coronavirus-lockdown-diy-pubs/) rather differently: “**Mr** Johnson said he realised it went **against** what he called ‘the inalienable free-**born** right of people born in England **to** go to the pub’.” In this **version**, the freedom to go to the **pub** was conferred by genetics and history, **not** on the “people of the United **Kingdom**” or “the British people”, but on “**people** born in England”. It does not **apply** to Scots, Welsh or Northern Irish **people** and certainly not to the 9.4 **million** people living in the UK who **were** born abroad. It is a **particular** Anglo-Saxon privilege. What Johnson is **really** evoking is a very specific English **sense** of exceptionalism, a fantasy of personal freedom as a marker of ethnic and national identity.