Recent Research on Religion, Discrimination, and Good Relations

Linda Woodhead, Lancaster University

May 2011
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Research, by Theme:</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Contemporary Religious Identities and Beliefs</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Religious Discrimination and Prejudice</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Evidence on Religious Discrimination: Nature and Extent</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Discrimination and Equality in Institutional Settings</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Intersecting Grounds of Discrimination</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Prejudice and Discrimination by and about Religion</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Religion as a Resource in Countering Discrimination</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Religion, Discrimination and Law</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Religion and Law: General</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 The Working of Anti-Discrimination Law, including Clashes between</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality Strands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Hatred Law</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Religious Exemptions</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Religion and Human Rights Law</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Religion and Legal Pluralism</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. State and Religion</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 State and Religion/Governance of Religion</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Religion, Social Policy and Welfare</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Religion, Social Cohesion and Good Relations</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. EU Research Programmes and General Resources</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 European Programmes</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 General Resources</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Purpose
This project was commissioned and funded by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC), and supported by the Arts & Humanities Research Council/Economic and Social Research Council (AHRC/ESRC) Religion and Society Programme. Its purpose is to review recent or ongoing research in the United Kingdom (UK) relevant to the topic of religion, equality and discrimination in the UK.

The intention is to capture a part of the large volume of research in this area taking place across a number of academic disciplines and to present it in summary form in one place. It is intended as a resource for people working in this area. They will be able to see at a glance what research is underway or completed, and pursue items which may be relevant to their own interests. The information is presented in summary form, with basic bibliographical information, brief abstracts/descriptions the research where available, and lead researchers’ names. This report has been prepared in parallel with another report commissioned by the EHRC (2011, forthcoming) on Religious Discrimination in Britain: A Review of Research Evidence, 2000-2010 carried out by Professor Paul Weller of the University of Derby.

Methodology
The report is based on:

(1) ‘Programme Research’
A review of projects within the AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society Programme which are of particular relevance to the topic of religious equality, discrimination and good relations. Further information about all these projects can be accessed from the Religion and Society website.
http://www.religionandsociety.org.uk/research_findings/projects/overview

(2) ‘Additional Research’
A survey of EHRC Religion or Belief Network members (Winter 2010) to elicit information about their current or recently completed research projects which are relevant to the EHRC’s interests. For further information on this Network, and to subscribe, please contact: Research@equalityhumanrights.com

As such, this report does not claim to be inclusive of all recent research in the UK.

Authorship
This report (and many of the summaries of research), are the responsibility of the author, Linda Woodhead, who has been generously assisted by David Perfect of the EHRC. Our task could not have been carried out without co-operation of the many people who have shared information about their research, and their assistance is gratefully acknowledged. Unfortunately it has not been possible to include all the information that was provided, nor to do full justice to all that was sent in.

Brief reflections
One clear conclusion which can be drawn from this review of research is that there has been an explosion of academic research on the topics of religion, equality and discrimination – and to a lesser extent, good relations – in the last few years. Immediate drivers include:
(a) The foundation of the Equality and Human Rights Commission in 2007 (subsequent to the Equality Act 2006 from which it derives its powers), and the addition of ‘religion’ as one of the grounds of discrimination (whereas before claims in this area had to be made under the Race Relations Act, or, more recently, the Human Rights Act)

(b) Work by the EHRC to promote research in the area, including the commissioning of the 2009 report by Linda Woodhead with Rebecca Catto, ‘Religion or Belief’: Identifying Issues and Priorities, and the establishment of a Religion or Belief Research Network

(c) The operation of new legislation and the build-up of case law, including several high profile and controversial cases involving a clash between religious belief and another protected ground (most notably sexual orientation)

(d) Considerable investment by research bodies (UK and European Union (EU)) in research on religious diversity and the ‘problems’ it raises (driven by political concern, provoked in particular by the visibility of Muslims in Europe, by acts of terrorism, and by wider public and political concern about ‘national identity’ and ‘social cohesion’, reinforced by a right wing press and political parties).

The review reveals a growing awareness of religion as a real and continuing social force – despite what assumptions about secularisation had led many to believe. This is evident in a growing spread of disciplines, including Law, Ethnicity Studies, Politics, Applied Social Sciences, Social Policy and Educational Studies. In terms of volume, the amount of work by scholars in Law is particularly notable, as is the continuing importance of work by academics with expertise in the study of religion (e.g. from Religious Studies, Sociology of Religion, Religious Education). Scholars from other arts and humanities disciplines are also becoming involved.

Much of the research listed below responds to immediate political and policy events and agendas, and there is significant overlap between scholarly, political, and media agendas (e.g. on controversial cases). Nevertheless, a good deal of the work reflects critically on existing framings of debate and/or assesses the evidence behind popular and political claims. The development of wider theoretical perspectives is still in its infancy, and there is clearly a need for to stand back from the immediacy of the unfolding picture to analyse the broader social, cultural, legal, and economic causes and consequences of what we are witnessing, as well as advising on more immediate developments and interventions.

In this still relatively embryonic field, are there areas in which we are starting to see real intellectual advance? Here I must fall back on my own impressions, and can give only a provisional and personal view.

Although this review does not focus squarely on this topic, it says enough to show that there has been a significant advance, through empirical work and analysis, in our understanding of Muslim communities in the UK, their members’ everyday practices, commitments, concerns and interests, and the nature and forms of their citizenship and social belongings. This should
help inform policy, counter media and political stereotypes (e.g. that Muslims are not civically and politically engaged – research suggests the opposite), and begin to set new research agendas. Research on the real and continuing threat of those forms of terrorism which are given an Islamic justification is starting to be more clearly differentiated from research on Muslims in Britain.

The significant amount of work by legal scholars is also helping to produce a clear picture of what is going on in courts and tribunals when religious discrimination and religious freedom are at issue. It is documenting emerging patterns in what happens when there are competing equalities under current legislation. There is a perception that the effect of such legislation is to create a variable geometry in the relationship between citizen and law, whereby some groups (conservative religious ones) enjoy minimal legal protections, whilst others (say women or lesbian or gay people) enjoy maximal ones. Academic specialists can play an important role in testing this perception, assessing the consequences and defensibility, and suggesting alternative approaches to the resolution of such conflicts.

With regard to the latter, comparative work which considers case law from countries like the USA and Canada which have been dealing with similar conflicts for a much longer period is helpful, as is the formulation of guiding principles (e.g. ‘reasonable accommodation’). An ongoing EHRC project led by Alice Donald of London Metropolitan University is exploring the views of stakeholders on some of these issues.

Legal perspectives are also being complemented by perspectives from Politics, Sociology, Religious Studies, Media Studies etc. on the wider causes and implications of these contentious cases. The latter, though small in number, are of disproportionate significance in contemporary society, and are likely to continue to be so. They have a symbolic as well as a real significance, and are widely diffused by the media. What is starting to emerge is a broader understanding of the current ‘value conflicts’ at the heart of societies like the UK. These conflicts involve not only a clash between ‘religious’ and ‘secular’ commitments, but wider factors like the crisis over national identity (‘Britishness’), the decline of confidence in the welfare state and its egalitarian values, and even the role and status of ‘the West’ in a rapidly-changing global order. Thus even micro-studies are helping to illuminate pieces in a much wider picture, whose main outlines are starting to come into clearer focus.

This bigger picture of social and value change and conflict also frames work on ‘good relations’, even though it has often been shaped by a related concern to maintain ‘social cohesion’ (a difficult concept which has a whole range of meanings, ranging from living together in constructive ways despite differences, to ‘being patriotically British’, to not rioting, causing any bother or generating any headlines). Here again, academic research, even when it starts from sociologically and ethically questionable and contested policy concepts and concerns can raise critical questions and use empirical findings to leverage new understandings. Work in this area is becoming increasingly urgent as the welfare state recedes and religious bodies and faith-based organisations are called upon to do more with less. Existing research in this area, like that listed below, has already generated considerable knowledge about what works and what is possible in this area. Overall, the amount of high-quality research being produced on the topics reviewed here is encouraging. But there are also emerging risks and imperatives:
First, there is a risk that so much resource goes into producing new research that what already exists is insufficiently digested and ‘used’, both within the academic community and beyond. There is a danger of reinventing the wheel, duplicating work, and ignoring what already exists. It is therefore important to consolidate and take stock of all the new information which has been generated by recent research investments.

Second, there is a need to stand back from immediate policy terms and concerns and take longer and broader perspectives (interdisciplinary learning is important here).

Third, there is a real and evident danger that the best research does not reach the policy-makers and practitioners who could most benefit from it, and that even if it does, it is not assimilated, especially when it deals with a topic like religion which remains emotive and poorly understood.
The Research, by Theme

1. Contemporary Religious Identities and Beliefs

Programme Research

Vernacular Religiosity in the Nepali Diaspora
David N. Gellner – Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford; Sondra L. Hausner – Faculty of Theology, University of Oxford
Large project. Completion date: 2012.

This study is investigating the complex, and sometimes changing, identities of Nepalis living in the UK and Belgium. A key finding is that many do not have ‘simple’, stable religious identities (e.g. Buddhist, Hindu). An important policy implication is that it would be appropriate to permit people to tick more than one box on the religion question in the Census, as already happens in questions to do with ethnic and national identity.

Publications:

Keeping the Faith: The Transmissions of Sikhism among young British Sikhs (18-30)
Jasjit Singh – School of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds (programme lead: Kim Knott – School of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds)

This study is investigating how young British Sikhs articulate, sustain and perform their religious identities, individually and collectively. It observes the emergence of a number of religious transmission events such as camps and lectures being run for young Sikhs by young Sikhs. It notes that although young Sikhs view themselves as being both British and Sikh, the impact of living in a pluralistic society is a key factor in driving young Sikhs to find answers about Sikhism - answers which are rarely found through traditional authority structures, leading them to examine their religious tradition on their own terms.

Belief as Cultural Performance
Gordon Lynch – School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent; Abby Day – Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex
Network. Completed.

A series of seminars exploring critiques of the concept of ‘belief’ (as an integral component of religion), which also used a series of case studies of young people and religion from across the world to examine whether ‘belief’ still has any value as a concept, and how we might expand our understandings of the nature of ‘belief’ in people’s lives.
The Youth On Religion (YOR) project is using multiple methods to investigate the identities of religious and non-religious young people in the UK. The main research data have been collected from three locations in England, and derived from some 10,500 responses to an online survey by 13 to 18 year-olds and qualitative data collected from 150 participants in focus groups and paired interviews. The principal research questions are:

- What are young people’s perceptions of their own religious identity and its meaning, and is religion important to them?
- How is the development of their religious identity linked with individual (e.g. gender, class), social (e.g. family, friendship, religious and ethnic group) and spatial (e.g. where they live, go to school and visit) variations?
- What do young people see as the positive and less positive aspects of religion, and how do they think social cohesion can be encouraged and promoted within diverse religious groups?

Publications:
Available at: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1099-0860


Religious Identities of Young Scottish Christians
Elizabeth Olson, Giselle Vincent – School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh; Peter Hopkins – School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, Newcastle University; Rachel Pain – Department of Geography, Durham University
Small project. Completed.

This study used in-depth qualitative methods to explore the identities and experiences of young Christians in Scotland. It found that they value relationship, with God and others, and perceive themselves as counter-cultural (as having to defend and apologise for being Christian, in the context of a post-Christian culture) and sometimes as victims of prejudice. All the young people engaged in the study differentiated between football violence and religious bigotry, though sectarianism remains an active concern for some in the context of jobs in the educational sector and through low-level harassment. Sectarianism is also an important part of family history narrative, particularly in describing the opportunities and constraints experienced by grandparents and parents. There was evidence that class played an
important role in experiences of religiosity, and this theme was followed up in a subsequent project (see ‘Marginalized Spiritualities’, p. 22).

Publications:


Gender, Caste and the Practice of Religious Identities
Tej Purewal, Virinder Kalra – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester
Large project. Completed.

This study on religious identities in the Punjab region (India and Pakistan) has found that many sacred sites, practices, rituals and spiritual music are still shared by Muslims, Sikhs, and Hindus – despite ongoing religio-political attempts to distinguish these identities – with gender and caste often framing what is viewed as mainstream/orthodox and what is viewed as marginal. The research has found that lived religion through demotic practices exists alongside (though often despite) mainstream, formal conceptions of religion. Thus, the research study highlights that everyday or lived experiences of spiritual life through rituals, music, parallel texts of piety, and practices have been maintained despite official discourses of bounded religion.

Publications:


Additional Research

Muslim Male Youth in Scotland
Peter Hopkins – School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, Newcastle University

A study which highlighted concerns around issues of racism, discrimination and Islamophobia, particularly after the events of 9/11. Other issues included their sense of being excluded from belonging within the Scottish nation as a result of assumptions about appropriate gendered behaviour as well as stereotypes about the drinking culture in Scotland.

Publications:


Engaging Muslim Youth In Barnet
Louise Ryan – Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University

A small local study on religious, ethnic and gender identities among Muslim young people in the London borough of Barnet commissioned by Barnet Muslim Engagement Partnership (2008).

Muslim Youth In Barnet: Exploring Identity, Citizenship and Belonging Locally and in the Wider Context
Louise Ryan – Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University

A follow up study using interviews and focus groups to explore complex identities among male and female Muslims from diverse ethnic backgrounds, including British-born and recently arrived refugee communities (2009). Commissioned by the Barnet Muslim Engagement Partnership and funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Publications:

Muslim Women: Communities, Identities and Aspirations
Louise Ryan – Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University

The third and final research project commissioned by Barnet Muslim Engagement Partnership and funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government. This
project used a combination of indepth interviews and focus groups with women from diverse Muslim backgrounds to explore complex issues of identities and belonging (2011).

Religious and Ethnic Identity in Britain
David Voas – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

Publications:


Religious Identity and the Census
Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby

This study draws on a 1994-95 research project on 'Religion and Statistics' and participation in the Religious Affiliation sub-group of the Census Content Working Group. This led to the adoption of religious affiliation questions in the 2001 decennial Census in England and Wales, and then Scotland (Northern Ireland already had such a question).

Publications:
2. Religious Discrimination and Prejudice

2.1 Evidence on Religious Discrimination: Nature and Extent

Programme Research

Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby; Sariya Contractor – Religion and Society, University of Derby; Kingsley Purdam – Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research, University of Manchester; Nazila Ghanea – Faculty of Law, University of Oxford
Large project. Completion date: 2012.

A multi-method (qualitative and survey) study of reported discrimination. This study largely replicates an earlier one carried out in 1999-2001 for the Home Office (see next item for further details), in order to make comparison possible. But it also incorporates new elements such as fieldwork also in Norwich and focus group work in each of the fieldwork locations around the project themes with those understanding themselves as 'non-religious'.

For project details see: http://www.derby.ac.uk/religion-and-society

Additional Research

Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby with Kingsley Purdam and Alice Feldman (at the time, University of Derby – now, respectively Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research, University of Manchester and School of Sociology, University College, Dublin) supported by other colleagues at the University of Derby

The first government-commissioned empirical study of the nature and extent of unfair treatment on the basis of religion. It was based on a national survey of a sample of religious organisations and fieldwork in Blackburn, Cardiff, Leicester and Newham.

Publications:


**Treatment of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in Britain**

*James Beckford – Department of Sociology, University of Warwick*

A review of the evidence base covering the period 1996-2006 on Hindu, Muslim and Sikh populations in England and Wales, together with the likely future trends within them. This work was done in relation to the strategic priorities of the former Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of housing supply and demand; decent places to live; tackling disadvantage; delivering better services; and promoting the development of the English regions.

*Publications:*

**Cults and Anti-cult Movements**

*Elisabeth Arweck – Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit, University of Warwick*

Research on discrimination against ‘cults’ (New Religious Movements) from the 1970s to the present.

**Cults and Anti-cult Movements**

*Eileen Barker – Department of Sociology, London School of Economics / Inform*

Research into minority religions - especially ‘cults’, ‘sects’ and New Religious Movements (NRM) - and the reactions to which they give rise. Eileen Barker is a founder of INFORM (Information Network on Religious Movements) which is a longstanding organisation which collects, assesses and diffuses objective information about NRMs, their treatment and their relations with other religious groups.
Publications:


Cults and Anti-cult Movements
Marat Shterin – Department of Theology and Religious Studies, King's College London

A study of discrimination against ‘cults’ (New Religious Movements) from the 1970s to present.

Discrimination and Young British Muslims
Michela Franceschelli – Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion

A Ph.D. at the University of East Anglia that explores the formation of faith and national identities in the context of South Asian Muslim families in the UK. Religious discrimination and unfair treatment are addressed in the first stage of the research which consists of an in-school questionnaire conducted with young people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds aged 14-18 years old in secondary schools in London (Newham) and Oldham.

Religious Discrimination – Evidence from National Surveys
Saffron Karlsen – Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London

Research exploring differences in forms of racist victimisation by ethnic and religious affiliation, gender, age, migration and socioeconomic status, and how this has changed over time. The study uses data from a follow up to the Health Survey for England, called EMPIRIC, conducted in 2000, and the Citizenship Survey 2008/2009.

Publications:

Inequalities in Education, Employment and Earnings
Yaojun Li – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester
Publications:

Anti-Muslim Prejudice
Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London

Publications:

Discrimination against Those Whose Religion Involves Spirit Possession
Bettina Schmidt – School of Theology, Religious Studies and Islamic Studies, University of Wales, Trinity Saint David

Publications:

Religious Discrimination Audit Tool
Scott Taylor – The Business School, University of Exeter


2.2 Discrimination and Equality in Institutional Settings

Programme Research

Leadership and Capacity Building in the British Muslim Community: The Case of Muslim Chaplains
Sophie Gilliat-Ray, Muhammed Mansur Ali – Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK, School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University; Stephen Pattison – Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham

Large project. Completion date: 2012.

Research on Muslim chaplains working in a range of sectors, including prisons, hospitals, educational institutions, airports, and the military. The research considers the religious training and background of those who become ‘Muslim chaplains’, how they perform their role, the impact they are having within and outside their institutions, and the difficulties they face.
Publications:


**Media Portrayals of Religion**

*Kim Knott – School of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds*

**Large project. Completed.**

The replication of a study first carried out in the 1980s that examines coverage of religion by major TV channels and newspapers (UK). Analyses cover all forms of religion (popular religion, spirituality and new religions as well as conventional ones) and the ‘secular sacred’ (e.g. freedom of expression, the value of equality, and human rights as sacred concerns). A key finding is that coverage of Islam has almost doubled, but Islam is generally framed as a problem in relation to terrorism, extremism, attitudes to women, or failure to integrate. Christian identity is presented as ‘under threat', particularly in right wing and tabloid media, because of political correctness and the equality agenda. Strong atheist and secularist voices have emerged since the 1980s, though their media portrayal is contentious. Identity issues are commonly presented in the media, but there is frequently a difference between media portrayals and the self-identities of religious and secular groups. Equality, multiculturalism and discrimination continue to be discussed. Their treatment needs to be understood within the editorial context and rhetorical style of the newspaper or TV channel in which they appear.

**Christianity and the University Experience in Contemporary England**

*Mathew Guest, Sonya Sharma – Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University; Kristin Aune – School of Education, University of Derby; Rob Warner – Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Chester*

**Large project. Completion date: 2011.**

This is a major study run collaboratively by academics from the universities of Durham, Derby and Chester. Central to the study is a national survey of undergraduates, administered via a secure online questionnaire. The questionnaire is sent to a random selection of students within each participating institution, producing a window on to student values and attitudes, including moral issues (such as assisted dying, the undergraduate drinking culture, abortion, gender equality and homosexuality); attitudes towards religion; religious practice; and levels of social capital, including volunteering. Basic demographic data on educational and social class background, ethnicity, gender, national identity and current field of study are also collected to allow significant correlations to be explored at the analysis stage. A final section explores patterns of religious practice among self-identifying Christians. While this allows
the research team to ascertain distinguishing features of this sub-group, the bulk of the questionnaire covers students across world faiths, and of none (initial findings suggest around 35 per cent fall into the latter category). As such, the survey offers for each university insights into the values of a diverse student body, and hence enables a better understanding of how agendas of equality and diversity might be advanced, as well as generating potentially essential marketing data on the divergent perspectives of students from different ethnic, social class and religious backgrounds. Given the recent changes in the way course fees will be dealt with, such issues could prove crucial for universities seeking a better understanding of their student body and its motivations.

For further information, see www.cueproject.org.uk

Negotiating the Secular and the Religious in Higher Education
Ruth Sheldon – School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent
(programme lead: Gordon Lynch – School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent)
Ph.D. Completion date: 2013.

This collaborative Ph.D. with the National Union of Students is exploring student activism relating to Israel/Palestine within UK universities. The study is investigating the performance of religious and secular identifications with this conflict in the context of contemporary political agendas relating to campus cohesion, student relations and global justice.

Additional Research

Religion and Belief in Higher Education: Researching the Experiences of Staff and Students in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
Paul Weller, Tristram Hooley, Nicki Moore, John Marriott, Kieran Bentley – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group and International Centre for Guidance Studies, University of Derby

Commissioned by the Equality Challenge Unit, this study commenced in Spring 2010 and is due to complete and publish in July 2011. The project aims to develop an evidence base for understanding the experience of staff and students in higher education with a religion or belief. Methods included an on-line survey; case studies in a number of institutions; and a bibliographical review. For more project details and interim findings see: http://www.derby.ac.uk/religion-and-belief-in-HF

Religious Discrimination by Public Services
Marie-Claude Gervais – Ethnos

ETHNOS conducted qualitative research with 120 Black and Asian people (carefully selected to reflect different ages, genders, socio-economic status and areas of residence) for Communities and Local Government (CLG) to explain what drives perceptions of discrimination by various public services (although there is a discussion of perceived discrimination in the labour market and in society as a whole).
Publications:


Religion and Discrimination in Schools

Elisabeth Arweck – Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit, University of Warwick

Research on the issues around religious education (RE) in schools, e.g. parents’ right to withdraw their children from RE and issues relating to ‘minority religions’ in the school context (e.g. exclusions of Jehovah's Witnesses pupils, religious symbols and where they can or cannot be worn/displayed).

Treatment of Religious Minorities in Prisons

James Beckford – Department of Sociology, University of Warwick

Publications:


Religious Freedom in the Sphere of Education

Myriam Hunter-Henin – Faculty of Laws, University College London

Research began with a conference on Law, Religion and Education organised in Oxford in 2010, and involves a comparative analysis of different European national models of religion and education, in the context of recent legal controversies.

Publications:


Models of religious education discussed include the complex and overall broadly Christian model in England and Wales (Russell Sandberg and Anna Buchanan), the highly segregationist and bipolar – Catholic and Protestant – structure in Northern Ireland (Christopher McCrudden), the separationist and laïc French system (Blandine Chêlini-Pont) and the neutral cooperationist model of Germany (Heinrich de Wall) and Spain (García Oliva). Common features are also noted, not least because of the convergent effect of the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights. Beyond how religion is to be taught at school (e.g. Peter Cumper, Alison Mawhinney et al, Eric Barendt,
Anna van den Kerchove) cases have dealt with how (if at all) religion is to be seen at school, hence a final part on religious symbols (e.g. Mark Hill, Russell Sandberg, Tobias Lock).

Other chapters include:
Zucca, L., ‘The Classroom as an Integration Lab’.
Cranmer, F., ‘Beating People Is Wrong: Campbell and Cosans, Williamson and Their Aftermath’.

**Religion and Sex Education**
Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester

*Publications:*  

**Religious Identity and Trade Union Relations with Ethnic Minority Workers**
Sukhwant Dhaliwal – Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths, University of London

Research on the impact of three broad issues on trade union organising: the resurgence of religious identity at both individual and group level; the de-secularisation of public policy; and the implications of new race relations and religious discrimination regulations upon the world of work. This includes a substantial discussion about trade union responses to the Religion and Belief Employment Regulations 2003 and the question of tackling anti-Muslim racism.

*Publications:*  
Davis, M. and Dhaliwal, S. (no date) *The Impact of Religion on Trade Union Relations with Black Workers.* Available at:  

**Multiculturalism in Secondary Schools**
Sukhwant Dhaliwal – Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths, University of London

*Publications:*  

**Religious Literacy and Higher Education**
Adam Dinham – Faiths and Civil Society Unit, Goldsmiths, University of London
An ongoing project funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, which involves working with Vice-Chancellors and senior Higher Education Institution managers on their understandings and engagement with equality, discrimination, religion and belief in the higher education sector.

**Charity Law and ‘Magic’**  
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

*Publications:*

**Religion, Marriage and Civil Partnership**  
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

*Publications:*

**‘Securitisation’ of Muslims**  
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University; Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester*

*Publications:*

**‘Securitisation’ of Muslims**  
*Leila Hamalainen (née Thorp) – Local Governance Research Unit, De Montfort University*

*Publications:*


**‘Securitisation of Muslims’**  
*Joanna Adler – School of Health and Social Sciences, Middlesex University*

An evaluation of the ‘Prevent’ Initiative, including looking at claims of discrimination against Muslim communities.
Civil Partnerships and Religious Discrimination
Augur Pearce – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University

Publications:

This article focuses on arguments that marriage and civil partnership are fundamentally different institutions. It recognises that there are differences - chiefly the name and societal standing of the institution, and the steps taken in the Civil Partnership Act to signal that there is no 'spiritual' element in same-sex unions. It recognises that, measured against a broad ban on discrimination, these differences are discriminatory on the part of the English and Welsh legal system.

Islam and Muslims in a Secular Educational System
Alison Scott-Baumann – Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, Lancaster University

Publications:


This book chapter demonstrates a model of analysing certain forms of discrimination, developing Achcar's model of orientalism (i.e. stereotyping of the West) in reverse.

2.3 Intersecting Grounds of Discrimination

Programme Research

Queer Spiritual Space(s).
Sally R. Munt – Sussex Centre for Cultural Studies, University of Sussex; Kath Browne – School of Environment and Technology, University of Brighton; Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip – School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Nottingham
Small project. Completed.

An investigation of how lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex [LGBTQI] people negotiate their spiritual identities, creating ‘safe’ spaces in which to cultivate religious and spiritual commitments. Six international case studies focussed on non-majoritarian religious communities: Queer Muslims, Buddhists, Quakers, LGBTQI spiritualities online, and queer spiritualities at Findhorn Foundation (Scotland) and at Michigan Womens Music Festival. Projects explored how LGBTQI people can create alternate spiritual places and spaces outside of and within religious traditions that can enhance wellbeing, often despite prevalent heteronormative and exclusionary beliefs and practises. Researchers considered how race/ethnicity and class impacted upon the construction of queer spiritualities, rendering
discrete subjectivities that were simultaneously ‘othered’ yet also collective and inclusive. Original empirical data were collected in 2008/09 via interviews and focus groups.

Publications:

**Marginalized Spiritualities – Religion of Socially-Excluded Young People**
*Elizabeth Olson, Giselle Vincent, Eduardo Serafin – School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh; Peter Hopkins – School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, Newcastle University; Rachel Pain – Department of Geography, Durham University*
Small project. Completed.

This qualitative, participatory research project was conducted with young people, including asylum seekers and Eastern European Roma immigrants, growing up in poor and often violent communities in Glasgow and Manchester. It found that class has a profound influence upon the kinds of access that young people have to formal religious institutions, and that their interactions with faith organisations tend to be through the receipt of services such as drop-in clubs and detached work. This was different in the case of more recent migrants who tend to retain religion and faith, and amongst the relatively small number of devout Christian and Muslim youth in these communities. The investigation uncovered a surprising amount of privatised religious, and spiritual practices, often centred on forms of loss, including death and grief, as well as the complicated intra and inter-community relations, including religious/ethnic relations. Security, safety, and sources of resilience and comfort were important themes in the investigation.


‘Being’ and ‘Daisy Chains’. Films produced in collaboration with the Govanhill Youth Club and the Dixon Care Centre, Glasgow, and Crossley House, Manchester (now closed). Available upon request.

**Religion, Youth, and Sexuality**
*Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip – School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Nottingham; Michael Keenan – School of Social Sciences, Nottingham Trent University; Sarah-Jane Page – Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University*
Large project. Completed.

An investigation of how young people in Britain, aged 18-25, from the major religious traditions negotiate their religious and sexual identities, and the role of peers, the media, families, religious tradition etc. in informing such negotiations. The study includes heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth. Among other findings, the study shows that more dialogue needs to be held among religious young people - and between them
and religious authority figures - on sexuality issues, particularly those regarding sexual difference and diversity.

**Religious Freedom, Sexual Orientation and Church-Related Adoption Agencies**  
*Lisa Taylor-Clarke – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby (programme lead: Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby)*  

This doctoral studentship forms part of the large AHRC/ESRC project on 'Religion and Belief, Discrimination and Human Rights'. The aim of the research is to examine how Church-related adoption agencies negotiate their responses to the relevant legislation and social policies in relation to religious freedom, discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and same-sex couple adoption. This will be accomplished through a documentary analysis of publicly available material and semi-structured interviews of adoption agency employees and associates.

**Additional Research**

**Faith, Equalities and Sexuality**  
*Adam Dinh – Faiths and Civil Society Unit, Goldsmiths, University of London*

An exploratory attitudinal study with mixed-tradition focus groups in the East of England.

**BME Women, Religion and Employment in Scotland**  
*Nicolina Kamenou – Department of Business Management, Heriot-Watt University*

A study commissioned by the Equal Opportunities Commission in 2006-07, as part of the 'moving on up' project, to look at employers' perceptions of black and minority ethnic women in the Scottish labour market. Religion was a component of this work. An additional project investigated the need in Scotland for an independent race institute and also focused on human rights and active citizenship.

**Minority Women**  
*Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King's College London*

Publications:


**Negative Stereotyping in South Asian Communities**  
*Eleanor Nesbitt – Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit, University of Warwick*
Extensive research among Punjabi and Gujarati communities in the UK, which has recurrently discerned caste as a persistent factor in cultural transmission and so in inter-group relations. There are resulting publications on the Valmiki and Ravidasi communities' experience of negative stereotyping.

Publications:


Intersections of Religion and Disability Discrimination
Jo Pearson – Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Winchester

Publications:

The book chapter examines treatment of disabled people within Wicca.

2.4 Prejudice and Discrimination by and about Religion

Programme Research

Young People’s Attitudes to Religious Diversity
Robert Jackson, Leslie Francis, Julia Ipgrave, Elisabeth Arweck, Ursula McKenna, Jen Croft – Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit, University of Warwick

Large project. Completion date: 2012.

Using interviews and a survey, conducted in the four nations of the UK, plus London as a special case, this study investigates whether there are correlations between types of school and outcomes in terms of the attitudes towards diversity amongst young people in the UK, e.g. do faith schools produce less ‘tolerant’ citizens than community schools? Among the findings emerging from this ongoing project is the inequality in young people’s experience of religion according to geographic and demographic factors. This means that there are high degrees of religious illiteracy in some areas which are hindering young people’s understanding of the religious lives of others. In these contexts, religiously
committed young people may feel constrained from expressing their religious perspectives freely, or experience teasing.

**Does Religious Education Work?**

*James Conroy, Robert Davis, David Lundie, Kevin Lowden, Karen Wennell – School of Education, University of Glasgow; Nicole Bourque – Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Applied Social Sciences, University of Glasgow; Tony Gallagher – School of Education, Queen’s University Belfast; Philip Barnes – Department of Education and Professional Studies, King’s College London*  
**Large project. Completed.**

Research in schools in Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales which investigated how religion is taught in both formal and informal ways, and what counted as successful delivery. The study found a vast range of practice and quality, which was very dependent on the stance of the head teacher, and with religious education sometimes serving as a ‘dumping ground’ for other subjects needing to be covered. The most effective and dynamic religious education was evidenced in those schools (State and Church sponsored) that served overtly religious (often immigrant populations) and considered religious education a serious and appropriate space to nurture inter cultural and inter-religious understanding.

**Publications:**


Religion, Religiosity and Pro-Social Behaviour in Cross-Cultural Interactions.
Robert Hoffmann, Swee-Hoon Chuah, Jonathan Tan, Simon Gaechter – Nottingham University Business School, University of Nottingham
Small project. Completed.

A project using incentivised laboratory experiments with over 300 human subjects in Malaysia, China and the UK to assess the impact of religious affiliation and individual religiosity on inter-personal trust. It was found that individuals of different religions, Protestant and Catholic Christians, Muslims and Buddhists, as well as non-religious people do not differ in how much trust they invest in anonymous others. On the other hand, how much the trust of others is repaid is sensitive to religious affiliation. In terms of religiosity, all people invest more trust in others of the same religions and higher religiosity. However, higher religiosity individuals do not receive a greater return from others for their investment of trust in them. Overall, a greater effect of religious affiliation than individual religiosity on trust is found, raising the possibility that religion can be a group identifier than can create well-known effects such as in-group favouritism and out-group discrimination.

Homelessness Provision: The Difference that ‘Faith’ Makes
Sarah Johnsen – School of the Built Environment, Heriot-Watt University
Small project. Completed.

A multi-method investigation of whether faith-based organisations (FBOs) offer anything significantly different for homeless people than their secular counterparts. The research finds the difference between the two is often exaggerated. Yet, contrary to what is often assumed, secular agencies are more likely to insist that service users alter their lifestyle (e.g. address addictions) than are FBOs. Relationships between FBOs, secular providers and commissioners are often complicated by misunderstandings and suspicion regarding one another’s motives. Widespread fears that FBOs might use public funds to propagate religion inappropriately proved to be unfounded.

Sexuality and Global Faith Networks
Gill Valentine, Robert Vanderbeck, Johan Andersson, Joanna Sadgrove – School of Geography, University of Leeds; Kevin Ward – Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds
Large project. Completed.

This interdisciplinary project focused on debates over homosexuality within the international Anglican Communion. Drawing on research in UK, USA, South Africa and Uganda, it has examined how churches within the Anglican Communion are responding to shifting public attitudes about homosexuality; how new transnational networks of actors are forming to respond to developments related to homosexuality; and how discourses about homosexuality in one context have been circulated, mobilized, and/or transformed within other contexts. In doing so the study addresses the issue of discrimination and good/bad relations between people of faith and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and communities in local, national and transnational contexts.

Publications:


See also Valentine (‘Religious Attitudes to Homosexuality’) below.

**Additional Research**

**Evaluation of Kairos Regime in Prisons**

*Joanna Adler – School of Health and Social Sciences, Middlesex University*

An evaluation of the Kairos regime (Christian, Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic units in prisons).

**Asian Women at the Intersection of Race, Religion, and Gender**

*Pragna Patel – Southall Black Sisters*

**Publications:**

**Religious Attitudes to Homosexuality**

*Gill Valentine – School of Geography, University of Leeds*

Work with Stonewall exploring people of faiths’ attitude to homosexuality (including focus groups with people from Muslim, Hindu, Christian and Jewish faiths).

**Publications:**

Second Class Citizens: Ordained Women in the Church of England
David Voas – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

Publications:

Women in the Church of England
Ian Jones, Saltley Trust

Publications:

The Religious Crisis over Homosexuality
David Voas – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

Publications:

Education, Religion and Homosexuality
Peter Cumper, Mark Bell – Law School, University of Leicester

Publications


Religious Hatred and Conspiracy Theories
Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Science; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby

Publications:

2.5 Religion as a Resource in Countering Discrimination

Programme Research

Fitna, the Video Battle
Liesbet van Zoonen, Farida Vis, Sabina Miheljh – Department of Social Sciences, Loughborough University
Small project. Completed.

Using innovative methods for harvesting data from social networking site You Tube, this project looked at the on-line debate around Gerd Wilder’s anti-Islamic video Fitna. The research found over 1,400 separate videos responding to the film, mostly protesting against its blatant propaganda techniques and its violent anti-Islam agenda. The genres through which the YouTubers made their views clear differed significantly from those of traditional news media and included bricolage, comedy blogs and satire. The research found that most people used YouTube as a place to demonstrate their views rather than discuss them with others. Among the few participants that were more willing to engage with detractors and enter into dialogue, Muslim men and Muslim women were the most prominent groups. The results of the research have been published in Critical Discourse Studies, Feminist Review, New Media and Society, and were discussed at more than 10 conferences and seminars in the UK and abroad.

Polish Migrants to Britain, Religion and Visual Culture

Pete Ward, Sarah Dunlop – Department of Education and Professional Studies, King’s College London

Small project. Completed.

The research used photo-elicitation to explore Polish migrants’ experience, including religious and other attachments. It discovered widespread experience of discrimination and that relationships with religion and kin were often used to counter this. Through photographic exhibitions, the project was able to bring these experiences to a wider public.

Religion and Asylum Seekers: Deriving Meaning in Transition

Bereket Loul – Institute of Spirituality, Religion and Public Life, Leeds Metropolitan University (programme lead: Simon Robinson – Institute of Spirituality, Religion and Public Life, Leeds Metropolitan University)

Ph.D. Completion date: 2011.

This Ph.D. involved interviews with asylum seekers in Britain to explore how they cope with traumatic memories and transition to another country, and to assess what role religion plays.

Additional Research

The Importance of a Muslim Identity to Refugee and Asylum Seekers

Deborah Sporton – Department of Geography, University of Sheffield

An ESRC funded study (titled Post-Conflict Identities) of young Somali Muslim refugee and asylum seekers to the UK and Denmark (aged 11-18). This found that the identity ‘Muslim’ offered young people a sense of continuity (across both space and time) in the context of complex histories, and possible futures, of mobility. Whereas the young people found they were discriminated against in public space and told they could not be British, did not identify as black, and experienced complex ambiguities in terms of their claims to be Somali (e.g. some had no memory of the country), the identity ‘Muslim’ offered them a stable, omni-available attachment that powerfully shaped their everyday use of space wherever they happened to be living. Such was the strength of their emotional investment in this subject.
position that individuals were not willing to disavow their faith in the way that they were willing to do so in relation to being British, or being black.

**Publications:**

3. Religion, Discrimination and Law

3.1 Religion and Law: General

Programme Research

Additional Research

Law and Religion
Neil Addison – Barrister, www.religionlaw.co.uk

Publications:

Law and Religion
Anthony Bradney – School of Law, Keele University

Publications:  


Law and Religion
Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University

Publications:  


Law and Religion
Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London

Publications:  
Law and Religion
Julian Rivers – School of Law, University of Bristol

Publications:

Discrimination Law
Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King's College London

Publications:

Law, Religion and Gender Equality
Julian Rivers – School of Law, University of Bristol

Publications:

Equality, Freedom and Religion
Roger Trigg – Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion, University of Oxford

Publications:

http://campaigndirector.moodia.com/Client/Theos/Files/TheosFreetoBelieve.pdf

3.2 The Working of Anti-discrimination Law, including Clashes between Equality Strands

Additional Research

Religious Liberty and Religious Exemptions
Matt Gibson – Liverpool Law School, University of Liverpool

Ongoing Ph.D. that addresses religious exemptions which exist to types of civil and criminal laws and human rights provision. It investigates their existence and operation to help inform an accurate conceptualization of religious liberty in the UK. Recent controversies, where unsuccessful religious exemptions have been claimed outside the existing express exemption provisions, are also considered. Suggestions are made about how the doctrinal limits of religious freedom may be expanded by creating new religious exemptions to types of existing domestic laws.
Case Law on Wearing of Religious Symbols

*Erica Howard – Department of Law, Middlesex University*

**Publications:**


Complex Equality and the Introduction of a Single Equality Act

*Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London*

**Publications:**


Understanding Equality and Human Rights in Relation to Religion or Belief

*Alice Donald, Philip Leach, Karen Bennett and Aruna Dudhia – Human Rights and Social Justice Unit, London Metropolitan University*

Ongoing research for the Equality and Human Rights Commission which seeks to identify the concerns of religion or belief stakeholders, employers and service providers and other equality strands, about the key conflicting interests between strand rights and different human rights linked to religion or belief issues. Key issues include religious symbols, religious conscience, religious clothing and freedom of expression and potential clashes between the rights of religious and non-religious groups, and religious groups and other equality groups.

3.3 Hatred Law

Additional Research

Extending Hate Crime to Religion

*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

**Publications:**
Incitement to Religious Hatred  
*Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester*

**Publications**

Incitement to Religious Hatred  
*Kay Goodall – School of Law, University of Stirling*

**Publications:**

Extreme Speech and Religion  
*Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London*

**Publications:**


3.4 Religious Exemptions

Additional Research

Exemptions in Theory and Practice  
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

**Publications:**


Employment of Religious Adherents  
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

**Publications:**
**Employment of Presbyterian Clergy**  
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

*Publications:*  

**Employment Rights and European Court of Human Rights**  
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

*Publications:*  

**Ritual Use of Drugs, and other Exemptions**  
*Matt Gibson – Liverpool Law School, University of Liverpool*

Research on religious exemptions to domestic laws including criminal laws and civil laws, and those of institutional settings (e.g. prisons and mental health facilities). A paper on religious drug use concerning Rastafarians and whether a criminal law exemption could be argued.

*Publications:*  

3.5 **Religion and Human Rights Law**

**Programme Research**

**Opting out of Religious Education.**  
*Alison Mawhinney, Ulrike Niens, Norman Richardson, Yuko Chiba – School of Law, Queen’s University Belfast*

Small project. Completed.

Research on whether the right to opt out of religious education is sufficient to respect and protect freedom of religion when doctrinal religion is taught in schools. The study finds that very often parents and teachers are unaware of the right to opt out; parents are reluctant to exercise the right for fear of stigmatising their child; educational alternatives are rarely offered to those that do opt out; and young people of minority belief believe that schools need to move beyond simply offering a poorly executed opt-out clause in order to demonstrate respect for the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion of these young people.

*Publications:*  
Publications:

Additional Research

**Freedom of Religion and Marriage Law**
*Anthony Bradney – School of Law, Keele University*

Publications:

**Religion, Human Rights and the Council of Europe**
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

Publications:

**Human Rights and Quakers**
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

Publications:

**A Right to Choose an Abortion?**
*Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University*

Publications:

**Religious Rights under the European Convention on Human Rights**
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

Publications:

**Sentencing the Religious Defendant**
*Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University*

Publications:
The Concept of Neutrality in the European Court of Human Rights

Malcolm Evans – School of Law, University of Bristol

Publications:

Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Expression and the European Court of Human Rights

Malcolm Evans – School of Law, University of Bristol

Publications:


This report was written for the Human Rights Committee of the European Parliament.


Religious Drug Use

Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University

Publications:

Non-discrimination, European Court of Human Rights and Human Rights Council

Gulara Guliyeva – Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham

An analysis of non-discrimination based on religion (amongst other things) in the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights and the Human Rights Council (a report for the Minority Rights Group, forthcoming).

Jewish Faith Schools and the Race Relations Act

Frank Cranmer – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University

Publications:
Religious Minorities and the Human Rights Acts
Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London

Publications:


Religious Freedom and the Human Rights Act
Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester

Publications:

Religious Freedom and the European Union
Ronan McCrea – School of Law, University of Reading

Research on the facilitation of religion and religious freedom in EU law as well as on the idea of freedom from religion. This covers areas such as employment, participation in the political process and immigration.

Publications:

International Religious Freedom
Roger Trigg – Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion, University of Oxford

Three year research project (ongoing) on international religious freedom involving Kellogg College Centre for the Study of Religion in Public Life, University of Oxford, with Berkley Center, Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

Publications:

Freedom of State Officials to Manifest Religion
Hana M.A.E. van Ooijen – Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Utrecht University

Ph.D. research on the freedom of state officials in the judiciary, the police and public education to manifest their religion or belief by visible items. This involves a comparison of the Netherlands with England and France.
3.6 Religion and Legal Pluralism

Programme Research

Social Cohesion and Civil Law: The Family and Religious Courts
Gillian Douglas, Norman Doe, Russell Sandberg – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University; Sophie Gilliat-Ray, Asma Khan – Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK, School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University
Small project. Completion date: 2011.

Empirical research on the functioning of religious courts in practice. The project explores how religious law already functions alongside civil law in the area of marriage and divorce. It surveys the existence, organisational structure and legal status of religious courts and tribunals across the UK with a detailed examination of three selected institutions: a Jewish Beth Din; a matrimonial tribunal of the Roman Catholic Church; and a Muslim shariah council. It examines how the jurisdiction of each of these tribunals is administered and enforced, by reference to the decisions made by the bodies and the experience and views of court personnel and seeks to evaluate whether this jurisdiction (and its use) is compatible with civil law in the UK.

Publications:

The Dialogue between Society and Religion in the Use of Professional Experts in the Roman Catholic Church with Particular Reference to Marriage Cases
Eithne D’Auria – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University (programme lead: Norman Doe – Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University)
Ph.D.: ongoing.

A Ph.D. which investigates the use of professional experts under Roman Catholic Canon Law, with particular reference to marriage cases determined in the tribunals of the church. The research is a collaborative partnership with the Archdiocese of Southwark, the appeal court of which entertains cases from the first instance tribunals of the Dioceses of Plymouth, Portsmouth, Arundel and Brighton, and Southwark.

Publications:


Additional Research

Religion, Law and Pluralism
Prakash Shah – School of Law, Queen Mary, University of London
Publications:


**Law in the UK’s Multicultural Context**

*Prakash Shah – School of Law, Queen Mary, University of London*

Publications:


**Transjurisdictional Marriages and Adoptions**

*Prakash Shah – School of Law, Queen Mary, University of London*


**Religion and Funeral Pyres**

*Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester; Tom Lewis – Law School, Nottingham Trent University*

4. State and Religion

4.1 State and Religion/Governance of Religion

Programme Research

Religion, Discrimination and Accommodation

Peter Jones – School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, Newcastle University; Stuart White – Jesus College, University of Oxford

Network. Completed.

The workshop brought together experts in Political Philosophy, Law and a variety of other disciplines, along with professional lawyers and representatives of faith-communities, to examine issues concerning the role of the state in a multi-faith society. These included issues relating to recent legislation providing against direct and indirect religious discrimination, public policy on the accommodation of religious beliefs and practices, and issues surrounding religion and freedom of expression.

Publications:


Secularism: a Reappraisal of Institutional Arrangements for Religious Regulation

David Lehmann and Humeira Iqtidat – Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge

Network. Completed.

A series of seminars and workshops brought together academics from different countries and disciplines and representatives of NGOs to consider how ‘secularism’, understood as state management of religion, or the regime of state-religion relations, varies among countries in Western Europe and the Americas as well as between these regions and Asia. The countries covered included Pakistan, France, Uganda, Israel, Indonesia and Russia. The findings show that although strict separation functions well in Latin America, the USA, and Africa, the social and cultural conditions in Asia and the Middle East oblige us to recognise that state involvement in religious institutions cannot be dismissed as a violation of universal rights.
Muslim Participation in Contemporary Governance

*Therese O’Toole, Tariq Modood, Daniel Nilsson DeHanas, Stephen Jones – School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, University of Bristol; Nasar Meer – Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University*

Large project. Completion date: 2012.

The project investigates the participation of Muslim civil society actors in governance networks, partnerships and consultations. It explores: how current government strategies and policies recognise and respond to Muslim religious difference; how participatory forms of governance engage with Muslim groups, religious values and identities; and the impact of Muslims’ participation in governance on policy processes and outcomes, and for the organisation of, and relations between, Muslim civil society organisations more broadly. The project has identified three fields of governance for particular focus: equalities and diversity; faith sector governance; and counter-terrorism. Participatory principles and practices, and their outcomes, in these three fields are explored at the national level and in three local case-study areas: Birmingham, Leicester and Tower Hamlets. Data collection methods include: analysis of national and local government policies and strategies; qualitative interviews with government and Muslim civil society actors at national and local levels; and ethnographic research on participatory governance at local levels.

Additional Research

**State and Religion, UK**

*Anthony Bradney – School of Law, Keele University*

*Publications:*


**Governance of Religious Dress**

*Malcolm Evans – School of Law, University of Bristol*


This was based on a Report commissioned at the request of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

**Religious Dress and the European Court of Human Rights**

*Peter Cumper – Law School, University of Leicester; Tom Lewis – Law School, Nottingham Trent University*

*Publications:*

Juridification of the Charity Commission
Peter Edge – School of Social Sciences and Law, Oxford Brookes University

Publications:

Religious Dress and the European Union
Gulara Guliyeva – Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham

Ongoing Ph.D. which examines religious dress in the European Union, with an emphasis on the case law of English courts.

Strengthening European Secularism in Response to Religious Diversity
Ronan McCrea – School of Law, University of Reading

Publications:

Established Religion in England and Alternatives
Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby


State, Religion and Society in the UK within Europe and the World
Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby


4.2 Religion, Social Policy and Welfare

Additional Research

Religion and Welfare in two London Boroughs
Sukhwant Dhaliwal – Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths College

A Ph.D. which provides a comparative analysis of the growth of religion in the public sphere in two London boroughs: Ealing and Newham. This study considers how and when religion is permitted to enter negotiations between the state and civil society.

Religion and Social Welfare UK and Middle East
Rana Jawad – School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent

Comparative research in the UK and the Middle East (Lebanon, Iran and Turkey) on how religious welfare organisations conceptualise and deliver social welfare, and how that sits with secular national social policy frameworks.

Publications:


Volunteering and Faith
Leila Hamalainen (née Thorp) – Local Governance Research Unit, De Montfort University
Publications:


**Faith-Based Organisations and their Changing Role**
*Margaret Harris – Aston University and Birkbeck, University of London*

Publications:


5.  Religion, Social Cohesion and Good Relations

Programme Research

Multifaith Spaces Project

*Ralf Brand, Chris Hewson – Manchester Architecture Research Centre, University of Manchester; Terry Biddington – St Peter's Chaplaincy, University of Manchester; Andrew Crompton – School of Architecture, University of Liverpool*

Large project. Completion date: 2012.

Multi-faith spaces (MFS) are the distinctive religious architectural form of the last few decades. Designed and managed by both public and private organizations, they attempt to accommodate religious diversity. Some are small and mono-functional (located in airports, universities, hospitals, shopping malls, etc); others take the form of dedicated buildings or complexes, where different religions inhabit and utilise their own sacred space(s), whilst sharing collective ‘secular’ facilities. Bringing together expertise from a variety of perspectives (theological, architectural, historical etc.), this research project considers multi-faith buildings and spaces as symptoms and agents of religious and social change. In assessing the motivations and controversies behind their creation, the research is investigating:

- MFS as **symptoms** of specific societal trends and political ambitions.
- MFS as works of **architecture**, shaped through the actions of architects, designers, engineers, artists, users, etc.
- MFS as **agents** that encourage, shape or facilitate particular activities.
- MFS as **historical entities**, that have developed and consolidated over time.

See [http://www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/architecture/research/mfs/](http://www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/architecture/research/mfs/)

Additional Research

Multicultural Sex Education in Schools

*Pam Alldred – School of Sport and Education, Brunel University*

Research on ‘multicultural’ sex education in schools; a project and a report.

On ‘Social Cohesion’

*Leila Hamalainen (née Thorp) – Local Governance Research Unit, De Montfort University*

*Publications:*


Building Good Relations through Grassroots Initiatives

*Margaret Harris – Aston University and Birkbeck, University of London*
Publications:


Building Good Relations in Northern Ireland
Bernadette Hayes – Department of Sociology, University of Aberdeen

Publications:


Christian-Muslim Relations in Burnley
Andrew Holden – University Centre Blackburn College

The Burnley Project – an action research project on interfaith (Christian-Muslim) relations. The project was funded by the Home Office and took place between 2005 and 2007.

Publications:

Measuring Social Capital
Yaojun Li – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

Publications:

Discrimination, Equality and Community Cohesion
Maleiha Malik – School of Law, King’s College London

Mixed-Faith Families
Eleanor Nesbit and Elisabeth Arweck – Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit, University of Warwick

AHRC-funded study of ‘The Religious Identity Formation of Young People in Mixed-Faith Families’ (2006-09) which discusses intra-familial relations between individuals whose religious identities differ.

Cohesion Policy and Minority Women
Pragna Patel – Southall Black Sisters

A report on research examining the impact of the previous government’s cohesion and faith-based approach to the rights of minority women: ‘Cohesion, Faith and Gender: A Report on the impact of the government’s cohesion and faith-based approach on black and minority women in Ealing.’

Islam and the Educational System
Alison Scott-Baumann – Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, Lancaster University

Research on Muslim educational institutions in the UK and their wish to develop partnerships with British universities, and to develop hybrid courses that combine Islamic Theology and ‘secular’ modules e.g. law, counselling, child psychology.

Publications:
http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/trainingmuslimleaderspractice

http://resources.glos.ac.uk/ceal/resources/greenerbydegrees/index.cfm

Muslim Attitudes to Alcohol and UK Drinking Culture: the Implications for Social Cohesion
Gill Valentine – School of Geography, University of Leeds

This research with the British Pakistani community explored Muslim attitudes to alcohol and alcohol-related practices and how the community’s culture of abstention limits its members’ access to, and use of, public space in the UK night-time economy. The research argues that there is a need for more intentional planning and regulation of urban night-time economies to support the development of a wider range of mainstream leisure spaces that are less predicated on alcohol. This might facilitate access to opportunities for social groups such as Muslims, but also other faith groups, as well as other social groupings (such as the young or old) who abstain from alcohol to participate fully in mainstream urban social life. In taking such an approach, it might be possible to create more spaces for meaningful encounters
between different social groups that might otherwise not have many opportunities for social contact and thus facilitate the development of good relations.

 Publications:  
6. EU Research Programmes and General Resources

6.1 European Programmes

Religion and Welfare (Europe)
Grace Davie – Department of Sociology and Philosophy, University of Exeter

WREP (Welfare and Religion in a European Perspective) European project studied the relationship between religion and welfare from the point of view of sociology, gender and theology. 25 researchers in eight countries participated in the project. Project period: 2003-06.

Publications:


WaVE (Welfare and Values in Europe) EU project studied the interactions between diverse value systems as seen from the perspective of welfare. 35 researchers in 12 countries participated in the project. Project period: 2006-09. For information and publications, see http://www.crs.uu.se/Research/Concluded+projects/WaVE/

Religion, Law and Pluralism (Europe)
Grace Davie – Department of Sociology and Philosophy, University of Exeter

An ongoing 10 year IMPACT project in Uppsala, Sweden which includes work on religion and human rights; religion, legal; pluralism, equality and the law etc. See http://www.crs.uu.se/Impact_of_religion/Theme_3/

FACTIT Faith based organisations and exclusion in European cities
Paul Cloke – Department of Geography, University of Exeter

A completed EU project assessing the significance of (multi) faith-based organisations in the practice of urban social policy in several European cities. The research examines the role of faith based organisations as a ‘shadow-state’ and identifies relations between such organisations and other non-governmental organisations. Available at: http://www.facit.be

Religion, Law and Pluralism
Prakash Shah – School of Law, Queen Mary, University of London
Ongoing EU FP7 (Seventh Framework Programme) project RELIGARE on Religious Diversity and Secularism examines the policies and laws in EU states regarding religious plurality (2010-13).
6.2 General Resources

Programme Research

**British Religion in Numbers (BRIN)**

*David Voas, Siobhan McAndrew, Sam Smith – School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester; Clive Field – School of History and Cultures, University of Birmingham*

Large project. Completion date: 2011.

BRIN is an online data resource based at the University of Manchester presenting a variety of religious data, both historical and contemporary. Key features are its set of data tables and charts, catalogue of data sources, and its ‘News’ section where new surveys and data sources are reported and discussed. Contributors also promote the use of religious data resources and evidence-based policy research and journalism more generally, in an area where data are growing ever more plentiful, and their interpretation much in demand by the general public. Knowledge and awareness of religious data sources is also increasingly important given that the Equality Act 2010 created a new duty for strategic public bodies to consider reducing socioeconomic inequalities, including those based in religion and belief or ethnicity. This in turn requires the use and evaluation of official and social survey data on religion, and the socioeconomic outcomes associated with religious diversity and inequality. BRIN therefore aims to clarify the relevance and usefulness of different data sources and measures of religion and religiosity.

Additional Research

**Religions in the UK Directory Project**

*Paul Weller – Faculty of Education, Health and Sciences; Society, Religion and Belief Research Group, University of Derby*

Ongoing project from 2000, at various times jointly undertaken in various combinations between the Inter Faith Network for the UK, the University of Derby and the Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby. Maps the landscape of organised religion in the UK. Directories published in 1993, 1997, 2003 and 2007.

*Publications:*


EHRC Briefing Paper on ‘Religion or Belief’
David Perfect – Research Team, Equality and Human Rights Commission

This briefing brings together a selection of key national statistics on religion, and religious discrimination, in Great Britain.

Publication:

‘Religion or Belief’: Identifying Issues and Priorities
Linda Woodhead – Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, Lancaster University

Report commissioned by the Equality and Human Rights Commission which identifies key themes and issues for further research, in relation to the EHRC’s duty for equality and good relations with respect to religion or belief.

Publication:

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/publications/our-research/

Religion Law Website and Blog
The Religion Law UK website, run by Neil Addison, monitors case law concerning religion with personal commentary in his Blog.

http://www.religionlaw.co.uk
http://religionlaw.blogspot.com
http://www.neiladdison.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/religionlaw.co.uk/

Law and Religion Scholars Network, Case Database
Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University

Lists judgements delivered by domestic courts, the European Court of Justice, and the European Court of Human Rights concerning law and religion. See: http://www.law.cf.ac.uk/clar/networks/lrsncd09.html