

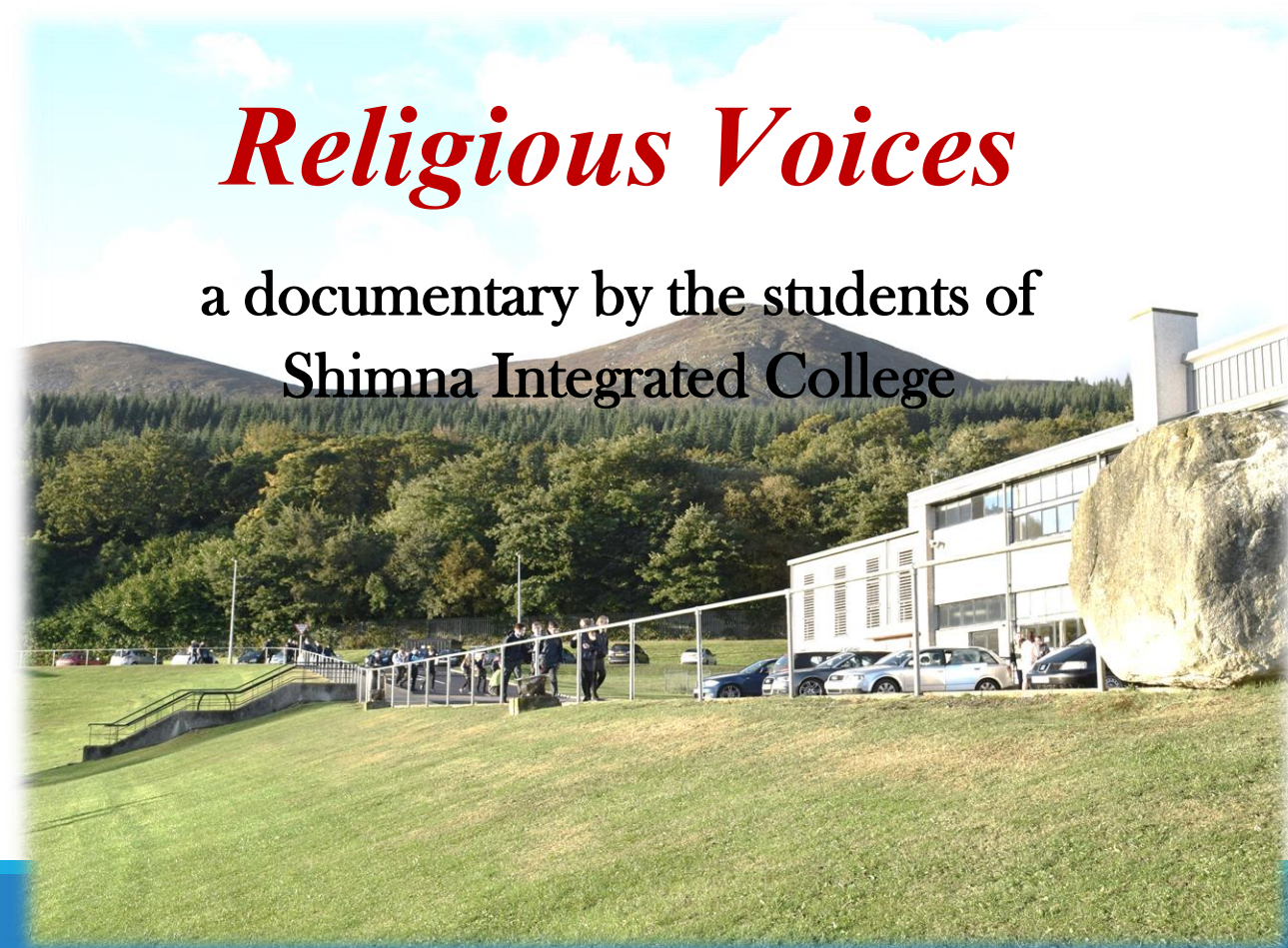
Religious Voices

A PROJECT IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

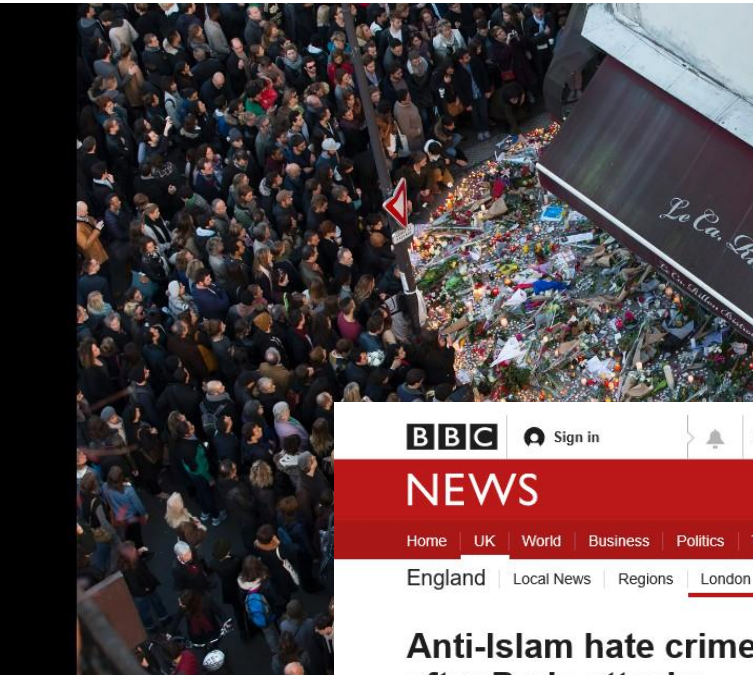


Session Aims

1. Origins, context and process
2. Results and lessons learned
3. Impact and next steps



Origins



BBC Sign in

NEWS

Home | UK | World | Business | Politics

England | Local News | Regions | **London**

Anti-Islam hate crime after Paris attacks

4 December 2015

November 2015 Paris attacks



Hate crimes: race and religion

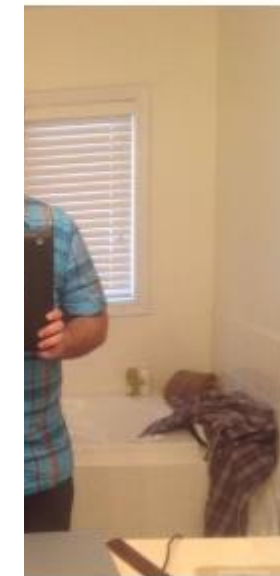
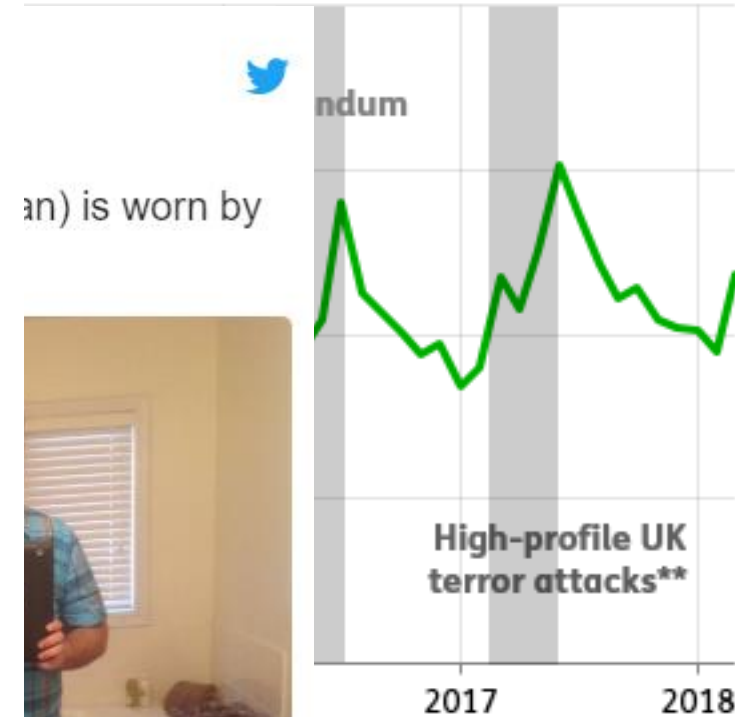
Number of racially or religiously aggravated offences recorded by the police in England and Wales by month, April 2013 to March 2018

News > UK > Crime

Islamophobic incidents rocket by 600% in UK during week after New Zealand terror attack

Monitor Tell Mama says perpetrators have been using 'language, symbols or actions' inspired by Christchurch atrocity

Lizzie Dearden Home Affairs Correspondent | @lizziedearden | Saturday 23 March 2019 13:30



ch, Manchester
ie



nd Wales, 2017/18, Figures 2.2 and A1

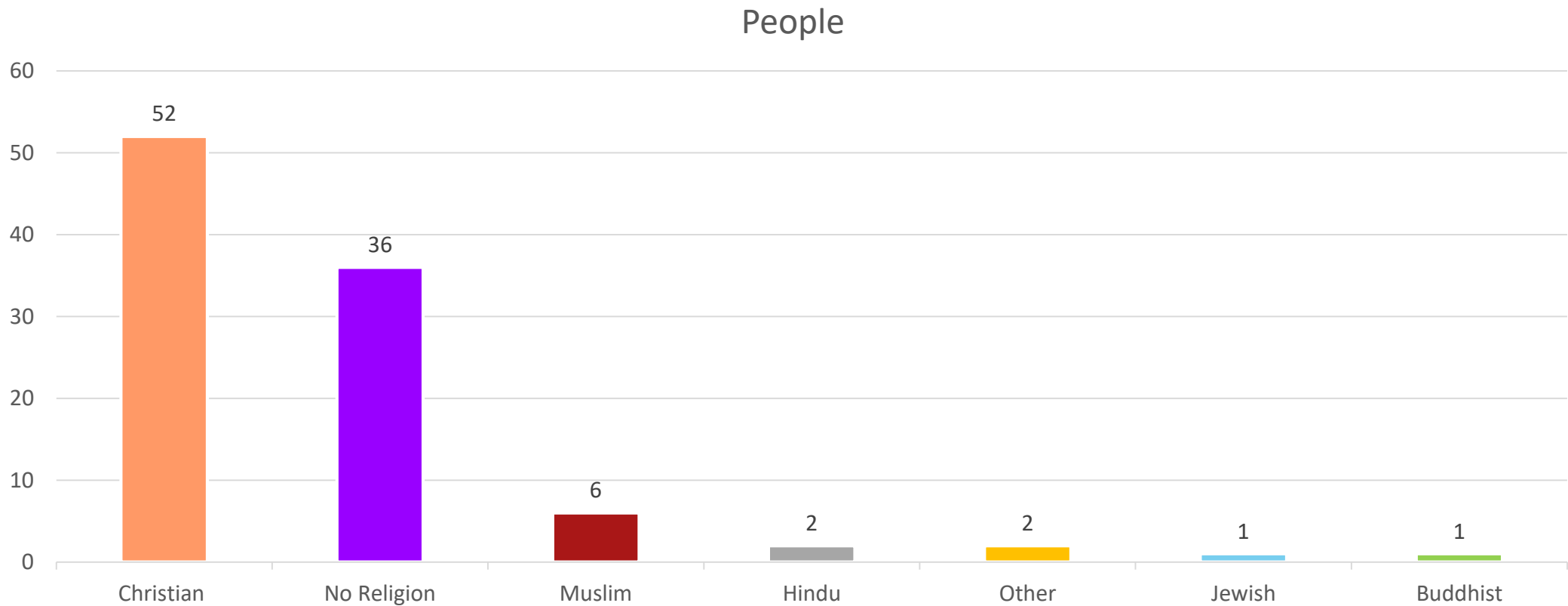
Articulating the need locally

- ❖ In 2016-17, there were more racist than sectarian hate crimes in Northern Ireland;
- ❖ 83% did not result in prosecution or even a warning;
- ❖ 52% wouldn't accept an Irish Traveller as a close friend;
- ❖ 47% wouldn't accept a Muslim as a close friend;
- ❖ A third of 18-24 year olds won't even accept a Muslim as a neighbour in their local area.

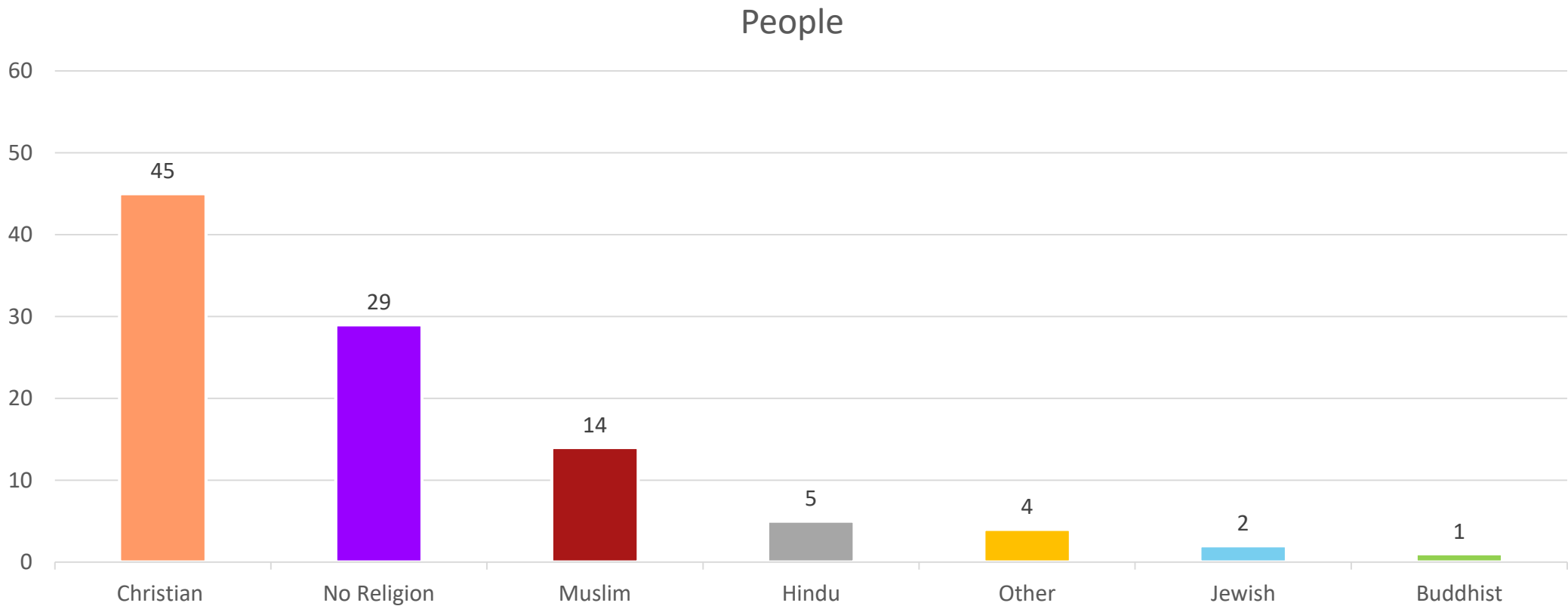




Context – If the 5 Nations were represented by 100 people...

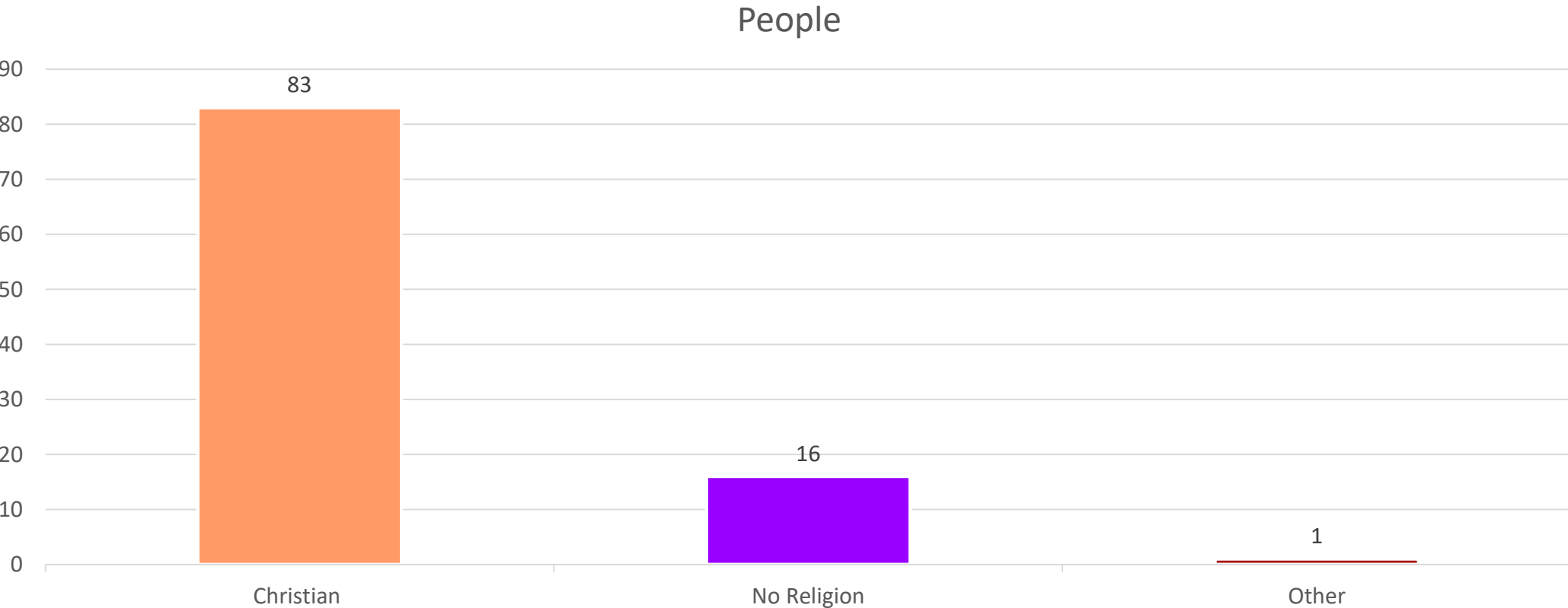


Context – If London was represented by 100 people...





Context – If Northern Ireland was represented by 100 people...



Integrated Education

- ❖ Integrated schools aim to maintain a 40:40:20 split in student enrolment.
- ❖ 7% of students in NI attend integrated schools.
- ❖ This drops to 5% at post-primary level.
- ❖ Neither of the two main political parties have expressed support for integrated education in the most recent election.



The Process

Religious Voices Project – Application Form

Name: _____

1. Why are you interested in volunteering for the project?

2. What personal qualities will you bring to the team?

3. If you could ask the Imam (leader of the Muslim community) two questions, what would they be?

4. Do you have any questions for me?

5. How will this project relate to your education / career plans in the future?



Subgroups

- Research and Planning Team
- Writing and Creative Team
- Technical Support Team



Derry Gurdwara

“When I first came to Northern Ireland in the 1972, we didn’t have a Gurdwara to worship in, so I attended church instead and was made to feel so welcome.”

- Mrs Jagir Kaur Nagra
Derry Gurdwara





Belfast Synagogue

“The contributions made by the Jewish community to civil and community life in Northern Ireland has been profound.”

- Rabbi David Singer
Belfast Synagogue

Baha'i Community

“The world is but one and we are its citizens.”

- Jamie Anderson
Baha'i Community



Hindu Temple, ICC



“Remember, you are a person first and faithful second.”

- Bharat Sharma
Indian Community
Centre, Belfast

“We need to keep warmth and good feeling towards everyone we meet.”

- Gen Kelsang Chitta
Potala Kadampta Buddhist Centre



“Noticing prejudice within ourselves is the first step on the way to greater integration in society.”

- Myogan Djinn Gallagher
Black Mountain Zen Buddhist Centre

Belfast Islamic Centre



“Look for knowledge and improve yourself in terms of knowledge.”

- Sheikh Anwar Mady
Belfast Islamic Centre

Atheism

“You have just one life.
Make the most of it”

- Grainne Tobin
Poet and author





“If the whole world was blind, there would be no prejudice or discrimination. Isn’t that a funny thought?”

- Richard Moore
founder of Children
in Crossfire

Human Rights

“Find out about other people and their experiences. It makes the world a much more interesting place.”

- Patrick Corrigan
Amnesty International



AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



The Result

What are the positives of being a religious minority in Northern Ireland?

What are the negatives of being a religious minority in Northern Ireland?

The Result

Full documentary (15 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdpayzbggLk>


Shortened version of documentary (5 minutes)


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YiSDFefvSys&list=PL_FpJO1g043buONuI7MV66LjDQBcN9txk&index=12


Individual chapters and interviews


https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_FpJO1g043buONuI7MV66LjDQBcN9txk

The Result


 Home


 My channel


 Trending


 Subscriptions

LIBRARY

 History


 Watch later


 Religious Voices | Inter...


 Liked videos


SUBSCRIPTIONS


Add channels


 Popular on YouTube


 Music

 Sports

 Gaming

 Browse channels

 Movies & Shows

 Shimna Religious Voices

Videos

Playlists

Channels


Discussion

About

Religious voices | Patrick Corrigan interview

by Shimna Religious Voices 1 view 12 hours ago


Uploads



7:04

View 4 more


Religious Voices | Interviews




31:07

Religious Voices | Richard Moore Interview

Shimna Religious Voices


 • 3 views • 17 hours ago




10:18

Religious Voices | Grainne Tobin Interview

Shimna Religious Voices


 • 2 views • 13 hours ago




7:04

Religious Voices | Patrick Corrigan Interview

Shimna Religious Voices


 • 1 view • 12 hours ago



5:03

Religious Voices | Judaism Interview

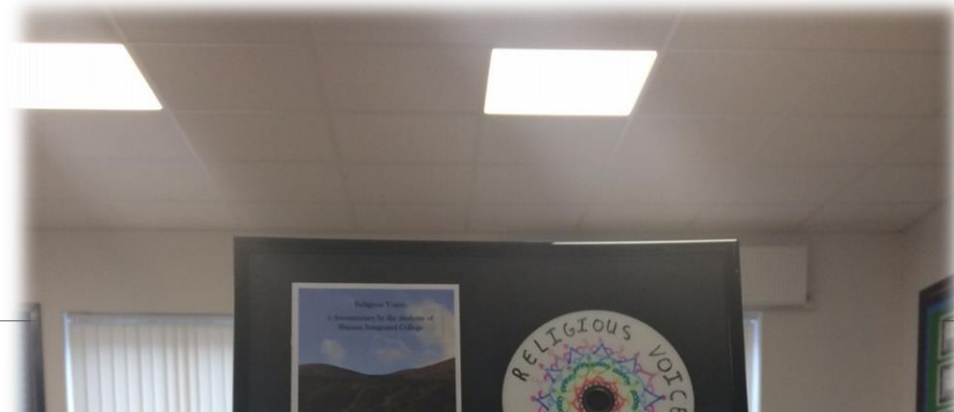
Shimna Religious Voices

 • 1 view • 12 hours ago

Impact



The Result



Islam

Islam is Northern Ireland's second largest faith. It has a growing and active community, particularly in south Belfast and is served by the Belfast Islamic Centre. We visited the centre and met with Naomi, Muhammad and Sheikh Anwar Mady to find out about Islam and the experiences of Muslims living in Northern Ireland.



Questions for discussion:

- All three contributors mentioned the negative perceptions of Islam in the media. How can we work together to educate the community about Islam?
- In his interview, Muhammad said that it is easier to be a Muslim man than a Muslim woman in Northern Ireland. What reasons can you think of for this? How can we counteract discrimination faced by the Muslim community?

www.belfastislamiccentre.org.uk



Prayer at Belfast Islamic Centre

The Baha'i Council for Northern Ireland

The Baha'i faith is one of the fastest growing faiths in Northern Ireland. Whilst it is still relatively small (circa 350-500 members) it has an active council and student society at Queens University, Belfast. The Baha'i faith is universal, encompassing all humans and all religions to express the oneness of God. As such, Baha'is have always worked hard to promote peace, reconciliation and cohesion, opposing all forms of prejudice.



At Shimna, a number of our OldScholars come from the Baha'i faith, as does one of our founding governors.

Questions for discussion:

- One of the most famous quotations from Bahá'u'lláh is, "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens". How might this phrase inspire us to work towards integration?
- An essential aspect of Baha'i belief is service to others in the community. What impact do you think this has on integration? How might you serve your local community?

www.bahai.org

www.bahai-belfast.org.uk



Meeting members of the Baha'i community in Belfast

A group of people are seated around a large, light-colored wooden table in a meeting room, facing a presentation screen. The screen displays a photograph of a group of people and the text: "Remember you are a person first and disabled second", "Blair Shorris", "Indian Community", and "Centre Belfast". To the left of the screen, a yellow box with the text "Working together" is visible. The room has a green exit sign above the door on the left. The people are engaged in the presentation, with some looking at the screen and others looking at documents or devices on the table.



Lessons Learned



