

Author: [Benjamin Jones](#)

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[A faith-based education system is deeply inefficient](#)

Posted: Tue, 07 Mar 2017 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Both the Government and the Labour Party have wilful blind spots around faith schools, and as the Government looks set to launch a new wave of faith schools amid an education funding crisis, how can such an inefficient system be justified?

The Prime Minister... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Faith Schools](#), [Politics](#)

[The Casey Review lays bare the failure to integrate Muslim minorities](#)

Posted: Mon, 05 Dec 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Dame Louise Casey offers a damning critique of mass immigration undertaken without serious efforts to integrate new arrivals, but she shies away from properly tackling faith schools, and the problems she identifies may be intractable.

The Casey Review is a... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Multiculturalism](#)

[Protecting women's rights is the priority, but that isn't the only legitimate concern about sharia](#)

Posted: Thu, 03 Nov 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Gender inequality isn't the only problem with sharia councils, and non-Muslims have every right to object to the foundation of a parallel legal system in the UK, writes Benjamin Jones.

The discrimination against women inherent in sharia is its most objectionable... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Religiousity policing](#), [Sharia](#)

[Review: The Battle for British Islam, by Sara Khan with Tony McMahon](#)

Posted: Thu, 27 Oct 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

There are three million Muslims in the UK. The evidence shows they are becoming more religiously conservative, thousands are thought to have joined Islamic State; vast majorities would criminalise blasphemy and homosexuality. What hope is there?

'The Battle... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Reviews](#)

[Conflating abuse with criticism of Islam risks a return to a UK blasphemy law](#)

Posted: Thu, 18 Aug 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The BBC and Demos have published an accidental case-study in why we should all stop using the meaningless and sinister word 'Islamophobia'.

The BBC has made much of a report from Demos warning that thousands of 'Islamophobic' tweets are sent in English every... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Anti-Muslim Bigotry](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Islam](#)

[Press regulator rules 'honour' killings are not Islamic](#)

Posted: Thu, 21 Jul 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The press regulator has issued a troubling ruling that the Mail Online must state that Islam "does not support" 'honour killings'. Why is IPSO giving religious rulings to protect the reputation of Islam?

What business is it of the press regulator what interpretation... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Violence against Women](#)

[62% say there is "no place in UK politics for religious influence of any kind"](#)

Posted: Mon, 23 May 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The overwhelming majority of Britons believe religion should not "influence" politics in the UK, and

majorities of all religious believers except Muslims agree.

A ComRes poll commissioned by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association has found broad support for... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [statistics](#)

[Muddled-thinking on counter-extremism threatens free speech](#)

Posted: Wed, 04 May 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Leaks ahead of the Government's latest counter-extremism drive show that they have failed to balance freedom of speech with the impossible objective set out to legally challenge Islamist ideas in the "pre-criminal space."

The latest offensive against 'extremism'... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [EDOs](#), [Extremism](#), [Freedom of Expression](#)

[Muslim support for theocracy, not terrorism, is the real threat to confront](#)

Posted: Thu, 14 Apr 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The ICM poll on 'What British Muslims Really Think' shows clearly that widespread support for Islamic theocracy, not terrorism, is the real, long-term threat to British society, argues Benjamin Jones.

Much of the discussion about the "What British Muslims Really... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Statistics](#)

[Christian country? Politicians should be careful what they wish for](#)

Posted: Wed, 23 Mar 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The demise of Anglican Christianity won't herald a uniformly secularised society, but a fractured country where the vast, non-religious majority contend with vocal religious minorities. Secularism must mediate this, argues Benjamin Jones.

A steady stream of... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Christianity](#), [Secularism](#)

Dan Walker's creationism may be an affront to science – but he's entitled to his beliefs

Posted: Thu, 11 Feb 2016 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The appointment of "young Earth" creationist Dan Walker to front BBC Breakfast has caused a considerable backlash, but unless and until his views interfere with his ability to present the news in a balanced and neutral way, he's entitled to his beliefs, argues... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [BBC](#), [Creationism](#)

Minister's claim that secularism pushes Muslims towards ISIS is a shameless attempt to advance Christian privilege

Posted: Wed, 09 Dec 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Stephen Crabb MP, the Secretary of State for Wales, has said that secularism and "creeping intolerance" of religion "risks pushing more young Muslims into the arms of Isis". Benjamin Jones responds, debunking his nonsensical claims.

In the latest misleading... [Read More »](#)

Tags: ['Militant' secularism](#), [Conservative Party](#), [Politics](#), [Secularism](#)

A timid defence of free speech is no match for Islamism. We must do better.

Posted: Wed, 18 Nov 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Society needs a much more vigorous defence of free speech than the one we are getting, with the 'elite' of society in academia, religion and politics offering a feeble and timorous defence, writes Benjamin Jones.

Speaking at a debate on "freedom of speech... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Freedom of Expression](#), [Islamism](#)

Ted Cruz says the President of the United States should be "on his knees" before God "every day"

Posted: Mon, 09 Nov 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Young Americans might be turning away from Christianity, but the American religious right is more audacious than ever – and their rhetoric about 'religious freedom' barely conceals their theocratic

aspirations, writes Benjamin Jones.

Ted Cruz, advocate... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Christianity](#), [Church & State](#), [Islamism](#), [USA](#)

[Some good news for free speech on campuses](#)

Posted: Wed, 21 Oct 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

With too many instances of campus censorship to list, it's easy to be pessimistic about freedom of expression on campus, but there are a few promising signs of progress, led by students, writes Benjamin Jones.

I've spoken on two university campuses in the past... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Freedom of Expression](#), [Universities](#)

[Warwick Student Union have now done the right thing – but universities themselves must step up to defend free speech](#)

Posted: Mon, 28 Sep 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

After taking relentless criticism on Twitter and Facebook, Warwick Student Union has reversed its decision to block Maryam Namazie from speaking on campus. Though the right decision has been made in the end, universities themselves must step up to defend free... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Freedom of Expression](#), [Universities](#)

[The media now say 'Islamophobia' without question; but insist on the "so-called Islamic State"](#)

Posted: Thu, 10 Sep 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Reporting of the deeply troubling rise in anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim attacks demonstrates that the term 'Islamophobia' has, worryingly, been widely accepted by the media.

The recent media coverage which accompanied the [release of worrying hate crime statistics...](#)
[Read More »](#)

Tags: [Community Cohesion](#), [Islam](#), [Islamism](#)

[We need a Robert Conquest figure to demolish the pro-Islamist left](#)

Posted: Thu, 06 Aug 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

The late historian Robert Conquest exposed the true horror of Stalinism; and the 21st century badly needs a similar expose to break the pro-Islamist left away from their cruel sympathy with another totalitarian system, argues Benjamin Jones.

Robert Conquest,... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Politics](#)

Misrepresenting concerns about Islam won't make society more cohesive

Posted: Wed, 08 Jul 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Recent polling found that 56% of Britons think Islam poses a threat to democracy. However this finding has been misrepresented to suggest that British people think Muslims themselves are a "threat".

When asked, "does Islam (not fundamentalist groups) pose... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Community Cohesion](#), [Islam](#), [Statistics](#)

Preacher James McConnell faces prosecution for calling Islam "Satanic" - the state again tramples over free expression

Posted: Thu, 18 Jun 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Free speech for all is threatened once more by the senseless prosecution of another Christian preacher. His religious freedom is the same liberty that defends secularists, atheists, people of all religions and none.

"Islam is heathen, Islam is satanic, Islam... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Christianity](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Islam](#), [Religion & Belief](#)

Academic claims university atheists are "militant"

Posted: Thu, 18 Jun 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

A paper published by the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education has claimed that atheists can be "militant" on university campuses, while describing religion as a "public good" and the

exclusion of religion from the public sphere as "repressive."

Professor... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Freedom of Expression](#)

[Anti-Muslim bigotry and the problem, with 'Islamophobia'](#)

Posted: Thu, 11 Jun 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Islamists are again using the victims of anti-Muslim bigotry to advance their agenda. Once again, a British university has aided this project in a conference on 'Islamophobia' which undermined and demonised ex-Muslims as "McCarthyites".

Many, many Muslims are... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Anti-Muslim Bigotry](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Islam](#), [Sectarianism](#), [Universities](#)

[Christian leaders need to prioritise their targets](#)

Posted: Thu, 28 May 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

It is tiresomely common to have some Christian leaders describing secularism as intolerant, bigoted, militant or aggressive. At a time when Christians are being met with genuine persecution around the world, Benjamin Jones argues that Christian leaders should... [Read More »](#)

Tags: ['Militant' secularism](#), [Church & State](#), [Islam](#)

[After initial crisis, nation struggles on without Minister for Faith](#)

Posted: Thu, 14 May 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

After initial panic and a constitutional and political crisis, the country is struggling on without a Minister for Faith. Benjamin Jones lambasts the Prime Minister for leaving this crucial role unfilled for so long.

While the Prime Minister set about appointing... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Politics](#)

[Most Britons aren't religious- but are religious 'voting blocs' wielding increasing power in our elections?](#)

Posted: Wed, 06 May 2015 by [Benjamin Jones](#)

Religious leaders are wielding disproportionate influence in this election. Benjamin Jones argues that this is likely to get worse, and politicians should resist the urge to treat religious people as blocs.

While the religious are declining as a share of the... [Read More »](#)

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