

Tags: [Gender Equality](#)

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[Secularism is a feminist issue](#)

Posted: Mon, 14 Oct 2019 by [Megan Manson](#)

Ahead of the FiLiA 2019 conference this weekend, Megan Manson argues that secularism is a crucial ingredient in campaigns for women's equality. [Read More »](#)

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[What secularism means for African women's rights and citizenship](#)

Posted: Thu, 08 Mar 2018 by [Dr Fatou Sow](#)

In a long read for International Women's Day, Dr Fatou Sow says secularism is a feminist issue and reflects on its particular importance to women in Africa.

I join this conversation as an academic researcher in sociology and an activist, as the Director of... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Africa](#), [Gender Equality](#)

[Seven women who refused to be silenced by religious bullies](#)

Posted: Thu, 08 Mar 2018 by [Megan Manson](#)

On International Women's Day, Megan Manson celebrates the stories of seven brave and determined women in the UK who religious hardliners have tried – and failed miserably – to bully over the past year.

Religion is one of the key obstructions to... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Extremism](#), [Gender Equality](#), [LGBTQ rights](#), [Sabbatarianism](#)

[Yes, secularism is good for gender equality](#)

Posted: Wed, 03 Jan 2018 by [Megan Manson](#)

Western academics who claim that secularism undermines women's rights are not merely wrong; their assertions are a slap in the face of women fighting for their rights under religious tyranny, says Megan Manson.

Of all the images that have emerged from mass... [Read More »](#)

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[The Christian 'legal army' in hundreds of court battles worldwide](#)

Posted: Thu, 14 Dec 2017 by [Claire Provost & Ella Milburn](#)

Women's rights advocates say the US legal advocacy group Alliance Defending Freedom is "exporting extreme ideologies worldwide" against sexual and reproductive rights. Claire Provost and Ella Milburn investigate.

The international wing of a controversial US... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Christianity](#), [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Gender Equality](#)

[A lesson in silencing dissent: the controversy of hijab in schools](#)

Posted: Tue, 28 Nov 2017 by [Yasmin Rehman](#)

Yasmin Rehman was among campaigners who recently met Ofsted's chief inspector to discuss veiling in schools. Now, she writes, some powerful Muslims are making sinister efforts to silence her and her fellow activists.

As I prepared to mark the International... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Gender Equality](#), [Islam](#)

[Al-Hijrah School ruling: The fight to end segregation has only just begun](#)

Posted: Sat, 14 Oct 2017 by [Megan Manson](#)

The ruling that an Islamic faith school's policy of gender segregation is unlawful should force us to have have a broader conversation about the religious segregation and inequality our children face in UK schools, argues Megan Manson

Make no mistake: [the ruling...](#) [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Gender Equality](#)

UNESCO: Putting religious privilege above gender equality

Posted: Wed, 11 Oct 2017 by [Megan Manson](#)

UNESCO says gender equality is one of its top priorities. But Megan Manson says it is protecting misogynistic attitudes by awarding World Heritage Status to religious sites that practise sexual discrimination.

As the UK's [United Nations Universal Periodic Review...](#) [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Discrimination](#), [Gender Equality](#), [United Nations](#)

Separate is not equal — not in this ‘faith’ school

Posted: Tue, 11 Jul 2017 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Turning a blind eye to discriminatory gender discrimination in Islamic schools would be disaster for future generations of British girls growing up in Muslim communities, argues Stephen Evans.

I was in court this week for Ofsted's appeal of a ruling that gender... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Education](#), [Faith Schools](#), [Gender Equality](#)

Abortion ruling is a missed opportunity to recognise the disparity in women’s reproductive health rights across the UK

Posted: Thu, 15 Jun 2017 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

Ensuring that NHS abortion services are made available, free of charge, to UK citizens travelling from Northern Ireland would be a way of mitigating the harm caused by a disparity in women's reproductive health rights across the UK, argues Dr Antony Lempert.... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Abortion](#), [Gender Equality](#), [Healthcare](#), [Reproductive Rights](#)

The human rights of women and secularism go hand in hand

Posted: Wed, 08 Mar 2017 by [Alastair Lichten](#)

On International Women's Day 2017 NSS campaigns officer Alastair Lichten reflects on the intersection of gender and religious privilege, and what the secularist movement can learn from

IWD.

The theocratic mindset has always had a particular obsession with policing... [Read More »](#)

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[Saudi women's rights activist arrested – days after Saudi Arabia returned to Human Rights Council](#)

Posted: Thu, 03 Nov 2016 by [David van Rooyen](#)

A leading women's rights activist, Mariam Nassir Al Oteebi, has been arrested in Saudi Arabia and languishes in prison, just days after the country was re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council, writes David van Rooyen.

Mariam Nassir Al Oteebi had been playing... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Gender Equality](#), [Saudi Arabia](#)

[Gender segregation: breaking the law to appease Islamism](#)

Posted: Mon, 21 Mar 2016 by [Chris Moos](#)

The LSE and their Students' Union need to stop breaking equality legislation that is designed to protect students, and start listening to the Muslim women challenging gender segregation, argues Chris Moos.

Students and staff at the London School of Economics... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Gender Equality](#), [Universities](#)

[Britain's first women's mosque: rise of girl power or a Muslim women's ghetto?](#)

Posted: Tue, 08 Mar 2016 by [Aisha Nabi](#)

Muslim women are no different to their Western sisters who fought their battle for equality decades ago, writes Aisha Nabi. Muslim women are fighting the same evil as Western sisters are today – sexism, but what is the best way of achieving gender equality?... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Gender Equality](#), [Islam](#)

['Shariafication by stealth' in the UK](#)

Posted: Sat, 18 Oct 2014 by [Pragna Patel](#)

The state's adoption of 'faith based' approaches to address minority issues are increasingly marginalising women from minority backgrounds and denying them the right to participate in the wider political community as equal citizens, argues Pragna Patel.

In... [Read More »](#)

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Secular conference created a sense of imminent and momentous change – and women will be the driving force

Posted: Wed, 15 Oct 2014 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The passion of feminist secular activists from around the world at a recent conference has inspired Terry Sanderson, who chaired a panel on religion's role in the state, law and politics.

Last weekend's conference organised in London by Maryam Namazie and her... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Ex-Muslim](#), [Gender Equality](#), [Secularism](#)

Conquering fear with hope: Secularism 2014

Posted: Thu, 09 Oct 2014 by [Gita Sahgal](#)

Ahead of this weekend's conference on the Religious-Right, Secularism and Civil Rights, Gita Sahgal highlights the importance and bravery of secular activism in the Global South.

The issue of secularism is a controversial one in international human rights organisations.... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Events](#), [Gender Equality](#)

25 years: women working against fundamentalism in the UK

Posted: Wed, 10 Sep 2014 by Nira Yuval-Davis and Sukhwant Dhaliwall

An interview with Nira Yuval-Davis and Sukhwant Dhaliwal, co-editors of the new book telling the story of Women Against Fundamentalism, an organisation set up in 1989 by women of many faiths and none to work at the interface of feminism and anti-racism. The... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Community Cohesion](#), [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Gender Equality](#), [History](#)

Talking to God: the corporate religious challenge to a pluralist, progressive Europe

Posted: Fri, 01 Aug 2014 by [Kenneth Houston](#)

*EU and UN 'dialogue' with civil society gives disproportionate weight to conservative religious voices at the expense of moderate and secular opinion, argues **Kenneth Houston**.*

Corporate religion needs to hear the word 'no' more often from our politicians.

An... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Church & State](#), [Europe](#), [Gender Equality](#)

[A woman is stoned. We politely look away](#)

Posted: Fri, 30 May 2014 by [Matthew Syed](#)

*Our reluctance to fight 'small' battles – over forced marriage and the burka – merely emboldens the fundamentalists, argues **Matthew Syed***

I guess I should start by saying that I am half Pakistani. My dad grew up there, has dual citizenship (British... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Burka/veil](#), [Gender Equality](#)

[Religion as a human rights liability](#)

Posted: Wed, 16 Apr 2014 by [Nida Kirmani](#)

*While human rights movements must engage people of all religions and none, **Nida Kirmani** argues that explicitly linking religion to human rights can lead to the exclusion and persecution of minority groups and undermine human rights' claims to universality.... [Read More »](#)*

Tags: [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Gender Equality](#), [Religion & Belief](#)

[Why “One of us”, the European anti-choice petition, should be monitored and tackled](#)

Posted: Tue, 17 Sep 2013 by [Julie Pernet](#)

*A statement on the "One of us" petition by **Julie Pernet** on behalf of the European Humanist Federation.*

Launched in May 2012, the European citizens' initiative "One of us" has reached the required number of signatures — 1 million — to be [presented... \[Read More »\]\(#\)](#)

Tags: [Gender Equality](#), [Reproductive Rights](#)

[Yes, we can talk about this](#)

Posted: Tue, 03 Sep 2013 by [Meg Wallace](#)

London's National Theatre recently hosted a debate about freedom of speech, multiculturalism and Islam called *Can we talk about this?* The opening line was a question to the audience, "Are you morally superior to the Taliban?"

Anne Marie Waters, who was present,... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Cultural Relativism](#), [Gender Equality](#)

[Convictions for female genital mutilation: France - 100; Britain 0](#)

Posted: Thu, 25 Jul 2013 by [Joan Smith](#)

Back in 1999, a group of MPs criticised the author Germaine Greer. They were astonished by her claim in a book that criminalising female genital mutilation (FGM) amounted to "an attack on cultural identity". The MPs described Greer's view as "simplistic and... [Read More »](#)

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[The “cutting season” and FGM in the UK: A national disgrace, a national shame](#)

Posted: Tue, 02 Jul 2013 by Elizabeth O'Casey

Last month, a coalition of Egyptian NGOs launched a campaign, 'Kamla' (meaning 'complete' in Arabic), against female genital mutilation (FGM), after a botched operation resulted in the [death of Egyptian teenager](#), Soheir Mohamed Al- Batea.

FGM is an intensely... [Read More »](#)

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