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[The onus should be on theocrats, not liberal democracies, to change](#)

Posted: Wed, 04 Nov 2020 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

Liberal equivocation on whether to stand up to jihadist murder and Islamist intimidation is morally wrong, misguided and counter-productive, says Chris Sloggett. [Read More »](#)

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[The continued effort to silence Charlie Hebdo is shameful](#)

Posted: Fri, 18 Sep 2020 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

It is outrageous to try to force this small magazine to give the 2015 killers what they wanted, says Chris Sloggett. [Read More »](#)

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[The world has abandoned freethinkers of Muslim heritage](#)

Posted: Fri, 04 Sep 2020 by [Kunwar Khuldune Shahid](#)

The first Apostasy Day has highlighted the human rights abuses facing many who leave Islam. To stand up for them we must ensure the religion isn't given special protection, says Kunwar Khuldune Shahid. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Freedom from Religion](#), [Islam](#)

[Trevor Phillips's suspension is another blow to robust public debate](#)

Posted: Wed, 11 Mar 2020 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

You don't need to agree with everything Trevor Phillips has said about Muslims or Islam to be concerned at the attempt to render his ideas beyond the pale, says Chris Sloggett. [Read More »](#)

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

Don't let religious advocates define the boundaries of acceptable thought

Posted: Thu, 20 Feb 2020 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

A BBC debate on defining 'Islamophobia' was a reminder of the risks of giving too much ground to religious identity politics and empowering 'community groups' to police public discussion, says Chris Sloggett. [Read More »](#)

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Islam, like any other religion, must be fair game for criticism

Posted: Thu, 22 Aug 2019 by [Stephen Evans](#)

The disqualification of a GCSE student who criticised halal meat is a reminder of the need to resist censorious offence-taking on Islam and the normalisation of the idea of 'Islamophobia', says Stephen Evans. [Read More »](#)

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

The gatekeepers of public debate can't patronise away anti-Muslim bigotry

Posted: Thu, 22 Aug 2019 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

Adopting a proposed definition of 'Islamophobia' would restrict legitimate speech on Islam and embed a failing approach to anti-Muslim hate. This is the NSS's submission to a series of essays criticising the definition. [Read More »](#)

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

The anti-RSE campaign has echoes of the Rushdie affair

Posted: Thu, 23 May 2019 by [Yasmin Rehman](#)

As the campaign against relationships and sex education spreads and grows increasingly aggressive, Yasmin Rehman says politicians' pandering to intolerance will be a disaster for LGBT people, Muslims and wider society. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [LGBT rights](#), [RSE](#)

[Relativism is undermining liberalism from within](#)

Posted: Mon, 17 Dec 2018 by [Terri Murray](#)

In her book *Identity, Islam and the Twilight of Liberal Values*, Terri Murray explores attacks on liberalism from the left and right – and the failure to defend it. Here she explains what motivated her to write the book. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Cultural relativism](#), [Islam](#)

[The gatekeepers of public debate can't patronise away anti-Muslim bigotry](#)

Posted: Wed, 28 Nov 2018 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

A parliamentary group's proposal that the government define 'Islamophobia' is a misguided power grab, says Chris Sloggett. If we want to end anti-Muslim bigotry, we should stop telling people what to think about Islam. [Read More »](#)

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

[European ruling that 'religious feelings' trump free speech is a dangerous development](#)

Posted: Fri, 26 Oct 2018 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Just as Irish citizens strike a blow for the right to freedom of expression, the European Court has fundamentally undermined it, argues Stephen Evans.

Irish voters decided this week to remove the 'crime' of blasphemy from its constitution. The majority of citizens,... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Blasphemy](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Islam](#)

[Do burka bans do more harm than good?](#)

Posted: Thu, 02 Aug 2018 by [Stephen Evans](#)

As Denmark's ban on face coverings in public comes into force, Stephen Evans says standing up for fundamental rights and freedoms is the best way to push back against the oppression the burka represents.

[Denmark became the latest country to "ban the burka"... Read More »](#)

Tags: [Burka/veil](#), [Islam](#)

Ten years on from the abolition of blasphemy, free speech still needs defending

Posted: Wed, 11 Jul 2018 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Marking ten years since the criminal offence of blasphemy was abolished in England and Wales, Stephen Evans argues that the freedom to speak critically about beliefs others hold sacred is far from assured.

This week marks the 10-year anniversary of the abolition... [Read More »](#)

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It's worth knowing why more Muslims are leaving faith behind

Posted: Tue, 19 Jun 2018 by [Fiyaz Mughal](#)

A new book reveals a substantive movement of people choosing to leave Islam. Fiyaz Mughal, its co-editor, reflects on the stories it tells and the importance of mutual respect and empathy between Muslims and ex-Muslims.

I have worked with communities for over... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Ex-Muslim](#), [Islam](#)

It shouldn't be normal for pubs to conform to blasphemy codes

Posted: Wed, 06 Jun 2018 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

The brewer Greene King has taken the Saudi Arabian flag down from its World Cup displays after complaints from some Muslims that an Islamic symbol shouldn't be in a place which serves alcohol. Chris Sloggett responds.

Do you find the Saudi Arabian flag offensive?... [Read More »](#)

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[What comes after The Silence of the Liberals?](#)

Posted: Fri, 16 Mar 2018 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

Nick Cohen has skewered the hypocrisy of leftists who apologise for Islamic intolerance, says Chris Sloggett. To defeat it we must assert the value of free speech as the most precious right which citizens share.

"I'm as interested in what isn't said as what... [Read More »](#)

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[The Government should be wary of its review on sharia 'law'](#)

Posted: Wed, 07 Feb 2018 by [Sadikur Rahman](#)

Sadikur Rahman says implementing official recommendations on sharia 'courts' would entangle civil and religious law and undermine vulnerable women's rights. The Government should instead secularise the marriage laws.

Ten years ago today Rowan Williams suggested... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Marriage](#), [One law for all](#), [Sharia](#)

[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 »](#)

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[State recognition of Islamic nikah marriages is no way to empower Muslim women](#)

Posted: Wed, 22 Nov 2017 by [Sadikur Rahman](#)

Most women in the UK who have Islamic weddings are missing out on their legal rights. The solution to this problem must not lie in the automatic registration of Islamic marriages, argues

Sadikur Rahman.

Channel 4's documentary [The Truth about Muslim Marriage... Read More »](#)

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[Religious Right supports state backed prayers, until they're Islamic](#)

Posted: Thu, 12 Oct 2017 by [Paul Lusk](#)

Claims of ecumenicalism and pluralism are often used to smuggle exclusively Christian privilege into public institutions. Christian secularist Paul Lusk asks what we should do about that.

Christian Concern has [criticised](#) Oldham council for holding Islamic prayers... [Read More »](#)

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[Lessons from the frontline of Islamic fundamentalism](#)

Posted: Thu, 21 Sep 2017 by [Megan Manson](#)

Megan Manson explores autobiographies by two Muslim secularists whose lives have been directly intertwined with Islamist extremism, and asks if the secular pluralism extremists most fear could be our best hope.

"Extremists have shown what frightens them the... [Read More »](#)

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[Newcastle: what's faith got to do with it?](#)

Posted: Thu, 10 Aug 2017 by [Yasmin Rehman](#)

A group of mainly Muslim men has been convicted for sexual abuse in another British city. Amid a predictable response, Yasmin Rehman says child protection does not require the involvement of faith groups or 'community leaders'.

Rotherham, Rochdale, Oxford,... [Read More »](#)

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[We need to defend both our lives and our way of life](#)

Posted: Thu, 08 Jun 2017 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Terrorist atrocities have a way of bringing the nation together, albeit temporarily. We need a glue to keep us together, to protect our lives and our way of life, writes Stephen Evans.

There's a lot to be said for Britain's calm, defiant response to the threat... [Read More »](#)

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[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 »](#)

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[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 »](#)

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