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[The folly of the civil service's 'faith and belief champion'](#)

Posted: Wed, 15 Nov 2017 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

A new civil service appointment may be intended to promote 'inclusion'. But insistently bringing religion into the workplace will only serve to promote it and encourage an assertive form of selfishness at public expense, says Chris Sloggett.

If a decision is... [Read More »](#)

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[Interfaith must embrace secularism](#)

Posted: Mon, 13 Nov 2017 by [Megan Manson](#)

Interfaith Week is underway. Megan Manson says interfaith dialogue must embrace secularist principles to remain relevant, effective and inclusive.

Interfaith, the constructive dialogue between people of different faiths in order to promote mutual understanding,... [Read More »](#)

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[Protecting freedom of belief for the many and the few](#)

Posted: Mon, 23 Oct 2017 by [Megan Manson](#)

Ahead of International Freedom of Religion or Belief Day, Megan Manson looks at democratic secularism's changing role in an age of the non-religious minority and rising diversity.

In the past, those who have given their greatest support for secularism have... [Read More »](#)

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[Sam Brownback: Trump's new man is no fan of religious freedom](#)

Posted: Wed, 09 Aug 2017 by [Chris Sloggett](#)

The record of President Trump's new nominee exposes the hypocrisy of the US religious right. Chris Sloggett argues that its opponents must challenge the ingrained assumption that faith is a good thing.

"Religious freedom is the first freedom. The choice of... [Read More »](#)

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Religious belief is no barrier to criminality

Posted: Thu, 09 Jun 2016 by [Alistair McBay](#)

A spate of media reports have suggested that criminals convicted of sex abuse feigned their religion. NSS Vice-President Alistair McBay argues that the media shouldn't seek to protect religion from criticism by misrepresenting these cases.

A disturbing new... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Child Abuse](#), [Religion & Belief](#)

Scotland is a mosaic of religions and beliefs – but the research shows people turning away from politicised faith

Posted: Thu, 24 Mar 2016 by [Alistair McBay](#)

Scotland is a mosaic of beliefs and non-beliefs where individuals are free to hold a belief, change it or not have one at all. But it's not hard to see why people are rejecting the organised and politicised aspects of religion, writes Alistair McBay.

Much is... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Church of Scotland](#), [Religion & Belief](#), [Scotland](#), [Statistics](#)

Tim Montgomerie need not worry, secularism and tolerance go hand in hand

Posted: Thu, 02 Jul 2015 by [Stephen Evans](#)

There's nothing "anti-Christian" about a society that sets about dismantling historic religious privilege, argues Stephen Evans.

In a [Times opinion piece](#) about the power of forgiveness – so poignantly expressed in Amazing Grace, the former slave trader... [Read More »](#)

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Academics call for greater sensitivity about religion in universities, but students suggest it's not an issue

Posted: Fri, 19 Jun 2015 by [National Secular Society](#)

Some academics are giving undue prominence to religion and religious students- when the evidence shows they are exaggerating the scale of the 'problem' they describe.

Tariq Modood, professor of sociology at the University of Bristol, and Professor Craig Calhoun,... [Read More »](#)

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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](#)

Rowan Williams and his ilk are not the people to decide where religion sits in public life

Posted: Sat, 13 Sep 2014 by [David Voas](#)

The Woolf Institute has convened a commission to consider the place and role of religion and belief in contemporary Britain, and to "make recommendations for public life and policy." David Voas questions whether this review can reach a conclusion that reflects... [Read More »](#)

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[Secularization is best thing that ever happened to religion](#)

Posted: Thu, 01 May 2014 by [Douglas Todd](#)

Douglas Todd argues that, properly understood, secularism is the best thing that has happened for modern religion and religious believers, and that secular societies can be breeding grounds for religious pluralism.

[Secularization](#) is the best thing that's ever... [Read More »](#)

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[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 it would have been invidious to put the Mormon Church on trial](#)

Posted: Thu, 27 Mar 2014 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Terry Sanderson clarifies the threat to freedom of religion and belief when secular courts rule on theological matters.

Last week [we reported](#) a decision by a judge at Westminster Magistrates' Court not to hear a case of alleged fraud against the Mormon Church... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Church & State](#), [Mormonism](#), [Religion & Belief](#)

[Tony Blair's 'solution' to religious conflict will simply make things worse](#)

Posted: Thu, 30 Jan 2014 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

In reaction to Tony Blair's recent reflections on religious conflict, Terry Sanderson reflects upon the dangers of Blair's promotion of the "us" and "them" mentality.

[Writing in last Sunday's *Observer*](#), Tony Blair repeated his mantra that the 21st century's... [Read More »](#)

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Scientology's dream comes true

Posted: Wed, 11 Dec 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The Supreme Court has said that Scientology is a legitimate religion. This ruling undermines the automatic presumption that all religious groups are for the "public benefit", argues Terry Sanderson.

It's not very often that you'll find me agreeing with Eric... [Read More »](#)

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Secularism seeks to balance everyone's religious freedoms fairly. Why would anyone oppose that?

Posted: Tue, 19 Nov 2013 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Despite the claims of its critics, secularism protects the freedom of conscience for all citizens, and welcomes believers and non-believers into the public square on equal terms, argues Stephen Evans.

As the old idiom goes, throw enough mud and some of it will... [Read More »](#)

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

Baroness Warsi and her self-serving anti-secular agenda

Posted: Wed, 13 Nov 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Baroness Warsi, the Coalition's "Minister for Faith" is no friend of the National Secular Society. Why should she be? Her role is the very antithesis of secularism.

For a Government Minister whose brief is to promote religion in politics, she does not seem... [Read More »](#)

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[One oath for all](#)

Posted: Mon, 14 Oct 2013 by [Jessica Vautier](#)

LSS member Jessica Vautier argues that the proposal for a new oath isn't an attack on Britain's religious heritage. It is an attempt to make the justice system fairer, and for everyone to be treated equally.

Bristol magistrate Ian Abrahams hit the news last... [Read More »](#)

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[Can we please stop wasting money on these endless surveys that just tell us what we already know?](#)

Posted: Thu, 12 Sep 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Professor Paul Weller of Derby University seems to have cornered the market in research into perceived discrimination against religious groups. He seems to bring out a new report on it every year — all [saying basically the same thing](#). We have also had... [Read More »](#)

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[Human rights are for humans, not for ideologies](#)

Posted: Mon, 15 Jul 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

A Jewish man has won an employment tribunal case for racial and religious discrimination after his employer made derogatory remarks about "Yids" and suggested that he would like to [lock up and gas Jews](#).

Darren Feldman was bullied and abused by his manager because... [Read More »](#)

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[Three cheers for Channel 4 for trying to move Muslims into the mainstream](#)

Posted: Tue, 02 Jul 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Channel 4 has set the cat among the pigeons — as I suspect it intended to do — with its

announcement that it will broadcast the Muslim call to prayer every day during the month of Ramadan.

If what the chief of Channel 4 says about the network's... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Islam](#), [Religion & Belief](#)

[New EU guidelines on religion and belief make plain that no religion is entitled to special rights](#)

Posted: Thu, 27 Jun 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The EU Foreign Affairs Council this week adopted [a report with 71 Guidelines](#) to promote the right to freedom of religion and belief worldwide.

Below are some choice quotes from it that should give pause to those Christians who imagine that they have special... [Read More »](#)

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[Conscientious objection in Scotland: a worrying precedent](#)

Posted: Wed, 19 Jun 2013 by [Louise Finer](#)

With NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde [seeking to appeal](#) the ruling for the allowance of conscientious exemption from abortion procedures, **Louise Finer** of *Reproductive Health Matters* argues that judges must not forget the rights of women – to health, autonomy,... [Read More »](#)

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[Fighting back in Strasbourg](#)

Posted: Fri, 03 May 2013 by [David Pollock](#)

[Twice recently](#) the generally progressive [Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe \(PACE\)](#) has been ambushed by a minority faction of reactionary religious deputies who have forced through amendments to resolutions completely contrary to their main sense.... [Read More »](#)

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[How the clash between Islamism and Zionism not only affects the Middle East but also the west](#)

Posted: Tue, 30 Apr 2013 by [Rumy Hasan](#)

By Romy Hasan

Samuel Huntington's book *The Clash of Civilizations* aroused a storm of interest when it was published in 1996. Its basic thesis was that in the aftermath of the Cold War, the fundamental antagonism among nations would be on the basis of 'civilisation'... [Read More »](#)

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