



Dear Woolf Friends,

Are we living through an age of crises? The language of crisis drives debate on climate issues. The war in Ukraine is the culmination of a geopolitical crisis between Russia and the West. Crisis shapes our understanding of recent history - 2008's economic crisis and the migration crisis that followed as those fleeing war, persecution and poverty arrived at Europe's borders. For some, the EU referendum of 2016 brought political crisis.

Whatever your view on that, Brexit offered a stark reminder of how easily we can be divided. Crises tend to divide us at some level, often along political lines but not always. More recently, the Covid-19 crisis separated many of us physically but also highlighted divisions less often discussed – health outcomes that exacerbate cleavages along ethnic and economic lines.

Of course, the pandemic also highlighted more positive aspects of society. Many communities met the challenges of crisis and division. We felt a popular unity not present, arguably, since the 1940s. Research by the Woolf Institute confirms that crises prompt acts of great kindness – the “quiet work” of individuals and groups serving vulnerable local communities.

Given the risks of division, how the media reports crisis is important. Unfortunately, during the pandemic we had accounts of faith communities that appeared to divide us along religious lines. We read local newspaper stories of rule-breaking within Jewish and Muslim communities. We witnessed an alarming number of antisemitic and Islamophobic incidents on our streets and online.

This week, the Woolf Institute launches the Transmission and Trust report on the impact of Covid-19. We found much to celebrate among Muslim communities. Despite being more at risk from infection, there were few other differences between Muslim people and the rest of the UK. They were no more likely to break lockdown rules and just as likely to follow health guidance.

This is an important, positive story to tell – good news emerging from bad times. One that challenges stereotypes and prejudices. At the Woolf Institute, we believe that the divisions crises bring about can be bridged through public education powered by robust research. With your support, we look to develop this crucial aspect of our work.

Best wishes,

MONDAY 14 MARCH 2022

Transmission and Trust

The Impacts of Covid-19 on British Jewish and British Muslim Communities

Authors: Julian Hargreaves and Philip Rushworth



TRANSMISSION AND TRUST: THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON BRITISH JEWISH AND BRITISH MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

Are faith communities less likely to heed official public health advice and more likely to follow guidance from a local imam or rabbi? And when it comes to rule-breaking during the pandemic within both Jewish and Muslim communities, to what extent does statistical evidence from the UK support or challenge media coverage?

The Woolf Institute's *Transmission and Trust: The Impact of Covid-19 on British Jewish and British Muslim Communities* explores issues related to the virus and two significant minority groups in the UK. As reported here last year, we conducted a nationwide poll with Survation. With them, we asked 2,000 people questions concerning testing, symptoms, self-isolation and vaccination. Is the willingness to self-isolate and receive a vaccine higher in British Jewish or British Muslim communities, and how do both compare to the general population?

The report will be released to the public this week. Click on the link below for more details.

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

IFTAR

Monday 4 April @20:00

The Woolf Institute invites you to break fast with us in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

WOOLF INSTITUTE | KC SHASHA SUITE



IFTAR AT THE WOOLF INSTITUTE

The Woolf Institute invites you to break fast with us on Monday 4 April at 20:00 in the KC Shasha Suite in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

Congregational Maghreb prayer to take place after iftar.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

WEBINAR 15 MARCH @17:30

Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean present:

SLAVERY AND INVISIBILITY IN THE MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN



WEBINAR: SLAVERY AND INVISIBILITY IN THE MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN

15 MARCH @17:30

The sixth webinar of the series, organised jointly by Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean, will take place on 15 March 2022 at 17:30. The webinar will focus on 'Slavery in the Medieval Mediterranean'.

The speakers are Dr Hannah Barker, Dr Cristina de la Puente and Dr Craig Perry.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

COP 26 HAS BEEN AND GONE. ARE WE ANY THE WISER? OR ARE WE ON A CLIFF EDGE?



PODCAST: CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

Cop 26 has been and gone. Are we any the wiser? Or are we on a cliff edge?

At one point in the summer of 2021, wild fires were raging all around the

Mediterranean from Greece to Spain and from France to Morocco. Even the most stubborn of climate change sceptics must be starting to worry. Madeleine Ary and Shannon Shah offer some much needed policy ideas...

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN TO THE PODCAST](#)

COMING SOON

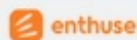
Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

BLESSED ALGORITHMS

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Become a Friend of the Woolf Institute
for as little as £10 a month

[Click here to donate](#)



[Donate](#)



Woolf Institute | woolf.cam.ac.uk

Woolf Institute - Improving Relations between Religion and Society Reg. Charity No. 1069589, a Company Limited by Guarantee, Co. No. 3540878, registered in England and Wales, registered office as above.