

‘ISLAMOPHOBIA’ : CHRISTIANS MUST BE FREE TO CRITICISE AND REFUTE OTHER RELIGIONS, WITH NO SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

The public criticism and rejection of other religions by Christians should never be criminalised in a democratic society which values free speech, be the religion in question Islam, or indeed any other faith.

A real problem is the existing definition of Islamophobia issued in November 2018 by the All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims. It states, *‘Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness’* (1). This definition is inspired by multicultural wokery and ignores the glaringly obvious fact that Islam is not a race, but a religion. This crude employment of the fear of being branded as ‘racist’ - constantly used by the leftist-liberal establishment in recent decades - is an attempt to prohibit legitimate criticism and rejection of Islamic teaching.

The author of this leaflet is an open air preacher. During his preaching Muslims frequently approach him and directly deny cherished Christian doctrines. To cite an example, they often say, ‘Your Bible is hopelessly corrupted’. Now since the Bible is the word of God, this constitutes an assault upon the integrity of the whole Christian revelation. This writer well remembers an occasion when a passing Muslim lady shouted out as he was preaching, ‘The Bible is a lie!’ She did so without any hesitation or fear of a possible adverse response. Her comment did not of course lead to the Police rushing to the scene.

Our Muslim friends also frequently tell Christian preachers, ‘Jesus is

not God’, and ‘How can God have a Son? It is impossible, because God is one’, thus rejecting the trinitarian truth that God manifests Himself to the world in the three Persons of the one Godhead. So they openly repudiate the Sonship and deity of Christ, which, as far as Christians are concerned, is nothing less than blasphemy. They also deny that the Lord Jesus died on the Cross, which in Christian theology is the only basis for anyone to be saved from their sins and reach heaven.

The crux of the matter is this : Christians actually support the freedom of Muslims to engage in legitimate religious debate and even to denounce Christian teaching. However, this liberty granted to Muslims in the UK must be reciprocated by Islam and the Left, when it comes to Christians critiquing and rejecting Islamic sources and core doctrines.

Furthermore, all around the Islamic world Christians are being severely persecuted for their faith. Of the top 12 persecuting countries in the Open Doors World Watch List for 2025, in no less than 10 of these the persecution is at the hands of Islam (2). Therefore, Christians must have the freedom to criticise and condemn Islamic teaching and practice. We always do so in the context of loving our neighbour. We must be free to assert that Jesus Christ is the only way. Also, the Government must have a proper regard for Britain’s distinctively Bible-based Christian identity, which is integral to the very constitution of our nation.

- 1) *Tim Dieppe, Free Speech Union, <https://freespeechunion.org/banning-islamophobia-blasphemy-law-by-the-backdoor/>, see page 11*
- 2) *<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list>*



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