

'Sleepwalking to segregation'?: Challenging myths about race and migration

Ludi Simpson, Nissa Finney

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Is Britain really under threat from ethnic diversity? Is the social fabric crumbling as we sleepwalk to segregation? In the context of renewed debates about diversity and cohesion, this book demonstrates that many of the contemporary claims about race and migration are myths. It presents evidence in support of and in opposition to the claims in an accessible yet academically rigorous manner.

The book combines an easy-to-read overview of the subject with innovative new research. It tackles head on questions about levels of immigration, the contribution of immigrants, minority self-segregation, ghettoisation and the future diversity of the population. It poses a direct challenge to the arguments of commentators such as MigrationWatchUK and the leadership of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights. The authors argue that the myths of race and migration are the real threat to an integrated society. They propose that diversity and mobility are expected and benign, and recommend that focus should return to problems of inequality and prejudice.

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Nissa Finney is a Research Fellow at the University of Manchester. With a background in Geography her research has focused on migration of ethnic groups within Britain, demography of local ethnic group population change, refugee settlement policy and press portrayals of race and migration.

Ludi Simpson is Professor of Population Studies at the University of Manchester. He works with population, census and survey statistics, aiming to extend their use by communities and governments. He has worked closely with local authorities and government departments, and statistics associations in Britain and abroad.



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