The public square: a continuing survey of religion and public life

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**Main content**

**Abstract:**

A discussion of religion and public life is presented. Societal concerns, including human cloning, sex and marriage, and issues of sexuality, are described. The cloning debate has influenced the way some people view these subjects.

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Surveys indicate that many of the unaffiliated hold some religious or spiritual beliefs (such as belief in God or a universal spirit) even though they do not identify with a particular faith. (See Religiously Unaffiliated.) Geographic Distribution. The geographic distribution of religious groups varies considerably. Several religious groups are heavily concentrated in the Asia-Pacific region, including the vast majority of Hindus (99%), Buddhists (99%), adherents of folk or traditional religions (90%) and members of other world religions (89%). Three-quarters of the religiously unaffiliated (7% Founded in 2005 it exists to advance the education and understanding of religion in public life, in particular the contribution of religion to the proper governance of people. Offering Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Offered by: Oxford Centre for Religion and Public Life, Oxford, United Kingdom, in collaboration with The University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Details. The mission of OCRPL is to equip religious communities, particularly in the non-western world, in their Public Witness through research in public policy and its relation to religion and through training in research, advocacy and