

HUMANIST SOCIETY SCOTLAND

TOLERANT SCOTLAND?

**Measuring views on
inclusivity toward
faith and belief**



**Humanist
Society
Scotland**

NOTES

Tolerant Scotland?

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Fieldwork

5th - 10th July 2018
Online Panel
1,002 Sample size
Aged 18+ resident in
Scotland

Rounding of figures may
lead to results not adding
to 100% in some instan-
ces.

Full tables breaking down
each question asked with
results are available to
download at:

www.humanism.scot/tolerant

Scotland enjoys a positive reputation with regard to how inclusive and accepting it's residents are of those of different characteristics.

Indeed often political discourse in relation to immigration is more positive or at least respectful than it has been seen in other European jurisdictions.

However others have highlighted levels of religious intolerance or racism within Scottish society that should be a concern.

Humanist Society Scotland wanted to take a snap-shot of what the general public in Scotland actually thought with regard to people of a different religious or belief outlook than they had.

Some of the results are good news, showing the overwhelming positivity people felt towards others no matter their beliefs.

Other findings however should cause concern such as half a million people in Scotland not accepting someone of a different belief to theirs being their MSP.

RIGHTS & VIEWS

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the following statements.

All people of different religions and of no religion should have equal rights in Scotland

Total Agree 82%

Total Disagree 3%

Neither agree nor disagree 11%

Don't Know 3%

People with very strong religious beliefs are sometimes too intolerant of others

Total Agree 75%

Total Disagree 7%

Neither agree nor disagree 15%

Don't Know 4%

It is possible to live a good ethical life without being religious

Total Agree 86%

Total Disagree 2%

Neither agree nor disagree 9%

Don't Know 3%



Religious leaders should not try to influence how people vote in elections

Total Agree 79%

Total Disagree 4%

Neither agree nor disagree 12%

Don't Know 4%

Religious leaders should not try to influence government decisions

Total Agree 72%

Total Disagree 10%

Neither agree nor disagree 14%

Don't Know 4%

TOLERANCE

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Respondents were asked if they would accept or not accept a person of a different faith from theirs (or those who belonged to no faith at all if religious) from doing each of the following.

Teaching your children

Accept 76%

Not Accept 12%

Don't Know 13%

Being your GP

Accept 86%

Not Accept 6%

Don't Know 8%

Being elected your MSP

Accept 80%

Not Accept 9%

Don't Know 11%

Marrying a relative of yours

Accept 76%

Not Accept 11%

Don't Know 12%

Giving you relationship advice

Accept 62%

Not Accept 20%

Don't Know 18%

Supporting you emotionally after a bereavement

Accept 77%

Not Accept 12%

Don't Know 12%

Respondents were also asked their views on the following statements on relationships outwith marriage and same-sex relationships.

Sex before marriage

Not wrong 81%

Wrong 9%

Don't Know 6%

Prefer not to say 4%

Same-sex relationships

Not wrong 67%

Wrong 20%

Don't Know 8%

Prefer not to say 5%

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