MODULE 10: RE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The ability of RE to make a positive contribution to community relations is often assumed. But is this the case? This module introduces you to a project that tests this assumption; the Shared Space project which applies social psychology to the classroom.

You will engage with three scholarly sources which explore the capacity of a school subject to improve community relations from three different angles. You will see that this question can be answered in different ways.

Finally you will write a blog post to be hosted on RE:ONLINE and join in the conversation.

Over the course of this module you will:

- Find out about the Shared Space project connecting social psychology and RE
- Engage with three scholarly sources; one full article and two summaries.
- Create a 500- word reflection which will eventually become a blog post.

Outcomes

You will engage with a practical, classroom-focused report into how aspects of social psychology could be applied to RE.

You will read about how the issue of social interaction and education is explored in psychology, philosophy of education and sociology of education. You will consider the richness of this question.

Finally you will write a reflection which we hope you will be willing to share as a blog post to be hosted on RE:ONLINE.

What topics will I cover?

You will learn about the Contact Hypothesis in social psychology and what this might look like in the classroom. You will also gain insights of how school textbooks can reinforce prejudiced views through reading a sociological analysis.

What tasks will I complete?

Task 1: complete a table showing your engagement with the Shared Space Teacher's Toolkit. Time taken; around 4 hours

Task 2: complete a table showing your engagement with three scholarly sources. Time taken: around 8 hours

Task 3: write a 500- word reflection presenting your thoughts, further questions and connections. Time taken: around 8 hours.

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