

21st International Interdisciplinary Seminar
London, 3–5 January 2019

Freedom and Equality: a Christian approach



Organized by:
Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies (Zurich and Geneva)
Netherhall House (London)

Communication track

In 1789, the French Revolution ushered a new era under the banner of freedom, equality and fraternity. Two centuries later there is considerable conflict between the advocates of equality (marriage equality, gender equality, free access to medical procedures, non-discrimination) and the advocates of freedom (freedom of expression, artistic freedom, freedom to dissent, conscientious objection).

The Church in particular is seen as in favour of discrimination, and against giving equal treatment in employment, goods and services to all people regardless of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Are Christians to have these “freedoms” or should there be restrictions on what are seen as bigoted beliefs? This seminar seeks to explore the different aspects of the perceived battle between freedom and equality to try to see if the two can work together as partners rather than rivals.

Topics

- Can Christian schools continue to teach only about traditional marriage?
- Employers who campaign for changes in marriage laws and rights of employees to dissent
- Catholic agencies and the laws on gay marriage and gay adoption
- Anti-discrimination and equality legislation: intended and unintended outcomes

- Should the state keep funding faith schools or should all state schools be secular?
- Is religious freedom more than freedom of worship?
- Equal access of women to the workplace, and gender preferences
- The role of civil society as an intermediary between the state and the individual

Please visit the URL below if you wish to check out the complete program.

Sessions

Thu 3rd January, all day

Visit to Oxford

Fri 4th January, 10.00 – 18.00 h

Academic sessions in London

Sat 5th January, 10.00 – 18.00 h

Academic sessions in London

Venue

Netherhall House,
Nutley Terrace, London
NW3 5SA

Costs

£70 for participation to the Academic Sessions, two standing-lunches (on Friday and Saturday) and coffee breaks. Excursion to Oxford and accommodation are not included.

Accommodation

All participants are kindly requested to make their own accommodation arrangements. Affordable accommodation can be found at:

- **Palmers Lodge, Swiss Cottage** five minutes walk away from the venue
- **Netherhall House** please note that Netherhall can offer accommodation only for male participants

For additional information, detailed program and registration please visit
<http://www.netherhallhouse.org.uk/iis2019/#communication>

Submission of papers

Authors are invited to submit a 100 word abstract to the Symposium secretariat,
Jack Valero jack.valero@me.com

