

News from the Intersex, Identity and Disability project at the Lincoln Theological Institute, University of Manchester

Welcome

It has now been three months since I began my new research project, **Intersex, Identity and Disability: Issues for Public Policy, Healthcare and the Church**, at the University of Manchester. I have been lucky enough to find a warm welcome from colleagues in the Department of Religions and Theology.

Much of my time this term has involved preparing questionnaires, information and consent forms and other paperwork for consideration by the University Research Ethics Committee. I'm pleased to say that these have now been approved.

In November I travelled to San Francisco for the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, where I was able to discuss the project with scholars based in North America.

Intersex and Faith Identity

The next phase of the project, focusing on **intersex and faith identity**, with particular emphasis on **Christianity**, is now underway. I am seeking research participants who would be willing either to be interviewed or to fill out a questionnaire about the interactions between their intersex identity and their Christian faith identity. More details about this part of the project can be found at the project website, where there is also a link to the call for participants.

Healthcare Chaplaincy

In the New Year I hope to conduct a survey of healthcare chaplains in Britain in order to learn about their familiarity with intersex conditions/DSDs, the extent of their existing training and resourcing in the area, and what type of resources they would find most useful.

Church Policy

In April I will be speaking to members of the LGBT Anglican Coalition about intersex and faith. I am also in the process of preparing a series of briefing papers on intersex and theology. These are designed to address the nature, theological implications, pastoral care implications, and policy implications of intersex conditions, and will be made available on the project website in due course.

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