

The Positive Prospects for Cohesion

Ted Cante CBE

The iCoCo Foundation

@TedCante

www.icocofoundation.com

Cohesion or Division?

‘Despite the lessons of the past, 2016 saw the idea of human dignity and equality, the very notion of a human family, coming under vigorous and relentless assault from powerful narratives of blame, fear and scapegoating, propagated by those who sought to take, or cling on to, power at almost any cost’.

Amnesty International (2017) *The State of the World's Human Rights* Amnesty International Report 2016/17. London: Amnesty International

Cohesion or Division?

The Drivers of Division

- Segregation, inequality and 'parallel lives'
- Democratisation and globalisation of communications; diasporas
- Failure to address majority multicultural concerns and their identity challenge
- And impact of population growth and public services for all communities
- Identity politics and the failure to accept plural identities

Cohesion or Division?

Segregation, inequality and 'parallel lives'

The Multicultural model of integration of minorities

Cohesion or Division?

Banlieue in France



Cohesion or Division?

Segregation in UK



© Alamy Stock Photo

Cohesion or Division?

'Guestworker' in Germany



Cohesion or Division?

Segregation and separation – real and virtual

- New Migrants – more connected by social media, and diaspora:
 - Australian arrivals between 2011- 15: 71% keep in contact with friends or relatives by SMS or social media daily or several times a week

Cohesion or Division?

- Growing diversity and growing separation
- 'Parallel Lives' – housing, schools, employment, cultural, social, faith and other networks
- The Majority community separation too
- Monocultural areas have less opportunity to disconfirm stereotypes and prejudice; more likely to be intolerant of difference

Cohesion or Division?

Growth of Populism and the Far Right



Cohesion or Division?

Party of the Danes
Danskernes Parti



Cohesion or Division?

Majority multicultural concerns and identity

- The less diverse areas most concerned – and voted for Brexit, Trump, Le Pen etc
- Identity – migration impact but other factors neglected – eg de-industrialisation
- And economic impacts are real: some wage depression and public services stretched

Cohesion or Division?

- Legislation has changed behaviours and attitudes to some extent too, but....
- Defining issue of immigration/identity: 56% of people in the UK felt local culture was threatened by ethnic minorities (especially 'Islamification')
- 'Migrants take out more than they put in':
France 46% US 37% UK 34%

Australia: want level reduced 35-40%; retained 60%

(Scanlon and ANU 2014)

Cohesion or Division?

‘Democratisation’ and globalisation of communications – and the rise of diasporas

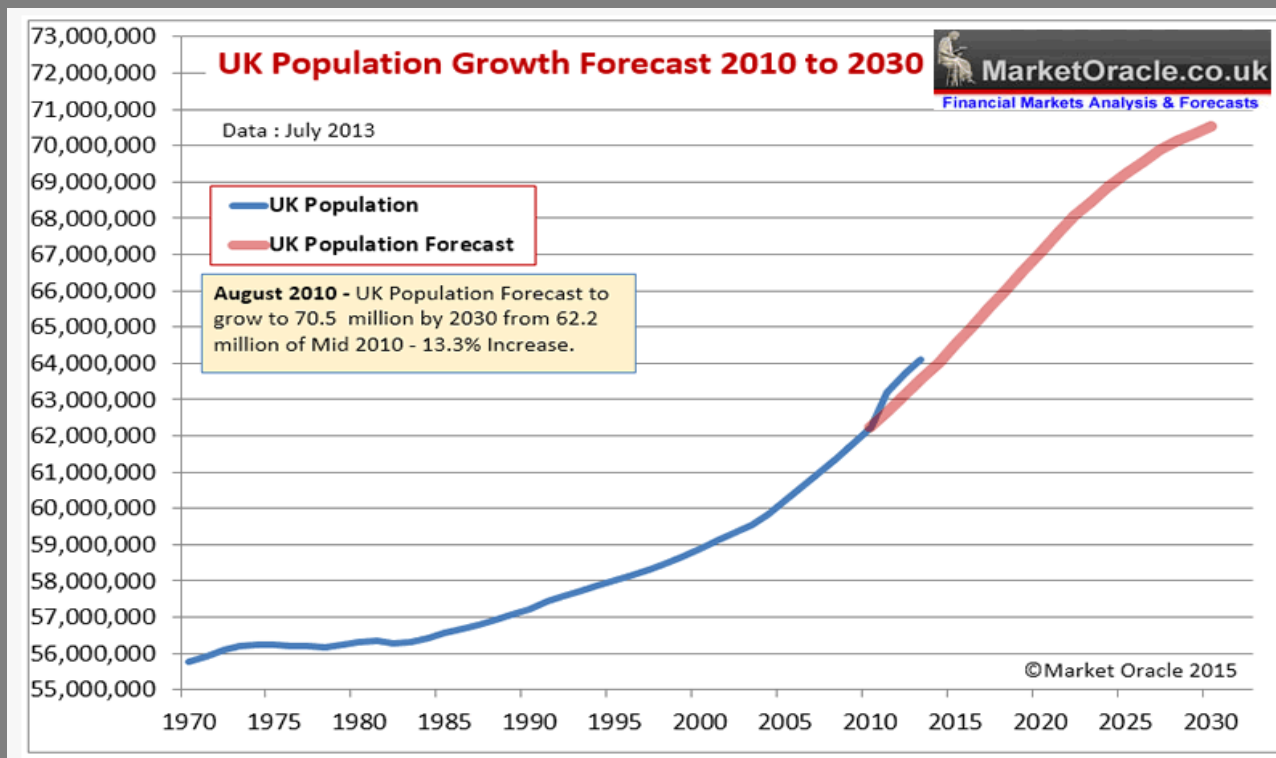


Cohesion or Division?

Failure to address real concerns – pace of change

UK Population growth and public services – 75% in 25% of LA areas

(similar growth UK and Aus – 3m in 10 years)



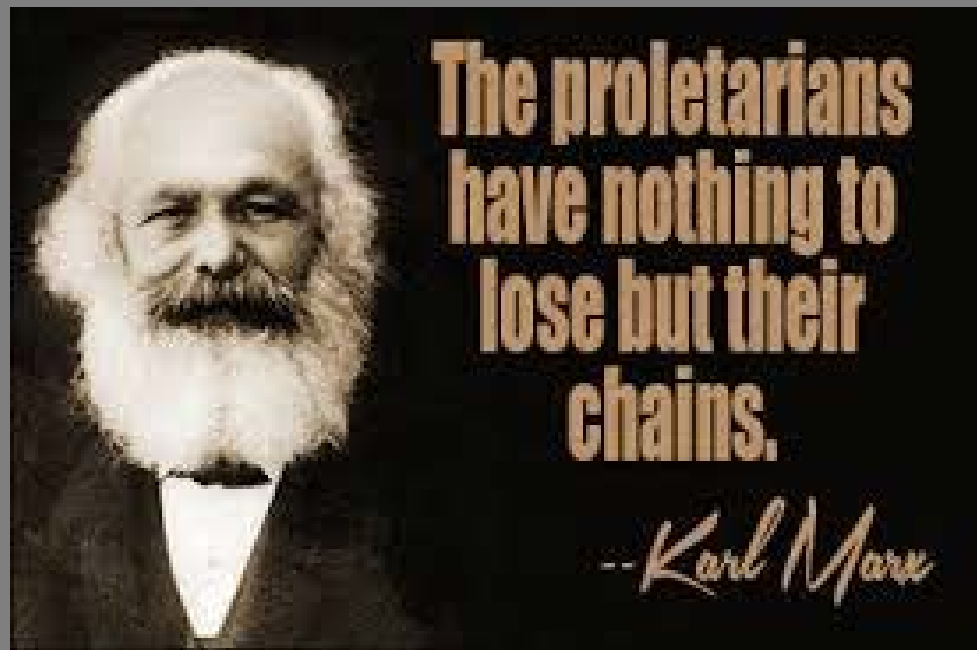
Cohesion or Division?

Expanded population, expanded public services?

- Housing – supply well below population growth, rising rents and house prices; living at home - the new intergenerational divide
- And Health services, Schools and Education, Cultural, and sports
- Physical infrastructure – particularly transportation - has also not kept pace

Cohesion or Division?

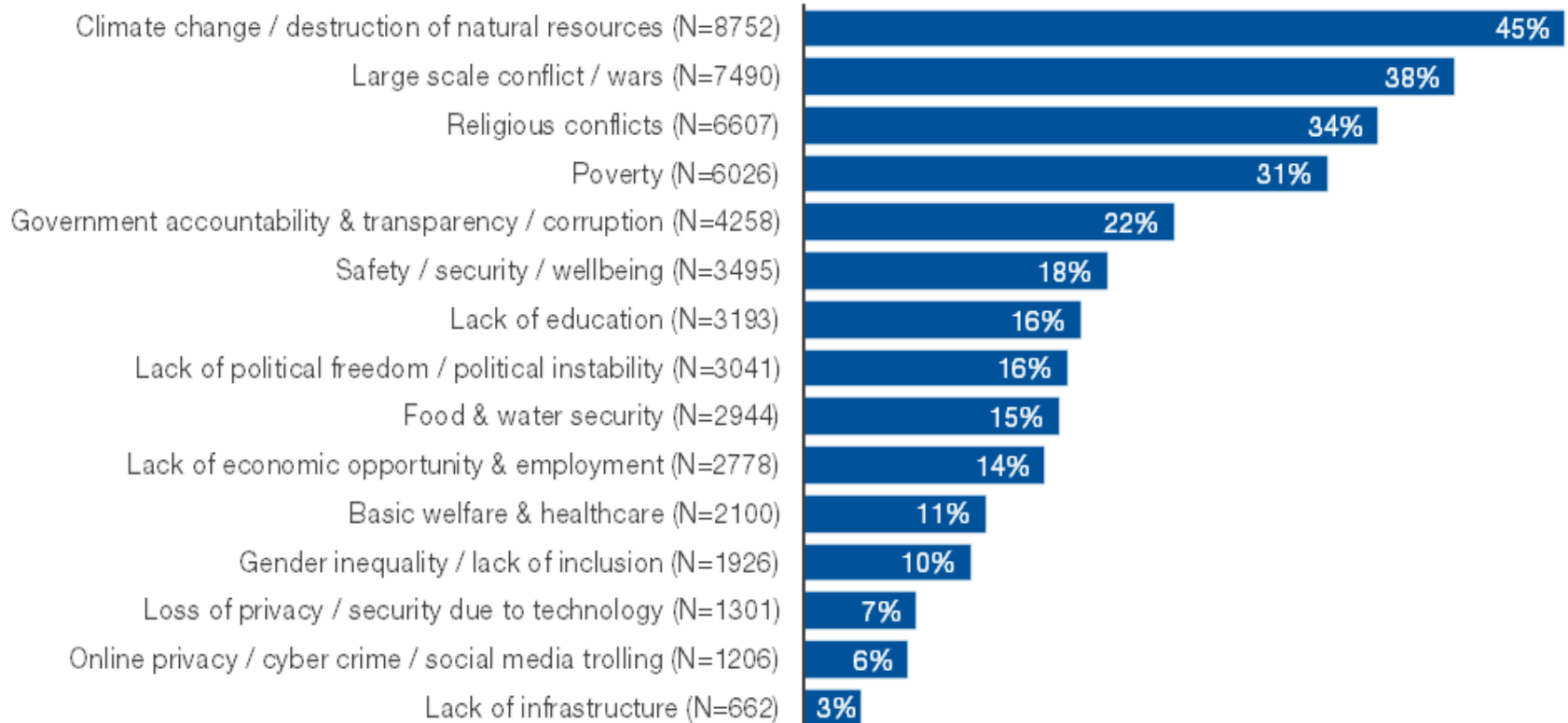
The Paucity of Political Ideas.....



Cohesion or Division?

What are the 3 most serious issues affecting the world today?

#ShapersSurvey



Source: Global Shapers Annual Survey 2016

Cohesion or Division?

The Political Class 'Bubble' and lack of trust:

- UK % 72% believe 'our government does not prioritise the concerns of people like me' and the (22 other countries average 71% same view)
- Australia – political party confidence: 85.1% 'none at all or very little' (WV)(cf 54% confidence in UN)
- Left or Right? In France - Macron and *En Marche*.
In Australia – 65% no longer left or right (WV)

Rethinking Who 'We' Are



Rethinking Who 'We' Are

'**Multiculturalism** tends to preserve a cultural heritage, while **interculturalism** enables cultures to have currency, to be exchanged, to circulate, to be modified and evolve'

Powell and Sze (2004)

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

Changing ideas about identity

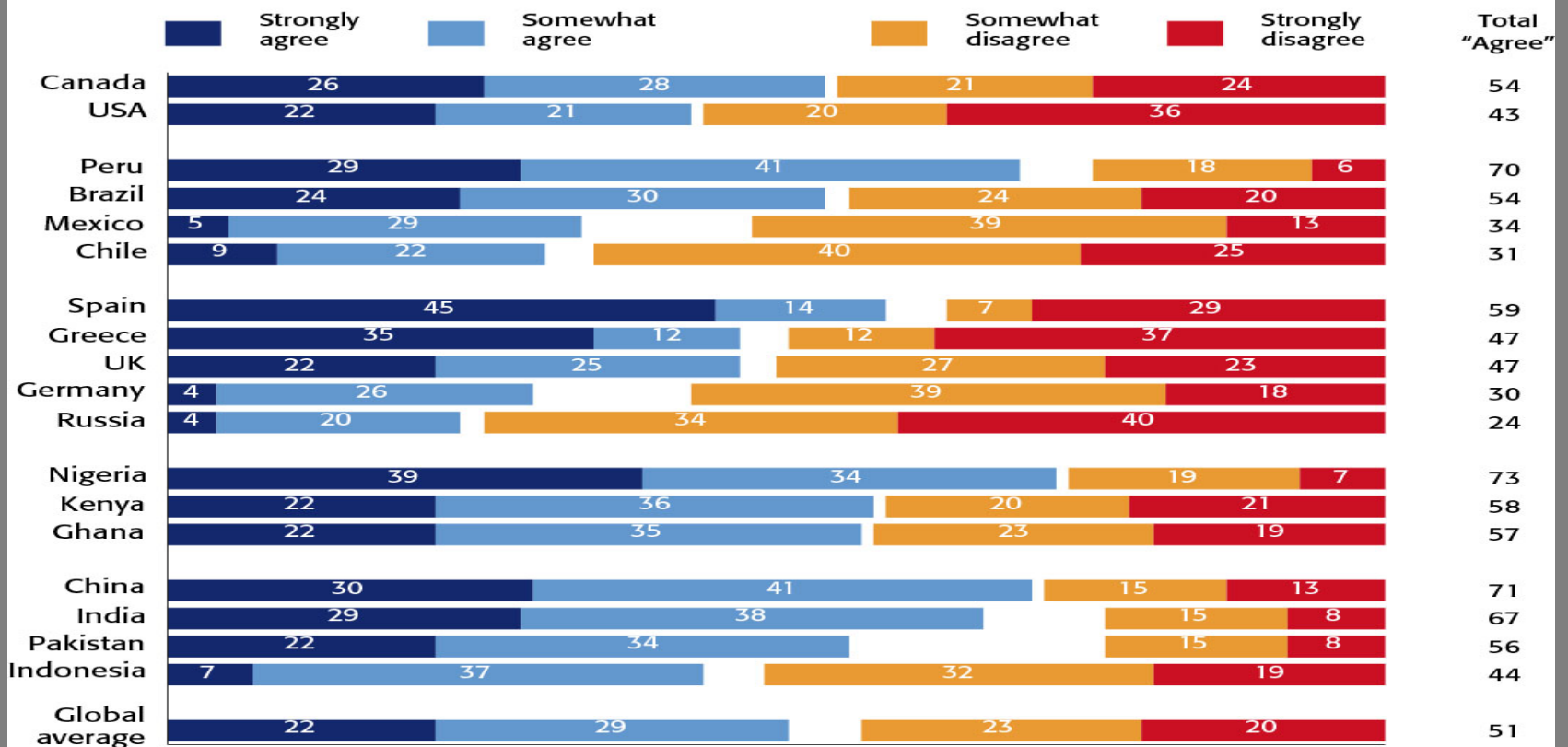
- In 2008, 60% saw themselves as citizen of their country first
- 30% people across the globe saw themselves as citizen of the world, more than (10%) or as much as a citizen of their nation
- Rising to 47% if knew people from different faiths
- Of 18-29 it rose to 34% and with high school education 39%

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

(Australians: 70% (Scanlon) 77% (WV) define 'world citizen') 2012 sample

I See Myself More as a Global Citizen than a Citizen of My Country

"Agree" vs "Disagree," by Country, 2016

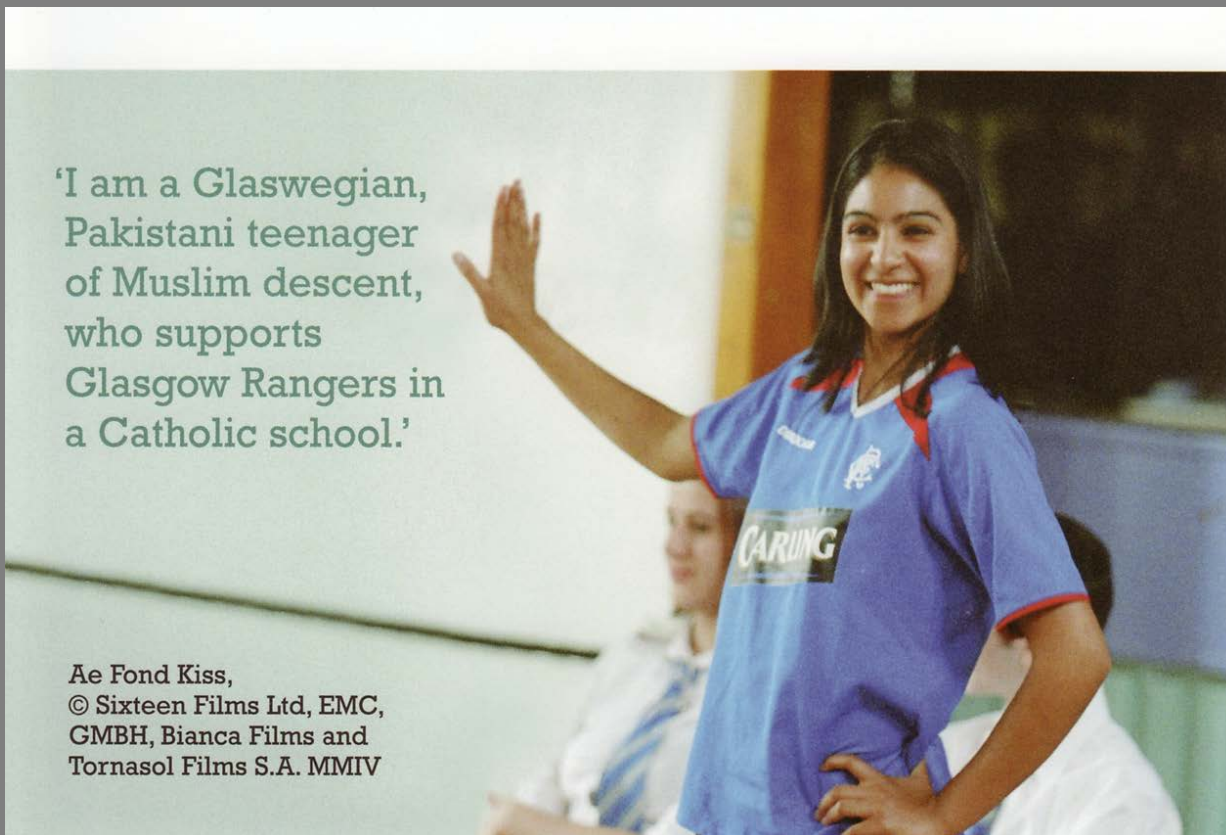


BBC3143_Q18jt_ctry

The white space in this chart represents "Depends, neither agree nor disagree," and "Don't know."

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

The failure to adapt – to plural identities



Rethinking Who 'We' Are

- Identity is now hybrid for many people – the fastest growing 'ethnic' group
- And constantly evolving, not just between majority and minority, but in relation to many changes in the wider world
- There is no choice between 'citizen' of a place and membership of our common humanity
- Nor between the local, regional, national and international democratic institutions.

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

'But if you believe you're a citizen of the world,
you're a citizen of nowhere. You don't
understand what the very word 'citizenship'
means'

Theresa May October 16

Rethinking Who 'We' Are



Campaign for a United
Nations Parliamentary
Assembly



GIVING THE

WORLD'S CITIZENS

A VOICE

* with a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly

NEWS

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

And who 'They' Are



“Education robs you of that simplification and certitude. Education is the best possible antidote to radicalisation”
Louise Richardson

Rethinking Who 'We' Are

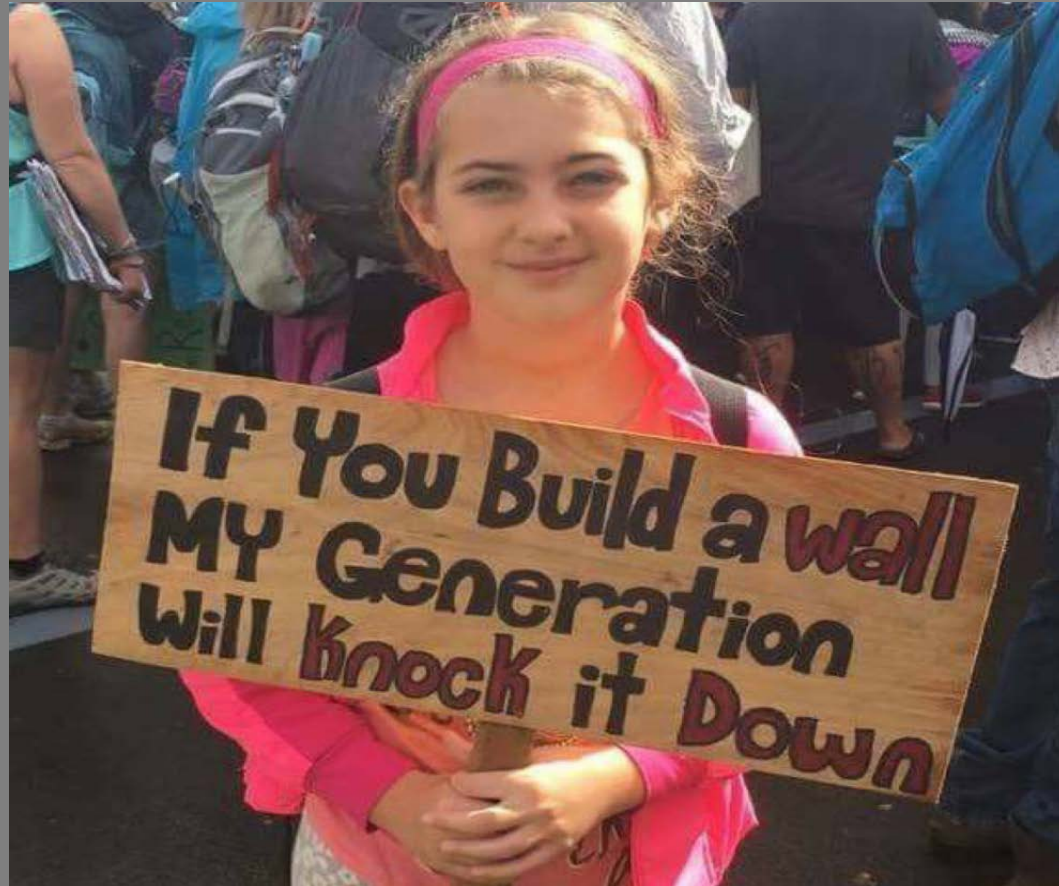
And Who 'They' Are

- By creating mixed environments which bring people together, challenging stereotypes and prejudice – everyday experiences
- With a new curriculum that delivers a world view
- Everyday intercultural programmes - from school twinning, arts and drama, to 'living libraries'
- And recognises grievances – and the perception of grievances – not by burying them

Five key steps

- The time for 'dangerous conversations' for critical thinking & intercultural competence
- Get real about population and resources
- Tackle Segregation – Bridge across cultures
- With Minority and Majority communities
- Embrace plural identities – in cultural and political terms

And a vision for a shared society



Ted Cantle CBE

The iCoCo Foundation

www.icocofoundation.com

Twitter: @Ted Cantle