

# SHARED VALUES, DIFFERENT OUTCOMES: INTEGRATION AMONG ETHNIC GROUPS AND MIGRANTS IN BRITAIN

**LAURENCE LESSARD-PHILLIPS** INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH INTO SUPERDIVERSITY (IRiS), UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
**SILVIA GALANDINI** CATHIE MARSH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH (CMIST), UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
**OMAR KHAN** RUNNYMEDE TRUST

November 2016

## Aim

We draw on data from the 2010-2011 Citizenship Survey to assess the level of integration achieved by ethnic and migrant groups based on the framework provided in the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012 report 'Creating the Conditions for Integration'. Our main aim is to explore the extent to which ethnic communities differ from one another but also from the ethnic majority community. We do this by comparing the indicators of integration suggested in the DCLG report and any role for ethnicity or country of birth in affecting integration outcomes in the five areas it highlighted.

## The framework

In the report, the DCLG suggests a framework for defining integration, discusses the policy responses to facilitate this process, and presents some evidence about the state of integration in British society. More specifically, the document proposes five factors that contribute to 'integration', which is defined as "creating the conditions for everyone to play a full part in national and local life" (DCLG 2012, p.2). These factors are: Common ground; Responsibility; Social mobility; Participation and Empowerment; Tackling intolerance and extremism.

## The data & measures

The Citizenship Survey (formerly known as the Home Office Citizenship Survey) was a face to face interview of a regionally representative sample of 10,000 adults and a 5,000 minority ethnic boost sample. The survey started in 2001 and was carried out every two years until 2005. It was then run as a continuous survey from 2007 to 2011, hence allowing the provision of data on a quarterly basis. Respondents were asked questions about a wide range of issues, including race equality, faith, feelings about their neighbourhood and local community, volunteering and participation.

## Measuring the factors of integration in the Citizenship survey

### Common ground (2 items):

Whether people (1) think that treating others with fairness and respect and treating all races equally should be the responsibility of every person living in the UK and (2) express a strong sense of belonging to Britain.

### Responsibility (1 item):

Whether people (1) think that the duty to obey and respect the law should be the responsibility of every person living in the UK.

### Social mobility (3 items):

Whether people (1) have achieved a university degree or equivalent level of education; (2) are currently or have last worked in a professional/managerial position; and (3) their level of economic activity (employed/unemployed/inactive).

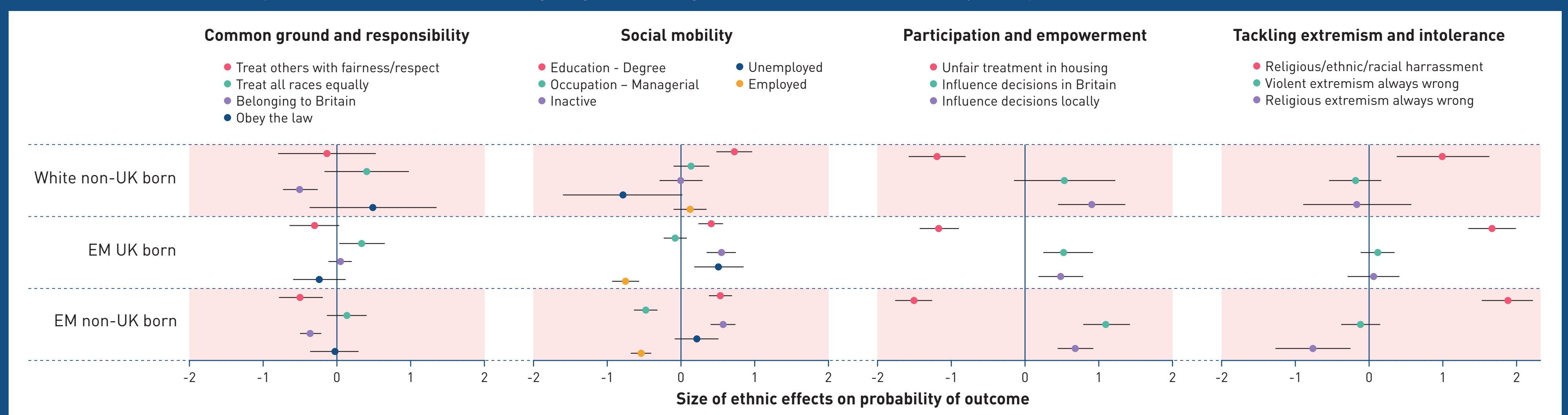
### Participation and Empowerment (2 items):

Whether people (1) strongly agree that they can influence decisions affecting Britain and the local area as well as whether they (2) feel they would be treated worse than people of other ethnic groups by a council housing department or housing association.

### Tackling intolerance and extremism (3 items):

Whether people (1) have personally experienced harassment because of their religion, skin colour or ethnic origin in the local area and whether they believe that violent extremism in (2) general or in (3) the name of religion are always wrong.

**Figure 1.** Ethnic effects on the probability of outcome, controlling for gender and age (N= 11,578). Source: Citizenship Survey (2010-2011).



**Notes:** EM=Ethnic minority. Results based on a logistic regression. Average marginal effects of ethnicity are plotted, along with their 95% confidence interval. This implies that a given outcome is more likely for a given ethnic group compared to the white UK-born group if the symbol is to the right of the red line; outcome less likely is found to the left of the line. Effects are significant between a given ethnic group and the White UK-born group if the horizontal lines do not cross the red line.

## Discussion & conclusions

As shown in Figure 1, integration in different areas seems to proceed at a different pace and the role played by ethnicity and country of birth differs across areas of integration. Indeed in some areas we have significant differences across groups (such as labour market position, treatment in housing, and harassment) but in other these factors do not play a role.

Further consideration should be given to how integration and its various dimensions can be defined and measured and which specific economic, social, cultural, political and civic domains they refer to. We need a clearer and perhaps broader definition of what integration is and how it is measured. The different ways in which both ethnic majority

and minority groups integrate into these different dimensions should also be explored in more detail. We also need to explore how these dimensions interplay.

Rather than focus on ethnic minority or migrant integration, policymakers should instead highlight both 'successes' and 'failures' in order to effectively target areas in need of intervention. Clear benchmarks for measuring and assessing integration need to be developed in a framework that takes these differences into account. A more accurate and evidence-based definition of what the process for integration entails should be provided so as to better guide, frame and assess.

## Acknowledgements

This work was supported by the Economic and Social Research Council [grant numbers ES/K002198/1 and ES/K009206/1]-2 and the University of Manchester's ESRC Impact Accelerator Account Pilot. Special thanks to James Nazroo, Ingrid Storm, and Yaojun Li for their support.

## References

Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). *Creating the Conditions for Integration*. London: DCLG.  
 Department for Communities and Local Government and Ipsos MORI (2012) *Citizenship Survey, 2010-2011* [computer file]. Colchester, Essex: UK Data Archive [distributor]. SN: 7111, <http://dx.doi.org/10.5255/UKDASN-7111-1>.