

The transformation power of education



Getty/Indianexpress.com



Structure of today's talk

Open, honest insights/ discussions about **life at university** and **what you can expect?**

Prepare you mentally and physically in regards to managing expectations at university

Is university for me? Why am I attending?

Opportunity for Q&A at the end

About me

Dr Aminul Hoque MBE, @BrIslam2015

Lecturer/ researcher in Education, Goldsmiths College

PhD – 2011

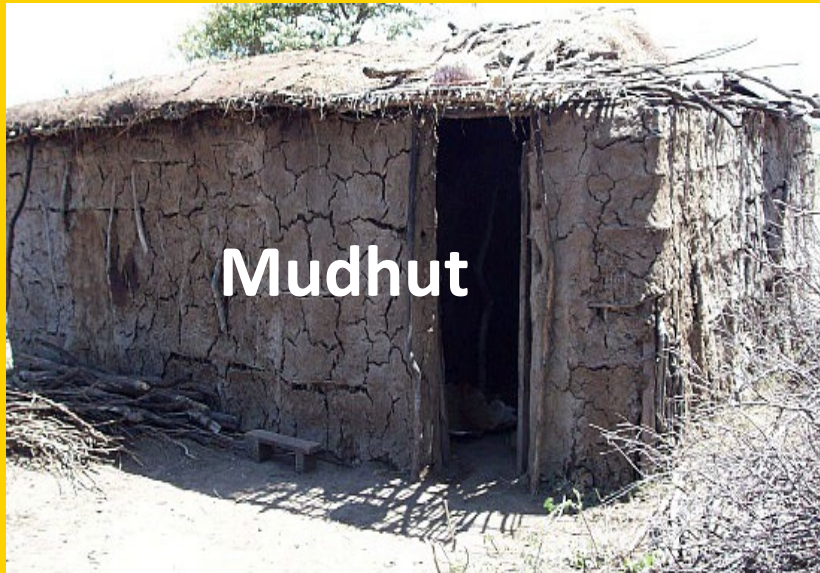
Key research interests: identity, youth cultures, multiculturalism, race, migration studies, Islamic feminism

Key publications: *British-Islamic Identity: Third Generation Bangladeshis from East London* (2015)

Presenter for *A Very British History: British Bangladeshis*, BBC4, Feb 2020

Londoner, dad, gardener, football-mad





Mudhut



Estate life



'white'
Sussex



Intrepid traveller



Suburbia

My own experience of university

Fun. Sociable. Intellectually challenging. **HARD WORK!** Sports and societies. Opportunity to 'see' the world. Expensive but **ABSOLUTELY** worth it. Making friends. Confidence. Developed my thinking, writing and critical skills. Discussions of interesting topic areas. Goes by **VERY** quickly!

What is the purpose of university?

Four crucial questions to consider:

1. What is my idea/ vision of university?
2. What is the purpose of university?
3. Why do I want to attend? What is my 'end game'?
4. Am I suited for university?

Purpose of university

It will:

- Provide you with knowledge, insights, expertise in a particular field/ subject area
- Expand and challenge your own intellectual, personal, social development
- Give you confidence and ‘mastery’ in a particular field
- Develop your creative, writing, analytical, reading, organisational, interpersonal skills
- Give you confidence to ask important questions
- Make you more ‘employable’; build a ‘career’; increase confidence
- Make you ‘think’ more critically about yourself, the wider world around you and your role within it – will allow you to be true to yourself and make informed, practical choices about ‘life’
- Allow you membership to an elite group of thinkers/ people across the globe!
- Gives you a qualification – a degree – a piece of paper that demonstrates that you have the knowledge, discipline, patience, intelligence to have completed a degree
- Give you depth of understanding about the wider world and how you can contribute to making it a better place

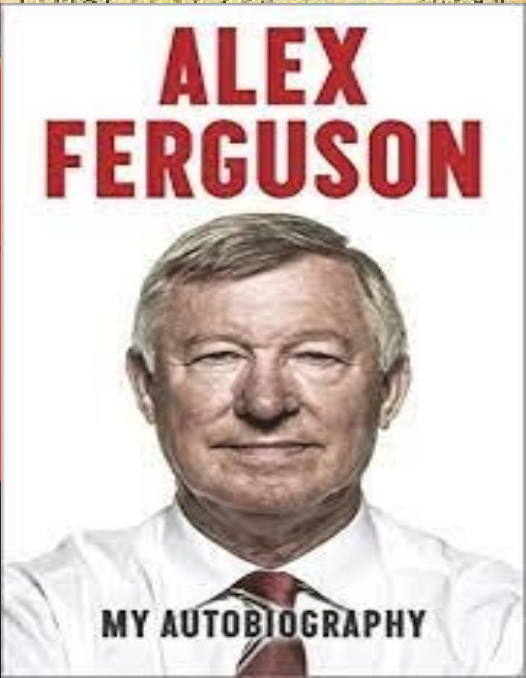
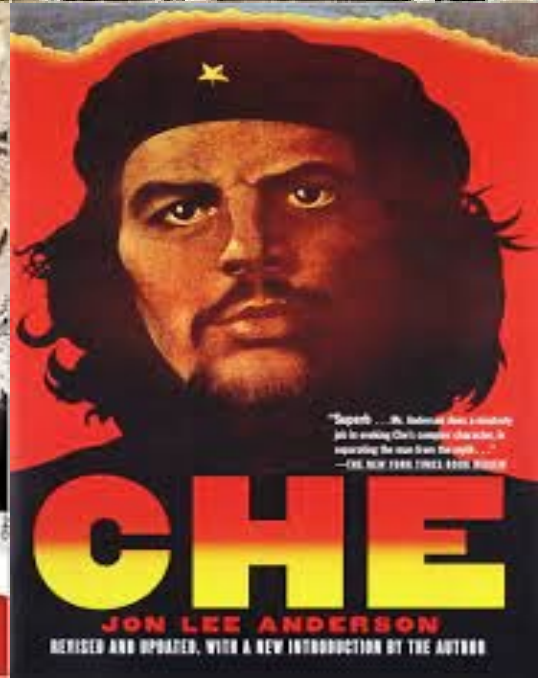
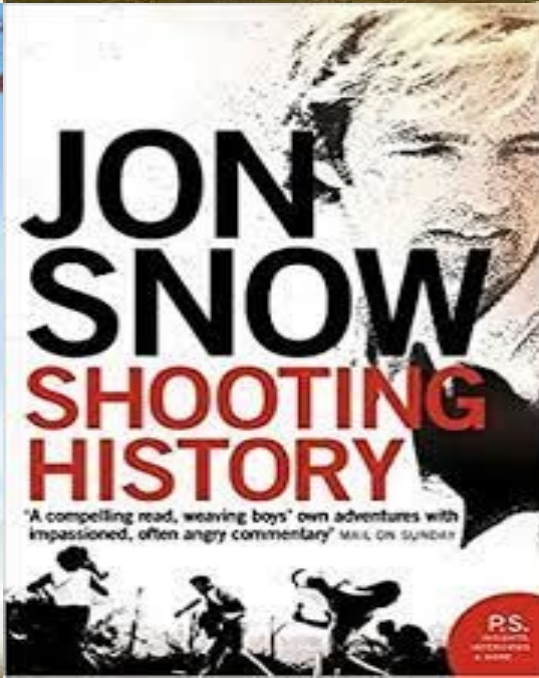
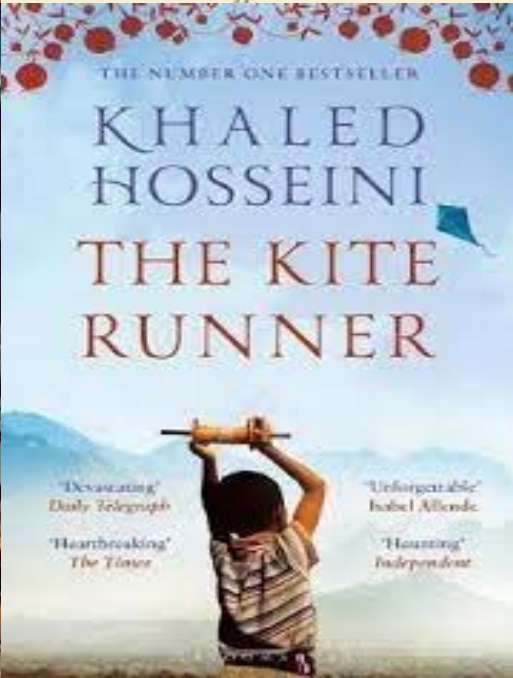
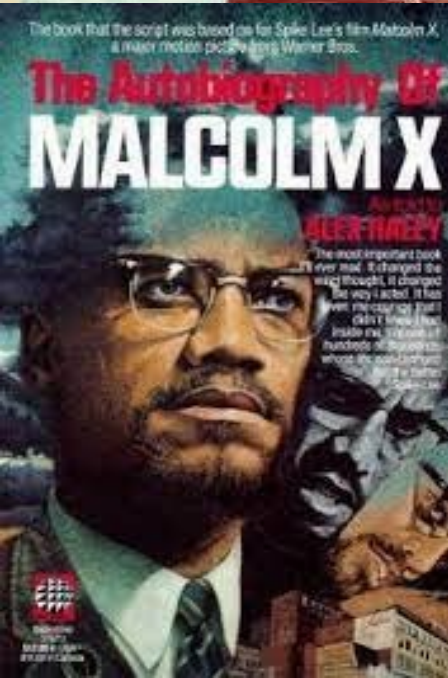
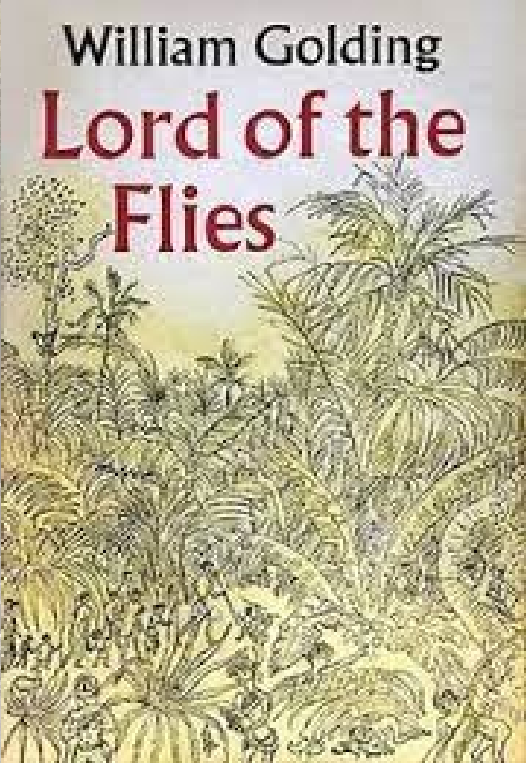
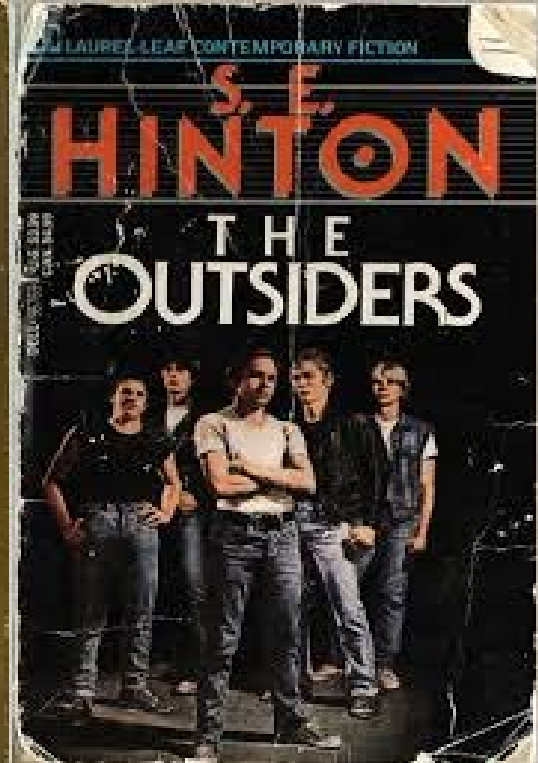
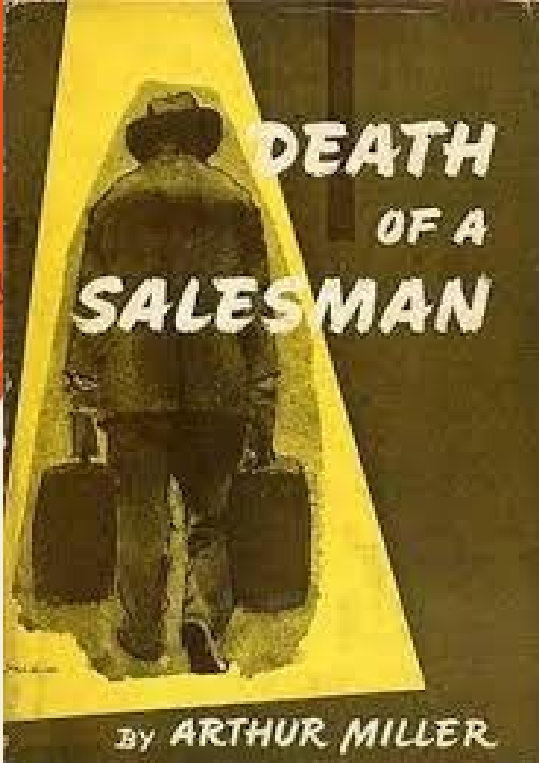
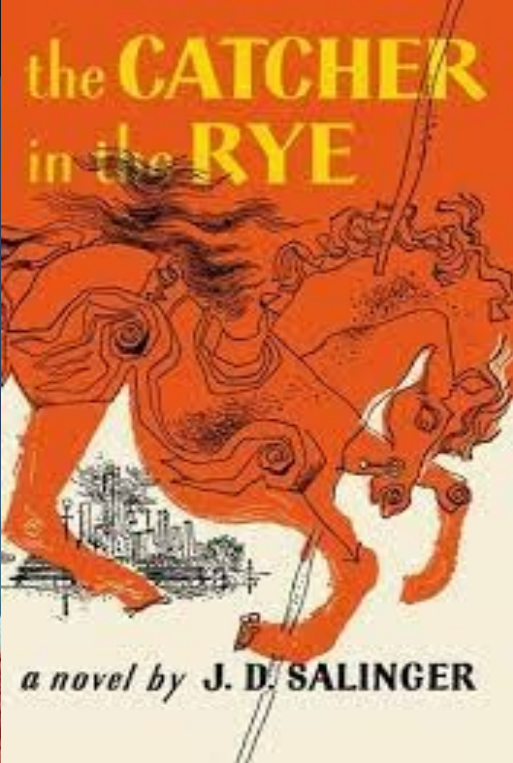
Significance of university

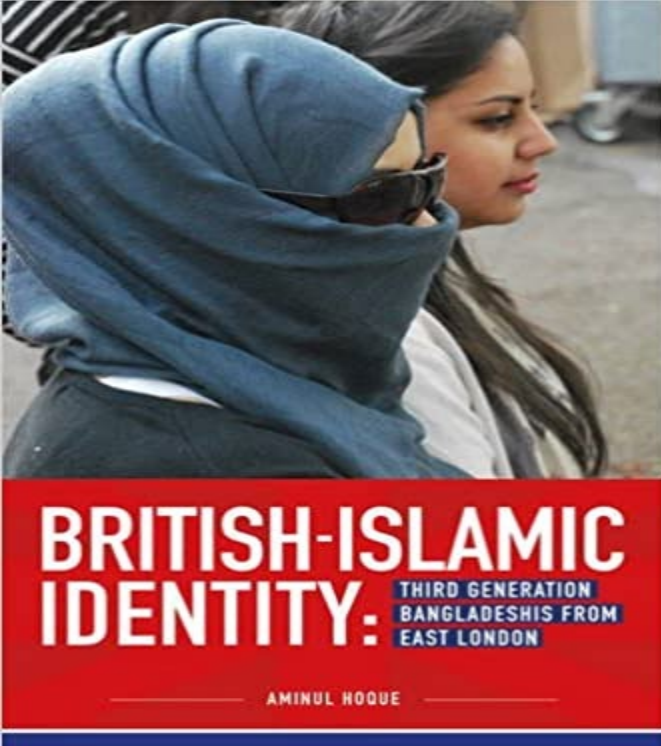
- Education – develops your mind. Knowledge is something that is unique, personal and your own. **No one can take it away from you!**
- Social, fun, **some of the best years of your life!**
- Some of your best friends for life will be the very people you meet in your lecture halls, canteens, seminar rooms, conferences, library, sports teams etc
- You may end up not pursuing a career in your degree area – but that's ok!



What can you expect?

- HUGE campus feel OR a more isolated departmental feel
- Lots of students (thousands!!) from a variety of backgrounds: age, language, race, gender, religion, social class, geography etc – most will be just like you – excited and nervous!
- You will get to meet lots of new, interesting and fun people
- Large lectures!
- Work placements/ experience
- Opportunity to see the world!
- Flexible timetable – so can still work, socialise, family engagements, volunteering commitments etc
- **Compulsory**: attend lectures and seminars, hand in written work to deadlines, exams, individual and group presentations, work placements
- **Optional**: joining sports and other societies organised by Student Union, participating in wider social events, going for a post-lecture coffee/ hot chocolate with your classmates, going to the library, communicating with your new friends via social media/ Whatsapp...
- Hard work and **READING!!!!**





BRITISH-ISLAMIC IDENTITY:

THIRD GENERATION BANGLADESHIS FROM EAST LONDON

AMINUL HOQUE



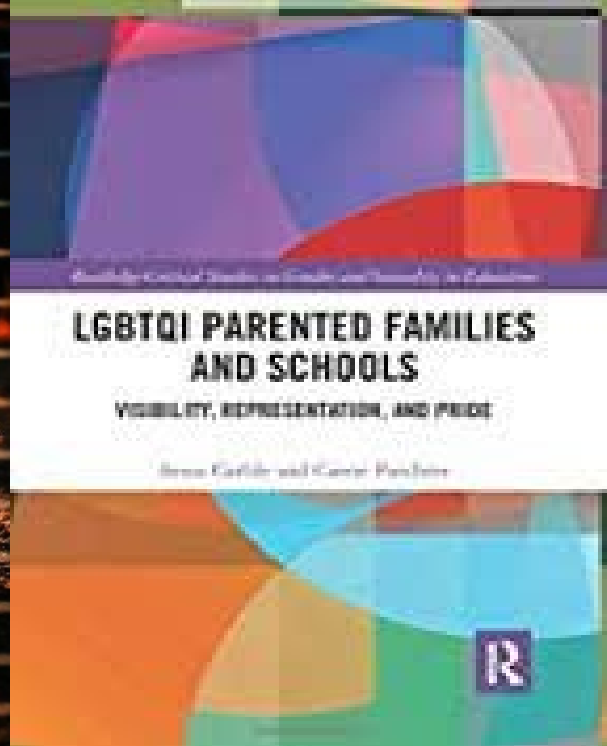
NEW FEMININITIES IN DIGITAL, PHYSICAL AND SPORTING CULTURES

Sporty Girls

Gender, Health and Achievement in a Postfeminist Era

Sheryl Clark

palgrave macmillan



LGBTQI PARENTED FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS

VISIBILITY, REPRESENTATION, AND PRIDE

Anna Carlile and Karen Poole

Routledge



BECOMING biliterate

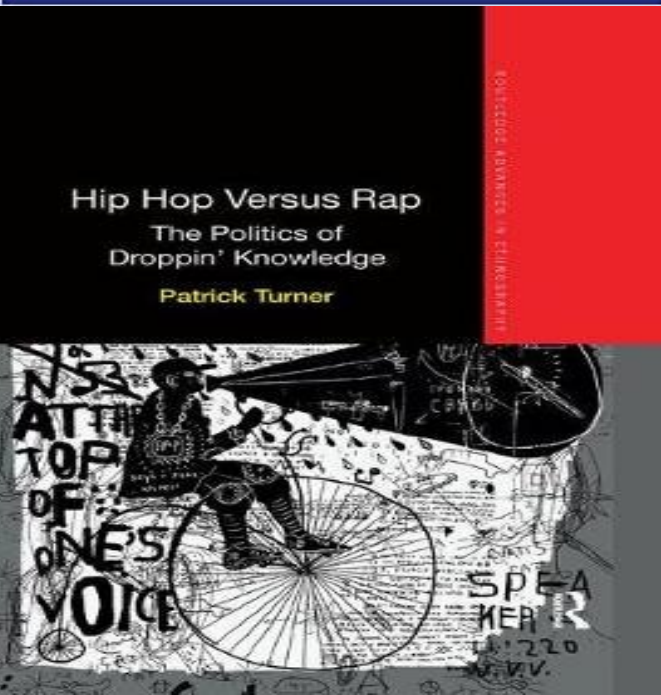
young children learning different writing systems

Charmian Kenner



I Love My Mum

I love My Sister

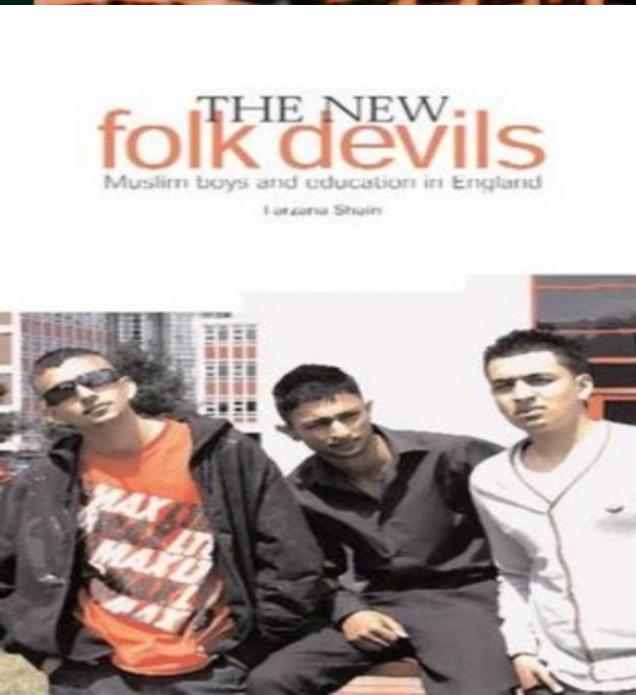


Hip Hop Versus Rap

The Politics of Droppin' Knowledge

Patrick Turner

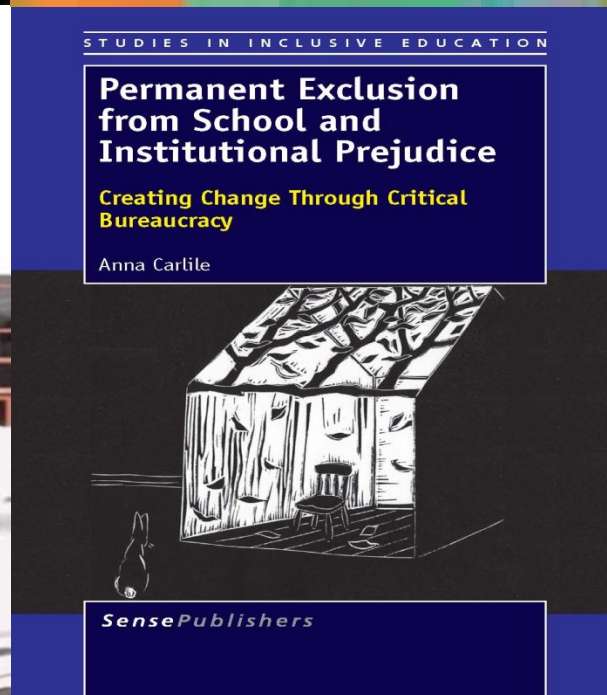
POSTCOLONIAL KNOWLEDGE IN EDUCATION



THE NEW folk devils

Muslim boys and education in England

Farzana Shubin



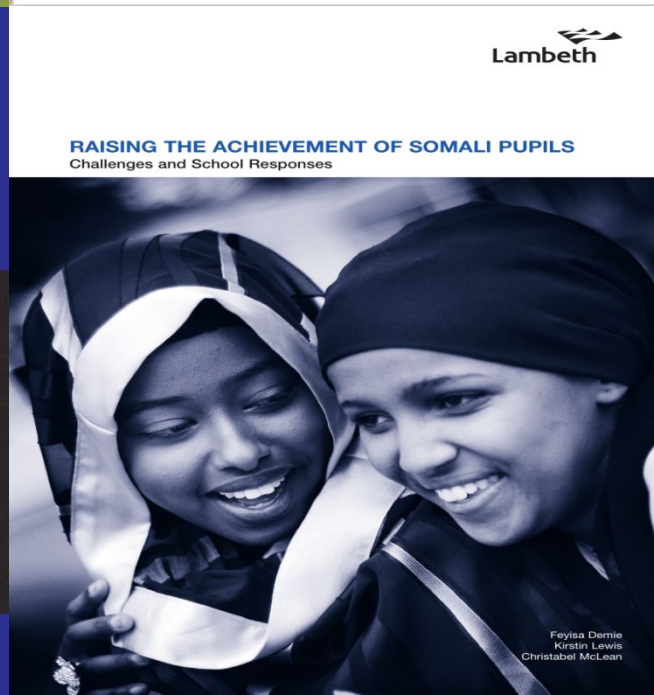
STUDIES IN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Permanent Exclusion from School and Institutional Prejudice

Creating Change Through Critical Bureaucracy

Anna Carlile

SensePublishers



Lambeth

RAISING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SOMALI PUPILS

Challenges and School Responses

Foyisa Dornie
Kristin Lewis
Christabel McLean

Theory to help us understand and navigate the world....

#BLM – race, inequality, policing

#SarahEverard – gender, feminism, masculinity

#MeghanGate – mental health, power, race

#Brexit

#InstitutionalRacism/ Policing/ ‘gangs’



As a mature student, is university for me?

- Adaptability
- Ability to multitask
- Disciplined and determined
- Wisdom, perceptive and life experience
- ‘Perhaps’ have more time, or not?
- May want to fulfil a life long-ambition
- A new start/ new career?
- Role modelling to children/ grandchildren/
community
- Confidence to ask questions and forge friendships



So you decide that you want to go university, what next?

- Speak to your nearest and dearest – time, money and sacrifice
- Self-audit (am I ready?)
- Start writing a personal statement
- Speak to friends, family who have been to university
- Do some research on potential courses - UCAS guidance for mature students - [https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/mature-undergraduate-students#:~:text=Don't%20worry%20about%20whether,NEC%20\(National%20Extension%20College\)](https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/mature-undergraduate-students#:~:text=Don't%20worry%20about%20whether,NEC%20(National%20Extension%20College).).
- Access courses, foundation degrees, work experience etc
- Student finances for mature students - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/student-finance-information-for-mature-students>
- Goldsmiths University guide for mature students - https://www.gold.ac.uk/ug/mature-students/?gad_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI69O55PTahgMVtZtQBhojLwCZEAAYAyAAEgKDVPD_BwE & <https://www.gold.ac.uk/study/contact/#d.en.2039143>

What is a personal statement for?

An Admissions Tutor will be thinking...

- Can this person get up in the morning and come to class?
- Will they participate in seminar discussions?
- Are they *really* interested in the subject they are applying for?
- Can this person write essays?
- What will this person bring to the degree in terms of experience?
- What can I learn about this person that I won't know from his/ her grades?
- <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-personal-statement/how-write-personal-statement> UCAS guide for for writing personal statements

Career paths

- Teaching, after a PGCE
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech and language therapy
- Educational psychology
- Psychotherapy
- Social work- links with the Goldsmiths MA Social Work
- Probation
- Paramedic
- Adult education including TEFL

- Educational administration and student services/student support/careers/recruitment
- Museums and galleries
- Youth & community work
- Journalism and the media
- Charities and NGOs in the UK and abroad: education; healthcare
- Law conversion course
- MA in a related area – E.g. Culture, Language & Identity at Goldsmiths

“EDUCATION IS
THE MOST
POWERFUL
WEAPON WHICH
YOU CAN USE TO
CHANGE THE
WORLD.”

- NELSON MANDELA



001

“The only person
who is educated is
the one who has
learned how to learn
and change.”

- Carl Rogers



002

003

The impact that our students have on us – we learn humanity from each other!

20.1.2023

Good morning Rose

How lovely it was to catch up yesterday. Thank you so much for your kind words of comfort and blessings. I am very humbled. My father was a kind, strong and courageous man who helped so many people and touched so many lives. We all miss him dearly as he has left a void in all our lives. My children especially miss their grandparents and I also miss their presence. But I know that both of my parents are reunited in heaven and also smiling down on us and looking out for us and this warms my heart. May they both rest in peace. Thank you so much for your kind words. Bless you.

You are a gifted student who is very well organised and works very hard. These are key skills that you will need to guide you through the next few months.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Aminul Goldsmiths, University of London | Editable title here

Good luck.

All the best.

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Questions?

