

16+ Question Time at Westminster Abbey 2017

Panel Members

Claire Fox



Claire Fox is the director of the Institute of Ideas, which she established to create a public space where ideas can be contested without constraint. She convenes the yearly Battle of Ideas festival and initiated The Institute of Ideas **Debating Matters** Competition for 6th formers. She also co-founded the IoI's residential summer school The Academy – 'university as it should be'. Claire is a panellist on BBC Radio 4's The Moral Maze and is regularly invited to comment on developments in culture, education, the media and free speech issues on TV and radio programmes such as Newsnight and Any Questions? Claire is author of a recent book on free speech, entitled 'I find

that offensive!', and a pamphlet for Arts and Business entitled 'No strings attached! Why Arts Funding should say no to instrumentalism'. She is a columnist for Times Educational Supplement and Municipal Journal. She is also regular judge for the annual National Press Awards, the prestigious Contrarian Prize and is a Fellow of Wellington College.

Sam Follett



Reverend Sam Follett is a Curate and Head of Students at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton. Prior to this, Sam studied Physics at the University of Nottingham. Whilst studying, he became the youngest member of the Church of England's governing body, General Synod, having been elected at the age of 20. For two years, he worked around the globe for Church Army – an evangelistic organisation that works to share the Christian faith through words and actions and to transform people's lives. He is the Co-Founder of Bridge Ministries UK, an organisation that seeks to enable the discipleship of

and equip young people.

Abigail Morris



Abigail Morris joined the Jewish Museum as Chief Executive in 2012. She introduced a highly successful programme of temporary exhibitions which has substantially increased visitor footfall, vastly improved media coverage and led to a much heightened profile of the Museum. Abigail has a background in theatre and was Artistic Director and CEO of the Soho Theatre from 1992 to 2005. Under her direction she was responsible for building Soho Theatre in Dean Street and for growing the organisation

from a turnover of £200k to £2 million. She has directed many award winning productions in London, New York and national tours. More recently, she has also been Chief Executive of Jewish Women's Aid and Director of ResponseAbility, a cross-communal Jewish think tank.

Owen Jones



Owen Jones is a columnist for the Guardian and a frequent broadcaster. He is the author of *Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class* (Verso, 2011) and *The Establishment: And how they get away with it* (Penguin, 2014), both of which became international bestsellers.

Ibrahim Mogra



Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra is an imam and scholar from Leicester and National Council Member of the Muslim Council of Britain. He is the Chaplain & Mentor at the Cambridge Muslim College and is the Muslim chaplain within Canary Wharf Multi Faith Chaplaincy. As a local community activist in Leicester and a national leader in the Muslim Council of Britain, Shaykh Mogra has been at the forefront in deepening interfaith relations in the UK and around the world. He is the Muslim Chaplain within the Canary Wharf Multifaith Chaplaincy, co-chair of the Christian Muslim Forum, chair of

Religions for Peace UK, Advisory Board member of the Three Faiths Forum, and a member of the Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace. Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra has made regular contributions to the media voicing concerns and opinions of British Muslims and presenting a holistic view of Islam in the national and international discourse. He continues to serve as a specialist advisor on Muslim affairs to a wide range of print and broadcast media outlets'.

Helen Whately



Helen is the Conservative MP for Faversham and Mid Kent. She was first elected in 2015 and returned with an increased majority in 2017. She has served on the Health Select Committee from 2015 - 2017, and chairs the All Party Parliamentary Groups for Mental Health and Fruit & Vegetable Farmers. Since June 2017, Helen has been a Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Education and Minister for Women and Equalities. Helen grew up in Surrey. She was educated at schools in Surrey and London, and studied Politics and Philosophy at Oxford University. After university Helen trained as a management accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers. She moved on to run a

business unit at AOL Time Warner. Helen then established career in healthcare consultancy. For nearly a decade, she has worked with NHS hospitals, helping them improve care and make the most of resources. She has also advised healthcare regulators and commissioners, and worked on healthcare policy. Alongside her career, Helen has worked with several charities as a volunteer and advisor, and been a school governor.