

CORRIGE CCinP 2020

<p>Doc 1 : factual, based on a survey by ICM which shows contrasting opinions among the British public about immigration and multiculturalism</p>	<p>Doc 2: a subjective reaction to the same study, by an author from an immigrant family, questioning prejudice/pre-conceived ideas against immigration</p>	<p>Doc 3: article by the authors of a study that optimistically forecasts a British society without prejudice thanks to an open-minded younger generation</p>	<p>Doc 4: cartoon illustrating British society: immigrants workers contributing to developing the country's economy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40% say multiculturalism threatens British culture - Lack of trust in gov. over the issue of immigration (only 15% say “good job” + 1 in 4 say they lie) - Half want a reduction in low-skilled workers from the EU - Most respondents are “balancers”: they see both benefits (in cultural and economic terms, doing jobs no one wants + bring skills) and drawbacks (burden on public services and housing, lowering wages) - Urban residents more accepting of immigration - Authors of the report = asking for a national conversation as an opportunity to voice concerns rather than bottling them up to be used by those stoking division (politicians?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The study reveals an ambient “demonization of immigrants” which is hard to fathom for the author who is proud to come from a multicultural background (grew up eating both curry and fish&chips) + shocked and tired - She blames Brexit for the shift in mood - She accuses people who hate immigrants of not knowing them (ignorance = fear) - Ex.: her grandfather who reveres British culture and has worked his whole life for the NHS (public service), yet Muslim + dresses and eats both Indian and British - She denounces conflation and asserts the diversity of immigrants, far from clichés and xenophobic stereotypes - She used to minimize her heritage to fit in, but now proud - Advice/wish: focus on British identity today: multiculturalism is not a debate but a fact/reality that should be celebrated through the media and culture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - previous studies about immigration were contradictory: increased diversity leads to threat and hostility or to increased contact therefore more tolerance. But no focus on generation, even though age determines opinion on other social issues. - New research : focus on age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • older people (born before 60s) are more fearful of immigration, • the younger are more positive because their experience of growing up in a multicultural society shapes their opinions + travel more + intolerance is less socially acceptable - so tolerance of immigrants is bound to increase as the younger generation gradually becomes the bulk of the population - Brexiters wanted to take back control of immigration: what was central at the time of the vote may have been circumstantial and be less important soon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A mill/factory with a British flag = symbol of UK industrial sector/economy - Operated/activated by workers with flags on their backs indicating their origins, queueing up to crank in turn - Variety of origins (from all over the world) - They take part in the economy through physical labour

- I) Positive aspects
- II) Negative aspects
- III) Solutions and future

- I) Negative aspects
- II) Positive aspects
- III) Solutions and future

- I) The survey: an ambivalent perception of immigration and multiculturalism by Britons
- II) The reasons / causes
- III) Solutions and future

Britons' evolving opinion of immigration and multiculturalism

With Brexit, the debate over immigration has been front and center. Britons' perception of immigration and its cultural and economic impact on British society is analysed in this set of documents published between 2017 and 2019. The Guardian reports on a survey of Britons' contrasting opinions, while Lucy Pasha-Robinson, who is from an immigrant family, reacts to these findings in HuffPostUK Online. Another study presented in The Conversation forecasts a more tolerant future for British society and a cartoon from The Guardian illustrates immigrants' contribution to the country.

The survey attests to Britons' somewhat negative opinion of immigration. The Guardian reports that a half believe it represents a burden on public services and housing as well as a driving force behind low wages. This explains why they want a reduction in low-skilled immigrant workers – like the ones portrayed in the cartoon operating a machine in a British factory – while doubting the government can deliver on that. Both The Conversation and Pasha-Robinson note that Brexit was always about controlling immigration, but the latter expresses her dismay at the ensuing hostility towards migrants, which she believes stems from a fear steeped in ignorance / a fear bred/fuelled by ignorance. This fear results in 40% of respondents believing multiculturalism threatens British culture.

However, hostility is not the norm. The Conversation shows that the younger people are, the more tolerant they are due to their experience of growing up in a multicultural society, which is also the case for urban residents, The Guardian explains. Moreover, the survey shows that a majority of Britons acknowledge the cultural and economic benefits of immigration: immigrants bring skills to public services, like Pasha-Robinson's grandfather who worked for the NHS, or contribute to the country's industrial sector like the ones in the cartoon. The flags on their backs testify to their diverse origins, which shows a reality that is far removed from the xenophobic conflation that Pasha-Robinson denounces: her grandfather had both an Indian and British lifestyle, a blend of cultures that most Britons see as enriching according to the survey.

Overall, opinions about immigration keep evolving. The Guardian notes the authors of the survey hope it will spark a national conversation and help Britons voice their concerns rather than bottle them up to be used by politicians looking to stoke division. Pasha-Robinson sounds hopeful for the future: while she used to minimize her heritage to fit in, she now proudly asserts it and claims that multiculturalism is a reality that should be celebrated in the media. The Conversation projects that tolerance will increase as the younger generation gradually becomes the bulk of the population.

In conclusion, whether for better or for worse, immigration and multiculturalism redefine what it means to be British. (439)