

Press Update April 2007

MARY DOUGLAS LECTURE

On Tuesday 3 April 2007, Dame Mary Douglas, one of the world's most eminent social scientists and anthropologists gave a rare lecture at the UCL Cruciform Theatre. The event attracted over 400 eager participants. "Group dynamics" written by Madeleine Bunting in the Guardian discusses "the ideas of Britain's greatest anthropologists...and (the) fresh insights into how society produces violent 'outsiders'".

<http://society.guardian.co.uk/communities/story/0,,2049182,00.html>

GEOFF

1. The Guardian comments in the lead up to the local elections.

"But at least the ferment was there, throwing out of the surf some genuinely interesting and energetic policy thinkers like Geoff Mulgan, Patricia Hewitt, Will Hutton and Anthony Giddens"

http://commentisfree.guardian.co.uk/pat_kane/2007/04/the_power_of_thought.html

2. In the New Statesman, Geoff wrote an article "Luck and the Thing" 'As he bows out, Tony Blair may reflect that, helped by good fortune, he has left his country a more decent place, one closer to social democracy'

<http://www.newstatesman.com/200705070029>

3. The Independent profiles Geoff Mulgan in an article about New Labour's key players.

"He is now director of the Young Foundation, where his main focus is on developing new forms of social organisations and community entrepreneurship".

<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/politics/article2486611.ece>

4. Geoff was interviewed on BBC's Panorama programme. Geoff talked about the Young Foundation's recent publication 'Parties for the Public Good'.

5. 'Peace and War'. The Observer, Andrew Rawnsley survey's Blair's era at No.10.

"Worse, while spin did not fool the voters, it did fool themselves. Geoff Mulgan, head of policy and strategy at Number 10 for seven years, says they 'often confused announcements for reality' and failed to distinguish between successful spin and real improvement."

The Belfast Telegraph also profiles Geoff.

'Mulgan was always one of the most interesting new thinkers of his generation. But after seven years he quit, frustrated at the difficulty of getting Whitehall to deliver on many new ideas.'

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/features/article2486771.ece>

TOTAL SPEC

Urban hip lifestyle magazine, Total Spec, ran a feature on the Young Foundation for its April edition. Simon Tucker said "We are not against making money as long as it meets an unmet social need" Jonathan Kestenbaum, chief executive of NESTA, said "It's time we empowered people at the grass roots to develop ideas which, with the right support, could have a lasting impact on key social issues".

PAUL BARKER

On 17 April, in the Independent, Paul Barker wrote about the job-seeking problems of the over-50s (a review of Richard Tomlinson's study, Late Shift : The Death of Retirement)nationals,

On 25 April, on Radio 4's Thinking Allowed, Paul Barker discussed the 50th anniversary re-issue of Michael Young & Peter Willmott's Family and Kinship in East London.

In the April issue of Prospect magazine, Paul Barker wrote about the social and cultural message of Tate Britain's Hogarth exhibition.

BRIDGING THE GAP

'Bridging the Gap: the London Olympics 2012 and South Asian-owned Businesses in Brick Lane and Green Street' a report published by the Young Foundation was mentioned in the London Development Agency article on "how Brick Lane businesses take first steps in Olympic race".

<http://www.lda.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.1878>

READY OR NOT?

On the 5th April was the launch of the NESTA publication titled 'Ready or Not' drawing on Young Foundation work and ideas on public service innovation. In Public Servant Review Geoff wrote, 'For the last thirty years, governments have learnt a lot about how to be more efficient, and how to take customers more seriously'.

FAMILY & KINSHIP

The re-publishing of Michael Young and Peter Willmott's Family and Kinship in East London featured as a lead story in The Guardian.

"As recent migrants to Bethnal Green have tended to be more needy, their needs have to take priority. We argue that indigenous working class understand this all too easily, and this feeds their hostility towards migrants"

<http://society.guardian.co.uk/communities/story/0,,2064416,00.html>

BBC Radio 4 also ran a 3 part series on Family and Kinship

NIGEL KERSHAW

The Guardian interviewed Nigel Kershaw, director general of Big Invest

"...(he) has its eye on smallish companies with a £10m turnover operating in the healthcare sector. It is working with the Young Foundation to identify potential buyouts and hopes to create employment for ex-homeless and disabled people."

<http://society.guardian.co.uk/societyguardian/story/0,,2059032,00.html>

EASTEND GETS A RUSH

Blink reported on the Rushanara's successful selection for Bethnal Green and Bow. Lester Holloway reports that Ms Ali, who works for the Young Foundation which aims to transform run-down neighbourhoods, saw off competition from DJ-ing lecturer Dr Rupa Huq and London Assembly member John Biggs.

