

Feminist Dissent: new issue on Prevent

The attention of readers/subscribers, especially those working in ESOL, is drawn to the recent publication of a special issue of the online journal *Feminist Dissent*, all about Prevent. It's intended to deepen debates about the strategy, which tend to be very polarised and not very productive.

There are a number of articles which might be of interest, including 'Dilemmas of Prevent', an update of the article in *PSE 85* by a London ESOL teacher, 'Safeguarding and the Gender Dimension' by Pragna Patel, which lays out some of the difficulties encountered in practice, 'Respecting and Ensuring Rights: Feminist Ethics for a State Response to Fundamentalism' by Sukhwant Dhaliwal, which goes much deeper into similar territory, and several others about education, youth work and social work. It has both peer-reviewed academic articles and shorter activist and practitioner pieces. The introduction to the journal gives context to the strategy and the debates and introduces each article.

This is from the Introduction: *'The Prevent policy is presently having a significant impact on a whole range of areas within the British state - on Further and Higher Education, Probation and Social Work, third sector organisations, women's organisations, Local Authorities as well as on religious institutions and movements, and on community-based political activism. Yet the polarised nature of the debate around Prevent means that we know very little about how these impacts are playing out, and in particular how the responses and practices which are being adopted are impacting on women as well as on other vulnerable groups. These are the concerns we have sought to give voice to in this issue.'*

The journal is open source and free to download here:

<https://journals.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/feministdissent/issue/archive>

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