



**APOSTATES MAY FACE
EXCLUSION, SHAMING, AND
ISOLATION. MANY RISK
HOMELESSNESS, VIOLENCE,
PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE,
AND DISCRIMINATION.**

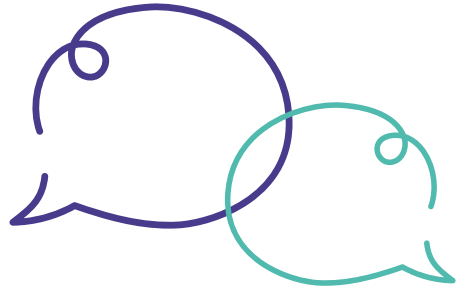
Does your organisation understand the unique
issues faced by those who leave a religion?

Can you offer them the support they need?

Faith to Faithless will help you make sure you can.

faithtofaithless.com

PEOPLE WHO LEAVE A COERCIVE RELIGIOUS GROUP OR CULT FACE A HUGE STRUGGLE. THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP IN RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS WHERE 'COMING OUT' AS NOT BELIEVING CAN LEAD TO THREATS, SHUNNING, PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE, DISCRIMINATION, AND PHYSICAL HARM.



Deciding to leave a religion can often mean rejection from your family and community, with little understanding of where to turn next. 'Apostates', as these people are sometimes called, may end up homeless, isolated, and at risk of profound mental health issues.

For many years, apostates have been a hidden minority, and public service providers have had little understanding of the issues they face. Many organisations feel they lack the expertise to support ex-religious people who use their services, and want to develop their knowledge of the issues these people face.

Faith to Faithless was founded in 2015 as a programme of Humanists UK, a charity with a long history of developing and delivering services and programmes to support the non-religious.

Faith to Faithless has created the world's first fully integrated support programme to help people who leave coercive religious groups and cults.

We support apostates directly with the wide range of issues they face. We also work with schools, universities, local authorities, police forces, and social services across the country to help them understand the unique needs of ex-religious service users.

'I SPENT YEARS IN AN ABUSIVE HOUSEHOLD, WHERE MY FATHER AND BROTHER FORCED ME TO BE RELIGIOUS. I CONTACTED FAITH TO FAITHLESS WHEN I WAS IN PHYSICAL DANGER. THEY HELPED ME REACH OUT TO LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICES AND POLICE, AND HELPED SPEAK TO MY SCHOOL. WITH THEIR SUPPORT I OBTAINED A UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY PHILOSOPHY. I'VE STOPPED WEARING MY HIJAB, WHICH MY FAMILY HAS NOW ACCEPTED. FAITH TO FAITHLESS IS SO IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME WHO DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP OR FEEL HEARD. THANK YOU!'

Ayesha, 19

WE KNOW THOSE LEAVING A RELIGIOUS GROUP RELY ON A NUMBER OF PUBLIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES. WE ALSO KNOW, FROM SPEAKING TO PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANISATIONS, THAT MANY SERVICE PROVIDERS FEEL THEY NEED TRAINING TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THE EX-RELIGIOUS.

Working with apostates, Faith to Faithless has developed an in-depth training programme for organisations who may come into contact with apostates, including police forces, schools, universities, homeless shelters, social services, and local authorities.

Delivered in-house at your workplace, our training course typically lasts between half a day and a full day, depending on your needs. The training will be delivered by two experts in supporting apostates. We can also work with you to develop a tailor-made course for your organisation.

OUR TRAINING COVERS:

- Awareness of the most common issues faced by apostates
- Referrals to relevant organisations that can help apostates
- Language and helpful/unhelpful ways to talk about apostasy
- Ways in which apostasy differs from some other forms of religious discrimination
- Safeguarding implications specific to your practice

Following the course, you'll have access to our resources on apostasy, and we also offer bespoke advice on a consultancy basis if you feel you need extra support.

'I BELIEVE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL IS A NECESSITY AND NOT JUST A LUXURY. THIS HAS TO INCLUDE THE RIGHT TO LEAVE ONE'S RELIGION AS IT IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE RIGHT TO EXPRESS A FAITH. I'M VERY PLEASED THAT HUMANISTS UK CAN, THROUGH FAITH TO FAITHLESS AND THIS TRAINING PROGRAMME, SUPPORT THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT THEIR RELIGION AND ARE LEFT VULNERABLE.'

Lord Alf Dubs

'When I was the President of Humanists UK, I ensured that equality was championed and discrimination was challenged wherever it was found. This is why I am so pleased to be supporting the work of our programme, Faith to Faithless, and this training course, which provides the skills to frontline staff to support those who choose to leave their religion in a democratic and free country.'

Professor Jim Al-Khalili OBE

For further information about our training course,
and to enquire about a booking for your organisation,
contact **training@faithtofaithless.com**
or call us on **020 7324 3060**.

We're also available to discuss bespoke training,
as well as consultancy support if there's a particular area
where you'd like more information.

To find out more about the Faith to Faithless programme
and the work we do to support apostates,
visit our website, **faithtofaithless.com**.



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