**Impact case study (REF3b)**

**Institution: ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**Unit of Assessment: D.30 History**

**Title of case study: Learning from the Holocaust**

**1. Summary of the impact** (indicative maximum 100 words)

This case study describes how David **Cesarani**’s research on modern Jewish history and the Holocaust has informed Holocaust education in the UK and influenced policy debates around Holocaust memorialisation and post-Holocaust issues domestically and internationally. It illustrates how Cesarani, research professor in History and director of the Holocaust Research Centre (HRC), has engaged with research users through his role as first a Trustee of and more recently Historical Consultant to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, a consultant to the Holocaust Educational Trust, an adviser to the Foreign Office, and by his contribution of research expertise to television programmes seen in the UK and around the world.

**2. Underpinning research** (indicative maximum 500 words)

Since arriving at Royal Holloway in 2004 Cesarani’s research has moved from the origins and implementation of genocide against Europe’s Jews to post-1945 responses, and relations between ethnic identity, memory and politics. His involvement in policy issues related to

Holocaust memory has made him a ‘participant observer’ and his publications both reflect, and reflect on, this record of public service in policy-related Holocaust research, education and commemoration.

The basis for his examination of responses to the Holocaust was laid in the final chapters of his prize-winning ***Adolf Eichmann: his life and crimes*** (London, 2004). Here he explored the dynamic relationship between ideology, contingency, and human choice amongst the

‘perpetrators’. The study also shed fresh light on the pursuit of Nazi war criminals, relating the awareness of wartime Jewish suffering to investment in judicial retribution. It showed how

Eichmann’s trial built on research that was underappreciated in subsequent historiography, while the trial itself had a mixed impact on popular consciousness, jurisprudence, and history writing.

In his introduction to his edited collection, ***After Eichmann. Collective Memory and the*** ***Holocaust Since 1960*** (London, 2005), and his own contribution, Cesarani explained theburgeoning of ‘Holocaust consciousness’ from the mid-1980s in terms of contemporary events (end of the cold war/recurrence of genocide in Europe) rather than any consciousness-raising campaign by Jews. His research challenged the assumption that ‘the Holocaust’ was unknown, mystified or shrouded in silence until the late 1960s when it was allegedly constructed as a discrete historical event and a ‘morality tale’ by American Jews for their benefit and on behalf of

Israel, then driven up the public agenda using political influence.

Cesarani became one of a group of scholars and practitioners concerned with ‘aftermath issues’ who cooperate in a sustained, international collaborative research effort. The Holocaust Research Centre has served as an armature for many of his collaborative activities. Through the Centre Cesarani, in collaboration with partners at Wolverhampton University, Birkbeck College and the Imperial War Museum, initiated a series of international conferences entitled ‘Beyond Camps and Forced Labour’. In addition to engaging with museums, galleries and survivor groups, these conferences have produced a number of outputs that shed new light on the late 1940s and 1950s: ***Survivors of Nazi Persecution in Europe After the Second World War*** (London, 2010); ***Justice and Memory in Europe After the Second World War*** (London, 2011).

In his most recent collaborative volume, ***After the Holocaust: Challenging the Myth of*** ***Silence*** (London/New York, 2011), Cesarani suggests an entirely new paradigm for

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understanding early global responses to the Jewish catastrophe. This research absorbs the methodology and insights of studies that purport to explain the ‘globalization’ of Holocaust memory since the 1990s, applying it to a period several decades earlier in order to expose as false the claims that ‘globalization’ is new, unprecedented, or the product of a specific effort to instrumentalise the past for a human rights agenda or to disseminate ‘American values’.

**3. References to the research** (indicative maximum of six references)

1. *Adolf Eichmann: his life and crimes* (Heinemann: London, 2004; Vintage: New York, 2006).(US National Jewish Book Award for History, 2006; short-listed for the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, 2004. Translated into German, Dutch, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Italian, Hungarian, Polish, Czech, and French. Review: Christopher Browning, *Central European* *History*, 40, 3 [2007]: 527).
2. Ed. *After Eichmann. Collective Memory and the Holocaust Since 1960* (Routledge: London, 2005).
3. Ed. w/ Eric Sundquist ed., *After the Holocaust: Challenging the Myth of Silence* (Routledge:

London, 2011). (The book is cited in the call for papers for a conference on the ‘myth of silence’, convened by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies, Vienna, November 2012. Cesarani was asked to deliver the keynote lecture. Review: *New Statesman*, 23 January 2012.)

1. Ed. w/ S Bardgett, J Reinisch and J-D Steinart, *Landscapes after Battle,* vol. 1, *Survivors of* *Nazi Persecution in Europe After the Second World War* (Vallentine Mitchell: London, 2010) andvol. 2, *Justice and Memory in Europe After the Second World War* (Vallentine Mitchell: London,

2011). (These two volumes collect the best research from the 2009 ‘Beyond Camps and Forced Labour’ conference.) Review, Bob Moore, *Central European History*, 45, 4 (2012): 798-

1. ‘A new look at some old memoirs : early narratives of Nazi persecution and genocide’, in D

Cesarani, S Bardgett, J Reinisch and J-D Steinert, eds., *Landscapes after Battle,* vol. 2,

*Memory and Justice in Europe After the Second World War* (Vallentine Mitchell: London, 2010):121-168.

1. ‘How Post-war Britain Reflected on the Nazi Persecution and Mass Murder of Europe’s Jews: A Reassessment of Early Responses’, *Jewish Culture and History*, 12, 1&2 (Summer/Autumn 2010): 95–130.

**4. Details of the impact** (indicative maximum 750 words)

The main beneficiaries of the research have been NGOs engaged in Holocaust remembrance and education, government bodies dealing with Holocaust-era issues, museums, archives, the media, and the British Jewish community. The main impact has been to increase public knowledge of past genocides and atrocity, and to raise awareness of the danger posed to democracy, civil and human rights by racism and anti-semitism. In 2008, the *Jewish Chronicle* placed Cesarani 48 out of 100 in its ‘countdown of those who exert the greatest influence within British Jewry’.

From 2006 to 2012 Cesarani was a Trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust with special responsibility for relating current scholarship to its publications, its all-year educational activity, and the script of the annual national memorial event on 27 January. On HMD 2012, there were 1,400 memorial events across the country. The Trust distributed 7,525 campaign packs to event organisers, local government agencies, schools, and individuals. 3,100 were downloaded electronically. It distributed 100,000 booklets on remembrance and the lessons of genocide.

Over 35,500 people signed the pledge ‘to speak up, speak out’ against prejudice and discrimination. Cesarani was routinely consulted on the content of the campaign packs and web-based material. The Trust’s website recorded 203,000 visits in 2012. After completing the

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maximum term as a Trustee he was asked to become the Trust’s Historical Consultant and supervised revision of the historical content of its on-line resources.

Cesarani is also historical consultant to the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). His booklet *The* *Holocaust. A Guide for Students and Teachers*, commissioned by HET (2nd edn. 2008), isdistributed to all participants in the government funded ‘Lessons from Auschwitz’ programme.

Up to 2012, 3,000 teachers and students have taken part in this programme.

Cesarani advised the Swedish government prior to the 2000 Stockholm International Forum that gave birth to the Stockholm Declaration which has been adopted by over 40 countries, leading to the institution of Holocaust memorial days, a policy of unfettered research into the Nazi era and open access to relevant archives, Holocaust education programmes, teacher-training and curriculum development. He participated in the UK delegation to the Intergovernmental Taskforce for Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (now the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance), the UK vehicle for implementing the declaration, until March 2008, shaping policy through its academic working group. As an member of the academic working group he currently advises the UK Envoy for Post Holocaust Issues. In 2010 the Swedish government acknowledged his part in bringing about the 2000 Stockholm Declaration.

As a member of the UK stakeholder group concerning the future of the Red Cross International Tracing Service archive at Bad Arolsen he worked with the FCO to secure the transfer of a digital copy of the archive to the Weiner Library, London. He currently sits on the ITS Oversight Committee.

Cesarani cooperates closely with the Imperial War Museum in a range of educational activities building on the permanent Holocaust exhibition. This relationship began when he served on the Advisory Board for the development of the exhibition which now has approximately 250,000 visitors per year. Visitor comments testify to the impact the exhibition has on shaping attitudes to the past and raising awareness of the threat from the far right, anti-semitism, racism, and homophobia. In partnership with the head of research, since 2008 he has organised six associated workshops and conferences at the Museum, each attended by 50-150 academics, students and members of the public.

He is also on the steering committee for the triennial conference ‘Beyond Camps and Forced Labour’, held at the IWM (2009, 2012) in conjunction with Wolverhampton University and

Birkbeck. Since their inception, over one thousand researchers and practitioners have attended these events which have resulted in four major publications that have informed research, teaching, archive policy, museum and gallery practice.

In 2010 Cesarani secured a grant from the Pears Foundation that enabled the HRC to become the sole UK partner to the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, Los Angeles. This partnership made Royal Holloway the unique point of access in the UK to a digital video archive of 52,000 testimonies by Holocaust survivors and generated strong public interest as well as expressions of gratitude by survivors and their children who can now access the collection from a local portal.

Cesarani is the only European member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Allocations Committee of the Conference for Jewish Material Claims Against Germany Inc. In this capacity he assess grant applications worth millions of dollars by archives, museums, galleries, universities, and doctoral fellowships.

Cesarani has transferred his knowledge of the Nazi era into numerous TV documentaries. Most recently he was historical consultant/associate producer on ‘Death Camp Treblinka’, Aeon

Productions for BBC4, broadcast 15 August 2012 to an audience of 750,000.

**5. Sources to corroborate the impact** (indicative maximum of 10 references)

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1. Stockholm Principles 10th anniversary symposium, 26 January 2010, corroborating influence of the principles and Cesarani’s contribution, <http://www.levandehistoria.se/node/2859>
2. UK Envoy for Post-Holocaust Issues : to corroborate Cesarani’s contribution to obtaining the

Red Cross International Tracing Service (ITS) archive and role in International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (formerly International Task Force for Intergovernmental Cooperation for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research).

1. For corroboration of Cesarani’s influence on Holocaust memorialisation and education through the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust activities: CEO, Holocaust Memorial Day Trust.
2. Corroboration of influence on Anglo-Jewish affairs, *Jewish Chronicle*, 2 May 2008, p. 4.
3. Cesarani’s work was selected as an exemplary impact study by the British Academy: *Past* *Present and Future. The Public Value of the Humanities and Social Sciences* (British Academy,2010), 28-2: <http://www.britac.ac.uk/news/news.cfm/newsid/364>
4. For reports of the partnership with the Shoah Foundation and its significance: *Evening* *Standard,* 26 January 2010*; Observer*, 29 January 2012.
5. Commissioning Editor, History and Business Programming, BBC : to corroborate viewing figures and audience response for ‘Death Camp Treblinka: the survivors’ story.
6. Head of Research, Imperial War Museum : to corroborate extent and impact of partnership activity with IWM.

**Impact case study (REF3b)**

**Institution: Royal Holloway, University of London**

**Unit of Assessment: D.30 History**

**Title of case study:** **History of Material Culture**

**1. Summary of the impact** (indicative maximum 100 words)

The research of Amanda **Vickery**, Sandra **Cavallo** and Jane **Hamlett** focuses on the interplay between personal identity, space, the material world, and social structures. It has had an impact on UK cultural life, economic prosperity, and public understanding. Demonstrating progress from independent research to externally-funded collaborative research, it has underpinned exhibitions attended by tens of thousands of visitors, generating substantial revenue for two national museums. Linked broadcasting events have earned major audiences, plus significant revenue for the BBC and an independent production company. Visitor/audience feedback demonstrates that the exhibitions and broadcasts have changed public perceptions of both past and present.

**2. Underpinning research** (indicative maximum 500 words)

Underpinning research was conducted at Royal Holloway by **Vickery** (2001-10), **Cavallo** (2004-13) and **Hamlett** (2001-5; 2008-13), and was linked to a large degree by their common involvement in the AHRC Centre for the Study of the Domestic Interior (CSDI).

**Vickery**’s research wascarried out under the umbrella of the AHRC of which she was AssociateDirector (2001-2006) and with support from the Leverhulme Trust (2004-7). The research comprised a comprehensive archival survey of eighteenth-century domestic life, including paintings, illustrations, magazines, newspapers, novels, and personal documents (letters, account books and diaries). Vickery demonstrated the role of the home and its material culture in economic survival, social success, and political representation during the long eighteenth century. Through the spread of formal visiting, the proliferation of affordable ornamental furnishings, the commercial celebration of feminine artistry at home, and the currency of the language of taste, even modest homes turned into arenas of social campaign and exhibition. In particular, she revealed how patriarchal power operated through consumption; and the spatial shaping of master-servant relationships.

**Cavallo**’s research at the CSDI (of which she was Associate Director 2004-6) includedexploration of early-modern residential institutions as domestic environments. This extended the notion of 'domestic interior' to the religious, charitable and educational structures that multiplied in Europe in this period and led to the organisation of a conference, publication of an edited collection (Ashgate, 2009), and the inclusion of entries in the CSDI database documenting the spatial/material dimension of institutional life.

In 2009, building on the study of health in the household carried out for the exhibition ‘At Home in Renaissance Italy’ (V&A, 2006-7) - also sponsored by the CSDI - Cavallo obtained Wellcome Trust funding to research the construction of the healthy domestic environment in Renaissance Italy. The study reveals the forgotten role of medicine in shaping the design and material culture of the home (see, among its outcomes, the OUP monograph, below)

**Hamlett’s** 2010 monograph (based on her Ph.D at Royal Holloway) is the first nationwidestudy of the relationship between English domestic interiors and gendered identities in textual and visual sources between 1850 and 1910, including advice manuals, inventories and sale catalogues, photographs, diaries, letters and autobiographies. The research demonstrated how certain spaces were associated with masculinity and femininity, particularly in cultural representations. But it also showed how these were challenged by everyday practice, concluding that gendered identities were less controlling than previously thought.

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In 2010 Hamlett won an ESRC First Grant for a study of institutional interiors in nineteenth and early-twentieth-century Britain. The research surveyed the archives of three case-study institutions: lunatic asylums, lodging houses and middle-class schools. The project discovered that domestic ideals were surprisingly powerful, but often failed in practice. Through material culture, inmates were able to exercise agency in otherwise repressive environments. In the asylum, domesticity and decoration were seen as an important means of cure, but their practical effect was limited. Patients were, however, able to find some consolation through ownership of small material goods and personalising their dress.

**3. References to the research** (indicative maximum of six references)

1. Amanda Vickery, *Behind Closed Doors: At Home in Georgian England* (New Haven, CT: Yale UP, 2009). This publication has sold over 10,000 copies in the UK and was also published in the USA. Short-listed for the Longman/Pearson History Today Prize and commended by the Hessell-Tillman prize judges as ‘outstanding’; ‘pick of the year’ in *Daily Telegraph*, *Scotsman* & *Daily Express*; ‘Historians Favourites’, Kate Williams, *History Today*, December 2009.
2. Amanda Vickery, ‘An Englishman’s House is His Castle? Privacies, Boundaries and Thresholds in the Eighteenth-Century London House’, *Past and Present*, 199 (2008): 147-173.
3. Sandra Cavallo and Silvia Evangelisti (eds), *Domestic Institutional Interiors in Early Modern* *Europe* (Ashgate: Aldershot), 2009, pp. i-xii, 1-267, 27 colour plates. Reviewed in, amongothers, *Sixteenth Century Journal* (2, 2011); *Renaissance Quarterly* (2, 2010); *Cultural and* *Social History* (2, 2013); and *Gender and History* (1, 2011):‘This thought-provoking volumemoves beyond an examination of the social role serve by early modern institutions to consider the non-familial living arrangements that formal organisations provided. …The result is a stimulating discussion that demonstrates the realms of the domestic and institutional were not mutually exclusive.’
   1. Sandra Cavallo, co-authored, *Healthy Living in Late Renaissance Italy* (Oxford: OUP, 2013),
   2. b/w, 23 colour illustrations.
4. Jane Hamlett, *Material Relations: Families and Middle-Class Domestic Interiors in England,* *1850-1910* (Manchester: MUP, 2010). Reviewed in *English Historical Review*; *Journal of British Studies*; *Times Higher Education*; *Women’s History Review*, *Women’s History Magazine*. Forexample, ‘A lively, interesting and important book...a fine achievement. Engagingly written, attractively produced and generously illustrated’, Professor John Benson, *THE*, [(http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/415496.article](http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/415496.article)); and ‘Well researched and imaginative…an important contribution to our understanding of home life’, Professor Carol Dyhouse, *EHR*, [(http://ehr.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/04/16/ehr.ces067.extract)](http://ehr.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/04/16/ehr.ces067.extract).
5. Jane Hamlett and Lesley Hoskins, 'Comfort in Small Things: Clothing, Control and Agency in County Lunatic Asylums in Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century England,' *Journal of* *Victorian Culture* 18:1 (2013): 93-114.

**Grants**

1. Vickery, AHRC Knowledge Transfer Fellowship (2009) £49,000.
2. Cavallo (co-applicant Marta Ajmar, V&A Research Department), ‘Healthy Homes, Healthy

Bodies. Domestic Culture and the Prevention of Diseases in Renaissance and Early Modern Italy’, Wellcome Trust (2009-11, extended to Sept. 2012) £183,706, and for related conference, Wellcome Trust (2013), £4007.

3. Hamlett, ‘At Home in the Institution? Asylum, School and Lodging House Interiors in London and South East England, 1845-1914’, ESRC (2010-12) £229,729.

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**4. Details of the impact** (indicative maximum 750 words)

The different kinds of impact outlined below flowed from the various projects carried out by Vickery, Cavallo and Hamlett in association with the AHRC Centre for the Study of the Domestic Interior (CSDI) during the period under review.

***A History of Private Life* and *At Home with the Georgians***

In 2009 Vickery won an AHRC Knowledge Transfer Fellowship to develop research from *Behind* *Closed Doors* (2009)into a 30 part landmark radio series ‘A history of Private Life’ for BBC

Radio 4, produced by with Loftus Audio Ltd. The series was a huge critical and popular success. It scored an 84 (out of 100) on the Radio Joint Audience Research (Rajar) listener audit. The Rajar average listening figure for BBC Radio 4 is 10.8m and Vickery’s series came close to the maximum audience. The series received outstanding reviews that noted the importance of original, underpinning research. Vickery’s series was one of the top 10 BBC radio hits in 2009.

In 2010, Vickery made ‘At Home With the Georgians’, a three-part landmark history series for BBC2 also based on *Behind Closed Doors*. In the *Independent* (16/9/2010) Janice Hadlow, Controller of BBC2 commented that Vickery had the exceptional level of authority that she sought in a BBC2 presenter: ‘I do believe that people from the world of academia who want to be on television and are right for television do find ways of announcing themselves to the world. You can tell from the way people write that they're interested in communicating to a wider audience. If she was in the room now, she could charm you and compel you with a subject’. The series attracted viewing audiences of 3 million. The testimonies of reviewers across national newspapers also show that the programme had a critical impact on how viewers understood eighteenth-century gender relations. For example: *Sunday Telegraph* (26/9/2010): ‘Amanda Vickery breathes new life into eighteenth-century society. It becomes clear that men, just as much as women, fussed over soft furnishings and craved the domesticity that married life could offer’; and *Daily Mail* (27/11/2010): ‘Perhaps the biggest surprise is that Georgian house-hunting was such an emotionally charged process, and driven less by women than by men’.

Both radio and TV series were based on Vickery’s original research and drew on previously-overlooked diaries and letters to tell new and compelling stories about eighteenth-century domestic life.

**The CSDI Database**

Vickery, Cavallo and Hamlett contributed to the design and production of the CSDI database, containing over 3,000 representations of the domestic interior from the Renaissance to the present, many of which are findings from their research. The database (<http://www.rca.ac.uk/CSDI/didb>), which went live in 2007 and has been monitored and maintained constantly since then, represents a key resource for teaching and researching in this field. Between 31/8/2010 and 5/2/2013 15,351 IP addresses were logged at the site, suggesting c.17 visitors per day.

**‘Choosing the Chintz’**

Hamlett’s research underpinned a major segment of the Geffrye Museum exhibition ['Choosing](http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/pressroom/releases/choosing-the-chintz/) [the Chintz: Men, Women and Furnishing the Home from 1850 to the Present'](http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/pressroom/releases/choosing-the-chintz/) (2008-9). The exhibition explored male and female roles in home decoration, using Hamlett’s research findings

– diaries and autobiographies became listening posts, and rare photographs were projected on the museum walls. The beneficiaries were the museum’s visitors and school parties. ‘Choosing the Chintz’ received 18,379 visitors, and hosted half-term activities for 253 children and a workshop for 102 children. Emma Dunn, Education Officer, described it as ‘compelling and understandable for younger pupils’., Head Curator, stated that it was ‘one of our most successful exhibitions’.

**‘Living Away from Home’**

In 2010-12, Hamlett collaborated with Surrey History Centre (SHC) on ‘Living Away from Home’, a small exhibition on Surrey institutions (c.2,000 visitors), also available on the SHC

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website, and a talk on asylum interiors. The beneficiaries were users of SHC, which has a working partnership with MIND. According to the Team Leader, Heritage Services, SHC, ‘It was clear that the large and very varied audience also found it both fascinating and moving and that the topics you covered enhanced what they had already learned about the institutions through their own research into members of their families who had been treated there or who had worked there’.

**‘Healthy Homes, Healthy Bodies’**

This project’s findings were presented at the Society of Dilettanti and the Medical Society of

London (2010), the Wallace Collection Art Fund Lecture (2011) and The Wellcome Library Talks Series (2013). The size of audience ranged from 20 at the Wellcome Library to 90 at the Wallace Collection. The beneficiaries were art amateurs, medical professionals, health policy makers and a general public interested in learning that prevention and the adoption of healthy lifestyles are not a modern invention, as usually assumed. This awareness may contribute towards greater legitimacy for the promotion and adoption of healthy lifestyles today.

**5. Sources to corroborate the impact** (indicative maximum of 10 references)

1. ‘A History of Private Life’: Score of 84 on the Rajar Listener Audit corroborating listener figures.
2. Review of 'A History of Private Life', corroborating its influence, *The Telegraph* [http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/tvandradio/6378578/Radio-review-Amanda-Vickery-Nicky-](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/tvandradio/6378578/Radio-review-Amanda-Vickery-Nicky-Campbell-Richard-Bacon-and-more.html)

[Campbell-Richard-Bacon-and-more.html](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/tvandradio/6378578/Radio-review-Amanda-Vickery-Nicky-Campbell-Richard-Bacon-and-more.html)

1. Review of 'A History of Private Life', corroborating its influence, *The Guardian* <http://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2009/oct/04/desert-island-discs-private-life>
2. Review of 'At Home with the Georgians,' corroborating its influence, *The Telegraph* <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/property/periodproperty/8167927/Living-History-the-countrys-most-authentic-Georgian-homes.html>
3. Review of 'At Home with the Georgians,', corroborating its influence, *The Independent* <http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/reviews/last-nights-tv-at-home-with-the-georgians-bbc2--my-boyfriend-the-war-hero--bbc3--rick-steins-cornish-christmas--bbc2-2149832.html>
4. Review of 'At Home with the Georgians,' , corroborating its influence, *The Express* <http://www.express.co.uk/entertainment/tv-radio/215550/Review-At-Home-With-the-Georgians-BBC2-Thursday>
5. For corroboration of influence of ‘Choosing the Chintz’ exhibition**:** Head Curator, Geffrye Museum of the Home.
6. 'It's Paintbrushes at Dawn,' (Choosing the Chintz), *The Sunday Times,* 19 October 2008, pp.38-
7. (n/a online), corroborating influence.
8. For corroboration of attendance and reception, ‘Living Away from Home’ exhibition: Team Leader, Heritage Services, Surrey History Centre.

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**Impact case study (REF3b)**

**Institution: ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**Unit of Assessment: D.30 History**

**Title of case study: Muslim Society in Modern Britain**

**1. Summary of the impact** (indicative maximum 100 words)

The research of Humayun **Ansari**, at RHUL since 1990, and Akil **Awan**, appointed 2006, examines the interplay of political, social and religious relations within Muslim societies and between Muslim minorities and non-Muslim populations. This expert knowledge has underpinned engagement with government and community organisations in the UK and abroad, often through Royal Holloway’s Centre for Minority Studies (CeMS). Ansari’s research contributed directly to legal changes regarding discrimination on the grounds of religion, while both have advised the British and US governments on issues relating to Muslim community affairs and Islamic activism, contributing to shaping security policy, both in the UK and internationally.

**2. Underpinning research** (indicative maximum 500 words)

**Ansari**’s 2004 monograph, ***The Infidel Within: the History of Muslims in Britain since 1800***,was the first comprehensive, scholarly history of the Muslim presence in the UK. It historically deconstructs the prevalent and largely negative perceptions of a reified, homogenised and morally threatening community uneasy with modernity, secularism and democracy. Challenging popular views of Muslims as newly arrived outsiders with exotic beliefs and practices, Ansari demonstrates their deep roots in Britain’s multicultural history. The research thereby addressed contemporary public anxieties and social tensions. A spin-off policy-oriented publication

‘Muslims in Britain’ (2002) for the Minority Rights Group drew on the research conducted for *The* *Infidel Within* [[http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014].](http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014)

In the aftermath of 9/11, the ‘war on terror’, occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan, and 7/7 in London anxieties were particularly high regarding the loyalty of Muslims in Britain. Ansari’s subsequent research explored the specific history of military contribution and sacrifices of

Muslim soldiers in Britain’s Armed Forces, notably in the Great War. In ‘**Between Collaboration** **and Resistance: Muslim Soldiers’ Identities and Loyalties in the two World Wars**’,*Arches**Quarterly*, 4 (2011), he demonstrates that historically Muslims have been as loyal to the Crownas any other community.

In 2010, Ansari uncovered records of the East London Mosque and commenced research on them. His 2011 study of the Mosque’s origins (***The Making of the East London Mosque,*** ***1910*-*1951***) explains the complex struggle to create a mosque in London that was worthy of thecapital of the worldwide British empire. It was the first in-depth historical analysis of Muslim community and institution-building in East London. By exploring the interplay between the Muslim experience and the wider public and institutions, it engages with debates surrounding identity and belonging, the radicalisation of young Muslims, struggles for power within and beyond Muslim communities, and policies on integration and social cohesion. It deepens understanding of present-day cultural contestations, the sources of inclusion and exclusion of particular groups, especially in policy-making arenas. During 2010-12, this research fed into the collaborative research project ‘Building on History: Religion in London’, conducted with the

Open University, for which Ansari was a co-investigator.

**Awan** was appointed to a five-year RCUK fellowship at RHUL thanks to an initiative by Ansariunder the History Department’s strategic research programme on ‘Faith, Power, Terror’. Awan’s research analyses contemporary political responses among Muslims in the West, especially the intersection between Islamic radicalism, *jihadism* and the use of new media.

Between 2008-10, Awan was co-investigator for an ESRC/ FCO-funded project ‘Legitimising the

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discourses of radicalisation: Political violence in the new media ecology’, which produced the volume, ***Radicalisation and Media: Connectivity and Terrorism in the New Media Ecology***

(2011). Transnational in scope, this work analyses the role of mass media coverage in promoting or hindering radicalisation and political violence. It shows how the acts themselves and explanations for them on the web are picked up and represented in news media through words, phrases, graphics, images, and videos, how interpretations of the term 'radicalisation' are shaped by news representations.

1. **References to the research** (indicative maximum of six references)

**Ansari:**

1. *The Infidel Within: the History of Muslims in Britain since 1800* (Hurst & Company: London, 2004).

‘[A]s Ansari argues in this history of Islam in Britain, British Muslims have consistently been portrayed as denizens of a monolithic and undifferentiated world. Through painstaking research, and an inspired exploration of the issues of identity, Ansari sets out to dispel this absurd, but widely held, myth', (*Independent*, 30/4/2004).

1. *The Making of the East London Mosque****,*** *1910-1951****:*** *minutes of the London Mosque Fund and East London Mosque Trust Ltd* (The Royal Historical Society and CUP, CamdenSeries: Cambridge, 2011).
2. ‘Burying the dead: making Muslim space in Britain’, *Historical Research* 80, 210 (2007): 545-566.
3. ‘Between Collaboration and Resistance: Muslim Soldiers’ Identities and Loyalties in the two World Wars’, *Arches Quarterly* 4 (Spring/Summer 2011): 18-29.

**Awan:**

5. ‘Jihadi ideology in the new-media environment’, in J. Deol (ed.), *Contextualising Jihadi* *Thought* (Hurst & Company: London, 2011): 99-119.

Based on research rated on completion as ‘outstanding’ by ESRC peer review panel.

6. Co-author, *Radicalisation and Media: Connectivity and Terrorism in the New Media* *Ecology* (Routledge: London, 2011).

'…a must read for scholars, security policy makers and general readers who will each find something to learn from, something to think about and something to be a little more

“uncertain” about.' - Hiba Ghanem*, Journal of International Relations Research, Violence* *and Terrorism,* Issue 1, January 2012.

'…this is a first-rate book that furthers in significant ways our understanding of the interconnectivity between old-timers and newcomers in the new media/communication ecology and how these linkages influence the information that influences how citizens think about radicalisation and the threat of terrorist violence. While recommended for those involved in the study of terrorism, counterterrorism, media and communication, the volume is equally informative for those working in the media and public officials who deal with the causes and consequences of radicalisation.' *Critical Studies on Terrorism,* 4 (3).

**4. Details of the impact** (indicative maximum 750 words)

**Ansari** is regarded as the leading academic expert on the history of British Muslims. Hisresearch has benefited policy-makers and community organisations. Between 2008 and 2013,

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he briefed senior officials at the Home Office, the Cabinet Office and the Crown Prosecution Service, and advised staff at Defence and Foreign Affairs academies in Britain and Europe, and the UK Security Service. His meetings with Home Office officials to discuss the development of religious discrimination legislation had a direct impact on their subsequent recommendations to include religious belief as a specific ‘protected characteristic’ in the Equality Act 2010.

Ansari’s policy-oriented publication ‘Muslims in Britain’ (2002) for the Minority Rights Group directly shaped the MRG Council Seminar (Autumn 2010) stance on the Danish “Muhammad cartoons” and the prohibition on Muslim women wearing full face veil. In addition, according to MRG records, between 2009 and 2013, his report received c. 2,000 unique user-views.

Organisers of the East London Mosque (ELM)’s centenary celebrations (2011) drew upon Ansari’s 2011 monograph for an exhibition spotlighting its Minute Books. Ansari was interviewed for the BBC Radio 4 ‘Sunday’ programme (5/12/2010) feature on the ELM centenary. He made a BBC Radio 3 documentary (27/11/2011), ‘Three Centuries of the British Mosque’, exploring the history of mosque-making in Britain since the mid-1800s. In 2012, his guidance directly helped the ELM secure an award of £42,250 from the ‘National Cataloguing Grants Programme for Archives’ to catalogue its archives. From 2013, Ansari has sat on the steering committee driving this project. According to the Chair of the ELM Trustees, Ansari’s work ‘has helped young British Muslims place themselves within the British narrative and take pride in their roots and contributions of earlier generations’. Ansari’s 2007 research article on Muslim burial (‘Burying the Dead’) inspired mosque staff to retrieve records of the Indigent Muslim Burial Fund during 2011-12. The archives of this second institution, established in 1927, have now been uncovered, and can be accessed by the public.

In 2008, the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB) commissioned Ansari to write on ‘*Proving Loyalty?*

*Muslims and Britain’s Armed Forces’* for the MCB’s pamphlet *Remembering the Brave: the Muslim contribution to Britain’s Armed Forces*, published in 2009 at a particularly sensitivemoment. Members of the Royal Family, national politicians including the Prime Minister, Opposition Leader, House of Commons Speaker and Armed Forces Minister, and policy-makers in various institutions commented that it ‘set the record straight’ about the past and current role of Muslims within the British military. As well as generating self-reflection in Muslim publications, on blog sites and in interfaith organisations (South London Inter-Faith Group and Reconciliation Talk), the MCB uses the pamphlet to counteract the arguments of protesters who regularly disrupt commemorations on Armistice Day. In July 2013, Ansari was invited by the Minister of State for Faith and Communities to provide advice on how to ensure that the contribution of Commonwealth nations formerly in the British Empire is honoured during the centenary commemoration of the First World War.

The search for improved inter-faith relations based on a better understanding of history propelled Ansari’s research for ‘Building on History: Religion in London Project’ in 2011-13. This project included public seminars on ‘Engaging the Past to Inform the Present’; community exhibitions; and engagement with local schools. Ansari was the focus of a Q&A session at Urswick School, in Hackney, where pupils from diverse backgrounds explored the experiences of being Muslim in Britain, racism at school, and why it is important for them to know about the history of British Muslims.

**Awan**’s collaborative 2008-10research project on ‘Legitimising the discourses of radicalisation’was commissioned and part-funded by the FCO to assist the formulation of policy on security and counterterrorism. The FCO committed itself to accepting the research findings and developing any recommendations for policy. In November 2008, Awan contributed, by invitation, to a closed high-level Home Office (Office of Security and Counter-Terrorism) workshop on understanding and countering online radicalisation. Participants included the Home Office director, Research, Information and Communication Unit representatives, deputy head of FCO, and senior civil servants. He has also had confidential meetings with senior Home Office staff to advise on policy making. Awan has also worked with NGOs and think-tanks (RUSI, Chatham House, IISS, ICSR, Germany Embassy and US Congressional Research

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Service), and was commissioned by *The Sentinel* – produced by the West Point Combating Terrorism Center [(http://www.ctc.usma.edu/)](http://www.ctc.usma.edu/) – to write articles on combating terrorism/insurgency that were read by US military personnel and policy makers. In July 2013, Awan was lead academic expert witness on violent extremism in Britain at the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Global Uncertainties at the House of Commons.

1. **Sources to corroborate the impact** (indicative maximum of 10 references)
   1. Executive Director, Minority Rights Group International [for impact of ‘Muslims in Britain’

Report [http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014,](http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014) and MRG’s 2010 Council Seminar].

* 1. 2010 Equality Act (Part 2, Chapter 1), available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>[for impact of ‘Muslims in Britain’ Report [http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014,](http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=1014) and joint discussions with MRG and Home Office officials that fed into 2010 Equality legislation].
  2. Chair of Trustees, East London Mosque [for impact regarding the centenary celebrations of the East London Mosque in 2011 and subsequent archival developments].
  3. Deputy Secretary General, The Muslim Council of Britain [for impact of 2009 ‘Remembering the Brave: the Muslim contribution to Britain’s Armed Forces’ pamphlet].
  4. Details of the ‘Building on History: Religion in London Project’ available at <http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/religion-in-london/index.html>[for impact of the activities that took place under the auspices of this project during 2011-13].
  5. Final report on ‘Legitimising the discourses of Radicalisation’, grant reference: RES-181-250041, <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/my-esrc/grants/RES-181-25-0041/read/outputs/Date/25/2>[for corroboration of research findings of report commissioned by FCO].
  6. Awan was invited to advise the Home Office and make recommendations to the OSCT (Office for Security and Counter Terrorism) [for impact of advice and recommendations to OSCT regarding approaches to the censorship of online radical materials].
  7. Articles from *The Sentinel* [in-house US military journal produced by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point for US personnel and policy-makers] <http://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/success-of-the-meta-narrative-how-jihadists-maintain-legitimacy>and <http://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/the-virtual-jihad-an-increasingly-legitimate-form-of-warfare>[for impact of research findings on US non-academic policy-makers].
  8. Head of All-Party Parliamentary Group for Global Uncertainties, House of Commons [for impact of Awan’s evidence to the APPG in 2013].

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**Impact case study (REF3b)**

**Institution: ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**Unit of Assessment: D.30 History**

**Title of case study: The ethical imperatives of ‘Public History’**

**1. Summary of the impact** (indicative maximum 100 words)

This case study describes how the research of Justin **Champion** (Professor of the History of Early Modern Ideas) into political and religious freedom in the seventeenth century and the public responsibilities of Enlightenment intellectuals has had a ground-breaking impact on the ethics of public engagement in today’s historical profession. The process of making his research findings comprehensible to a broader public has led directly to the development of ideas, theories and activities centred on ‘Public History’, and has included important interventions in matters of public historical import which have affected practitioner understanding. The case study presents the structural and individual activities which have shaped this impact.

**2. Underpinning research** (indicative maximum 500 words)

Champion has been based at Royal Holloway since 1990. He has specific research interests in the meaning and nature of Enlightenment together with that of the development of the historical discipline. Both of these components have combined in an ethical imperative to communicate and intervene where an understanding of the past can inform and shape contemporary concerns.

Champion’s 1999 study ***John Toland's Nazarenus 1718*** explored the disciplinary origins of modern historical erudition in the context of confessional disputation. Adapting Classical and Renaissance ambitions to the practices of erudition and source criticism, Champion argued that historical erudition was focused on present-centred objectives. Those who wrote about the past were more than scholars, but had duties to communicate with a wide public. It was reflecting on these practices, but also the intimate connection with the rival claims of religious orthodoxy and dissent in the period, that laid the foundations for arguments about the public responsibilities of contemporary historians. His subsequent 2003 monograph ***Republican Learning*** expanded this debate by exploring the complex relationship between religious and political liberty in the seventeenth century, in particular developing understanding of how dominant theological-political ideas of the early modern period were challenged and transformed by the claims of religious diversity and Enlightened tolerance.

In his **‘Seeing the past’** (2003) peer-review journal article, Champion, drawing on his Enlightenment research insights, called for historians to engage seriously with public history, arguing against any compromise in the rigour of academic research. Acknowledging the tensions between the ambitions and procedures of academic historians and documentary broadcasters, (the one committed to pedagogic instruction and the other to education), Champion demonstrated that publicly-funded research historians have an ethical imperative to present the past in a comprehensible and accessible way, thus challenging the commonplace presentation of the incompatibility of rigorous scholarly output with a debased popular story-telling. The ethical imperatives of communication, Champion maintained, mean that good history and good broadcasting can combine.

Champion’s reflections on the public responsibilities of practising historians, and historical perspectives on the nature of history in the public square (including the powerful broadcast media of television and radio, but also schools, museums and other cultural institutions), were amplified in his much-cited article, **‘What are historians for?’** (2008). Developing earlier arguments that historians have a wide-ranging obligation - ethical, aesthetic, and political - to make, and take their academic work into public *fora*, it substantiated a robust defence of the tasks and responsibilities of public history. Connecting contemporary practice with the ambitions

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of both antiquity (where history was very much a means of teaching civic duties by example), and the early modern defence of objective, but ethically ‘true’, history, he argued that historians have the duty both to communicate knowledge about the past, but also to intervene in modern debates about the nature of history and the institutional presentation of the past.

1. **References to the research** (indicative maximum of six references)
   1. ***John Toland's Nazarenus 1718*** (**The Voltaire Foundation, 1999).**

‘Un travail tres soigne temoignant du renouveau des etudes sur Toland’. ‘Cette edition … est un evenement tant par l’importance du texte que par la qualite du travail de Justin Champion.’ D. Bourel (Jerusalem), *Francia* 28 (2001): 258.

‘an exemplary edition of a vitally important text in the history of British free thought’ – Brian Young, *English Historical Review*, 116, 465 (February 2001): 222-223.

* 1. ***Republican Learning. John Toland and the crisis of Christian culture, 1670-1722***

**(MUP: Manchester, 2003; paperback, 2009; Open Access edition, OAPEN, 2011).**

‘This is a significant contribution based on extensive new research, and is likely to be the standard account of Toland for many years to come.’ David Wootton, Queen Mary,

University of London.

**3. ‘Seeing the past: Simon Schama’s A History of Britain and public history’, *History* *Workshop Journal*, 56, 1 (2003): 153-174.**

This article is cited in works on public history, media studies, and broadcasting history. It is regarded as a foundation statement in works outside the historical discipline eg *The SAGE* *Handbook of Film Studies*, eds. J. Donald and M. Renov (2008); *The Ashgate Research Companion to Heritage and Identity*, eds. B. J. Graham and P. Howard (2008), and as setreading for postgraduate courses in (1) Public history and (2) Documentary Film-making in both the UK and Australia.

**4.** **‘What are historians for?’**, ***Historical Research*, 81, 211 (2008): 167-188.**

Peer-reviewed and used by universities and schools as the starting point for consideration of the ethical duties of practicing historians.

**5**.‘**Why the Enlightenment still matters today’, Royal Historical Society/Gresham**

**College Annual Lecture 2012.**

c. 5,000 hits on YouTube. ‘An excellent talk. The more I hear of the Enlightenment, the more I am fascinated by it and that today's secularism owes so much to it.’

**4. Details of the impact** (indicative maximum 750 words)

Champion’s research on historians' civic duty past and present has generated impact (1) as an individual agent through engagement with the Historical Association (HA), the Prince’s Teaching Trust, and national broadcast media, and (2) in projects with local/national partners including Surrey County Council (SCC), community museums, and heritage institutions.

Champion’s research on the public role of historians was recognised nationally when he was invited onto the HA’s inaugural Public History Committee (itself an outcome of the attention that his work had focused on this way of approaching the past) and subsequently addressed its 2010 Annual Conference on ‘Is Public History for Everyone?’, further raising the issue at this national level. The HA’s Public History Committee has shaped the nature of access of the

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public to a range of resources and professional development. Champion has also affected practitioner understanding among with teachers, educators and heritage workers through his input at the *Is England’s Past for Everyone. Learning and Outreach in the Historic Environment*

(Armada House, Bristol, 2009) (a HLF-funded project run by the Victoria County History, attended by over 120 people). In 2013, Champion was made an Honorary Fellow of the Historical Association for services to History; the citation included his contribution to public understanding and engagement.

Champion also contributed to the second phase of the HEA *History Virtual Academy*, which in 2010-11 brought together school students and HE academics in online forums designed to engage schools in interaction and learning with specialists in their fields. Since 2010 he has likewise collaborated with the Prince’s Teaching Trust (PTT) and its annual Teaching School

(March 2010; November 2011) to refine practical approaches towards the ethical education of children as ‘public historians’. Bernice McCabe, Co-Director of The Prince’s Teaching Institute, specifically noted Champion’s impact, while one of the teachers afterwards commented: ‘I will go back reinvigorated to take on the challenge of fighting our corner in our current curriculum review’.

Champion’s research regarding the historian’s duty to intervene in debates about public access to significant historical resources has been evident in his involvement in on-going preparations for the commemoration of the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta to take place in 2015. Since 2012, he has been a member of the British Library (BL) Magna Carta Advisory Group, which is informing the contents, ambitions and preparation of the BL’s international exhibition and associated events. He has particular responsibility for representing Magna

Carta’s legacy in the period between 1600 and 1800 (precisely the centuries in which his research has explored understandings of liberty and freedom). In this role he also participated in debates in 2012-13 on the proposed commemorative activities in Runnymede itself: his involvement in successful local opposition during this period to the building of a costly interpretation centre by Runnymede Borough Council, in favour of a series of community-based public history activities, has been acknowledged by representatives of Surrey County Council as directly helping to save £5 million of SCC resource for re-investment in other Magna Carta-related activities. As a trustee of the Egham Museum, and in direct partnership with SCC, Champion has deployed his historical expertise to initiating commemorative activity with local and regional communities.

Champion has contributed to or presented 36 programmes on BBC Radio and TV, Channel 4 and PBS (USA). Five contributions to BBC Radio 4 *In Our Times* have produced audiences of c. 3.5 million each: BBC blogs associated with each programme provide evidence of the impact of his contribution while the entire archive remains accessible free to the globe. Champion acted as advisor and contributor to *Shakespeare Uncovered*, a six-part series (BBC4 2012 and

PBS 2013) that has received critical acclaim in the UK and USA: the PBS ‘Teacher viewing Guide’ for use in schools describes Champion’s contribution as one ‘not to miss’.

In 2009 Champion established the MA Public History to realise his conception of the role of the public historian and contribute to public understanding of history. By the end of 2013 he has helped to train 200+ individuals (attached to Surrey History Centre, Heritage Lottery Fund, National Trust, English Heritage, Historic Royal Palaces and the BBC) in the professional communication of the past, transforming practice in the sector. The benefit of this training is evident in the funded internships and placements provided by two partners – HRP and Parliament’s Education Service.

1. **Sources to corroborate the impact** (indicative maximum of 10 references)
   1. Is England’s Past For Everyone? Conference report 2009, <http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/sites/default/files/page-attachments/conference_report_6039.pdf>Evidence of external practitioners seeking input from Champion regarding public history responsibilities.



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1. Evidence of an event and the reaction of the participants to Champion’s input to that event. The Prince’s Teaching Trust,

<http://www.princes-ti.org.uk/News/detail.shtml?id=944405886>and testimonials <http://www.princes-ti.org.uk/AboutUs/Testimonials/>

1. Director, The Prince’s Teaching Trust. This source will corroborate the impact of Professor Champion’s research in relation to the Trust.
2. Chair of the HA Committee for Public History, The Historical Association. The source will corroborate the impact of Champion’s research in relation to the Public History project at the

Historical Association.

5. M. Reitz, ‘Historians told to be 'evangelical' in their duty to inform public’, *THES*, 10 June 2010 <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=412196>

6. Melvyn Bragg ‘Gödel, Leibniz, Socrates, JS Mill – does this sound like dumbing down?’, *The* *Observer*, 2 May 2010.<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2010/may/02/melvyn-bragg-academic-bbc-internet>

1. HA Report ‘Eminent Historians Debate Public History and the Historical Record’, 4 February

2011, <http://www.history.org.uk/news/news_1036.html>

1. This source corroborates the impact of Champion’s research in relation to the preparation of school teaching and public history activities in the USA. Shakespeare Uncovered Teacher Viewing

Guide, PBS, USA, <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/shakespeare-uncovered/education/shakespeare-uncovered-teacher-viewing-guide-professional-development-resource/shakespeare-uncovered-teacher-viewing-guide-the-tempest-with-trevor-nunn/>

1. Cabinet Member for Community Services and 2012 Games, Surrey County Council [for local Magna Carta-related impact].
2. Chair, Communities Select Committee, Surrey County Council [for local Magna Carta-related impact.