

CARJ

A HISTORY OF THE PAST **TEN** YEARS

Working with people
of diverse backgrounds
and beliefs to address
the complexity,
inequality and division
in UK society

ONE RACE • THE HUMAN RACE
carj
Catholic Association for Racial Justice

35th Anniversary 2019



CARJ A HISTORY OF THE PAST TEN YEARS

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The Catholic Association for Racial Justice

(CARJ) is an independent charity and a membership organisation. CARJ works with people of diverse backgrounds, to create a more just, more equal, more cooperative society. CARJ is a registered CIO, charity number 1158338.

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PROLOGUE

The Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) was established in September 1984. From the beginning, CARJ saw itself as an organisation where people of African, Caribbean and Asian descent could find support, have a voice, and work with others for justice, equality and community in Church and Society.

A key event in the early years of CARJ was the **First National Congress of Black Catholics** which took place 13-15 July 1990 at Digby Stuart College, Roehampton. Some 190 participants from ethnic minority backgrounds (including 25 young people) attended the Congress, from across England and Wales. They were joined by about 90 observers – white Catholics, representatives of other organisations and churches in the UK, and representatives from churches and Bishops' Conferences overseas.

Thirteen years later, CARJ organised another Congress. **The National Racial Justice Congress** was held at Southlands College on 12-14 September 2003. The theme of the Congress was *People of Colour, People of God*. Some 300 Catholics and ecumenical contacts from diverse backgrounds took part. The Congress delegates committed themselves:

... to analyse the structural causes of racism in Church and society... to pray and work for a conversion of hearts... to be a rock of support that victims of racism can rely upon... to create communities in which strangers are welcomed... to ensure that schools value diversity... that seminary training includes multicultural formation... to influence Catholic organisations and networks... to challenge, support and work as partners with bishops and priests... and to work towards the eradication of racism.

In 2009 CARJ celebrated its 25th Anniversary. The theme for the year was *The Changing Face of Britain*. The tone was upbeat – celebrating all that had been achieved. Now (2019) we are marking our 35th Anniversary, and in this brief *History*, we trace the development of CARJ and the wider society over the past ten years. It has been a difficult ten years – marked by recession, austerity and Brexit. Nonetheless, we look back reflectively in order to move forward in hope.

CARJ Trustees

1 May 2019

Early CARJ: Haynes Baptiste, Molly Porter, Bishop Howard Tripp, Yogi Sutton and Tony Lobo



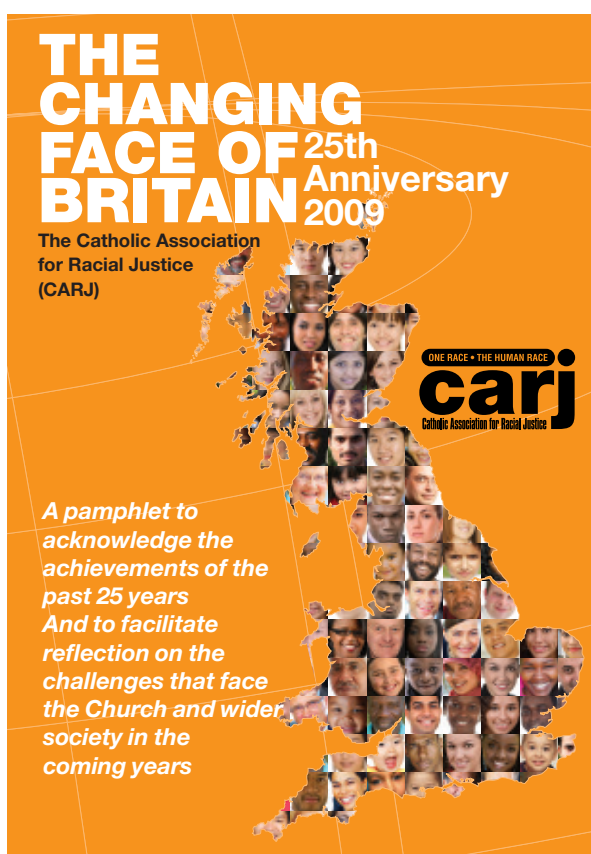
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A Ten Year Process Skewed by Brexit

In 2009 CARJ celebrated its 25th Anniversary. The theme for that Anniversary year was *The Changing Face of Britain*. The theme was explored in a pamphlet which traced the first 25 years of CARJ. The pamphlet was circulated widely and events were held in a number of local dioceses. Racial Justice Sunday took place on 13 September 2009. A National 25th Anniversary Celebration was held at Westminster Cathedral on 7 November 2009. Archbishop Vincent Nichols said the Mass and a number of Bishops attended. The perspective running through all this was largely **positive**.

CARJ wishes to acknowledge and to celebrate all that has changed for the better over the past 25 years and the progress that we have all made toward becoming a truly inclusive Church in a truly inclusive society. Overt discrimination has been made illegal and largely banned from mainstream society. People of diverse backgrounds now live and work in all sectors of society. Educational disadvantage is being steadily overcome. Our churches and schools are now communities of every language, nation, colour and culture. (CARJ 25 Anniversary pamphlet, 2009)

Today, ten years later, CARJ is **striking a different note** – focussing on the complex challenges we face and the diverse groups who need support.



The BREXIT Referendum has highlighted some of the serious divisions in our society. These divisions are set against the threat of terrorism, migration to and from the UK, a widening gap between rich and poor, discrimination, disadvantage and hate crime. In the face of this complex local and global challenge, we in CARJ are seeking a strategy which offers equality and community to the diverse groups who need support.

(Notice of CARJ AGM, 3 November 2018)

These contrasting perspectives are **both true** – **they represent two sides of our society and a ten year process of evolution skewed by BREXIT**. CARJ's

response to this complexity and change over the past ten years is outlined below.

Schools & Young People's Project

Since 2006, CARJ has been developing a **Project to support young people from marginalised communities**. The Project encourages young people to have high aspirations and supports them to achieve their full potential and to make a contribution to society and to the wider world.

Charlene Fraser has been working in primary schools since 2006. She meets regularly (weekly or fortnightly) with small groups of pupils to build self-confidence and self-esteem, speaking and listening skills and high aspiration. Over the past ten years, Patsy Cummings, Seb Chapleau, Suddie Komba Kono, Marcus Duran and Nicole Moore have also worked as CARJ Associates with young people in schools, parishes and other contexts. Dale Bradshaw has worked with young people in various settings in Liverpool since 2013.

Through the Jesuits here in the UK, CARJ developed an interest in the Cristo Rey Schools in the USA. On 19 May 2011, CARJ held a **Conference on Identity, Achievement and Active Citizenship through Catholic Education** at Farm Street Jesuit Church. A keynote speaker was Robert Birdsell, President of the Cristo Rey Network in the USA. The Conference reflected on efforts of Catholic Schools worldwide to support young people from different ethnic and social class backgrounds. Following the Conference, in January 2012, CARJ established a **Cristo Rey UK Group** to explore the possible replication of the Cristo Rey model in the UK. We produced a Discussion Paper to support the Group's reflections. In the end, we felt that the Cristo Rey model was probably not transferable, and we decided to work with others to address the broader issue of educational inequality.



IDENTITY, ACHIEVEMENT AND ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP THROUGH CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Speakers

Fr Michael Holman, SJ
Provincial of the Jesuits in Britain and newly appointed Principal of Heythrop College

Robert Birdsell
President of the Cristo Rey Network USA

David Nicoll
Chief Executive, Studio Schools Trust

Patsy Cummings
CARJ Schools' & Young People's Project

A CONFERENCE

Thursday 19 May 2011 (11:00 – 4:00)
Farm Street Jesuit Church
114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH

This Conference will reflect on the efforts of Catholic schools to support young people from different ethnic and social class backgrounds. It will address the social and emotional aspects of learning and explore how schools can develop self-esteem, raise aspiration, encourage high achievement and promote active citizenship.

The event will feature a representative from the **Cristo Rey Network in the United States**. Cristo Rey is a Network of Jesuit schools specifically established to serve young people from poor Hispanic communities.

The Conference will also explain and reflect upon **CARJ's work with young people** in schools and parishes over the past five years.

This event might be of particular interest to diocesan advisers, school governors, senior staff, teachers, those with pastoral responsibilities and anyone who wishes to explore alternative models for learning and different approaches to supporting young people from diverse backgrounds.

The Catholic Association for Racial Justice is an independent charity (no: 291601) and an Agency of the Bishops Conference. CARJ works with people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs to support marginalised groups and to bring about a more just, more equal and more cohesive society.

Further information and Registration
CARJ, 9 Henry Road,
London N4 2LH, 020 8802 8080, info@carj.org.uk.

Charge for the Conference is £25 (bursaries available).



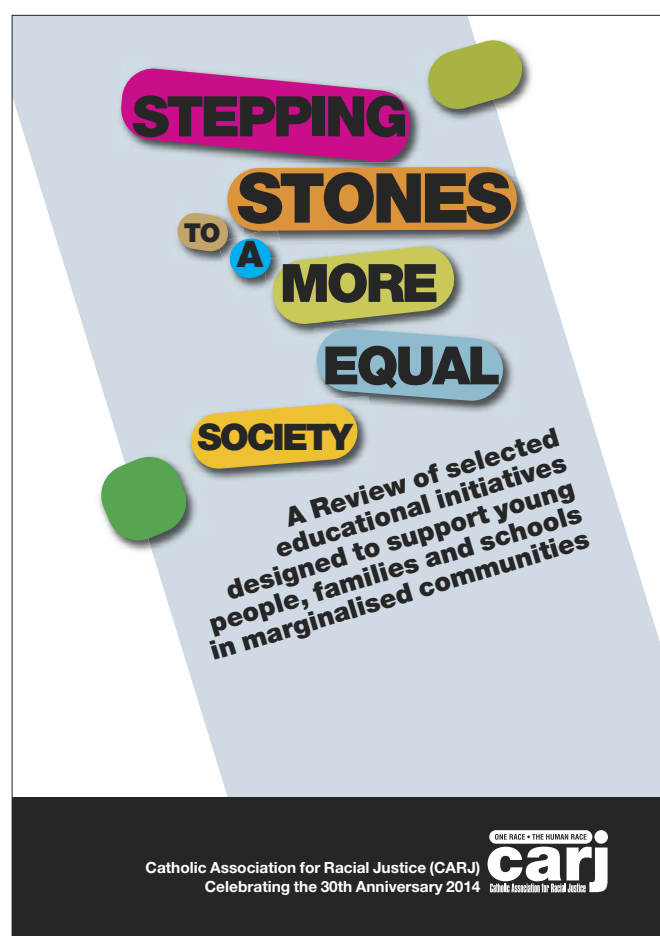
Photo: Charles Pugh/Art Director

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The Group met for two years and in June 2014 produced ***Stepping Stones to a More Equal Society***, which reviewed a variety of educational initiatives designed to support schools, families and young people in marginalised communities. This was followed by two *Stepping Stones* Seminars at Heythrop College in October 2014 and at Leeds Trinity University in June 2015.

To celebrate our 30th Anniversary, CARJ organised a ***Young People's Congress on World Citizenship at Liverpool Hope University 10-12 July 2014***. More than seventy young people, from Catholic secondary schools gathered at Liverpool Hope University, supported by their teachers, by the local CARJ group, by students from the University and by national members of CARJ. Keynote speakers included Frank Cottrell Boyce, John Battle MP and Andrea Hope a young, black poet from the USA. Highlights of the three days were visits to community projects, and a key moment was the testimony of a young Traveller who spoke of her long struggle to overcome prejudice and discrimination.

More recently, CARJ has submitted a **Response to the Education Green Paper** – *Schools that Work for Everyone* (December 2016), and we have looked closely at education for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities (2018). We continue to provide support and awareness-raising for primary and secondary schools. The Schools Group meets regularly and considers issues like exclusions, bullying, home schooling, Supplementary Schools, and the social and emotional aspects of learning.



Liverpool

In 2012, CARJ received funding to establish a satellite young people's project in Liverpool. In early 2013 Dale Bradshaw, a retired Police Constable with considerable experience of community involvement, was appointed as Liverpool Project Worker. The Liverpool project commenced on 1 April 2013. Dale Bradshaw and another former policeman

Alan Heaton began working with young people in a variety of contexts, eg. the Belvidere Homeless Shelter, St Vincent's School for the Blind, a Sports Leaders Award in two schools, a Gospel Choir in two inner city primary schools and an African Animals project in five schools. They were supported by an active group of volunteers. Most of these have continued and expanded until today.

This is the 7th year that CARJ has been providing an after-school club at the **Belvidere Homeless Family Shelter**. The club takes place twice weekly with 76 sessions per year. Over the past two years CARJ has provided a number of activities during the school holiday periods, mainly art and craft sessions. Work within the club continues at a basic level introducing students to English, through project work, art, maths, reading and conversation. CARJ has provided TEFAL (Teaching English as a foreign language) training to its staff and Belvidere volunteers to facilitate the work. The number of non-English speaking students again varies from 10% to 60% of each class. The religions of the children tend to be Christian and Muslim. The Project attracted volunteers and further funding and was evaluated positively in 2017



Circle of Voices Gospel Choir

A similar but smaller project was developed at **Yates Court Homeless Family Centre**. The groups have been ethnically mixed but English speaking with different challenges. The focus has been completing assigned homework. This is supported by additional work suitable to their age range and ability. Feedback from the children's schools and families is encouraging and positive. Music sessions are also now being offered at Yates Court.

CARJ Circle of Voices Gospel Choir has continued and gained popularity. Its weekly practices have been regularly attended by about 70 pupils. The schools involved have had waiting lists to join the choir. The vast majority of young people attending have been from Afro-Caribbean, South Asian, Middle East and Central and Eastern European background. In October 2018 the choir performed at St Georges Hall at the VIP reception for the visit of the 'Giants' tour. Over the Christmas period the choir performed at the following venues- Barclay Card Wavertree, St George's Hall, the Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool One Retail Centre and the Royal Liverpool Hospital. These have now become regular Christmas venues for the choir.

Other developments over the years have included a Music initiative at St Vincent de Paul's Catholic school started in September 2016, an African Elephants Art Project at four schools and a CARJ Bespoke Duke of Edinburgh Award project in a few schools. The above are only some of the highlights of a very successful Liverpool Project which continues to develop.

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Traveller Support Network

The CARJ Traveller Support Network includes 50 priests, religious, laypeople and others from diverse backgrounds, who have an interest in the well-being of Gypsies, Roma and Travellers (GRT). CARJ has organised and supported this Network for more than ten years. The Network meets 3 or 4 times a year.

The **issues and concerns** discussed at meetings have included: family, marriage-preparation, first communion and confirmation, 'telling and sharing our histories', employment, education, accessing health services, mental health, accommodation the criminal justice system, and many other topics. For a few years, the evictions at Dale Farm were a major cause for concern at meetings. After each meeting, a note of the discussion is circulated to the entire Network

A **Rome Pilgrimage and Papal Audience for Travellers** took place from 22 – 27 October 2015. It was organised by the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People and included some 8,000 Travellers from all over the world. A number of members of the Network attended with their diocesan groups.

In November 2015, CARJ produced a Briefing - **Housing and Planning Bill 2015 – the impact on Gypsies and Travellers**. CARJ also promoted Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month in parishes and schools.

We raised issues facing GRT communities in our submissions to the Casey Review and the Lammy Review (2016). These issues were also raised in the Runnymede Trust CERD Report which we signed with others.

In April 2016, CARJ wrote to the Bishops asking them to appoint a **National Chaplain to GRT communities**. Fr Dan Mason was appointed and has been a very important support to others working with these communities. A Travellers' Mass, organised by Fr Dan, was held at Westminster Cathedral on 24 February 2018.

The Women and Equalities Committee in Parliament has been holding an Inquiry into GRT Inequalities. In January 2017, CARJ made a **Submission to the Inquiry**. The Committee recently produced its final Report.

Recently, the Network has been discussing **Traveller education**. We organised a meeting on Wednesday 20 June 2018 which was devoted entirely to issues around education. The keynote speaker was Mrs Hayley Dyer, Head of Crays Hill School in Essex, where 95% of pupils are from GRT communities. This event was followed by a visit to Crays Hill by six members of the Network.

In January 2019, CARJ produced a Briefing - **GRT Issues Legislation**.

CARJ is a member of the **Churches Network for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma (CNGTR)**. A delegation from CARJ attended a recent session of the General Synod of the Church of England on 'GRT communities' arranged by CNGTR.

CARJ Urban Network

The CARJ Urban Network has been meeting for more than ten years. The Network includes 125 people, with links to more than 40 different organisations, networks, projects and dioceses across England & Wales. The Network meets two or three times a year and occasionally organises other initiatives (eg residential retreats). Members keep in touch through meetings, personal contact and email. Information on urban issues is circulated periodically. Occasionally an online discussion develops around an issue. Theresa Byrne is Chair of the Network.

Over the years, meetings of the network have considered many important issues, including:

- The experience of Muslim and Irish communities in the UK
- the recession
- party policy and the General Election
- Disturbances 2011 – Reports from London Citizens and London Churches
- the National Equality Panel Report - *Anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK*
- financial issues and debt affecting marginalised communities
- Banks, investment and taxation
- benefit changes
- housing, social housing, need for more affordable housing, overcrowding, disrepair, various welfare benefits relating to housing, community land trusts and the need for a national housing strategy
- the gendered nature of poverty and marginalisation
- employment and unemployment
- The Occupy Movement internationally and in the UK
- The 50th Anniversary of Vatican II
- the cost and politics of austerity
- the future challenge for the churches - thirty years after *Faith in the City*
- Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia
- *Brexit and Irish Citizens in the UK* - Traveller Movement Report
- Windrush – history and repercussions today
- *The Prevent Programme*
- the Grenfell Fire and aftermath
- Integration and Cohesion - the Casey Review and the Integrated Communities Green Paper
- *Prosperity and Justice: A Plan for the New Economy* - IPPR Report

The CARJ Urban Network has for years been a place where colleagues with similar concerns can meet face to face and discuss serious issues in some depth and in an informal atmosphere. We hear from those with knowledge and experience and we bring our own knowledge and experience to bear. The discussions often continue, with support from CARJ, well beyond the meeting. After each meeting, a note of the discussion is circulated to the entire Network along with links to additional relevant information and opinion. Occasionally an online discussion develops around an issue. During July – August 2011, 20 members of the Network, in different areas of the country, contributed to an online discussion of the disturbances.



The Network has held a number of **residential Retreats** over the past ten years –

Searching for Springs of Hope: supporting poor communities in a time of austerity - a Retreat, facilitated by Patricia Stoa at Wistaston Hall in Crewe, 13-14 October 2010.

Passion for the Inner City - Considering the Life and Thought of Fr Austin Smith – a Retreat led by Fr Nicholas Postlethwaite at Wistaston Hall, 26-27 October 2011

The Church's Urban Presence: Seeds of a Renewed Vision – a Retreat led by Fr Phil Sumner, reflecting on Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, at Wistaston Hall, 8-9 April 2014

A Retreat at St Mary's Centre, Handsworth, Birmingham used *On Rock or Sand* – a Retreat at St Mary's Centre, Handsworth, Birmingham used Archbishop John Sentamu's book as a framework for reflection on society and the General Election, 18-19 April 2015

Identity, Equality and Community, a Retreat at St Mary's Centre, Handsworth, 22-23 October 2016 used a CARJ Discussion Paper for reflection and discernment after the Brexit Referendum.

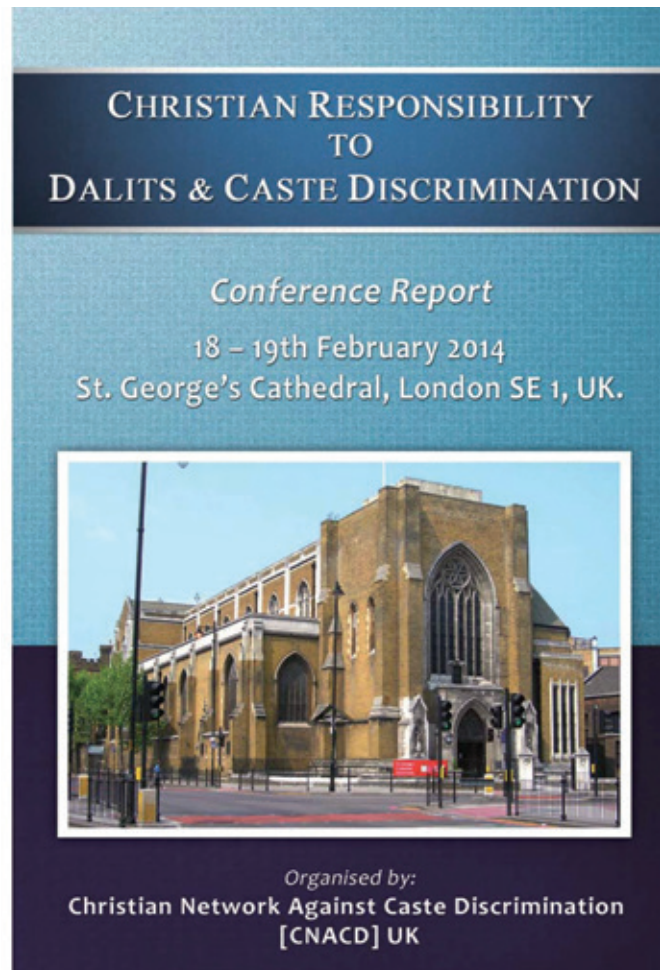
Through the Urban Network, CARJ was for some years actively involved with the ecumenical **Christian Coalition for Urban Mission (CCFUM)**. In addition to its own work, CCFUM organised a Coordinating Group on Urban Mission for Churches Together in England (CTE). CCFUM also supported the ecumenical 'Jesus in the City' Triennial Congress. CARJ was involved in both of these initiatives.

Caste Discrimination

In 2009-10, CARJ worked with **Voice of Dalit International (VODI)** to organise a Sub-Committee on Caste-Discrimination. The aim was to get caste discrimination included in the *Single Equalities Bill*. CARJ and VODI sponsored an Inter-Faith Conference on *Addressing Caste Discrimination in the UK* on 15 July 2009. The Conference, held at CARJ, involved some 60 participants and created a Coalition Against Caste Discrimination. In February, 2010 CARJ sent a letter to all Catholic Parliamentarians requesting they support the inclusion of caste discrimination in the *Single Equalities Bill* passing through Parliament. In the years since then, CARJ has been working with VODI and others to support victims of caste discrimination.

In 2013, the **Christian Network Against Caste Discrimination (CNACD)** was formed. CNACD organised a non-residential Conference on *Christian Responsibility to Dalits and Caste Discrimination*, on 18 and 19 February 2014 at, St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Speakers included Lord Bishop Richard Harries, Lord David Alton, Bishop Pat Lynch and others. The Network held another Conference on 2-3 May 2017, which was attended by Cardinal Turkson from the Vatican. Alongside VODI, CARJ is a supportive participant in CNACD, and representatives from CARJ were involved in the planning and organising of both these events.

CNACD continues to work for effective legislation and improved policy and practice in the UK and internationally. The Network meets regularly at St Anselm's under the leadership of Fr Gerard Mitchell SJ, with support from VODI and CARJ.



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Leadership Training

Over a period of 5 years, CARJ worked in partnership with Voice of Dalit International (VODI) and Maryvale Institute, Birmingham to develop a training programme in **'Leadership for Social Change'**.

The first course took place on weekday mornings, from **March to July 2012**, based at St Anselms RC Parish, Southall. Students were drawn from the UK and from India. The Closing Ceremony was held at St Anselms on 30 August 2012. Mgr Paul Watson, Director of Maryvale, spoke and gave out awards. All the students received both a Certificate and Diploma from Maryvale. Approximately 50 people attended the Closing Ceremony, including the local MP.

In November 2013, in partnership with VODI, and with support from Maryvale, CARJ organised a ten-day **Workshop for activists and future leaders**. The Workshop was held on weekday mornings from **18-29 November 2013**, at St Anselm's Parish, Southall. The Workshop aimed to prepare participants to work more thoughtfully and effectively for social change – especially in those movements defined or inspired by issues of 'race, caste, religion and social class'.

On 6-9 November 2014, CARJ organised a four-day, residential training **Workshop at Maryvale Institute Birmingham**. Ten participants attended the Workshop. The group was diverse in terms of ethnicity, gender and age. It included, among others, a Jesuit priest from Uganda, two religious sisters, a Pentecostal Pastor, others with international experience and a Trustee and Staff member from CARJ. The participants, therefore, had considerable experience to draw on, and the sessions were very participative. Members of the group expressed a desire to stay in touch.

Leadership for Social Change

An Intensive Training Workshop

A four day Residential Workshop for Activists and Future Leaders, addressing issues of Race, Caste, Religion and Social Class

Thursday 6th to Sunday 9 November 2014
Maryvale Institute, Birmingham

This Workshop will prepare participants to **work more thoughtfully and effectively for social change** – especially in those movements defined or inspired by issues of 'race, caste, religion and social class'. It is designed to appeal to local, national and international participants – especially those working or hoping to work in NGOs, the voluntary sector, community groups and faith-based organisations. The Workshop will enable participants to gain:

- some understanding of different traditions of **social thought**
- an understanding of the history, theory and practice of **selected social movements**;
- an awareness of the use of **language in social movements** and the ability to use language more honestly and effectively;
- an awareness of different roles and styles of **leadership** and an introduction to **organisational skills**.

The Workshop is open to people with different levels of academic qualification and experience. The fee for the Workshop is £300. There may be a reduced rate for those living locally in Birmingham who do not require overnight accommodation. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to seek support from parishes, dioceses and sponsoring organisations.

Jointly sponsored by the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) and Voice of Dalit International (VODI), with support from Maryvale Institute, Birmingham.

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Catholic Association for Racial Justice



Further Information and Registration:
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T 020 8802 8080
info@carij.org.uk



Hosted by
Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill,
BIRMINGHAM, B44 9AG
www.maryvale.ac.uk

Annual Racial Justice Sunday Celebrations (2009 – 2013)

CARJ had organised the annual Racial Justice Sunday in the Catholic Community for many years. We continued to organise the event and circulate material to parishes from 2009 through 2013:

RJS 13 September 2009 explored the theme *The Changing Face of Britain and Ireland*

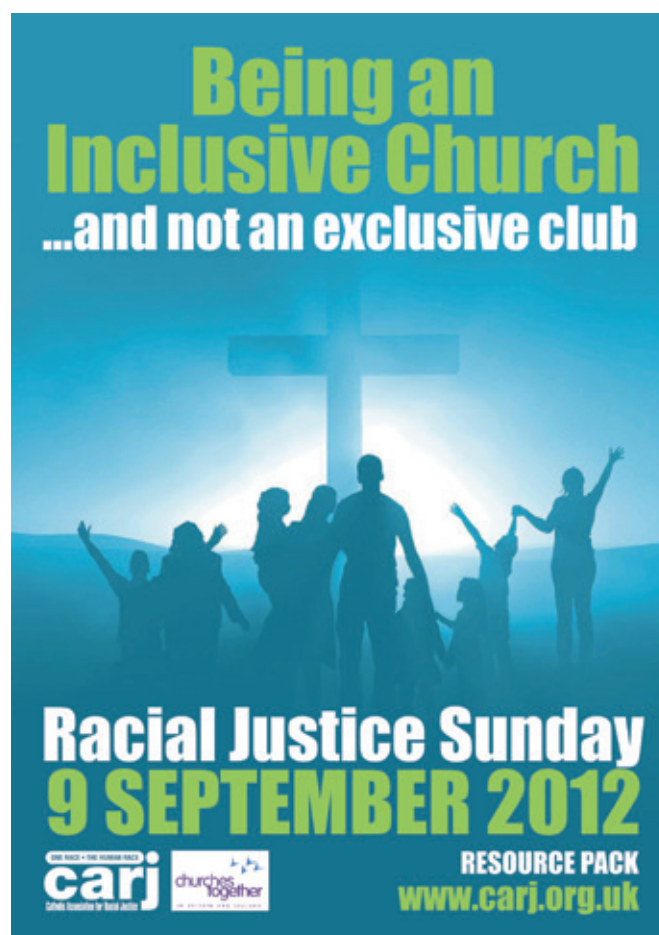
RJS 12 September 2010 explored the theme: *Migration – Building Bridges or Barriers*

RJS 11 September 2011 explored the theme: *People shouldn't be Bought & Sold*

RJS 9 September 2012 explored the theme: *Being an Inclusive Church...and not an exclusive club*

RJS 8 September 2013 explored the theme: *Dreams of the Beloved Community – 50th Anniversary of 'I have a Dream' speech by Martin Luther King.*

From 2014, the Bishops Conference took over the responsibility for organising RJS and circulating material to parishes.



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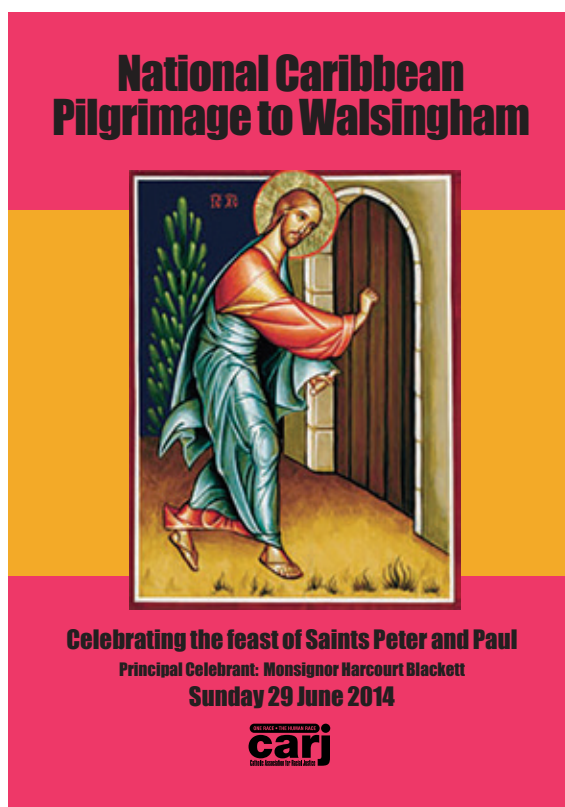
Formal and Informal Partnerships

Over the past ten years, CARJ has periodically worked in formal or informal partnership with a number of organisations, including:

Citizens UK
 Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)
 Churches Together in Britain & Ireland (CTBI)
 National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN)
 Maryvale Institute
 Christian Network against Caste Discrimination (CNACD)
 Voice of Dalit International (VODI)
 Churches Network for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma (CNGTR)
 The Traveller Movement
 Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham

In addition, through our Networks and other work, CARJ has formed a mutually supportive relationship with a number of other organisations like Christian Coalition for Urban Mission, Church Action on Poverty, Institute for Public Policy Research, Jewish Council of Racial Equality, Margaret Clitheroe Trust, National Council for Lay Associations, Praxis, Runnymede Trust, Taxpayers Against Poverty, Women at the Well and a number of others

A few years ago, it was agreed between us that CARJ would no longer be 'an Agency of the Bishops Conference' (among other things, this gives CARJ the independence to speak out on behalf of controversial issues). We continue to cooperate with the Bishops Conference in many areas of our work.



Submissions to Government Inquiries and Consultations

In July 2015, **Dame Louise Casey** was asked by the then Prime Minister, David Cameron, to look into the situation of isolated and deprived communities. **CARJ** made a **Submission to the Review in January 2016**. In the Submission, we questioned the focus on Muslim communities and the close link between UK Counter Terrorism Strategy and the Prevent programme. We suggested that the Review should address the specific situations of different communities marginalised by poverty, ethnicity, religion or their way of life (eg GRT communities). We highlighted the importance of providing quality education for young people from marginalised communities. The final Report of *The Casey Review* was published December 2016.

In January 2016, the Prime Minister asked **Rt Hon David Lammy MP** to lead a **Review of the Criminal Justice System** in England and Wales and to investigate evidence of possible bias against black defendants and other ethnic minorities. In June 2016, **CARJ** and **CSAN** made a joint **Submission to the Review**. We traced the history of relations between Black and Minority Ethnic Communities and the Criminal Justice System over the past fifty years and the important role of the Churches in pressing the issue. We highlighted the particular concern today of over-representation of Muslims, Black Women and GRT Communities. The final Report of *The Lammy Review* was published on 8 September 2017

On 12 September 2016, the Government published ***The Education Green Paper – Schools that Work for Everyone***. On 9 December 2016, **CARJ** submitted a **Response to the Consultation**. We pointed out that UK society has become more unequal, more diverse and more divided. We argued that, more than ever, we must try to work together to face two serious educational challenges: to offer every child a quality education and to prepare young people to live as good neighbours and fellow citizens alongside people from diverse backgrounds. We made it clear that in our experience Catholic Schools on the whole are addressing both of these concerns.

Since November 2016, the **Women and Equalities Committee** has been holding an **Inquiry into inequalities experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities**. In response to their call for written evidence, the **Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)** joined **CARJ** in making a **Submission to the Inquiry**. Drawing on recent research and on the experience of the CARJ Traveller Support Network, the Submission explained the difficulties GRT communities face in relation to accommodation, education, health, the criminal justice system, financial issues and hate crime. We recommended a partnership between the public and voluntary sector in supporting GRT communities and suggested that the Churches should be an important part of that Partnership. The final Report of the Inquiry was published on 5 April 2019.

In March 2018, the Government published its ***Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper*** (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government). In June 2018, **CARJ** made a **Submission to the Consultation**. We outlined the history of four consultations into integration and cohesion since 2001. We made the point that research suggests that integration has largely been a success and on the whole we welcomed the Government's proposals. Nonetheless, we highlighted some issues that need further reflection: eg immigration law and policy and the 'hostile environment' as well as the complexity of inequality, marginalisation and division. We suggested that 'identity' and welcoming are important to enable a sense of belonging, and we explored the complicated question of 'British values'. Finally, we suggested that Faith Communities and Community Organisations make an important contribution to the process of integration. In February 2019, the Government published a *Summary of Consultation Responses and Government Response* alongside an *Integrated Communities Action Plan*.

The **United Nations Special Rapporteur** on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Professor Tendayi Achiume, made an official country visit to the UK from 30 April to 11 May 2018. Prior to her visit, **CARJ submitted a paper** outlining the complexity of our changing world, the various groups that need to be supported and the need for a multi-faceted strategy to promote justice, equality and community for and between these groups and in society as a whole. **CARJ was invited with others to participate in a round table session** with Professor Achiume. She released her End of Mission Statement in May 2018, and she will release her final Report in June 2019.

Toward a Vision and Strategy for the Future

The Brexit Referendum in 2016 was an event that changed UK society – polarising communities, families and political parties and surfacing underlying tensions. Organisations like CARJ had to ask themselves ‘what is an appropriate response?’ The publication of the Government’s *Race Disparity Audit* was helpful in clarifying the complexities of racial disparities in UK society in 2017.

Our first response to Brexit and the *Race Disparity Audit* was to suggest that we all pause and reflect. The AGM on 5 November 2016 was devoted to the theme: **Identity, Equality, Community – A Time for Reflection and Discernment**. A Discussion Paper was produced and used as background for the Urban Network Retreat and the AGM.

A year later, at our AGM on 4 November 2017, the meeting accepted the complex and changing world we live in and, in the face of this local and global challenge, we identified a number of **vulnerable groups who would need support**.

Most recently, on 3 November 2018, the AGM initiated a conversation about a **vision and strategy for the future**. CARJ produced a *Review* of nineteen recent Papers and Reports from government and other sources that help to define the challenge we face. That’s where we are today – working with others to address the complexities of inequality and division in UK society. It is a *Kairos* moment for all of us.



*CARJ Annual General Meeting,
3 November 2018*



Chronological Bibliography

CARJ Reports, Submissions and Briefings (2009 – 2019)

The Changing Face of Britain: CARJ 25th Anniversary - January 2009

More than a Dream: the Cristo Rey Story - A Review of the book which tells the story of the first Cristo Rey School in Chicago – CARJ, December 2010

Offering Higher Quality Education to Young People from Marginalised Communities – A Discussion Paper. CARJ – Cristo Rey UK Group, July 2012

Stepping Stones to a More Equal Society: A Review of selected educational initiatives designed to support young people, families and schools in marginalized communities - June 2014

Housing and Planning Bill 2015 – the impact on Gypsies and Travellers. CARJ November 2015

CARJ Submission to the Casey Review – January 2016

CARJ / CSAN Submission to Lammy Review – June 2016

After the Referendum – Supporting One Another – 30 July 2016

Identity, Equality, Community – A Discussion Paper 3 October 2016

CARJ Response to the Education Green Paper – December 2016

CARJ / CSAN Submission to Women and Equalities Committee Inquiry into Inequalities faced by GRT Communities – January 2017

Race Disparity Audit: CARJ Press Release 10 October 2017

CARJ Submission to UN Rapporteur – March 2018

CARJ Welcomes UN Rapporteur 'End of Mission Statement' – May 2018

CARJ Briefing – The Windrush Generation – a historical footnote. - 3 May 2018

CARJ Submission to Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper – June 2018

CARJ Briefing: Defining Anti-Semitism – 1 August 2018

CARJ Briefing: Prohibiting Caste Discrimination in the UK – 1 September 2018

Equality & Community: a review of recent papers and reports - 3 November 2018

CARJ Briefing. GRT Issues Legislation - January 2019

CARJ Briefing: Recent Deportations - February 2019

CARJ Briefing. Macpherson - March 2019

All the above Reports, Submissions and Briefings are available from CARJ, 9 Henry Rd, London N4 2LH. 020 8802 8080. info@carj.org.uk

Timeline

Key Events 2009 – 2019

2009 Recession and financial crisis

2010 General Election resulting in Coalition Government

Austerity – four year cut in budgets of Government Departments

2011 Referendum rejects proportional representation

Killing of a 29 year old man by police sparks widespread riots and looting in poorer areas of London and several other English cities

2012 Britain hosts the 2012 Summer Olympics and Paralympics

2014 Voters in Scotland Referendum reject independence

2015 Conservatives win majority in general election

2016 Referendum - a majority vote to leave the European Union

David Cameron resigns as Prime Minister succeeded by Theresa May

2017 MPs vote to allow Prime Minister Theresa May to start Brexit negotiations. House of Lords amends the Bill to guarantee rights of EU Citizens in the UK.

Terrorist attacks in Manchester and London

2017 General Election results in a hung parliament

2017 Grenfell Tower fire

2018 Windrush scandal and resignation of Amber Rudd as Home Secretary.

Acknowledgements

In this *History* we have included some material from the past to illustrate and recall key events and publications from the ten years. These are mainly from CARJ documents produced during the ten years. Among these are some agency images obtained at the time with permission. We acknowledge these again. Images of faces on a map on front cover, and images included in material on pages 2, 3 and 12 are from Dreamstime. The flyer pictured on page 11 includes an image from Shutterstock

Equality and Community in a Complex and Changing World

The BREXIT Referendum has highlighted some of the serious divisions in our society. These divisions are set against the background of continuing turmoil in the Middle East, the threat of terrorism and many seeking refuge in Europe and the UK. Here at home the gap between the rich and the poor is increasing, many feel left behind, minorities continue to experience discrimination and disadvantage, and there is an increase in hate crime. In the face of this complex local and global challenge, we in CARJ are seeking a strategy which offers equality and community to the diverse groups who need support – including:

- Migrants, refugees, victims of trafficking and EU citizens in the wake of Brexit
- Young people in marginalised communities struggling to achieve their full potential
- Muslim and Jewish groups who may be victims of Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism.
- All victims of hate crime
- Families in de-industrialised areas who feel 'left behind'
- Black and minority ethnic groups in the criminal justice system
- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- Victims of caste discrimination in the UK.

35th
Anniversary
2019

