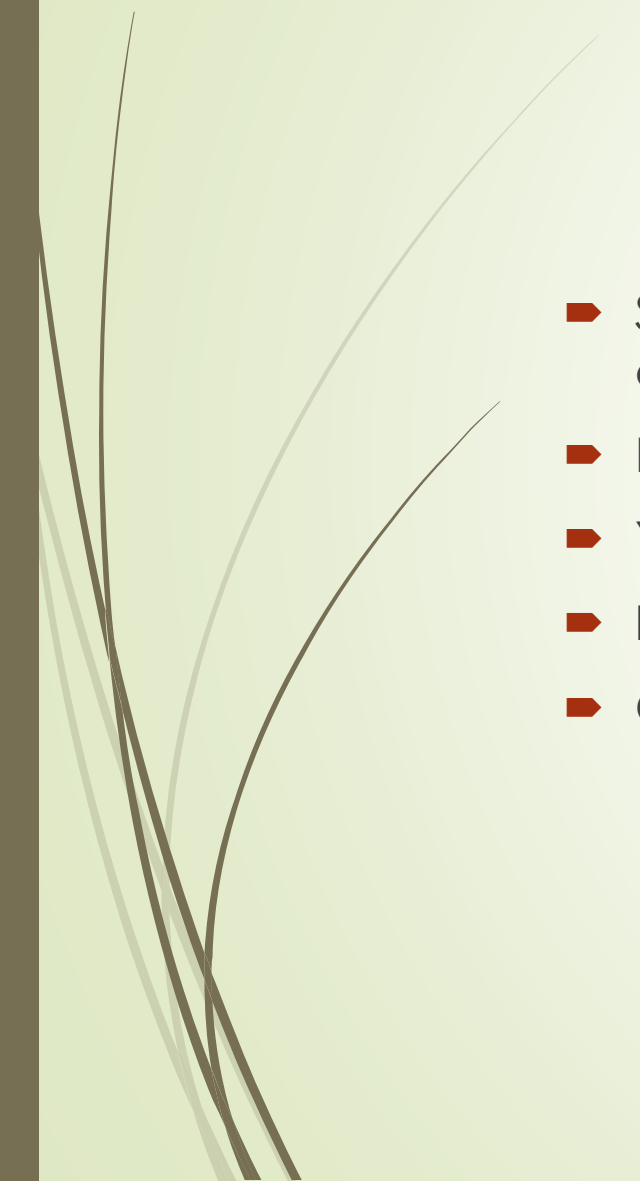


Response: Black Lives Matter? Attitudes to Minorities and Migrants in N.I.

Raquel McKee – Chair - Strategy and Lobbying Working Group, ACSONI



Welcome the Research

- Social attitudes to black people and travelers in minority ethnic communities
 - NILT
 - YLT
 - Increasing levels of optimism towards minority groups
 - Only 4% of adults, 1% of 16 y.o. say they are extremely prejudiced.
- 



Interesting Findings

- ▶ 2018 - Immigration should neither increase or decrease. More positive than N.I. Only 18% want a decrease.
- ▶ Groups more accepted
- ▶ Groups less accepted – based on political and media response to them
- ▶ Global response to Irish Travellers, to People of African Descent
- ▶ More optimistic than realistic



Points to Consider

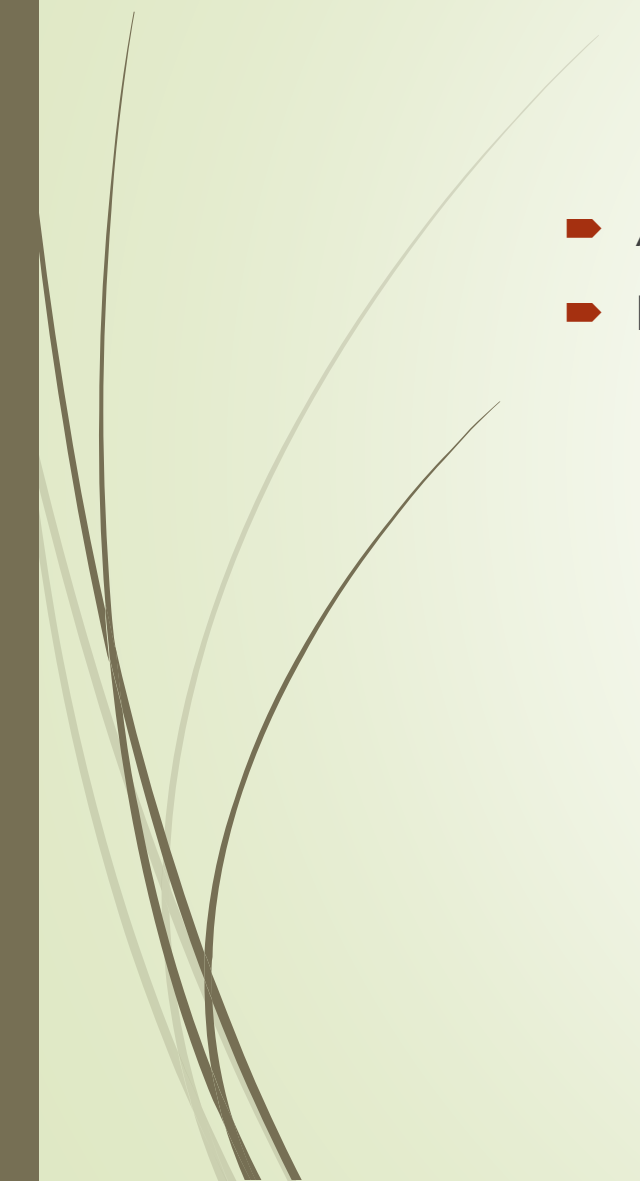
- ▶ Not homogenous groups, so careful approach needed.
- ▶ Good Friday agreement pointed to the benefits of diversity
- ▶ 14% of over 18s said they had black friends. Has been higher. Why are these numbers falling? Would the EU referendum have an effect on this? We need to be careful about the narrative in policy and in the media.
- ▶ Many people in the community do not report hate incidents/ crimes, as they have lost confidence in the process, are concerned about further intimidation. With small support networks Migrants sometimes prioritise survival over fighting injustice. This impacts the police statistics.
- ▶ Hate incidents and hate crime could well have only become more under-reported, rather than actually reducing.
- ▶ Nearly half of 16 year olds have witnessed racist bullying or harassment



Issues



- ▶ Media portrayal – one of the issues ACSONI has tackled in the past and continues to address.
- ▶ Reforms are needed in area of victim support in N.I.

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- Anti-racism Action Plan
 - Refugee
- 



Ways Ahead



- Address the systemic/ institutional racism at play. Until it is, the attitudes will not change significantly.
- Review the Victim Support for those reporting hate incidents and hate crime. Include Trauma Support.
- Make organisations accountable regarding racial justice. Increase the demand that they operationalism anti -acism strategies. Should this form part of the racial incident statistics in the future?
- Research institutional racism, which the McPherson report recognizes in the UK.
- Hold Media to account in following the DOCHAS code and in the attitudes they report most frequently.