

# CARJ Annual Report 2011-12

## Tackling human trafficking

**PEOPLE  
SHOULDN'T BE  
BOUGHT  
& SOLD**



ONE RACE • THE HUMAN RACE

**carj**

Catholic Association for Racial Justice

## CARJ People in 2011-12

### **Trustees**

President: Bishop Patrick Lynch, Chair: Margaret Ann Fiskin, Vice-Chair: Haynes Baptiste,  
Secretary: Sue Smailes, Treasurer: Rita Forster, Malcolm Foster, Nikki Petch,  
Protasia Torkington and Richard Zipfel

### **Staff**

National Coordinator: Rosie Bairwal, Schools Project Worker: Charlene Fraser  
and Administrator: Jolanta Bednarska

### **Consultants**

Schools Project Worker: Patsy Cummings and Administrator: Sonia D'Souza.

Image and Text on Front Cover created for Racial Justice Sunday 2011 but the image and slogan  
'People Shouldn't Be Bought & Sold' is inspired by the work of STOP THE TRAFFIK

Images on of ethnic diversity on Page 5 of People shaking hands, on Page 6 of a Crowd  
and on Page 8 of School children from Dreamstime.com

# Introduction

This annual report relates to the activities of CARJ from April 2011 to March 2012, Financial Year.



Racial Justice Sunday 2011 cover image

## A. Racial Justice Sunday 2011 on Human Trafficking

Racial Justice Sunday was on the 11 September 2011 and addressed the problem of human trafficking. CARJ was asked by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) colleagues to take the lead in preparing resources for 2011 (as it was in 2009 and 2010) on behalf of the CTBI Churches' Racial Justice Network. A group including representatives from the Churches' Racial Justice Network had met in November 2010 in Edinburgh, to plan the production of the materials. The group decided to link the RJS resources to the More than Gold initiative (as it included Human Trafficking as one of its areas of social concern) in the lead up to the 2012 Olympic Games and gained permission to use its logo on the RJS resources.

The RJS materials were sent to all Catholic Bishops, parishes, religious orders, secondary schools, Justice and Peace and other Network contacts in England and Wales. The materials were also circulated to the Catholic Communications Network

(CCN) and to Diocesan Communication Officers. CARJ is very grateful for all the support received for the campaign and for all donations it received.

In regard to the RJS Campaign Image and material for 2011, StoptheTraffik were very helpful in granting trademark and other permissions and were pleased to see human trafficking highlighted as an issue.

The Feedback on the 2011 materials was very positive. The materials included homily notes from Sr Ann-Teresa the founder of the Medaille Trust with an expertise in human trafficking and CARJ is very grateful to her. The materials also included images from Act to Prevent Trafficking Ireland and a new Take Further Action section, to encourage the marking of Racial Justice Sunday as a day of practical action as well as a day of contemplation about issues of racial justice. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) requested 50 copies of the RJS 2011 booklet to distribute to other Conferences of Bishops around the world and it is hoped that the materials were helpful to them as a reference on the issue of human trafficking.

## B. Countering Political Extremism

CARJ is part of the Countering Political Extremism Resource Group (CPERG), an ecumenical group. The CPERG was created following the British National Party (BNP) gaining 2 European Parliamentary seats in 2009. It aims to bring together a network of people from across the church denominations to work together to counter political extremism. It includes a representative from the Joint Public Issues Team (Baptists, Methodists, URC) the Church of England, local Baptist, Methodist and URC church representatives and CARJ.

The group has established links with other organisations, identified the geographical areas of greatest risk and works to support and equip local church communities by sharing best practice on training, networking, information and communication. The group met on the 13 July and 17 November 2011 and 2 February 2012 and discussed issues like Briefings for Church leaders, an analysis of the Press coverage of issues of racism and faith-based prejudice, the emergence of new far-right political parties, the Public Order Act 1986 and the increase in the number of English Defence League (EDL) static demonstrations including in multi-ethnic areas like Bradford, Leicester and Tower Hamlets that take place even after the Home Secretary has imposed a ban on a march. A static demonstration can still result in similar levels of community fear, tension and intimidation, as a march does.

The CPERG materials state:

*Christians, along with people from other faith communities and beyond, have been very concerned by the growing presence of extremist parties in local elections and their threat to community cohesion. Churches of a range of denominations have stated that racism, in all its forms, is a sin, and a denial of God's love for each of God's children.*

*The nature of racist and extremist activity has begun to change recently. Alongside political parties such as the British National Party, we now also have social movements such as the English Defence League. These pages offer a collection of resources to churches seeking to respond to such extremist groups:*

- *Statements from churches nationally and locally on political extremism*
- *Prayers, housegroup materials and other resources for churches*
- *Advice on running hustings or question-time meetings or making statements to the media, or what to do if you are represented by extremist councillors*
- *Information and resources*

## Hate Crime

A 23-year-old Indian student Anuj Bidve was murdered in the early hours of Boxing Day 2011, in Salford. The police treated it as a suspected racist hate crime. In January 2012, two people were convicted for the racist murder of teenager Stephen Lawrence in 1993. Since 1993, it is estimated that 96 people have lost their lives as a result of racial violence in the UK.

There is a clear link between extremist activity and racial violence. In 1993 when Stephen Lawrence was killed in Eltham, Greenwich the British National Party (BNP) had their headquarters in a 'bookshop' located in Bexley but on Greenwich's borough borders. Greenwich council reported a rise in the number of racist incidents at that time. This was linked to the BNP's increased activities.

*Examples of CARJ working in partnership with others to counter political extremism*

CARJ participated in the **Chatham House forum on Global Migration, the challenges for Western Political leaders** on 15 November 2011, organised by the Migrants' Rights Network in London. Mathew Goodwin from Nottingham University spoke about the rise of the far-right in Europe. Other speakers included Don Flynn from the Migrants' Rights Network and Jack Dromey MP from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Migration.

People from CARJ were involved in **Hate Crime Awareness Training** on 25 January 2012, in Hackney, London organised by Stop Hate UK and Hackney Council. It looked at the historic context of hate crime, high profile cases, hate incidents and hate crimes, hate crime strands, legislation, effects on victims, barriers to reporting and local reporting strategies e.g. phone helplines.

CARJ is part of the **One Society Many Cultures** initiative which includes politicians, faith communities, civil society activists and trade unions. At meetings on 16 May 2011 and 9 February 2012 at the Houses of Parliament, London we discussed issues like responses to the Stephen Lawrence trial verdict, the increase in Hate Crime, the creation of an Islamophobia Awareness Month and local election results in regard to far-right political parties.

CARJ participated in the **Searchlight Educational Trust** Conference 'When Hate Comes to Town' at the De Montfort University Leicester on 27 June 2011. Issues discussed included the need to work closely with the police as partners where possible and Stopping hate at the School Gates - how to work with young people to encourage them to reject the politics of hatred and division. Andrew Stunell MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government gave the keynote speech.

## C. CARJ's work with Dioceses

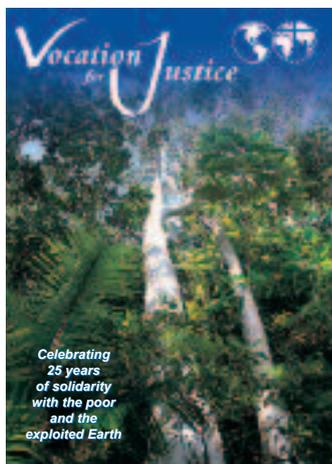
The Chair of CARJ gave a keynote speech at a Conference on The Church: a Sign of Unity in the World by Education for Parish Services, in Southwark diocese on 7 April 2011.

A parish member in Salford Diocese worked with people from other Churches to set up a City of Sanctuary in Manchester. She contacted CARJ for advice and support and to link up with local CARJ members who could want to be involved.

CARJ participated in Westminster Diocese Justice and Peace Commission meetings including the Open meeting on 11 January 2012, to communicate CARJ's work more widely. The meeting brought together people involved in Justice and Peace work in parishes and organisations across the diocese.

CARJ informed the meeting participants about Hate Crime Awareness training and parishioners John Mooney and Sister Pat Holloway from St John Vianney Church participated in the training as a result and used it in their work.

CARJ representatives participated in the **Mass for Migrants** at St George's Cathedral, Southwark diocese on 2 May 2011. CARJ was part of the banner procession.



CARJ contributed an article entitled **Racial Justice in Britain Today** to the **Vocation to Justice**, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication by the Columbans in Britain and attended the anniversary event at Heythrop College on 13 May 2011. Speakers at the event included Bishop William Kenney, Rosemary Reed,

Bruce Kent and Mary Colwell.

CARJ provided a **Changing Face of Britain and Racial Justice workshop** at **St Josephs RC and Anglican High School**, Wrexham on 7 October 2011 as part of the school Mission Week.

## **D. CARJ's work with CBCEW and its departments and agencies**

As an agency of the Church, CARJ participates in team and full department meetings of the Christian Responsibility and Citizenship Department, including on 15 June and 13 October 2011 and 7 March 2012.

CARJ also attended meetings of the Public Policy RADAR group at CBCEW on the 16 December 2011 and 25 January 2012.

CARJ became a member of the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) in December 2011. This provides for a closer collaboration between CARJ and CSAN and with other members of the CSAN Network.

CARJ participated in the Conference on **Building a New Culture of Social Responsibility** organised by CBCEW/CSAN on 6 April 2011 at Westminster in London.

CARJ participated in the **CSAN seminar on Criminal Justice** on 21 September 2011 at Allen Hall Seminary. Ethnic Minorities are significantly over-represented within the Criminal Justice system.





## E. CARJ's work with the National Justice and Peace Network

CARJ participated in the **National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN) Conference**, from 15-17 July 2011 on the theme of **Justice at Work**. CARJ provided a **workshop on Racial Justice issues in the workplace and Citizenship**. The workshop outlined a number of issues including looking at the current research evidence. Although there has been progress, **significant disadvantages** and **inequalities** remain in the access that many Ethnic Minorities have to jobs, treatment at work, career progression, pay and conditions, rates of disciplinary actions brought against them etc. Other issues explored included the differences in employment related outcomes between different ethnic minority groups and gender and socio-economic variations. CARJ also organised a **Witness** to speak at the Conference. The witness was a Muslim Community Health Worker originally from Sudan who came to the UK as a refugee, who spoke about her experience of Islamophobia to the Conference.

## F. CARJ's work with the National Council for Lay Associations

Due to its status as a lay organisation, CARJ participated in the National Council for Lay Associations (NCLA) Meetings from 1-2 October 2011 and 3-4 February 2012. CARJ uses the meetings to communicate information about its work to other organisations.

## G. Tackling poverty and supporting the living wage

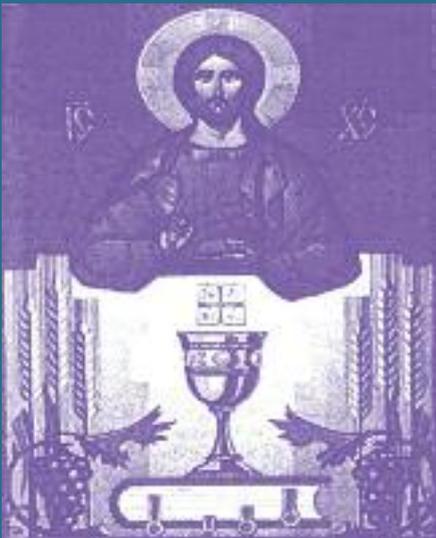
CARJ was involved in the Church Urban Fund/Church Action on Poverty Seminar on the

Living Wage, the Role of the Church in June 2011, alongside colleagues from CBCEW and CSAN. This was then followed up with CBCEW through CRC Department meetings.

CARJ participated in a Church Action on Poverty/Church Urban Fund meeting on **Poverty, Power and the Church** on 9 November 2011, as a **panel member**. It looked at the role of churches of all denominations in post-riot, economically challenged England asking: How can we increase awareness and understanding of poverty in this country? How can we help churches to engage more effectively with those in power? How can we build a movement of Christians and churches committed to tackling poverty and powerlessness?

CARJ attended a Conference on **Achieving Equality in the current economic context and the Equality Act 2010** on the 16 November 2011, at the Trade Union Congress, London.

## H. Annual Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham



**National Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

**Celebrating the feast of Corpus Christi**

**Principal Celebrant: Father Albert Ofere**  
**Sunday 26th June 2011**

The **Annual Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham** took place on Sunday 26 June 2011. CARJ sponsors and assists with the organisation of this Pilgrimage for around 600-800 pilgrims, musicians and a choir. CARJ organises planning meetings and supports coach organisers from parishes located across the country and we liaise with colleagues at the Shrine on the arrangements. CARJ is very grateful to the Chief Celebrant at the 2011 Pilgrimage, Father Albert Ofere.

## I. CARJ's work to influence the public policy agenda

CARJ contributed to the Communities and Local Government (CLG) Department **Consultation on Draft planning policy for Traveller sites** in August 2011, on behalf of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network. There remains a serious lack of provision in regard to authorised sites for Traveller communities.

In response to the **Consultation on the Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan**, CARJ made a contribution on 13 December, 2011.

In a Consultation in 2011 by the UK Border Agency on settlement which raised issues of racial equality and justice, including the proposal to change the law to limit the rights of **overseas Domestic Workers** to change job if they have an abusive employer, CARJ provided a response arguing that existing protections should be retained.

CARJ participated in a seminar **Examining the Business Case for Diversity**, on 17 October 2011 at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, organised by the Runnymede Trust and financially supported the European Commission.

## J. The August 2011 Riots

CARJ is a member of the **Minority Ethnic Christian Affairs group of Churches Together in England**. CARJ participated in a meeting with Andrew Stunell, Minister for Community Cohesion at the Communities and Local Government (CLG) Department on Tuesday 18 October, 2011. A number of issues were raised including the need for a government Race Equality Strategy. CARJ provided a statement to the Tablet magazine following the August 2011 riots.

## K. DEMOS Project on Faith, Community and Society

The CARJ National Coordinator was invited to be part of the **DEMOS Project Advisory Group on Faith**. The project began in June 2011 and was led by Stephen Timms MP. The first phase of the project looked at the extent to which faith groups could play a role in achieving a greater sense of belonging, increasing social activism and community spirit. A further meeting took place on 9 February 2012 at the Houses of Parliament, London.

## L. CARJ Urban Network

The **CARJ Urban Network** includes more than 100 Catholics and ecumenical colleagues who are involved in or wish to support the Church's work with poor and marginalised communities in our inner-cities and outer estates. The Network is a place for discussion and reflection. Alison Gelder is Chair of

the Network and Richard Zipfel acts as Secretary.

An important meeting of the Network took place On Friday 19 March 2010 at the Las Casas Institute in Oxford. It was scheduled to coincide with the international conference on *Renewing the Catholic Social Conscience*, at Blackfriars on the weekend of 19-21 March. The Urban Network meeting included reports from Birmingham Justice & Peace, from the Hope Family Centre in Wolverhampton, from the Catholic Worker Community in Oxford and from Holy Family Ecumenical Church on Blackbird Leys Estate in Oxford. Prof Tariq Modood also spoke about the recently published Report of the Government's Equality Panel (Prof Modood was a member of the Panel).

The meeting of the Network on 22 June 2010 was devoted to exploring the theme: *Supporting Urban Communities Under a New Government*. Speakers addressed issues of housing and homelessness, migrants, benefits and community organising (*The Big Society*).

The Urban Network held a residential Retreat on 13-14 October 2010 at Wistaston Hall in Crewe. The theme of the retreat was: *Searching for Springs of Hope: supporting poor communities in a time of austerity*. Patricia Stoat led the Retreat, and Mgr Peter Rosser said Mass.

Another meeting of the Network took place on 15 February 2011 at the offices of Housing Justice. The theme was *Poverty, Participation & the Common Good (2010-2015)*.

The Urban Network has links to the newly-formed, ecumenical **Christian Coalition for Urban Mission (CCFUM)**. CARJ has been involved in the ecumenical discussions to establish CCFUM and will continue to be involved in the future... .

## M. Gypsy and Traveller Support Network

CARJ organises a **support network for Catholics and others involved in ministry or service to Gypsies, Roma and Travellers**. There is a residential National Gathering of the whole Network annually, and a Working Group drawn from the Network meets three times a year. *Pilgrim Catholic*, published twice a year, is the newsletter of the Network.

Shortly before the 2010 General Election, CARJ issued a statement criticising the Conservative and Labour Party policies toward Gypsies and Travellers. The Statement was published in *Pilgrim Catholic*. The statement criticised both Labour and Conservative policy proposals as punitive.

The Travellers Working Group met on 16 June, and 26 October 2010 and on 20 January 2011. Matters discussed included:

- diocesan policy on preparation for sacraments,
- draft guidelines for marriage,
- policy towards Gypsies and Travellers under a new government.
- research into Travellers in Prison,
- the Census 2011,
- attempts to expel Roma in France and Italy,
- an ITMB submission (endorsed by CARJ) to the Mayor of London's consultation on Traveller sites,
- the appointment of a second part-time person to work with Travellers in Westminster diocese.
- Dale Farm.

## N. Caste Discrimination and support of Dalits in the UK

During its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in 2009, CARJ reflected on the 'Changing Face of Britain' and highlighted some new priorities for the future. We identified **caste discrimination and support of Dalits in the UK** as one of our future priorities. Although CARJ's work is primarily in the UK, because of the global nature of these issues, there will inevitably be international aspects to the work; and we may find ourselves working with international partners.

To begin addressing these important issues, CARJ and VODI held an interfaith conference which

resulted in the formation of an interfaith **Coalition Against Caste Discrimination**. At the same time, CARJ established a **Dalit Support Group** to take its work on these issues forward.

On Saturday 23 October 2010, during Interfaith Week, VODI and others held a Conference at the Dominion Arts Education Centre, 112 The Green, Southall. The Conference was organised with a view to making local authorities and other organisations aware of what caste is and how it impacts on people, strategies, plans and policies in the UK. CARJ participated fully with other organisations in this conference.

The CARJ Dalit Support Group met with Mgr Paul Watson (Director) and Fr John Redford (Staff) at **Maryvale Institute**, on Monday 13 December 2010 and on Wednesday 26 January 2011 to explore the possibility of a partnership between VODI, CARJ and Maryvale to offer a **Leadership Training Programme**. The meetings were very positive and a consensus was reached around relatively detailed plans for a study programme. The programme would involve students from the UK and other parts of the world and would confer a Certificate and Diploma validated by Maryvale.

During the year, VODI, with CARJ, CBCEW and many others, were successful in pressing the House of Lords to add a provision relating to caste discrimination to the Single Equality Act. The provision gives the Minister power (following the completion of research) to add caste discrimination to the other grounds on which discrimination is prohibited in the legislation.



This power of the Minister (to implement caste discrimination legislation) was made contingent upon the completion of government research into the extent of caste discrimination in the UK. In early 2010, the Government had commissioned the **National Institute of Economic and Social Research** (NIESR) to conduct independent research; and their report *Caste discrimination and harassment in Great Britain* was published on 16 December 2010. It found that caste and caste discrimination does exist in the UK in the areas covered by the *Equality Act*.

The Coalition Government has not yet decided how they will respond to the research; however, indications are that CARJ and others may have to press the government to include 'caste discrimination' in equality legislation.

## **O. CARJ Schools & Young People's Project**

CARJ's project working with schools and young people began in 2006. For the last few years, Charlene Frazer has been working with primary schools and Patsy

Cummings has been working with young people in secondary schools and parishes. At the end of April 2010, **Charlene began her maternity leave**.

At that point, **Patsy took over** some of Charlene's work in addition to her own. From the beginning of the academic year (September 2010) Patsy covered for Charlene in three primary schools: Our Lady of Lourdes, Brent (weekly), St. Anne's, Lambeth (weekly) and St Paul's, Haringey (fortnightly). In each of these schools, she worked with a small group of selected pupils. Patsy had also been working at Cardinal Pole Secondary School in Hackney a half-day a week; and Cardinal Pole asked her to increase

her involvement to a full day each week.

In August 2010, Patsy and Brian Bellevue ran an experimental, week-long Summer Programme around sport and citizenship (in the spirit of the Olympics). Fifteen young people from ten schools and parishes participated.

Alongside her regular work with four schools, during the year, Patsy responded to requests from schools and parishes. She has been into St Ignatius College (Enfield), Maria Fidelis (Camden), and Holy Family Parish (Slough). She has been in contact with Sacred Heart Secondary School (Hammersmith) and St Dominics Sixth Form College (Harrow), and has invitations from three new parishes – in Broxbourne, Shepherds Bush and Hammersmith. She helped Catholic Childrens Society (Westminster) with two events.

The Jesuits have generously supported CARJ's work with young people over recent years. In November 2010, following discussions with the Jesuits, we decided to hold a Conference reflecting on the worldwide mission of the Catholic community to offer quality education to the marginalised. Fr Michael Holman SJ agreed to be one of the keynote speakers at the Conference which will be held on 19 May 2011 at Farm Street Church in central London. The Conference will also involve a representative from the **Christo Rey Network** in the USA. Christo Rey is a Network of Jesuit schools specifically designed to serve poor communities.

## **P. The CARJ Office**

With thanks to all who have made a positive contribution to achieving racial equality through the work of CARJ.



**To join CARJ or to make a contribution**

to the future work of CARJ:

contact CARJ, 9 Henry Road, London N4.

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Cheques payable to CARJ

or the Catholic Association for Racial Justice.

CARJ is a registered charity no. 291601