

Participants' FAQs

Who is doing the research?

Hello, my name is Dr Alistair Hunter. I'm a researcher at the University of Edinburgh's Alwaleed Centre: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/profile/alistair-hunter>

What is the *Burying Our Differences* research project about?

[Please see the home page for an introductory video and more information.](#)

How will the findings of the research be used and publicised?

I will use the findings to create a series of guidance documents for civil servants, local officials and other stakeholders, so that their services can be more inclusive of different groups in society. The guidance will also give examples of good practice in this area.

I will also convey the project findings to MPs and MSPs with the aim of improving the legislation on burial and cremation, much of which dates from the mid-19th century.

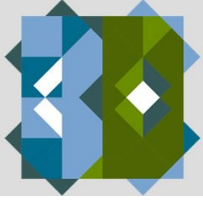
I will also present the results at academic conferences and publish findings in academic journals and books. The text of all academic journal publications will be made freely available to the public, and I will regularly update the project website with my progress: www.bod-project.llc.ed.ac.uk

Who is funding the research?

Burying our Differences is a four-year project funded by the British Academy and the Mairie de Paris (Paris City Council). The funding runs between January 2015 and December 2018.

You're interested in taking part in the research? Great – here's what I will ask you to do.

I will invite you to take part in an interview. Your participation is entirely voluntary and you have the right to decline to answer any particular question without giving a reason. I will ask to tape record the interview but you can refuse permission. You can stop the interview whenever you wish.



What sort of questions will I ask you?

The questions I ask will depend on your role. For example, if you are a funeral director, I will mainly ask questions about your customers' preferences. If you are a religious representative, I will ask about rituals and pastoral care. If you work in the public sector, I will ask about planning issues and policies.

What about confidential information and staying anonymous?

I will treat your details and interview material as strictly confidential: only I will have access to this data. Your data will be published anonymously unless you specifically ask to be credited, in which case I will ask for your prior written approval to publish any of your quotes.

How will the data be stored and safeguarded?

Your data will be stored indefinitely in an electronic database. This database is password-protected: only I will have access to this data. I undertake to securely destroy any paper records containing information about you immediately after this has been entered in the electronic database.

Any further questions?

You have the right to ask any questions in relation to this project before the interview commences as well as at any stage of the interview process or thereafter. If you have any questions after reading this FAQ, please contact me at one of the addresses given below: I will be happy to clarify anything.

Consent and Approval

The *Burying our Differences* research project has been granted approval according to Level 1 Ethical Review as stipulated by the Research Ethics Committee of the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh. No reasonably foreseeable ethical risks have been identified.

My Contact Details

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