Multiculturalism: A Very Short Introduction

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Multiculturalism: A Very Short Introduction believes that multiculturalism is in terminal crisis. It has been blamed for undermining national identity, diluting social cohesion, creating ethnic ghettos, and cultural fragmentation for providing fertile ground for Islamic radicalism, encouraging perverse ‘political correctness’, and restricting liberal freedoms of expression. The public debate over multiculturalism has polarised opinion amongst the general public, policy makers, and politicians. But how much real evidence, beyond tabloid headlines and anecdotes, exists for these claims? This VSI considers the actual evidence to provide a balanced assessment of the truth and falsity of the charges against multiculturalism. There are dangers that lurk in an uncritical endorsement of multiculturalism, and it is time to move on to a form of ‘interculturalism’.