

Tuesday, 20th May 2008

I believe...God is a man



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A majority of people think God is male with nearly half of the population in Britain believing that all religions discriminate on grounds of gender.

Only 1% of people think of God as female, with 62% considering God to be male, the online survey conducted earlier this month of 1,050 adults in Britain found.

The survey showed around three quarters, or 73%, of those who classified themselves as Christian considered God as male.

Just under a half, or 49%, of people think all religions "fundamentally discriminate on grounds of gender" and 56% think all religions discriminate on grounds of sexual orientation, according to the poll findings.

But when asked whether religion has "no place" in modern life only 29% agreed while 62% disagreed.

The poll was commissioned by the Movement for Reform Judaism in Britain to coincide with its launch of its new daily and Sabbath prayer book, or Siddur.

The prayer book removes male descriptions of God such as King, Father and Lord, in favour of "gender neutral" expressions such as Eternal One and living God.

It includes mentions of prominent women from the Old Testament for the first time in prayers such as the Amidah, the central prayer of the Jewish liturgy.

It also provides prayers for 21st century problems such as environmental and natural disasters and prayers for depression, miscarriage and the death of a child.

Most people think God is a man



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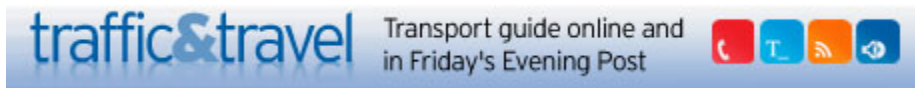


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