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often — not by any means always, but often enough to be worth remarking — between groups that are very similar in their practice and culture, because it is then easy to argue that a very similar group must be a threat to your own uniqueness and to the security of your territory. Communities and societies that have a sense of who and where they are that is positive and internal to themselves will not need to reinforce themselves in the way that virtually indistinguishable groups have to, by stressing who they are not. So a community that is committed to replenishing and not depleting human capital is one that is aware of being in a real place that has its own integrity and character and memory. Memory cannot be manufactured; but any new development needs to build, metaphorically as well as literally, on genuinely local ground, on an area and its history and human geography.

There are no infallible recipes for sustainable communities. But there are ways of identifying what depletes our resources and of combating those factors with some urgency and energy. It has taken time to spot some of the worst offenders; but I hope that after a longish period of what was in many ways a deeply anti-human set of assumptions about living environments we have acquired a few skills. There are plenty of examples of this kind of social enterprise. If there are no infallible recipes, at least there is abundant good practice.

But the more we continue to set this against a backdrop of serious thinking about what human beings need space for (and thus about what human beings are for), the more committed we shall be to resisting that shrinkage of human space that has so often blighted urban and suburban development in the past century (and more). There are things we can do to give new development 'a local habitation and a name', to build as though we understood how human beings become themselves in loyalty to a set of local landmarks and stories and idioms, how they need space for deep conviction to become visible and deep emotion to be allowed expression. If we can act in this way, we shall be planning for communities that can in turn act and plan for a shared future. We shall have shaped a human environment that nourishes imagination — and in the widest sense, nourishes faith.

From a lecture for Church and Society, and the British Urban Regeneration Association. Kent. march 2005

A full version of this speech is available:
[http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/
sermons_speeches/050316.htm](http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/sermons_speeches/050316.htm)

EVENTS

LONDON WEEK OF PEACE 2005

11-18 September

The London Week of Peace 2005 is the only event in London celebrating peace and community cohesion, race and diversity with the faith, community, voluntary, statutory and business sectors in London. This year's event is under the theme of 'Celebrating Families and Friendships.' The Week is facilitated by The Peace Alliance which is a charitable organisation launched in July 2001 in Haringey, as a borough-based initiative to reduce crime and the fear of crime in Haringey. The initiative was supported by the Borough Council and Police Command Force and involved the faith, community and statutory sectors in various events and programmes which impacted on crime. The Alliance believes that peace is only possible through proper Parenting, effective Education, celebrated Achievements, mobilised Communities and sustainable Enterprise.

- Inaugurated in September 2001, the Week of Peace was celebrated in Haringey on a local basis before developing into a London wide event in September 2004.

The London Week of Peace was celebrated in six London boroughs in its first year and engaged over 10,000 Londoners; celebrated the winners of the Peace Awards, and annual award programme celebrating crime reduction initiatives in eleven categories.

Week Events include:

- Peace walks • Peace Concerts
- Arts and Poetry competitions • Peace Assemblies in schools • Community events • Sports events • London Peace Awards dinner. Most events are free for Londoners to attend.

- The London Week of Peace is supported by the Home Office, the Government Office for London, the Greater London Assembly. The Metropolitan Police and various faith organisations in London. Week of Peace events have been attended and endorsed by senior Government officials, politicians, leading artists, prominent local and international figures, sports personalities, senior Police Officers, Borough Mayors, Chief executives and MPs as well as Leaders of Councils and senior Faith leaders

Contact: Tel: 020 8808 9439
www.peacealliance.org.uk

Crucible: Creating Church on the Margins with Urban Expression. Urban Expression is an urban mission agency that recruits, equips, deploys and networks self-financing teams pioneering creative and relevant expressions of the Christian church in under-churched areas of the inner city. It is now promoting its three weekend training events.

Contact Urban Expression