

Fact Sheet:

Religion, médias et identité. L'intégration des jeunes immigrants cubains de première génération au Canada

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Project Description and Goals:

According to Statistics Canada, immigration plays an increasingly visible role in the growth of the Canadian population. According to the current demographic situation, immigration will be, for a long time, the first and almost only source of net population growth in Canada. Among the most important effects of such a policy is the constant enrichment of the ethnic, cultural and religious diversity of Canadian society. Religion appears to play a central role in this phenomenon: very present in political discourse, popular and contemporary media, it is perhaps the most visible dimension of this diversity, and the most difficult aspect to manage in the public arena. It is therefore essential to continue to think about diversity, and the role played by religion in the integration thereof, in order to go beyond the simple accommodation and thus build a fairer and more peaceful Canadian society.

My doctoral research was an exploration of Cuban minority religious evolution in Canada.

Methodology:

The Religion and Diversity Project granted me a Graduate Student Award to travel to Cuba and do an exploratory, prospective and essential field work in order to settle the methodological basis of my doctoral project by overcoming some objective difficulties associated with the nature of my research. Given that Cuba was still under a communist regime, access to information proved to be particularly difficult –Access to scientific data through Internet was almost impossible, it was necessary to travel to Cuba in order to:

1. Create a data base including the bibliography I deemed essential to my doctoral research.
2. To conduct some qualitative interviews to Cuban Skilled Workers already accepted by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.
3. To take pictures to illustrate contemporary religious practices in Havana, Cuba.

Results and Dissemination:

Partial results were presented during the annual conference of the International Society for the Social Studies, held in Orlando, United States, from February 28th to March 2nd, and during a meeting of the Empirical Research of Religious Groups Workshop at the University of Montréal.

RUIZ, Giomny (2014). « Religion, médias et identité : l'intégration des jeunes immigrants cubains de première génération au Québec. Quelques points à considérer ». Actes du Colloque. Cahier de l'ACFAS. Montréal, 2012.