

## **ABSTRACT**

This dissertation presents the results of interviews with a sample of 6 people under 45. The interviews gave the co-researchers an opportunity to discuss, experiences of belonging and not belonging, how they'd become aware of the holocaust and how they felt the holocaust might have impacted their sense of belonging.

The findings suggest that awareness of the holocaust comes largely through the visual media. Belonging (or not) is a more nebulous phenomenon but important constitutive elements seem to be the presence or absence of *sharing, connection, rightness* and feeling *supported* and *special*. All the co-researchers have had their sense of belonging affected in some way by their awareness of the holocaust. It has both informed their morality and given a salience to certain aspects of their identity that they have reacted to in different ways. What they share is a sense that their inheritance has been tainted by the holocaust, leaving them with a restless uneasiness around belonging and a moral and social commitment to accept difference or to remember or both.

The heuristic and artistic methodology used involves the personal responses of the researcher to the co-researchers in the form of writings and, more significantly, specially devised music. The validation of these methods as a means of 'discussing' research data is an important part of the work's *raison d'être*.