



International Council of Christians and Jews  
2021 Virtual Conference  
When all this is over, how do we want the world to be different?

## WORKSHOP

Monday, June 21, 09:00 a.m. UTC:

### **DIALOGUE ON 'MUTE': LESSONS IN INTER-FAITH ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS.**

*Jane Clements, Warren Elf*

During the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, face-to-face dialogue opportunities have been impossible. All inter faith organisations have moved online, making use of such platforms as Zoom. The world has been opened up by the widespread use of webinars, panel discussions, podcasts and educational workshops. Inevitably, this has involved new ways of relating to each other. This is no bad things as, arguably, we may have been working to tried and tested methodologies but with fewer opportunities for innovation.

At FODIP, a UK-based NGO working with Jews, Christians and Muslims, addressing difficult issues, we are used, like many ICCJ participants, to dealing with group dynamics – issues of body language, for example, or participants who use subtle methods to dominate. Now the dynamics have changed; active listening becomes more important and possibilities have opened up for those more reticent in face-to-face situations. There has also been a demand from faith congregations for online insights into other faith traditions – involving those who would never otherwise engage but find the online experience less threatening or demanding.

This workshop will take two case studies. Rabbi Elf will introduce the experience of a potentially hostile pre-Covid dialogue between Jews and Quakers on the subject of Israel. Jane Clements will compare a face-to-face workshop on FODIP's methodology before the pandemic with the online experience of giving the same workshop.

Most importantly, the workshop will explore whether some perceived changes in approaches and responses can be incorporated usefully into practice for how we all work in future.

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#### **Clements, Jane**

Great Britain, Dr Jane Clements MBE, Founder and Co-Chair of FODIP, Consultant in inter-faith relations

#### **Elf, Warren**

Great Britain, Rabbi Warren Elf MBE, Part-time Rabbi for Southend and District Reform Synagogue and Liverpool Reform Synagogue, Co-Chair of FODIP, Trustee (and former Director) of the Faith Network for Manchester (FN4M)