



Report of meeting held at School of Economic Science, 11 Mandeville Place, London W1U 3AJ
See: **Notes of Open Research Group meeting on 14th March 2018: [OpenResearchGroup-180314](#)**

Present: Janos (chair), Mary (notes), Liz, Ashburn. Apologies: Ellena (hospital appointment), Dagem, Ahmet, Bob, Henry, John Mc, Kyle, Liliias, Paul, Maya, Philip, Robin, Sandra, Steve, Trevor, William.

Janos explained the history of the various meetup groups he runs. His project was inspired by the Global Cooperative Forum, founded by Adi Da: <http://kundaliniandcelltowers.com/adi-da-wikipedia-2013.pdf>. On fourth Thursdays, 6-8pm at Royal Festival Hall is the main meeting of Something New Must Emerge, which was a phrase originally used by Adi Da - <https://www.meetup.com/good-world/> Janos envisages a five-year project to understand the basic causes, following twelve academic subjects. The main monthly meeting is on fourth Thursdays: <https://www.meetup.com/goodworldmovement/>. Janoa advertises our own Open Research Group meetings on the same account: <https://www.meetup.com/good-world/events/243342015/>- whilst his original Good World website is still visible at: <http://goodworld.lightnet.co.uk>.

Other members of the group were looking for agreement on intermediate goals for this group, and projects where they could become active and make a difference. Mary recalled that in the early days of Global Table it was a coming together of people actively involved in particular projects, as indicated on the index page: <http://globaltable.org.uk> and inside there are several pages of links: <http://globaltable.org.uk/wp/links>

Ashburn, hosts a regular meeting of people of Caribbean origin in East London, and reported that they are concerned with the prevalence of knife crime in this community: see recent articles in the press: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/mar/21/knife-deaths-among-black-people-should-cause-more-outrage> – and – <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/feb/27/knife-crime-london-young-people-emergency>. What are its causes and what might be done to reduce it?

Firstly, we identified unemployment, and the education system failing young people as possible causes. Mary talked about poor standards of literacy education in schools, and lack of adult education of parents, whose first language was not English, whilst Ashburn felt that knowing what's right and wrong is more relevant. Liz mentioned frustrated teachers, required to do things not contributing to quality. She said that children need people contact, people ambitious on their behalf, creating hope. Gangs come about because people are afraid.

Liz felt that we need to do more community mental health work, large proportion of clients are young black men, mainly second generation, often the mothers came to the UK first, leaving children with grandparents back home, then later, when they are settled the children come over to join their parents, discovering on arrival a couple of younger siblings, and wondered if they have difficulty fitting in. Most Afro-Caribbean parents are christian, with strong values, and run well kept homes, but perhaps their children are lost, and follow the gang instead of their parents – a Guardian Article – claims that treating knife crime as a health issue has led to a dramatic drop in stabbings: of the 35 deaths of young people in Britain this year, none were in Scotland - <https://www.theguardian.com/membership/2017/dec/03/how-scotland-reduced-knife-deaths-among-young-people>

The prison system only sustains the problem - does anyone ever ask the youngsters what went wrong, and do they suffer from a lack of emotional intelligence? Liz referred to Michael Mosley's studies of psychopathy - he looked at appalling psychology experiments, which demonstrated the effect on children of violence acted out - <https://www.simplypsychology.org/bobo-doll.html>. Another reason children out on the streets might be lack of funding for youth centres – is it just the black community or is it happening in the white community?

MF/mf/180322– see other information and links on: <http://globaltable.org.uk/wp/archives/7109>