

# WORLD RELIGIONS WITH DR EMMA WILD-WOOD

## TALKING POINTS

### KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the relationship between faith communities and healthcare providers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)?

### COMPREHENSION

2. Can you summarise the different responses people have to COVID-19 in the DRC?

### ANALYSIS

3. What challenges do you think arise in undertaking research in countries such as the DRC? Think about challenges that fall into different categories such as: geographical, cultural/social, political, personal safety.
4. Amuda says COVID-19 is not seen as a top priority in the DRC. Why do you think this is?
5. How do views on COVID-19 and infectious diseases in the DRC compare to those in your own country and/or local community?

### SYNTHESIS

6. The research project focuses on the DRC but what lessons can be drawn from Emma's team's research that would be applicable to developing disease prevention strategies in other countries?

### EVALUATION

7. Do you think the role of international organisations in providing healthcare in developing countries is generally positive or negative? What are some of the problems with international aid and how can these be addressed?
8. What are the benefits of incorporating views from humanities subjects to address problems such as disease, climate change and poverty?

## MORE RESOURCES

- These two blog posts provide a fascinating insight into the team's research: [blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2021/05/31/remote-research-data-drc-benefits-methodological-pragmatism-community-insiders](https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2021/05/31/remote-research-data-drc-benefits-methodological-pragmatism-community-insiders)

[blogs.ed.ac.uk/covid19perspectives/2021/02/01/religion-trust-and-covid-19-in-congo-in-conversation-with-emma-wild-wood](https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/covid19perspectives/2021/02/01/religion-trust-and-covid-19-in-congo-in-conversation-with-emma-wild-wood)

- The School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh offers outreach programmes for schools, including visit-days for students and CPD events for teachers: [www.ed.ac.uk/divinity/research/impact-and-engagement/schools-outreach](https://www.ed.ac.uk/divinity/research/impact-and-engagement/schools-outreach)

## ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

1. Imagine you are interviewing Dr Wild-Wood for a school magazine. Write a list of 10 questions you would like to ask about her research. Topics you might be interested to ask about include:

- The challenges of conducting research in a developing country and during a pandemic
- How research projects like 'Belief in the time of COVID-19' are translated into practical applications
- Emma's career path to get to this field
- Motivations for this type of research

If you would like answers to your questions, visit Emma's article online and post them in the comments box:

[futurumcareers.com/faith-healing-and-medicine-in-the-time-of-covid-19](https://futurumcareers.com/faith-healing-and-medicine-in-the-time-of-covid-19)

2. Read the World Health Organization's strategy for engaging religious leaders, faith-based organisations (FBO) and faith communities in health emergencies:

[www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240037205](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240037205)

- Looking at the table of 'Actions', identify two you think should be the top priority. Explain your reasons in a poster or class presentation.

- Use this document to prepare a set of 10 questions to ask a faith-based organisation about their relationship with local government and the response to COVID-19. Example questions to ask are: How much contact do you have with local government? Are you working together on public health messaging? How are your members responding to public health messages? If possible, contact a faith-based organisation near you and ask them your questions.

- The School of Divinity's 'Approaching Religion Through Story' resource is particularly interesting, covering Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam: [www.storyandreligion.div.ed.ac.uk/schools/resources](https://www.storyandreligion.div.ed.ac.uk/schools/resources)

- The US Food and Drug Administration has developed lots of useful and free educational resources on COVID-19, including videos and podcasts: [www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-educational-resources](https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-educational-resources)