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## ***Discourses on (Non-)Religion in Edinburgh's Southside***

The central idea behind my ongoing doctoral research is that 'non-religion' – a rhetorical catch-all category comprising positions from 'atheism' and 'secularism' to 'scientism' and 'religious indifference' – is best understood as part of broader discourses on 'religion'. In other words, at a basic level, when people say that "the 'New Atheists' (Richard Dawkins etc.) share more in common with 'Fundamentalist Christians' than the 'average Euro-American' on the street," there might be something to it. They are particularly invested in a particular discourse on religion.

In addressing this I have engaged in an in-depth study of Edinburgh's diverse 'Southside' in order to access a wide variety of discourses on religion within a geographically bounded, localized container. My approach has involved interviews, archival work, spatial approaches, and discourse analysis.

My aims are to...

- ✓provide empirical substantiation for my theoretical argument within a particular context.
- ✓map and analyze the discourses in this context, focusing upon their entanglements and power relationships.
- ✓provide insights relevant to situations of 'religious diversity' more generally.