

RELIGION IN FRANCE

Religion is like money or politics a taboo subject

SECULARISM (La laïcité) is a founding principle of our republics, almost like a keystone

In France, secularism means all the religions have the same importance and religious matters MUST stay private

I/ RELIGION IN SCHOOL

Jules Ferry In 1882 EXPLAINED Religion and education were INCOMPATIBLE

1905 VERY IMPORTANT LAW: SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

In 1959, Michel Debré, De Gaulle's prime minister passes a law: **the gouvernement financially supports Catholic private schools** but School fees are used to maintain the buildings and buy equipment.

2003: The Stasi Commission (J.Chirac) prepared a new law. It was voted and implemented **in 2004:** OSTENTATIOUS RELIGIOUS SIGNS ARE PROHIBITED IN SCHOOLS.

II/ SECULARISM AND ISLAM

Islam is the second main religion in France.

But when it comes to religious practice, It comes first.

The Muslim scarf/ veil/ Hijab

In 1989 in Creil, a « banlieue » in Paris, some Muslim girls were expelled from Junior high for wearing the veil in class.

As the number of cases kept growing, the Stasi law was implemented in 2004 : It forbade religious signs in schools

The Burqa ban

In 2012 president Nicolas Sarkozy passed a law which prohibited wearing a burqa in public areas (including your own car).

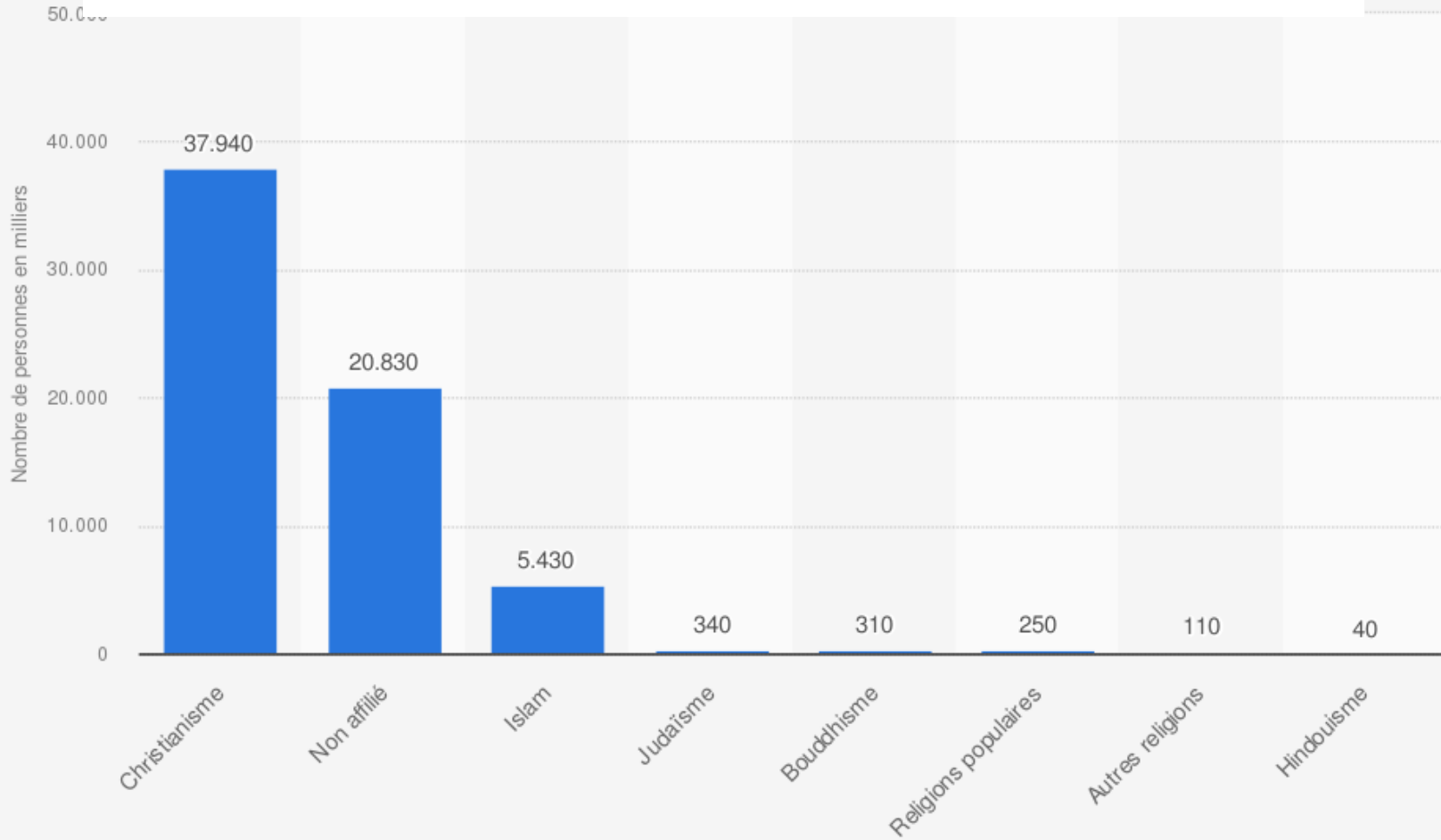
The burkini scandal

In 2016, in many sea resorts, mayors prohibited wearing a burkini on the beach (But you could swim all dressed up !)

The French CONSEIL CONSTITUTIONNEL ruled these law invalid

Terrorist attempts in 11/09/2001 then the ones in Paris en 2013 worsened Islamophobia

RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN France IN 2020



RAPPORT PERSONNEL DES FRANÇAIS À LA RELIGION

Les chiffres présentés ci-dessous s'appuient sur un sondage commandé par l'Observatoire de la laïcité à l'institut Viavoice, et publié en février 2019, afin de faire un état des lieux de la laïcité en France.

Rapport à la religion

A titre personnel, diriez-vous que dans votre rapport à la religion en règle générale, vous vous sentez plutôt... ?



37% DE CROYANTS



**31% DE NON-CROYANTS
OU D'ATHÉES**



15% D'AGNOSTIQUES

Agnostique = sceptique quant à l'existence d'un Dieu.



10% D'INDIFFÉRENTS

NB : 7% de non-répondants

Pratique religieuse

A quelle fréquence avez-vous des pratiques religieuses, qu'elles soient individuelles ou collectives (prières, offices ou rites, fêtes religieuses...)?



14% ont des pratiques religieuses
au moins une fois par mois

Personnellement, comment estimez-vous l'intensité de votre pratique ?

+ **15%** « Très importante »

- **30%** « Peu importante »

⊘ **47%** « Inexistante ou nulle »

laicite.gouv.fr

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/rapport-des-francais-a-la-religion-et-aux-convictions-chiffres-cles>

III/ Catholicism and pedophilia

In France, the Catholic Church faces lots of scandals.

In 2019, the government set up a commission to investigate all the cases: It's called « la CIASE » (Commission indépendante sur les abus sexuels dans l'Eglise) »

In 5 months, "2800 alerts" have been launched and 20 victims have been interviewed, 800 people have been closely investigated

CARDINAL BARBARIN, in France, was called to court to witness in a scandal which concerned a pedophile priest in Lyon (Bernard Preygnat)

As, he was Archbishop of Lyon when it occurred, he was held responsible for NOT denouncing the priest's actions and he was even accused of hiding them.

He resigned March 7th 2020.



CULTS IN FRANCE

The [French National Assembly](#), the lower house of the [Parliament of France](#), set up a **Parliamentary Commission on Cults in France** ([French](#): *Commission parlementaire sur les sectes en France*) on 11 July 1995 following the events involving the members of the [Order of the Solar Temple](#) in late 1994 in the French region of [Vercors](#), in [Switzerland](#) and in [Canada](#).

A REPORT IS PUBLISHED AND UPDATED EVERY YEAR ,
LISTING GROUPS SUSPECTED AS CULTS

Link to the list

<https://www.info-sectes.org/pages/sectes.htm>

A recent article in French published in « Le Monde »

https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2021/02/24/sante-complotisme-survivalisme-les-nouvelles-tendances-des-derives-sectaires_6071084_3224.html

The **MIVILUDES** (*Mission interministérielle de vigilance et de lutte contre les dérives sectaires*; **Interministerial Mission of Vigilance and Combat against Sectarian Drifts**) is a French government agency created in 2002.

It is charged with observing and analyzing the phenomenon of cult movements, coordinating the government response, informing the public about the risks arising from sectarian aberrations and facilitating the implementation of actions to aid the victims

Website

<https://www.miviludes.interieur.gouv.fr/>