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**Stephen Hill**  
Sent by: Stephen Hill

To: Karen Jardine/OFMDFM/DFP@DFP  
Subject: A Shared Future SMEATON

26/03/2003 13:46

KAREN

PLEASE REGISTER AND SUMMARISE.

MANY THANKS

STEPHEN

----- Forwarded by Stephen Hill/OFMDFM/DFP on 26/03/03 01:45 PM -----



**"Brian Smeaton"**  
<smeaton@indigo.ie>

26/03/03 09:30 AM

To: <stephen.hill@ofmdfmi.gov.uk>  
cc:  
Subject: A Shared Future

Dear Stephen

One of the key areas of influencing community is through local media, written and broadcasting.

In Donegal around the time of the United Nations Conference in Durban on anti racism in 2001 ( the twin towers happened the weekend after it finished), the Alliance to End Racism in Donegal was created to address the issue of Racism ( and Sectarianism - which is the same thing ) on a local level. Our first action was to do a research project on local media highlighting what was good practice in reporting ethnicity in relation to Travellers and incoming ethnic groups., and using NUJ guidelines as a bench mark. The Dept of Justice and the Rowntree Trust assisted us with finance. We produced a report and launched it at a seminar to which we had invited local journalists, members of ethnic groups and local interested people. This gave them the opportunity to engage in a wide ranging discussion on ending racism and how local media could assist. This was awatershed in how media treat ethnic questions in Donegal. The Department of Justice are now interested in taking this approach up all over the Republic on a local basis. The basic principles are...what people are doing well, and how that can be improved, using a bench mark, such as the NUJ guidelines. This approach could easily work with education, health and all the other infranstructural elements such as education, health etc.

Well done with the document " A Shared Fute". Eamonn Deane gave me a copy when I was chatting to him recently in Derry. Derry and Donegal have lots of possibilities together.

With appreciation

Brian Smeaton  
Bearnna Ghaoithe  
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Trentach  
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