Making social worlds
Inclusion ceremonies

Ram Gidoomal:
What we're finding over this period is communities becoming more and more separate and so community cohesion is an important issue. How do you achieve that? Well one way of doing that is citizenship ceremonies, making that whole process of somebody becoming a citizen a more important event, something that is not just tick the boxes and we're now done but it's something active that needs to happen for someone to achieve and work at being a good citizen. So to me I see the government's initiatives seeking to achieve that to bring about more active citizenship, communities coming closer together, working together, understanding each other, and I think that is a very important issue to address I attended the very first ceremony in Brent Town Hall and it was fantastic, it was the first, Prince Charles was there and it was just fabulous to see it. Now can we reproduce that? Because there was a party, a celebration. Honour is being conferred on these local folk who've gone through the test and what they need to go through to satisfy the criteria of receiving, being presented, a document confirming this citizenship and I compare it to something that was sent to me in the mail in a brown envelope which I was afraid to open thinking it was the tax bill, so when you get something on Her Majesty's Service and you think, what is this?