#### **Martine Cohen**

martinecohen51@gmail.com

### A French Model? ....destablized

#### 1789 ..... 1791

 Freedom of conscience and opinion, even religious

Equal Civil Rights to Jews (1st non Christian minority)

# 1802, 1808: Napoleonian reorganisation of cults

Formal equality... not immediately for all

Only between 4 « authorized » cults

# 1880's: Public School: Separation between State and Catholic Church

 Freedom of conscience and opinion, even religious

Equal Civil Rights to Jews (1st non Christian minority)

## 1905: Separation between State and the Churches

- Larger formal equality
- 1907-1923: First accommodation : with the Catholic Church
- Free constitution of new religious jewish associations, and de facto monopoly of the israelite Consistory

### 1946, 1958

« Laïcité » is inscribed in the Constitution

Without definition

#### 1959: The Debré Law

 Confessional Private School can be subsidized by public State

With conditions: accepting every pupil (not considered their faith or non-faith) and including the National program in the curriculum.

### The 2000's: New debate on laïcité

- Religious diversity ++, More visible
- A conflictual context, Religions involved in international Politics
- Islam

### 2002: The Debray Report

Teaching <u>about</u> religions in public schools

 Training teachers (in history, arts and Litterature)

#### 2004, 2010: New laws

 Too visible religious signs are forbidden to pupils at school

 Integral covered face (veil) is forbidden in public sphre (streets)

### What is neutrality? for whom? where?

- Who are the « public agents »?
- What is the « public sphere » ?

#### The Central state destabilized

- General globalization (financial powers, big business corporation: Google, Amazon...)
- Non state armed group
- A weak political Europe

#### The Central state destabilized

 Municipalities organizing « togetherness » including religious groups