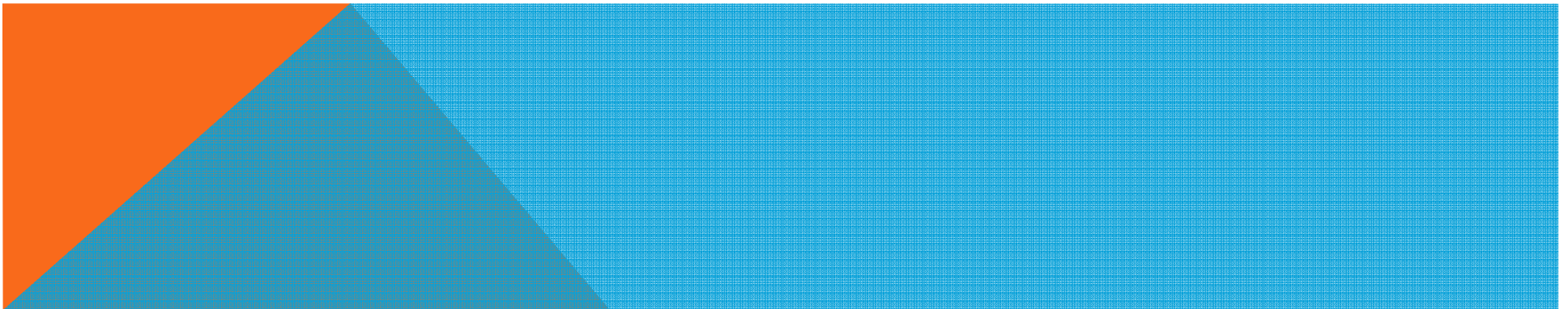


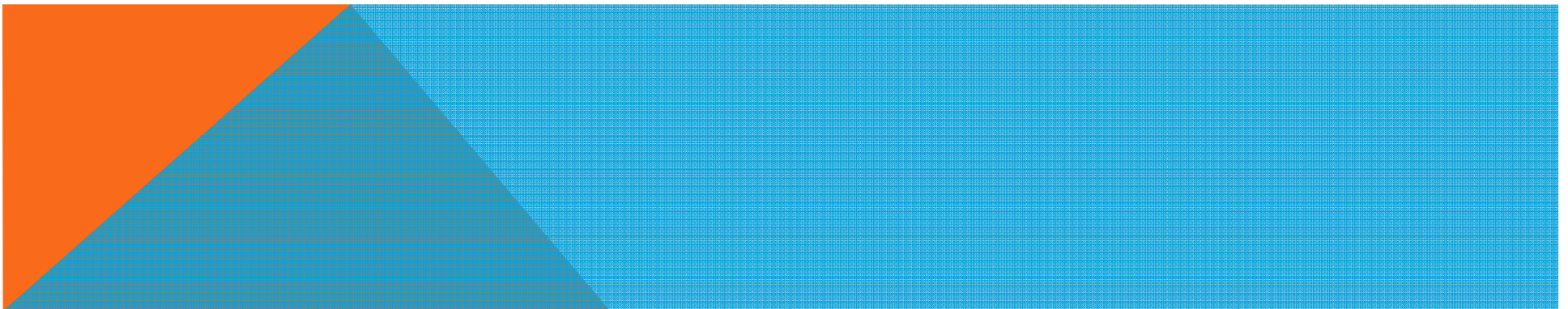
YEAR 12 PROGRAMME

- Loss, Grief, Death and Dying
- Religions of the World
- Justice and Peace



YEAR 12 PROGRAMME

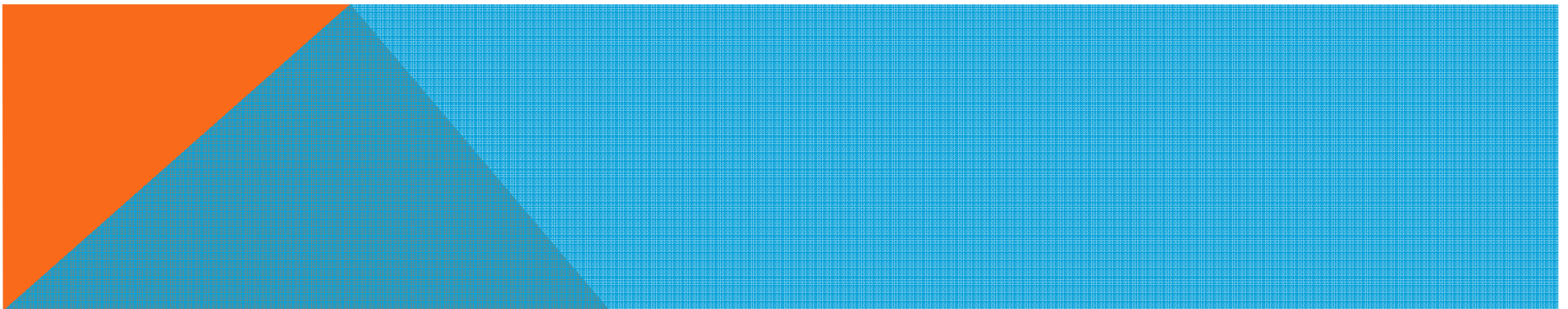
- Art and Architecture
- Commitment and Ministry
- The Gospel Story



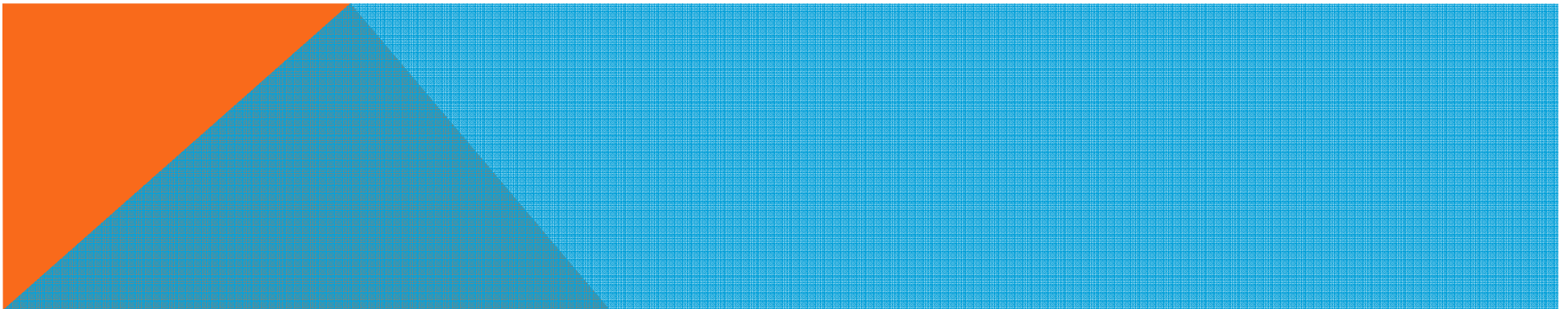
CENTRAL THEME TO YEAR 12

What role does God play in our society?

- None
- Huge
- Religion is for those who are scared of going to hell.
- Spirituality the new religion.

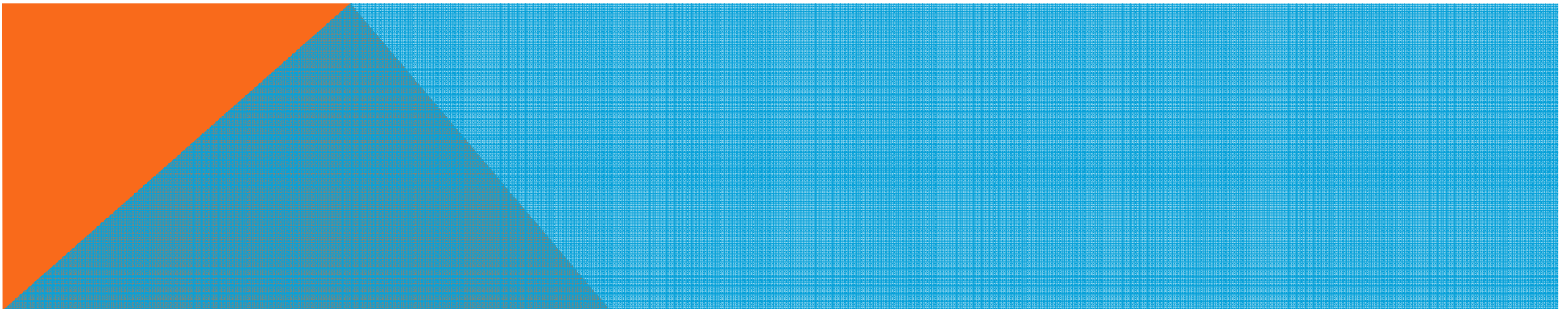


**WRITE YOUR OWN
DEFINITION OF RELIGION.**



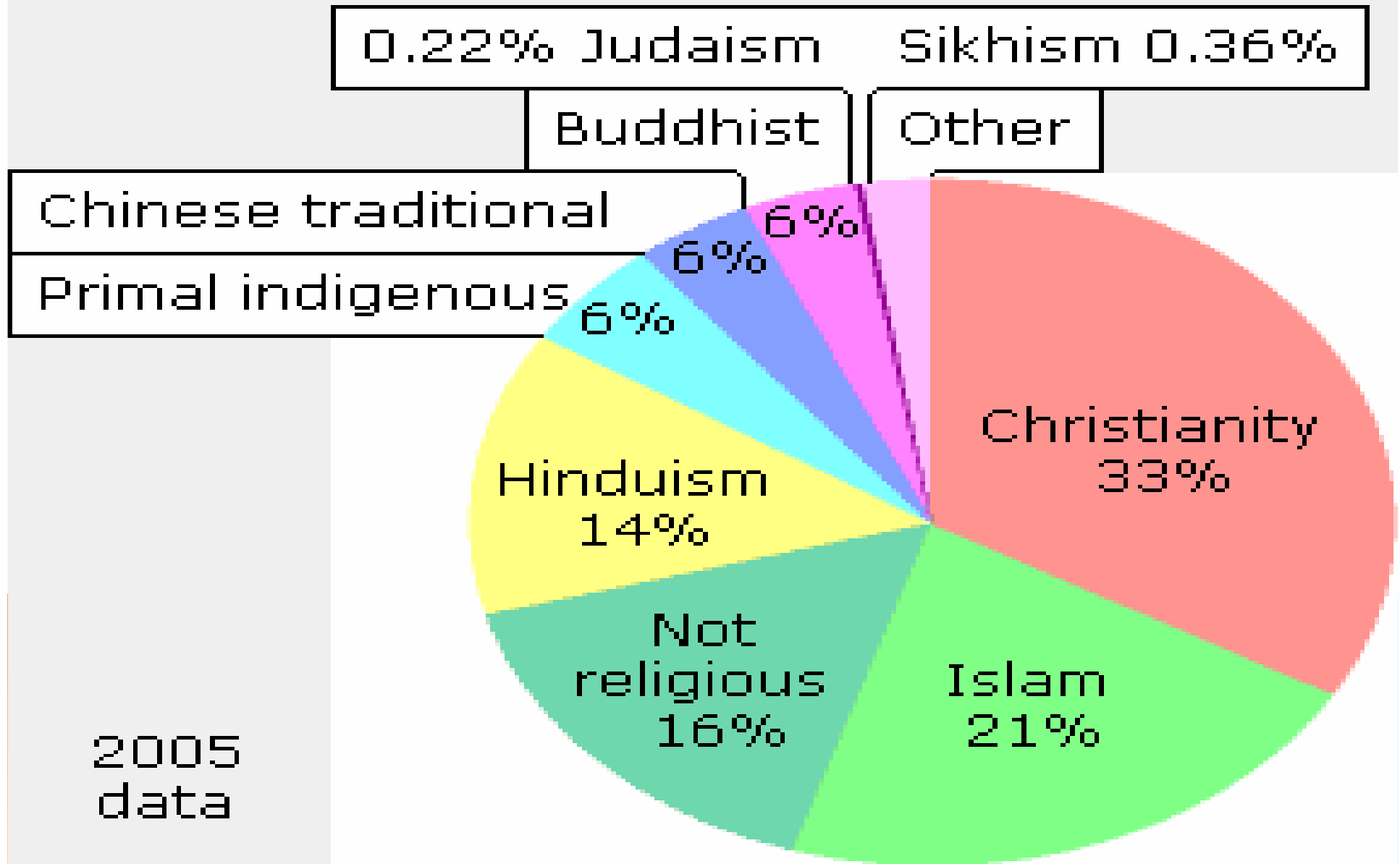
RELIGION

- We understand that all cultures have something they call God.
- According to the latest data most people on the planet believe in some kind of spirituality.



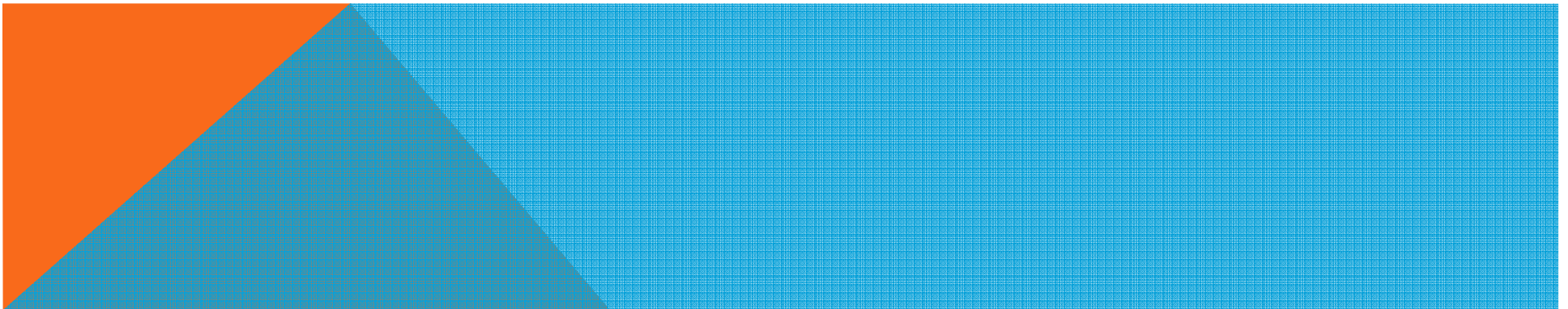
Major religious groups

(percentage of world population)



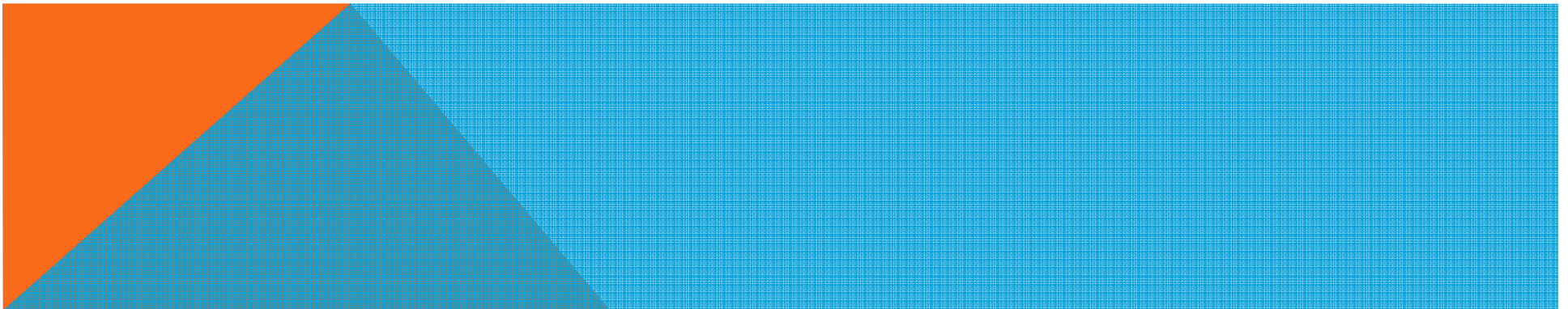
VIEWS ON GOD

“If God had a name, what would it be
And would you call it to his face
If you were faced with him in all his glory
What would you ask if you had just one
question.”



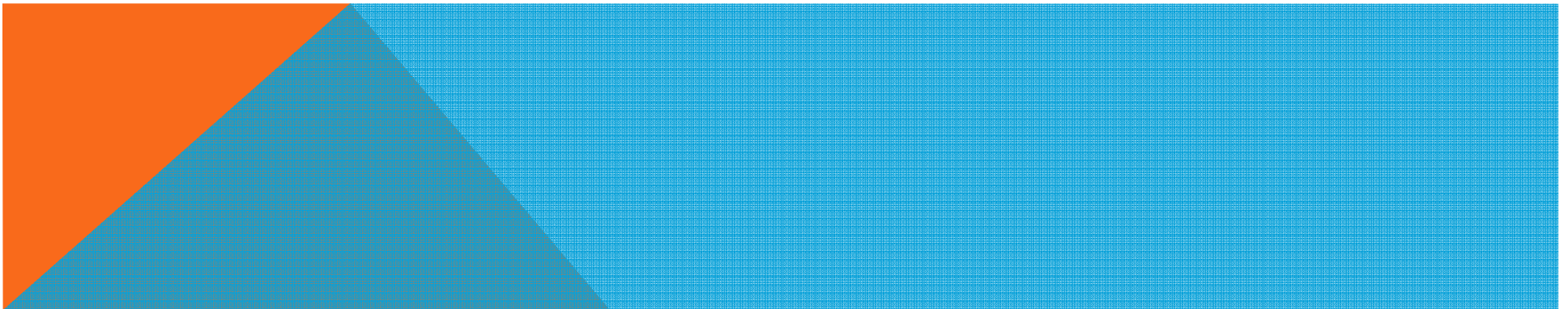
FUTURE

The decline of religion has often been predicted, but current global developments suggest it isn't so much disappearing as taking new forms. Some have even suggested that a commitment to 'the mighty dollar' has become the new religion.

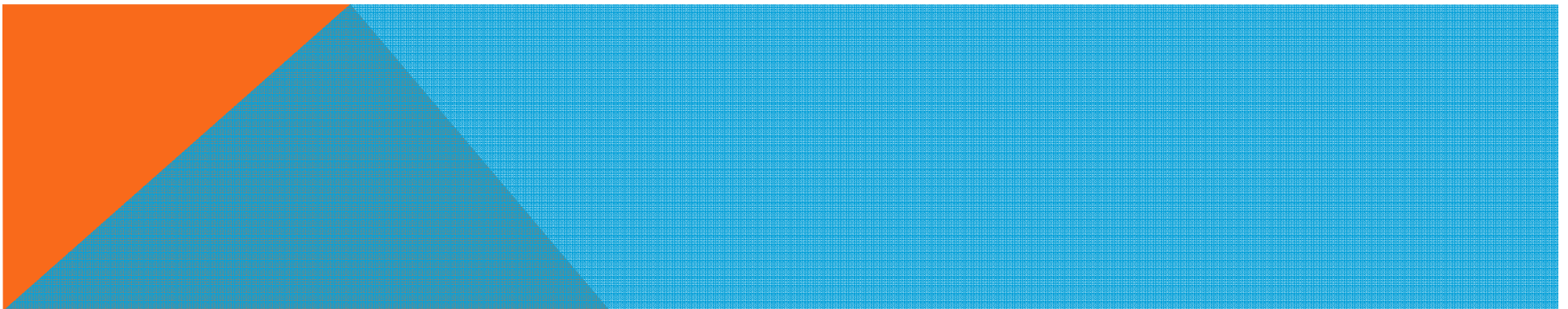


WHAT'S THE POINT???

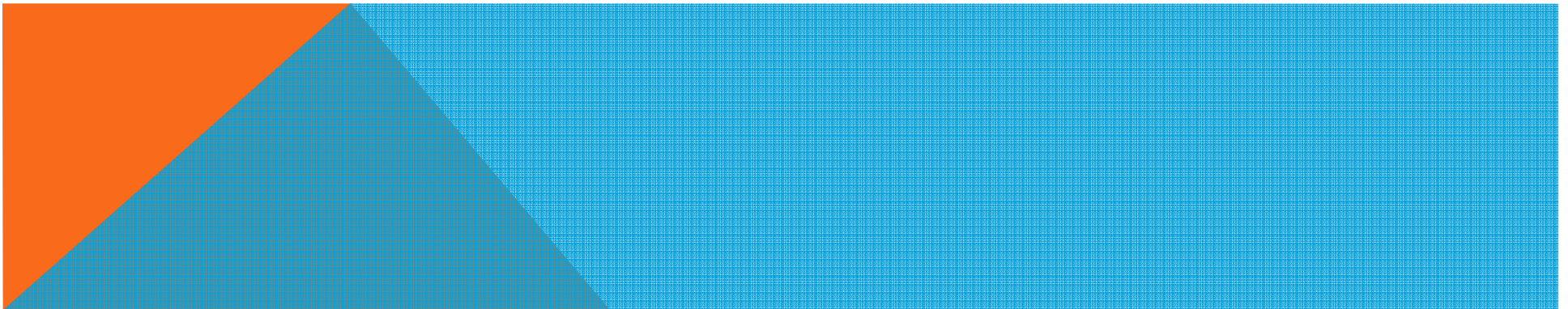
In this era of shopping and instant gratification we are a people engaged in the pursuit of self-interest. But looking after number one is just a part of human nature: equally important are such seemingly outmoded qualities as faith in God.



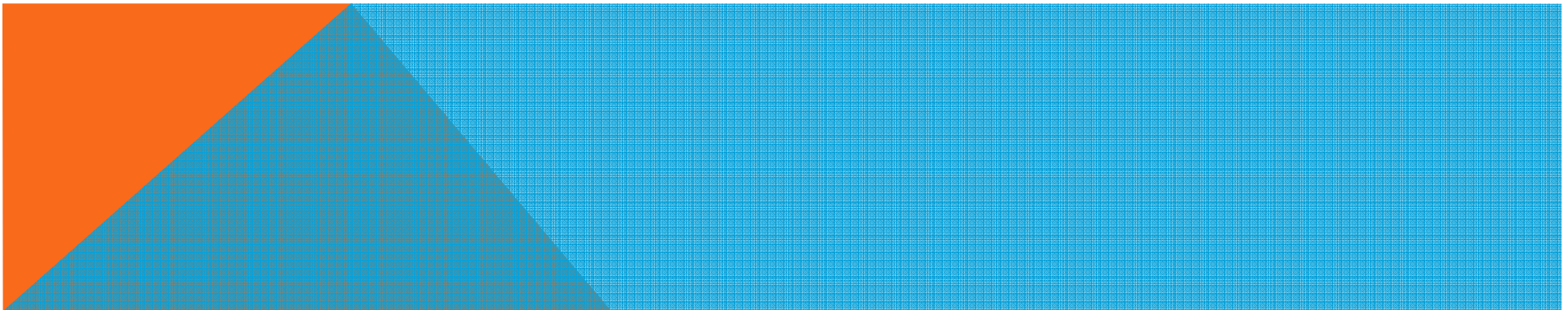
History shows, religious faith or belief can often prove to be a much stronger force than considerations of pure self-interest. In some circumstances people will even sacrifice their life for their faith.



Religion acts as one of the major guides of human behaviour. Humankind is incurably religious although the form and object of his religious feelings may change over time.

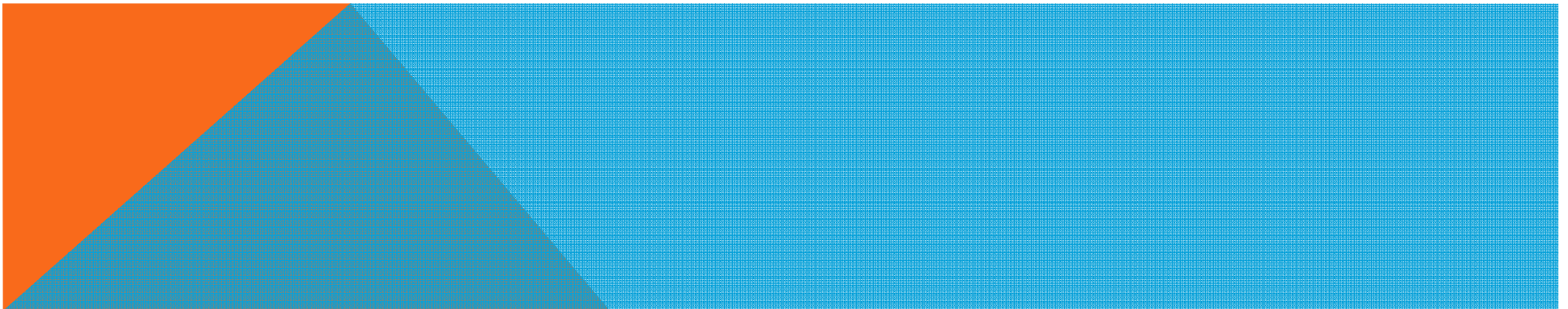


The role of religion in respect to peace building and conflict can often be ambiguous. Religious institutions such as churches are frequently to be found at the heart of conflict prevention and peace-building activities. However, there are also examples of religious institutions failing to promote peace and even fanning the flames of conflict.



FUTURE

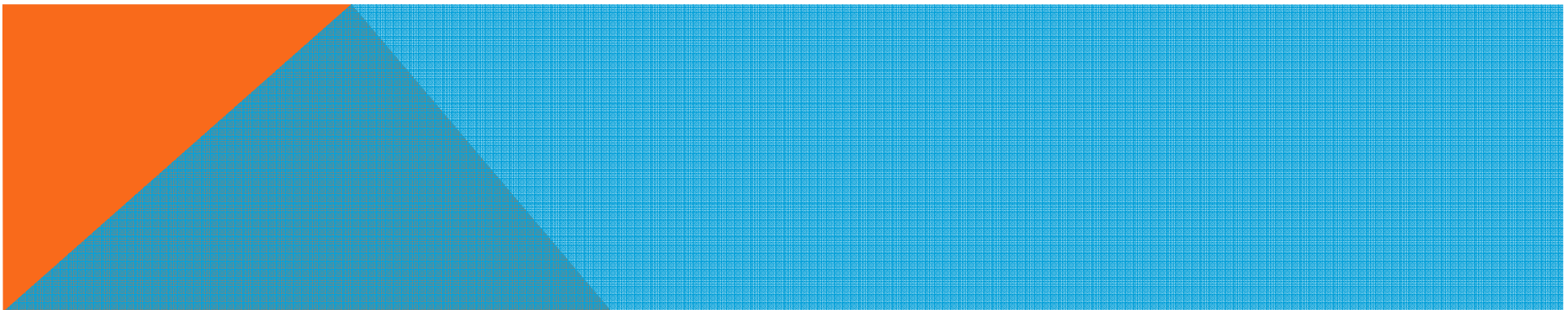
The decline of religion has often been predicted, but current global developments suggest it isn't so much disappearing as taking new forms. Some have even suggested that a commitment to 'the mighty dollar' has become the new religion for a global era.





**HERE ARE SOME
QUESTIONS FOR YOU.....**

- *Why am I here?*
- *Is there anything greater than human beings?*
- *What will happen to me when I die?*
- *What is the point of human life?*
- *How can we know about God?*
- *What distinguishes one religion from another?*
- *What is religion and religious faith?*
- *Should religion give you guidelines for living or should religion enable you to know God?*

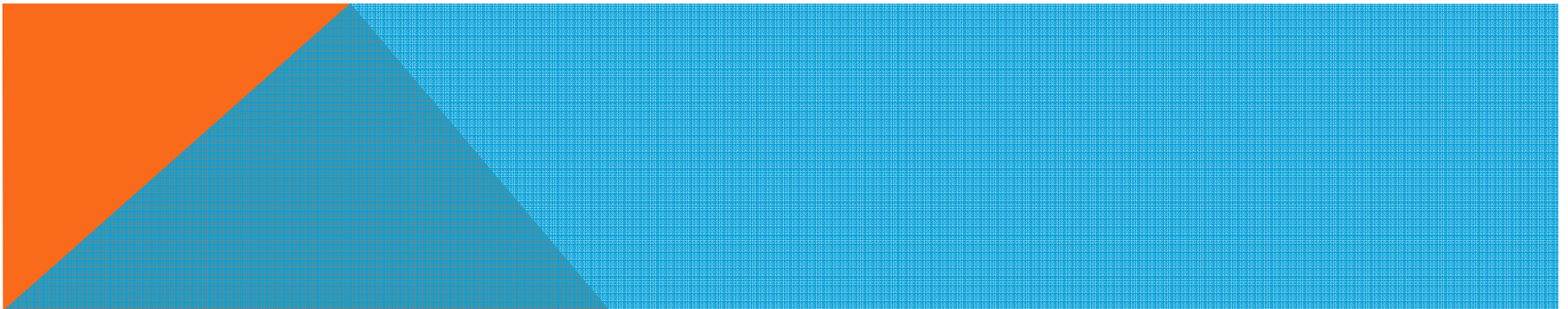


RELIGION IS...

“Religion is a port in the storm of life.” Lovat

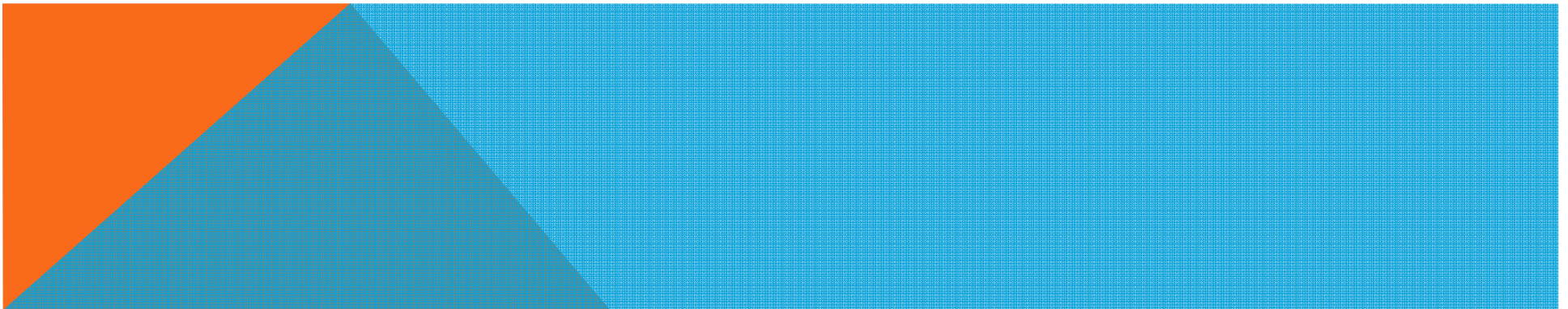
“Science and Mathematics unravel the problems of the universe: religion responds to the mystery of the universe.” Wilde

“Religion is a drug, it does the same as pot, but it’s cheaper.”



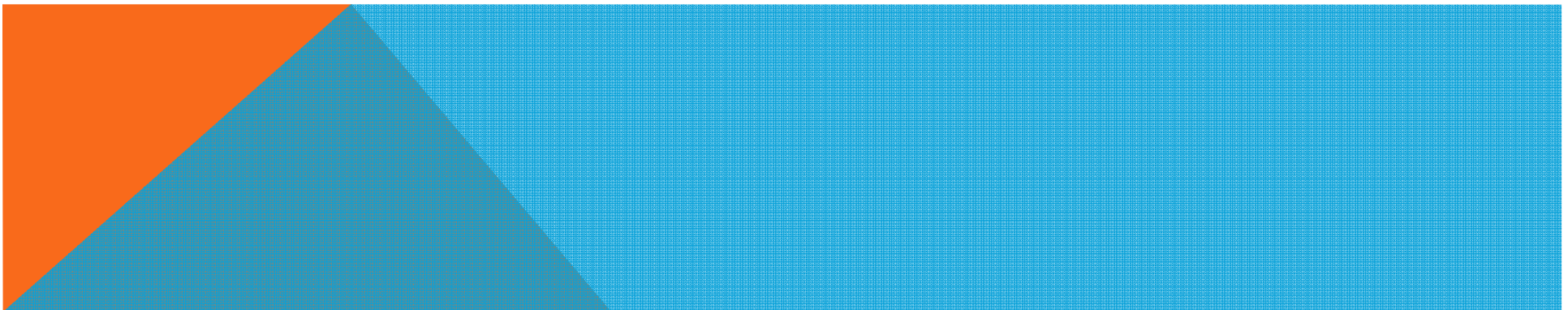
Recognition on the part of human beings of some higher unseen power as having control of their destiny and as being entitled to obedience, reverence and worship: the general mental and moral attitude resulting from this belief, with reference to its effect upon the individual or the community: personal or general acceptance of this feeling as a standard of spiritual and practical life.

Shorter Oxford English dictionary, 1984.



“Religion is a system of beliefs and practices by means of which a group of people struggles with the ultimate problems of human life.” Dictionary of Religions

“Religion is the whole complexus of attitudes, convictions, emotions, gestures, rituals, beliefs and institutions by which we come to terms with, and express our most fundamental relationship with Reality (God and the created order, perceived as coming forth from God’s creative hand).”



LETS COMPARE THESE TO NEW AGE BELIEFS:

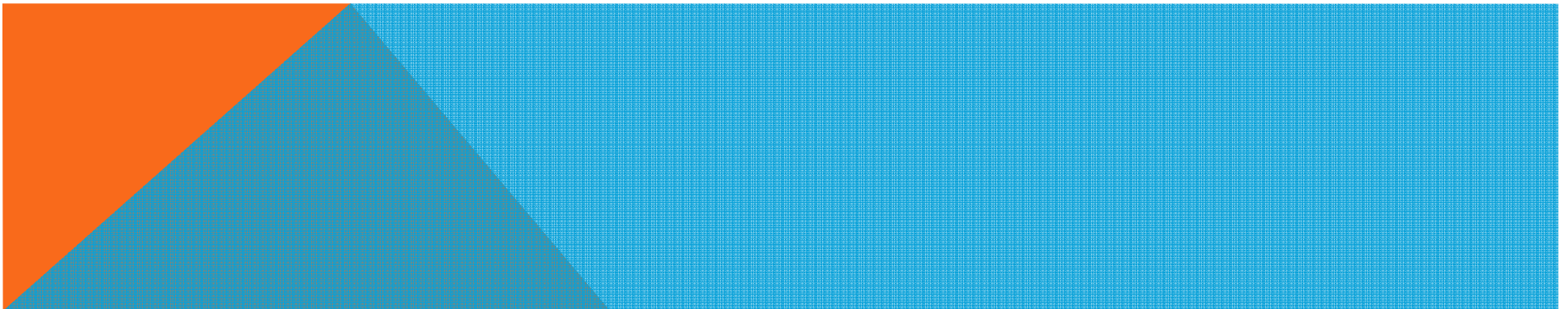
Ghosts 34%

UFOs 34%

Astrology 27%

Reincarnation 23%

Witches 22%



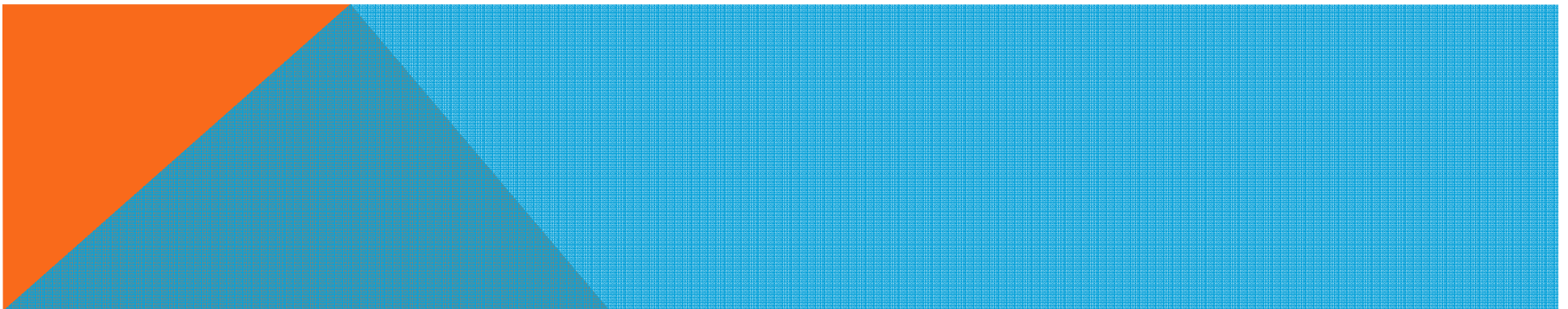
LET'S FINISH WITH SOME STATISTICS:

95% of people believe in something divine

90% believe in God

85% believe in heaven

82% believe in miracles



**69% OF PEOPLE BELIEVE
RELIGION SHOULD HAVE
GREATER IMPORTANCE IN
OUR LIVES**

ALL DATA FROM TIME JANUARY 2007

WHAT DO YOU THINK?