

The role of emotions in interethnic relationships of Muslims: feminism and masculinities

Workshop theme

The role of emotions in interethnic relations with Muslims

Organizers:

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Summary (50)

This multidisciplinary workshop explores emotions in interethnic relationships between Muslims and others in creating cultures of fear and relationship building work. The workshop addresses the intersectionality of gender and ethnicity in the construction of Muslim identities for men, women and young people in Sweden, Iraq, Bulgaria and Ukraine.

Abstract (250)

Anecdotal evidence and research confirm that since September the 11th 2001 anti-Muslim feelings and unaware identification of people as 'Muslim' have increased in Western countries. In response many young people with Muslim identities are moving towards political Islam. Simultaneously, orientalism combined with gender discrimination makes specific groups invisible; for example the resistance of Iraqi women against the invasion; or Iranian men in Sweden who report that it takes them two years in every new group to overcome the images in the dominant majority's minds of the violent Middle-Eastern man.

This workshop focuses on the role of emotions in creating a culture of fear as well as in healing from the separations between Muslims and non-Muslims in a range of different contexts. Opposing the thesis that simply proximity will create closer relationships and better understanding, the position is explored whether opportunities to express emotions while being heard by one's own group and the 'other' can help build better interethnic relationships with (non-)Muslims.

The workshop draws on feminist approaches and masculinity studies in order to address the intersectionality of gender and ethnicity in the construction of Muslim identities. The discussion will be multidisciplinary with contributions from sociology, anthropology, criminology, International Relations and political theory.

We bring together papers on interethnic relationships of Muslims with non-Muslims, Islam and democracy, women and multiculturalism, displaced masculinities and Iranian men in Sweden, the invisibility of Iraqi women's resistance, intersectionality, space and emotion, emotions and counter-terrorism, young Turkish people in Bulgaria and Young Crimean women in Ukraine.