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Muslim Head Coverings

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Muslim Head Coverings

Abstract
I researched female head coverings in the Muslim culture, to see how the veils affected society and society’s response to the covering.

Keywords
Muslim women, head coverings, hijab, religious discrimination

Disciplines
Islamic Studies | Islamic World and Near East History | Religion | Women's Studies

Comments
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**SOCIETAL VIEW**
- an expression of religious devotion
- an oppressive tool that subjugates women
- symbolic of a woman without rights, a voice or a choice
- in need liberation and empowerment

**WHY? MEDIA**
- Television networks after the 9/11 attacks
- Promotion of global ignorance
- Confirmation of false stereotypes
- Places Muslim women as “other” in society

**REALITY**
- an expression of religious devotion
- affordable means of gaining respect for lower-class women
- way to avoid male harassment
- announces the respectability of the woman
- dignifying

**EFFECTS OF IGNORANCE**
Discrimination against Muslims and the constant feeling of being an outsider to Western societies

**ISLAMOPHOBIA**

2004: France banned the wearing of religious symbols in all French schools

**IT’S A PERSONAL CHOICE!**

“Despite society’s negative perception, hijabs have been widely misunderstood; they are really a personal choice and cultural statement, that a woman’s character should be the focus, instead of her outward beauty.” - Raven C. Waters

**A WOMAN’S CHOICE TO BE JUDGED FOR HER:**
- intellect
- character
- personality
- accomplishments
- religious devotion
- cultural connection
- respectability

**FASHION STATEMENT:**
- self-expression
- style
- uniqueness
- faith
- happiness
#hijabfashion