# The Color of Terror and the Psychology of Hate: Race and the American Muslim Experience post 9/11

#### Mona H. Siddiqui

Attorney and Ph.D Student, Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, Virginia Commonwealth University

## Who are American Muslims?



## Racial Composition of the U.S. Muslim Population

#### **U.S. Muslims**

	Total	Foreign born	Native born	General public
	%	%	%	%
White	30	38	18	68
Black	23	14	40	12
Asian	21	28	10	5
Other/Mixed	19	16	21	2
Hispanic	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER 2011 Muslim American Survey.
RACE, HISP. General public results from June 2011 Current
Population Survey. Figures may not add to 100% because of
rounding.

## Muslims and Race

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeeZZw7B4vo



## Islamophobía

A fear of Islam and Muslims, which manifests itself in oppression, occurring on both individual and structural levels

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aecZZw7B4vo

### Microaggression

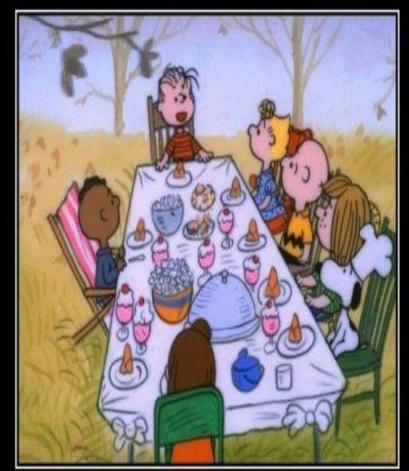
recognizes that racism is engrained in the fabric and system of American society.

#### Microaggression

Daily acts of indignity on the basis of race

"...sudden, derogatory, or hostile non-physical aggression or interaction between individuals of a different race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, or ability, consciously or unconsciously perpetrated, based on assumptions about race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, or ability, that most individuals have absorbed from their own established cultural heritage. These same assumptions, or internalized belief systems, may seep into public civic institutions, including government, schools, the corporate sphere, and personal lives."

-Chester Pierce



### RACISM

Sometimes it's subtle

## What Next?

#### The Role of Americans

- Bridge Understanding among diverse communities to find fundamental values shared by all Americans
  - The fundamental value of FREEDOM and LIBERTY that brought us all to this country.
- Stand up for each other! Don't stand on the sidelines when you see hatemongering in any, shape, or form.
  - Actively Integrate into the fabric of this country by uniting together to

## The Role of Law and Public Policy

- Develop policies that effectively address experiences of discrimination that the Constitutional values of civil rights, justice, and equality are meant to protect.
- Include Diverse voices of Muslim communities within the political discourse
  - Including the mutual goal of battling radicalism and its potential for extremist

## Thank you

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= s57kPS gjM



## References

- Council on American-Islamic Relations (2016, May 25). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= s57kPS gjM.
- Delgado, R. & Stefancic, J. (2012). Critical race theory: An introduction.
- Mashable News (2016, February 4). Struggling to Hide her faith, Exposing Islamophobia. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeeZZw7B4vo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeeZZw7B4vo</a>.
- Pew Research Center. (2007, May 22). Survey of American Muslims.
- Pew Research Center. (2016, January 6). A new estimate of the U.S. Muslim population.
- The Economist (2015, December 9) Islamophobia in America