

***Survey
of
Surveys***

**Concerning
Islam & Muslims**

By

Islam Surveyed

2015

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For further information about "*Islam Surveyed*" see:
<http://islamsurveyed.blogspot.co.uk/>
Email: islamsurveyed@gmail.com

1.0 About this Survey of Surveys

Surveys and polls concerning Islam and Muslims regularly hit the headlines.

Often alarming, sometimes reassuring, and difficult to put into context they can confuse more than illuminate. And, there is always the question of survey and poll quality.

This is a survey of such surveys from reliable sources published over the last five years or so, compiled with the objective of providing a clear picture and a convenient reference.

2.0 Summary

British Muslims

A large minority of British Muslims subscribe to values that clash with those held by the majority of British people. The proportion ranges from around 15% to 30% depending on the topic.

27% had some sympathy with the killers of the Charlie Hebdo staff. 11% believe those who publish images of Mohammed deserve to be attacked. 20% have some sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria.

29% would prefer to live in Britain under Sharia law rather than British law. 17% believe it is appropriate that Muslims who convert to other religions are cut off by their family and even worse, 31% agree Muslim conversion to another religion is forbidden and punishable by death.

Muslims themselves see the divide. 16-20% say there is a clash between Islam and British values.

Much of the time this might not be apparent as large numbers maintain dual identities. Just as many (77%) say they identify strongly or extremely strongly with Britain, as say they identify strongly or extremely strongly (75%) with their religion.

For ethnic minorities in general in Britain, research shows that 44% say they identify as strongly with their ethnic group as they identify with Britain. 22% hold entirely to their original culture. 21% have lost their original culture but have taken nothing of British culture. Only 13% are assimilated.

Dual identity is not necessarily a bad thing but when starkly conflicting values are involved it is a cause for concern.

British People

The majority British view of Islam and Muslims is strongly negative.

Over half (55%) believe there is a fundamental clash between Islam and British values and six in 10 (61%) have a negative or wholly negative view of Islam.

A large majority (81%) would support a ban on wearing of a full face veil or niqab in public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals. 71% believe the media should publish material even if it offends the religious views of some people.

The World's Muslims

On average, seven in 10 (70%) Muslims in the greater part of the Muslim world favour making Sharia the Law of the Land.

Of these, 58% favour whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers, 60% favour stoning as a punishment for adultery, and 53% favour the death penalty for apostasy. And, on average 43% of Muslims favour gender segregation in the workplace. It is as high as 85% in Pakistan.

Large minorities (10-30%) believe suicide bombing against civilian targets can be often or sometimes justified in order to defend Islam from its enemies.

It is difficult to find words that might qualify these horrendous results of surveys by the Pew Research Center, a highly reputable research organisation.

Knowledge and education topics also provide results alarming to modern people.

Nearly half (44%) of Muslims believe in creationism; humans and other living things have always existed in their present form. A staggering two in three (64%) deny that Arabs (Muslims) carried out the 9/11 attacks.

Muslims in Europe and Western Countries

In Germany more than one in five (22%) Muslims are against integration and reject German values. Over half of French Muslims say they will marry only another Muslim.

Nearly half (47%) of Canadian Muslims believe they should be free to choose to be ruled by Sharia courts in the case of divorce and other family matters.

Three quarters of Australian Muslims think counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. Many of them explain terrorism as the result of *"the history of occupation and invasion throughout the Middle East"*.

Western Views

On average in Europe's largest countries over half (54%) of Europeans believe Islam is incompatible with the Western world. Seven in 10 (69%) would approve a ban on veils that cover the whole face.

More than half (57%) of Germans believe Islam poses a threat to Germany. 52% believe it does not belong in German society. They see Islam as an "archaic religion, incapable of fitting into modern life".

Three quarters (74%) of the French think Islam is intolerant and that it is incompatible with the values of French society.

Half of Danish citizens favour a cap on the number of Muslims permitted to live in Denmark.

3.0 Headline Results

This section lists the publisher of each survey, the date of publication, and the headline results.

3.1 Surveys - British Muslims

Sky News, April 2015

Nearly one in five (16%) British Muslims believe British values are not compatible with Islam.

(This is in line with the findings of a survey for the BBC in February)

Four in 10 (39%) British Muslims believe the police and MI5 contribute to the radicalisation of young Muslims.

One in five (20%) have some sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria.

BBC Radio 4, February 2015

One in five (20%) British Muslims believe British liberal society can never be compatible with Islam.

More than one in four (27%) had some sympathy with the killers of the Charlie Hebdo staff. One in 10 (11%) believe those who publish images of the Prophet Mohammed deserve to be attacked.

And, one in 10 (11%) are sympathetic towards people who want to fight against western interests.

Nearly one in five (17%) believe it is appropriate that Muslims who convert to other religions are cut off by their family.

Understanding Society - University of Essex, December 2013

Nearly half (44%) of Britain's ethnic minority people say they identify as strongly with their ethnic group (and by implication with the values of that group's culture) as they identify with Britain.

Of the rest 22% are separate; they hold entirely to their original culture. 21% are marginalised; they have lost their original culture but have taken nothing from British culture.

Only 13% are assimilated. They strongly identify only with Britain and there is less potential for a clash with the values of their ethnic group.

Gallup – The Co-exist Foundation, 2009

British Muslims identify as extremely strongly or as very strongly with their religion (75%) as they do with Britain (77%).

British Muslims are much less inclined to see not wearing a veil (only 12% of them) and acceptance of comments about their faith which they deem offensive (9%) as necessary features of integration, than French or German Muslims.

Policy Exchange, January 2007

Three in 10 (31%) British Muslims agree Muslim conversion to another religion is forbidden and punishable by death.

Half (51%) agree a Muslim woman may not marry a non-Muslim.

Three in 10 (29%) would prefer to live in Britain under Sharia law rather than British law.

3.2 Surveys - British People (non-Muslims)

YouGov-Cambridge, March 2015

The majority (55%) of British people believe there is a fundamental clash between Islam and British values.

For Conservative voters the figure is 68%. For Labour 48%, and UKIP 89%.

Only one in five (22%) believe Islam is compatible with British society.

YouGov, January 2015

Six in 10 (61%) British adults have a negative or wholly negative view of Islam.

Sunday Times, January 2015

Seven in 10 (69%) of people believe it was acceptable for Charlie Hebdo to publish cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed.

Seven in 10 (71%) believe the media have an obligation to show controversial items that are newsworthy even if they may offend the religious views of some people.

Only one in 10 (11%) believe the media have an obligation to avoid offending religious views.

Channel 4 News, October 2013

Eight in 10 (81%) people would support a ban on wearing of a full face veil or niqab in certain public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals.

More than half (55%) would support such a ban in any public place.

BBC, September 2013

Six in 10 (60%) young British people (18 – 24 years-old) think Islam has a negative image. (For other religions it ranges from 11% to 17% thinking the religion has a negative image.)

Just over a quarter of young people (27%) do not trust Muslims.

Nearly half (44%) tend to agree or strongly agree that the Muslim community does not share the same values as people in the rest of Britain.

Sunday Times, May 2013

Six in 10 (60%) British people believe the great majority of Muslims are peaceful and law-abiding citizens but there is a dangerous minority.

One in seven (14%) think a large proportion of British Muslims feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to condone or even carry out acts of terrorism.

Half (50%) think a significant number of the leaders of Britain's Muslim communities are turning a blind eye to terrorism.

University of Nottingham, May 2013

Over half (59%) of British people agree or tend to agree there will be a "clash of civilizations" between Muslims and native white Britons.

(This followed the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby. Six months before the figure was 49%.)

63% agree or tend to agree the vast majority of Muslims are good British citizens.

45% think free speech in Britain is threatened by the influence of Muslims in the media

Chatham House, January 2013

Nearly half (49%) of British people agree or tend to agree there will be a "clash of civilizations" between Muslims and native white Britons.

Over half (52%) agree or tend to agree higher birth rates within Muslim communities pose a fundamental threat to British national identity.

Fewer than one in four (24%) think Muslims are compatible with the British way of life.

Extremis Project, September 2012

Nearly four in 10 (37%) would be more likely to vote for a party that promised to reduce the number of Muslims/presence of Islam in British society.

YouGov, April 2011

Two thirds (66%) of the public agree the burkha should be banned in Britain.

Searchlight Educational Trust, February 2011

More than two in three (68%) people think religion should not influence laws and policies in Britain.

Over half (52%) think Muslims create problems or a lot of problems. (For other religions it ranges from 7% to 15% thinking the religion creates problems or a lot of problems.)

Six in 10 (60%) think people should be allowed to say what they believe about religion, however critical or offensive it might be.

More than four in 10 (43%) would support a campaign to stop the building of a mosque near where they live.

3.3 Surveys – Muslims in Islamic Countries

Pew Research Center, July 2014

Large minorities (10-30%) in most large Muslim countries believe suicide bombing can be often or sometimes justified against civilian targets in order to defend Islam from its enemies.

University of Kirikkale and Happy Kids Association, April 2013

One in three (34%) Turkish men believe violence against women is "occasionally necessary".

Pew Research Center, April 2013

On average, seven in 10 (70%) Muslims in each country in the greater part of the Muslim world, favour making Sharia the Law of the Land.

Of these, 58% favour whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers, 60% favour stoning as a punishment for adultery, and 53% favour the death penalty for apostasy.

18% of all Muslims say suicide bombing attacks against civilians in defence of Islam can be often/sometimes justified.

Nearly half (44%) believe in creationism; humans and other living things have always existed in their present form.

Pew Research Center, July 2011

Nearly two in three (64%) Muslims deny that Arabs (Muslims) carried out the 9/11 attacks. Only one in five (20%) believe Arabs (Muslims) were responsible.

Over half (56%) of Muslims first consider themselves as a Muslim. Only one in four (25%) first consider themselves as being a particular nationality.

Only 23% of Westerners first consider themselves as a Christian. Two in three (65%) first consider themselves as being a particular nationality.

Well over half (59%) of Westerners believe Muslims in their countries want to be distinct from the larger society.

Pew Research Center, December 2010

On average 43% of Muslims favour gender segregation in the workplace. This ranges from 85% in Pakistan to 11% in Lebanon.

One in two (49%) Muslims favour whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers, 53% favour stoning as a punishment for adultery, and 48% favour the death penalty for apostasy.

On average 65% say democracy is preferable to any other kind of government. This ranges from 81% in Lebanon to 42% in Pakistan.

3.4 Surveys – Muslims in Western Countries

Australian Research Council, March 2015

Three quarters of Australian Muslims think counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. This has generated a community backlash.

(A limited and biased knowledge of how the West and the Islamic world have interacted in modern times may have a lot to do with this attitude.)

Muslim Australians identify much more strongly with their religion than they do with being an Australian.

WZB - Berlin Social Science Center, December 2013

Islamic fundamentalism is widespread in Europe.

(Fundamentalism is defined as the return to eternal and unchangeable rules laid down in the past; the rules allow only one interpretation and are binding for all believers; and they have priority over secular laws.)

Two thirds (65%) of Muslim Turkish and Moroccan immigrants believe religious rules are more important to them than the laws of the country in which they live.

German Interior Ministry, March 2012

More than one in five (22%) Muslims in Germany are against integration.

Among those who are not German citizens this rises to nearly half (48%) who clearly reject German majority culture.

Among the 14 to 32-year-olds a subgroup of religious extremists holds anti-western views and are reportedly prepared to use violence. This group amounts to about 15% of Muslims with German citizenship and about 24% for Muslims who are not German.

Macdonald-Laurier Institute, November 2011

Nearly half (47%) of Canadian Muslims believe they should be free to choose to be ruled by Sharia courts in the case of divorce and other family matters.

This belief is also very high, a third (33%), among Muslims who do not attend mosque regularly.

Online Muslim dating service, January 2011

Over half of French Muslims say they will marry only another Muslim.

3.5 Surveys – International (non-Muslims)

The Huffington Post, April 2015

More than half (55%) of Americans have unfavourable view of Islam.

Global News, March 2015

Most Canadians (88%) say faces shouldn't be covered at citizenship ceremonies.

Heute tabloid paper, February 2015

Seven in 10 (69%) Austrians say ["Islam does not belong in Austria"](#).

Metroxpress, February 2015

One in two (50%) Danish citizens favour a cap on the number of Muslims permitted to live in Denmark.

Bertelsmann Foundation, January 2015

More than half (57%) of Germans believe Islam poses a threat to Germany.

Six in 10 (61%) believe Islam is incompatible with the Western world.

Scanlon Foundation and Monash University, October 2014

One in four (26%) Australians feel very negative or somewhat negative towards Muslims.

(This is five times greater than any negative feelings towards Christians or Buddhists.)

Stern Magazine, August 2014

Over half (52%) of Germans believe Islam "does not belong in German society".

Friedrich Ebert Foundation, March 2014

Over half (56%) of Germans consider Islam an "archaic religion, incapable of fitting into modern life".

Berlingske newspaper, October 2013

Danes: We are too tolerant of Muslims.

Bertelsmann Foundation, April 2013

On average in Europe's largest countries over half (54%) of Europeans believe Islam is incompatible with the Western world.

46% say it is very threatening or fairly threatening.

Le Parisien, March 2013

80% of French public favour tougher anti-veil laws

Le Monde, January 2013

Three quarters (74%) of the French think Islam is intolerant.

The same number think it is incompatible with the values of French society.

(In comparison, 10% think Catholicism incompatible and 25% think Judaism incompatible.)

University of Bielefeld, January 2013

Only 19% of Germans believe that Islam is compatible with German culture.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, November 2012

German poll indicates a widespread fear of Muslims and Islam.

Association for Canadian Studies and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, March 2012.

Half (52%) of Canadians distrust Muslims.

Canadians believe discrimination against Muslims is "mainly their own fault"

IFOP, February 2012

More than two in five (40-47%) in France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the UK, say the presence of a Muslim community is a threat to their country's identity.

About three quarters (65-77%) say Muslims are not very or not at all integrated.

More than one in three (34-47%) say the cultural differences are too great.

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, March 2011

Half (47-60%) of Europeans say Islam is an intolerant religion.

Pew Research Center, July 2010

Seven in 10 (69%) Europeans approve a ban on veils that cover the whole face

4.0 Surveys - British Muslims

Nearly one in five (16%) British Muslims believe British values are not compatible with Islam.

(And, half (52%) of British people believe Islam is not compatible with British values. Nearly six in 10 (57%) believe British Muslims are not doing enough to integrate into British society.)

Four in 10 (39%) British Muslims believe the police and MI5 contribute to the radicalisation of young Muslims.

One in five (20%) have some sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria.

Publisher: Sky News

Agency: Survation

Survey Details: Poll of GB adults aged 18+. Overall sample size of 2,002 split between 1,001 respondents who identified as Muslim (interviewed by telephone) and 1,001 respondents who did not identify as Muslim (polled via online panel).

Published Date: April 2015

Links to Full Results:

<http://survation.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Full-Sky-Muslim-Tables.pdf>

<http://survation.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Full-Sky-non-Muslim-tables.pdf>

SUMMARY

Compatibility of British Society and Islam

Question 1 - Which of the following statements is closest to your view?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Generally speaking, the values of British society are compatible with the values of Islam	72	
Generally speaking, the values of Islam are compatible with the values of British society		22
Generally speaking, the values of British society are not compatible with the values of Islam	16	
Generally speaking, the values of Islam are not compatible with the values of British society		52
Don't know	12	26

Condemnation of Terrorism

Question 2 - Which of the following statements is closest	Muslims	Non-
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to your view?		Muslims
It is the responsibility of Muslims to condemn terrorist acts carried out in the name of Islam	52	67
It is not the responsibility of Muslims to condemn terrorist acts carried out in the name of Islam	40	17
Don't know	9	15

Suspicion of Muslims

Question 3 - Which of the following statements is closest to your view?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
I receive more suspicion from non-Muslims than I did a few years ago	36	
I am more suspicious of Muslims than I was a few years ago		44
I receive less suspicion from non-Muslims than I did a few years ago	6	
I am less suspicious of Muslims than I was a few years ago		5
I receive no more or less suspicion from non-Muslims than I did a few years ago	56	
I am no more or less suspicious of Muslims than I was a few years ago		51
Don't know	6	-

Integration

Question 4 - Which of the following statements is closest to your view?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
British Muslims are doing enough to integrate into British society	64	18
British Muslims are not doing enough to integrate into British society	21	57
It is not important for British Muslims to integrate into British society	6	6
Don't know	9	19

Sympathy of Young Muslims Going to Fight in Syria

Question 5 - Which of the following statements is closest to your view?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
I have a lot of sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria	8	4
I have some sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to	20	9

join fighters in Syria		
I have no sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria	61	77
Don't know	11	10

Influence of Police and MI5 in Radicalisation of Young Muslims

Question 6 - Which of the following statements is closest to your view?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
The actions of the police and MI5 are contributing to the radicalisation of young Muslims	39	16
The actions of the police and MI5 are not contributing to the radicalisation of young Muslims	29	50
Don't know	32	35

Responsibility for Stopping Young Muslims Going to Fight in Syria

Question 7 - Which of the following groups do you think has the most responsibility for stopping young Muslims from leaving the UK to fight in Syria? [Base: No sympathy with young Muslims who leave the UK to join fighters in Syria]	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Their families	44	65
Religious authorities in the UK	9	14
The British police	3	4
The British government	15	12
British schools	2	2
Other please state	22	2
No-one	5	-

MEDIA COVERAGE

MI5 and police partly to blame for radicalisation – say four in 10 British Muslims

Four in 10 British Muslims believe that police and MI5 are partly responsible for the radicalisation of young people who support extremists, new polling has found.

A survey commissioned by Sky News, also found that more than a quarter of British Muslims have some sympathy with those who have left to join fighters in Syria.

Among Muslim women and those under the age of 35, the figure rises to a third.

While almost three quarters of Muslims polled said they believe the “values of British society” are compatible with those of their religion, one in seven said they were not.

But the polling of 1,000 Muslims and 1,000 non-Muslims by Survation, also pointed to a growing sense of alienation between members of Britain's fastest growing faith group and wider society.

A third of Muslims said they experience more suspicion from others than a few years ago.

The perception is backed up by polling of non-Muslims, of whom 44 per cent – and 49 per cent of men – admitted they were more suspicious of Muslims than they were.

Strikingly, only one in five (22 per cent) of non-Muslims saw Islam as compatible with British values, with just over half saying it is not. [*The Telegraph*]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11526430/MI5-and-police-partly-to-blame-for-radicalisation-say-four-in-10-British-Muslims.html>

Majority Have No Sympathy With Extremists

An exclusive poll suggests most Muslims think families are most responsible for stopping young people joining groups like IS.

More than a third of British Muslims say the actions of the authorities are contributing to the radicalisation of young people, according to an exclusive Sky News poll.

Some 39% of Muslims who were asked said the authorities, including police and MI5, were a factor in radicalising the younger generation, compared to 29% of Muslims who said they were not.

The research found the issue of young people travelling to fight with extremist groups, including Islamic State, or becoming so-called 'jihadi brides', remains highly controversial.

.... We asked 1,000 Muslims and 1,000 non-Muslims to share their opinions and found that while 71% of Muslims in the UK said the values of British society were compatible with those of Islam, 16% believed they were not.

[TOP RATED COMMENT] Color me shocked.

[ANOTHER] So actually 29% of British Muslims (i.e. nearly one million Muslims) DON'T believe UK life is compatible with Islam. Surely that should be the headline!

[ANOTHER] Not integrated or assimilated and most Muslims don't want to be and thats the sad truth about people. The sad truth is that they have come to live in a free and open society but they form their own little ghettos until it becomes like the medieval hole they came from?

As their numbers grow they seem to get more and more emboldened demanding special treatment and even different laws to live under [Sharia] and people in this country are getting a little bit fed up of them now and i mean Christians, Hindus, Jews and other faiths who rub along together with no issues. My fear is as their numbers increase their will at some time in the future be a flash point and civil unrest will ensue?

[ANOTHER] What absolute garbage! Yet again everyone else is to blame for everything EXCEPT the poor Muslims.

[ANOTHER] Of course it's the fault of the police..... Muslims never do anything wrong.

[ANOTHER] If Muslims don't like it in Britain there are plenty of other countries they can go to.

[ANOTHER] 16% should leave the UK then. That would be a start.

[ANOTHER] Well obviously the 52% should not be here, they should be in an Islamic country that suits their needs. I'll help them

[ANOTHER] Simple solution: You have a problem with how we do things in the UK, we will pay, out of the public purse, for a one way flight for you to go to any country you want, and we'll keep your British passport here (if you have one).

I'd be happier for my tax money to go on that than almost any other public service I can think of.

[ANOTHER] The koran encourages muslims to lie about their religion to non-muslims. Islam is not religion of peace, it's a religion of conquest. The only difference between an extremist and a "moderate" is a matter of patience. [Sky News]
<http://news.sky.com/story/1462023/poll-majority-have-no-sympathy-with-extremists>

Poll reveals over a third of Muslims believe security services play role in radicalisation of young Muslims

The polls reveal some interesting findings on who young Muslims feel is contributing to radicalisation. According to the results, 38.9% of Muslims agreed with the statement "The actions of the police and MI5 are contributing to the radicalisation of young Muslims". Those disagreeing that the police and MI5 were contributing to radicalisation was under a third, at 28.8%.

Earlier this year, the human rights campaign group, CAGE, argued that harassment by security services played a role in the radicalisation of Mohammed Emwazi, the student from London identified as "Jihadi John", responsible for killing hostages for Islamic State. For making a causal link with perceived abuse by state authorities and radicalisation, CAGE, were widely condemned as "apologists for terror".

From the survey results, it would seem around 40% of British Muslims are also "apologists for terror". [MEND] <http://mend.org.uk/poll-reveals-over-a-third-of-muslims-believe-security-services-play-role-in-radicalisation-of-young-muslims/>

One in five (20%) British Muslims believe British liberal society can never be compatible with Islam.

More than one in four (27%) had some sympathy with the killers of the Charlie Hebdo staff. One in 10 (11%) believe those who publish images of the Prophet Mohammed deserve to be attacked.

And, one in 10 (11%) are sympathetic towards people who want to fight against western interests

Nearly one in five (17%) believe it is appropriate that Muslims who convert to other religions are cut off by their family.

Publisher: BBC Radio 4

Title: *Muslim Poll*

Agency: ComRes

Survey Details: ComRes interviewed 1,000 Muslims living in Britain aged 18+ by telephone.

Published Date: February 2015

Link to Full Results: <http://comres.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/BBC-Today-Programme-British-Muslims-Poll-FINAL-Tables-Feb2015.pdf>

SUMMARY

Question Set 1 - Do you agree or disagree with these statements about British society?	Agree	Disagree	Refused /DK
I feel a loyalty to Britain	95	4	1
I feel a disloyalty to Britain	6	92	2
Western liberal society can never be compatible with Islam	20	72	8
Muslims in Britain should always obey the British laws	93	6	1
I feel most British people don't trust Muslims	35	63	2
Britain is becoming less tolerant of Muslims	46	49	6
Prejudice against Islam makes it very difficult being a Muslim in this country	46	51	3

Question Set 2 - Do you agree or disagree with these statements about cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad?	Agree	Disagree	Refused /DK
Organisations which publish images of the Prophet	11	85	4

Mohammed deserve to be attacked			
Acts of violence against those who publish images of the Prophet Mohammad can never be justified	68	24	7
I have some sympathy for the motives behind the attacks on Charlie Hebdo in Paris	27	62	10

Question Set 3 - Do you agree or disagree with these statements about life in Britain?	Agree	Disagree	Refused /DK
If I could, I would leave Britain to go and live in a Muslim country	14	84	3
It is appropriate that Muslims who convert to other religions are cut off by their family	17	77	6

Question Set 4 - For each of the following statements, please tell me whether or not they apply to you ...	Applies	Does not Apply	Refused /DK
I feel sympathetic towards people who want to fight against western interests	11	85	4
If someone I knew from the Muslim community was planning an act of violence I would report them to the police	94	5	1
I consider myself to be a practising Muslim	82	17	1
Muslim clerics who preach that violence against the West can be justified are out of touch with mainstream Muslim opinion	49	45	7
I would rather socialise with Muslims than non-Muslims	13	85	2

MEDIA COVERAGE

BBC defends reporting of Muslims survey

The BBC has defended its coverage of a survey that showed that more than a quarter of British Muslims have some sympathy for the motives behind last month's Islamic extremist murders in Paris.

The News Letter asked the corporation why it highlighted other findings from the ComRes poll for Radio Four's Today programme ahead of the finding of 27 per cent sympathy for the motives for the Charlie Hebdo massacre.

Wednesday's 7am Radio Four news report on the survey first mentioned the fact that two-thirds of British Muslims oppose violence against those who publish offensive images without any immediately accompanying reference to the 24 per cent who did not oppose violence.

.... Yet the poll had numerous alarming findings, such as the fact that 11 per cent of those questioned expressed sympathy for those who want to fight against the Western interest.

It found that almost half of British Muslims, 45 per cent, were unable to agree with the notion that Muslim clerics who preach that violence against the West can be justified are out of touch with mainstream Muslim opinion.

A quarter of the people surveyed (24 per cent) disagreed with the statement that acts of violence against those publishing images of the Prophet can never be justified. [*News Letter*] <http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/regional/bbc-defends-reporting-of-muslims-survey-1-6604304>

Playing the victim card

There are problems in some Muslim communities that allow for unpleasant and often dangerous views to fester.

A BBC poll of 1,000 British Muslims, published last week, found that 27% had sympathy for the motives for the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris. A Muslim man from Bradford, when asked on Radio 4 about the cartoons, remarked, "If they hadn't poked fun at our prophet, no one would have died."

Even seemingly modern Muslims share these views. Many do not support violence or murder, but they believe their communities are always under attack and unfair scrutiny. Just listen to the BBC Asian Network's phone-in show on any given day and hear how many Muslim callers either deny the existence of Isis, insisting it is a CIA plot (no, really), or condemn as non-Muslims anyone who follows a different interpretation of Islam. [*Mick Hartley*] <http://mickhartley.typepad.com/blog/2015/03/playing-the-victim-card.html>

BBC spins disaffected Muslims to deflect from emerging Islamists

The BBC published the results of a ComRes poll yesterday, which they spun in their own inimitable multicultural-sunny and cloudless way. 'Most British Muslims "oppose Muhammad cartoons reprisals"', they informed us, with verifiable quantitative analysis:

95% of British Muslims feel a loyalty to Britain.

93% say they should obey British laws.

73% said they had no sympathy for the motives behind the Paris attacks.

This isn't so bad, you might think, until you consider the statistical corollaries:

5% of British Muslims feel no loyalty to Britain.

7% say they should not obey British laws.

27% said they had sympathy for the motives behind the Paris attacks.

[*Archbishop Cranmer*] <http://archbishopcranmer.com/bbc-spins-disaffected-muslims-to-deflect-from-emerging-islamists/>

Why the survey of British Muslim attitudes is so profoundly disconcerting

How do you react to the news – the result of a major BBC survey - that 11 per cent of British Muslims sympathise with fighting against the West? That 20 per cent of them believe Western liberal society can never be compatible with Islam? That 11 per cent feel that organisations which publish images of the Prophet Mohammed deserve to be attacked?

I find these numbers profoundly disconcerting. But they are far from surprising.

.... Supporting British values might seem like an overt focus on nationality, but really it fosters inclusivity and will help us tackle extremism, building a stronger Britain.

Beyond this, we must break this trend by pushing back against underlying narratives. This will require not just the voice of Muslims, but the whole of civil society standing in solidarity with those Muslims who are brave enough to challenge extremists in their midst.

Islam is an idea: like other ideas, it must be open to scrutiny. But supporting secularism and challenging Islamism is not fighting "Islam". It is moving from extremism to liberal pluralism. By neglecting to challenge extremist views, we will only increase anti-Muslim bigotry.

This is what happens when you ignore Islamist ideology. It's time for a wakeup call.

[TOP RATED COMMENT] So one in four Muslims in Britain approve of the merciless slaughter of 12 innocent people armed with pencils because they felt "offended", and it is Whiteh's fault.

Would it be Islamophobic to suggest that the blame lies with the archaic and backward religion from which these murderous savages and their army of nutjob wanna-be Jihadistas draw their inspiration?

We are sitting on a powder keg, yet our politicians and the liberal commentariat are simply too effete, cowardly and dishonest to face up to the real enemy within our midst.

[2ND] *"Half of British Muslims interviewed stated that prejudice against Islam makes it very difficult to be a Muslim in this country."*

It is an awful lot easier to be a Muslim in this country than it is in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Morocco, Sudan, Lebanon, Yemen, Uzbekistan. You are much more likely to be murdered for your beliefs in any of these countries, especially if you are the wrong kind of Muslim. Or if you are gay, or if you are an apostate, or if you commit adultery, or if you are a woman, or if you smoke, or if you drink alcohol, or if you say the wrong thing, or if you are simply in the wrong place at the wrong time, e.g. if a suicide bomber is in the vicinity.

Tens of thousands of Muslims are killed or injured every year as a result of violence perpetrated by their co-religionists.

'Prejudice against Islam makes it very difficult to be a Muslim in this country'?

What absolute nonsense.

[3RD] Some people come from Pakistan, settle in Little Pakistan in East London or West Yorkshire, don't learn a word of English. Their kids learn pigeon playground English but have no hope of integrating or competing in the wider world. The p.c. crowd think this is diversity. It is not, it is division and a recipe for utter disaster.

[4TH] The problem is that Muslims in general will not allow any criticism of their ideology or their founder. They tend to react violently. Buddhism, Mormonism, Hinduism, Christianity, Confucianism etc. are all willing to discuss their ideas without becoming violent and blowing up themselves and other people. Neither do these religions have a concept of a FATWA which allows them to try to kill people e.g. Salman Rushdie.

Additionally most Muslims believe that the penalty for leaving the religion is death. Becoming a Muslim or being born one tends therefore to be a one way trap door. When

extremist Muslims encounter those who are more moderate, they accuse the moderates of not being proper Muslims and call them apostates - for which the penalty is death. The moderates then either turn a blind eye or join the extremists.

[5TH] Muslims ought to try to be Christians in Muslim countries, that will give them a wake up call.

No one has to stay in this country, it's not a prison. People are free to leave.

[6TH] I fear for the future of my country and my grandchildren.

"A nation can survive its fools, and even the ambitious. But it cannot survive treason from within. An enemy at the gates is less formidable, for he is known and carries his banner openly. But the traitor moves amongst those within the gate freely, his sly whispers rustling through all the alleys, heard in the very halls of government itself.

For the traitor appears not a traitor; he speaks in accents familiar to his victims, and he wears their face and their arguments, he appeals to the baseness that lies deep in the hearts of all men. He rots the soul of a nation, he works secretly and unknown in the night to undermine the pillars of the city, he infects the body politic so that it can no longer resist. A murderer is less to fear. The traitor is the plague." Marcus Tullius Cicero, 58 BC.

[7TH] This is not about western society. Islamic society doesn't mix south, east or North. It is incompatible with other societies unless it dominates. This is all documented in the Koran. This plays out everywhere in the world. North Africa, Europe, Russia, Thailand, Burma, India. Every border. It plays out all through History too.

This is not about needing these people to move away from extremism. We need them to move away from Islam.

.... I can understand as a moderate Muslim you don't want to see the faith as the problem but it is. You are a moderate not because you have a better interpretation of the Koran but because you reject most of it. [*The Independent*]

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/why-the-survey-of-british-muslim-attitudes-is-so-profoundly-disconcerting-10070358.html>

Over a quarter of British Muslims have sympathy for the Charlie Hebdo terrorists. That is far too many

This morning the BBC published details of a major poll of the attitudes of Britain's Muslims. The headline on the front of the BBC website linking to the research states: "Muslims 'oppose cartoon reprisals'". This of course relates to attitudes within the Muslim community towards the recent Charlie Hebdo attacks.

It's a reassuring headline. It's also wrong. Many Muslims - a majority - do indeed utterly oppose the murderous killings in Paris. But a very, very large number of Muslims don't.

Presented with the statement "I have some sympathy for the motives behind the Charlie Hebdo attacks in Paris", 27 seven percent agreed with the statement. A further 2 per cent refused to answer the question. And an additional eight percent said they were unsure whether they had some sympathy or not.

....All of this raises two serious questions. The first relates to the BBC's reporting. Let's set aside their use of the word "reprisal" in the headline (reprisal for what, exactly?). Imagine if the BBC had commissioned a poll in the wake of the murder of Stephen

Lawrence, and that poll had found 27 per cent of white Britons agreed with the statement "I have some sympathy for the motives behind his stabbing".

Imagine if, in an additional finding, 32 per cent of white Briton's refused to endorse the statement "acts of unprovoked violence against black men can never be justified".

Rightly, there would be outrage at those findings. [*The Telegraph*]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11434695/Over-a-quarter-of-British-Muslims-have-sympathy-for-the-Charlie-Hebdo-terrorists.-That-is-far-too-many.html>

Most British Muslims 'oppose Muhammad cartoons reprisals'

The majority of British Muslims oppose violence against people who publish images depicting the Prophet Muhammad, a poll for the BBC suggests.

The survey also indicates most have no sympathy with those who want to fight against Western interests.

But 27% of the 1,000 Muslims polled by ComRes said they had some sympathy for the motives behind the Paris attacks.

Almost 80% said they had found it deeply offensive when images depicting the Prophet were published. [*BBC*] <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-31293196>

We can debate the extremists, listen to them, scream and shout and insult them. But we must never ban them

.... I'll repeat: the fact that 27 per cent of British Muslims have some sympathy with the motives of the Charlie Hebdo attackers is not a cause for celebration but for shame. The principles of an inclusive and secular society cannot be sacrificed on the altar of religious freedom. The schism opening up between Britain's Muslims and the rest of British society can no longer be ignored or tolerated.

But these issues have to be discussed face to face. Driving organisations like Cage onto the dark web will solve nothing. What next, ask Paul Loughran if he'll agree to voice the words of Moazzam Begg, like he used to for Gerry Adams when the Sinn Fein broadcast ban was in place?

We have to listen and we have to talk and we have to shout and we have to scream and we have to hurl insults and obscenities at one another. But above all, we have to engage.

Maybe Moazzam Begg is a monster. But if he is, I want him out in the sunlight, where I can see him, and study him, and understand why and how he wants to devour me.

[TOP RATED COMMENT] Imagine if 27% of Chelsea fans said they had some sympathy with keeping black people off trains? Or 45% of white football fans thought racist chanting at matches wasn't being out of touch with race relations? The newspapers and BBC would erupt. The data would be headlines for weeks. A poll that suggests almost 700,000 Muslims in the UK have sympathy with men who machine gun cartoonists brings barely a murmur.

Until we are ready to challenge evil, even if it is wrapped up in minority communities and religions, then our own way of life will be under threat.

Incidentally, it took less than 24 hours after Muslims murderers had "avenged the prophet" before the words Islamophobia were uttered on the BBC .. Stockholm syndrome writ large.

We are at war. Only one side seems to know it. [*The Telegraph*]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11461465/We-can-debate-the-extremists-listen-to-them-scream-and-shout-and-insult-them.-But-we-must-never-ban-them.html>

Nearly half (44%) of Britain's ethnic minority people say they identify as strongly with their ethnic group (and by implication with the values of that group's culture) as they identify with Britain.

Of the rest 22% are separate; they hold entirely to their original culture. And 21% are marginalised; they have lost their original culture but have taken nothing from British culture.

Only 13% are assimilated. They strongly identify only with Britain and there is less potential for a clash with the values of their ethnic group.

Publisher: Understanding Society - University of Essex

Title: *Britishness and Identity Assimilation among the UK's Minority and Majority ethnic groups*

Report Details: Uses data from the first wave of Understanding Society, a regular survey of a nationally representative sample of approximately 28,000 households in the UK with an additional ethnic minority boost sample (EMBS) of around 4000 households.

Published Date: December 2013

Link to Report:

<https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/research/publications/working-paper/understanding-society/2013-08.pdf>

See also:

<https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/2014/01/09/just-who-does-feel-british>

SUMMARY

The Report's summary says:

There has been extensive recent debate on the success or otherwise of 'multiculturalism'. One key claim has been that multiculturalism has undermined minority groups' willingness or ability to sign up to the national identity of the country in which they live.

National identification is widely regarded in the literature as an important indicator of the social cohesion within societies and to have implications for the incorporation or alienation of minorities.

.... We find first that minorities express strong British identities – stronger in fact than the White majority, and that these increase across generations.

Second we show that minority identification does not necessarily imply a loss of majority identity. Indeed the most common pattern in our sample of minorities was to hold strong majority and minority identities at the same time.

By contrast we show that among the White majority there is not only substantial variation in identification, but that with the exception of those born in Northern Ireland, individual country identities (Wales, Scotland, England) tends to be prioritised over British identities"

The Problems with this Report

The report raises more questions than provides answers.

One section gives a stark picture of the fragmentation of British society and the potential for conflict.

The main question asked of all respondents was as follows: *"Most people who live in the UK may think of themselves as being British in some way. On a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means 'not at all important' and 10 means 'extremely important', how important is being British to you?"*. Respondents were shown a 10-point-scale and asked to identify their position on it.

Non-White respondents were also asked to report the strength of identification with their father's ethnic group and also that of their mother's ethnic group if that was different from their father's, using a similar question format: *"On a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means 'not at all important' and 10 means 'extremely important', how important is being [your father's ethnic group] to you?"*

The answers were used to put respondents in one of four categories.

"Integrated" - high degrees of both own cultural maintenance and majority society engagement. *"Assimilated"* - loss of minority culture with the adoption of majority culture. *"Separated"* - exclusive maintenance of minority culture; and *"Marginalized"* - loss of minority culture but with no compensating gain or investment in majority culture.

The results obtained are illustrated in this Table:

		Cultural Maintenance Maximum of strength of identification with father's and mother's ethnic groups	
		High	Low
Contact Participation Strength of identification with being British	High	Integrated 44%	Assimilated 13%
	Low	Separated 22%	Marginalized 21%

Given this view of "integration" it appears possible the people behind the corrupt Islamic politics of Tower Hamlets, the Sharia court judges who treat women unfairly in matters of inheritance, divorce and child custody, the families of Jihadi girls that go off to support ISIS, and the girl themselves, the school governors who threaten teachers in order to enforce extreme Islam in schools, the perpetrators of FMG and forced marriage, for example, would all subscribe 100% to a British identity.

This is an extremely worrying result. It screams at you! 43% of British ethnic minorities are "separated" or "marginalised". Nearly half (44%) occupy some vague split-personality no man's land. Only 13% are unambiguously British.

Unfortunately, it is possible for people to hold contradictory views. But we might be somewhat wiser if the authors of this report had discussed and investigated the meaning of British identity, and the behaviours and beliefs (values), that might be associated with it (even by the Scots and Welsh).

They only mention values in a reference to a speech by David Cameron that called for a clear sense of national identity as a counter to home grown terrorists.

They say: "By signing up to majority identity, minorities are typically seen as adopting the national story of the majority society, providing evidence of acceptance of shared national values, and an implicit rejection of ethnic or cultural distinctiveness that may challenge that national consensus."

What one wonders would have been the result of asking Muslims to rate on a scale of one to ten their approval of the following values?

Men and woman are equal. All jobs and professions are open to women. A woman can even lead the country.

It is impolite, even rude, to cover your face in public, and it hinders communication.

Each person can decide his or her religion, or not to have a religion. You are not born into a religion. It is a choice you make.

A person can change their religion without fear of reprisal or punishment.

Stoning, amputation, and flogging, are barbaric punishments with no place in the modern world.

You can marry a person from another religion. They do not have to convert to yours. How you make it work is up to you.

You can say, write, or draw, what you like as long as it does not call for violence against any person(s) or their property.

Creationism is not a science.

Religious texts are subject to scientific and historical scrutiny.

Church/religion and state are separate.

Halal food and finance are pointless in the modern age. E.g. pork is not the problem it was in late antiquity.

You have only one wife. Polygamy is illegal.

Now, of course, not all British people would vote in favour of all these values. As can be seen above the authors draw attention to the apparent weakness of British identity amongst the white majority (too many of them still think of their Scottishness or Welshness!) but it would be a reasonable bet that the Median (the middle point of the results) for the white majority British population would lie very much closer to the agreement end of the scale than the Median for Muslims.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Misuse of the Results

The result relating to minorities such as Muslims expressing strong British identities were seized on to deny there is any problem. See this article in the Guardian.

Muslims are well-integrated in Britain – but no one seems to believe it

In Britain today there is a mismatch between how non-Muslims often perceive Muslims and how Muslims typically perceive themselves.

This disconnect is down to a tendency by non-Muslims to assume that Muslims struggle with their British identity and divided loyalties. These concerns were challenged a few days ago, in a report by the University of Essex that found Muslims actually identify with Britishness more than any other Britons.

This study is just one of several recent studies that have consistently found that Muslims in Britain express a stronger sense of belonging in Britain than their compatriots.

[*Guardian Cif*] <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2012/jul/03/muslims-integrated-britain>

The Guardian article also quotes from a Demos survey that showed 83 per cent of Muslims say they are 'proud to be a British citizen', compared to 79 per cent of the general population.

This aspect of the Demos report was widely reported in the press and Demos had to admit "*the sample size for British Muslims was relatively small, just 48 people, and it is questionable whether confident statements can be made on that basis about one group being more proud of their British identity than another.*"

The Gallup Coexist 2009 survey is another source quoted by the Guardian. This survey based on a sample of 500 British Muslims, not an enormous number but a big improvement on Demos, reports 80% of British Muslims declare they are loyal to Britain. It doesn't define or explain what is meant by loyalty.

British Muslims identify as extremely strongly or as very strongly with their religion (75%) as they do with Britain (77%).

Four out of five (80%) say they are loyal to Britain.

British Muslims are much less inclined to see not wearing a veil (only 12% of them) and acceptance of comments about their faith which they deem offensive (9%) as necessary features of integration, than French or German Muslims.

Publisher: Gallup – The Co-exist Foundation

Title: *Gallup Coexist Study 2009*

Agency: Gallup

Survey Details: 513, 506, and 504 interviews of French, German and British Muslims respectively and of 1006, 1011, and 1001 non-Muslims respectively.

In the UK, phone interviews were conducted among the general population in June 2008 and included 1,001 interviews of individuals aged 15 years and older. Face-to-face interviews were conducted with British Muslims, aged 18 and older, during July 2008 in England, Wales, and Scotland in areas where the Muslim population was 5% or more based on the 2001 British census.

Published Date: 2009

Link to Report:

http://www.olir.it/areetematiche/pagine/documents/News_2150_Gallup2009.pdf

SUMMARY

Is religion an important part of your daily life?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Percentage answering "yes"		
British	70	29
French	69	25
German	82	44

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree: People with different religious practices than yours threaten your way of life	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Percentage answering "Agree"		
British	3	26
French	6	11
German	13	18

How strongly do you identify with your religion?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Percentage who say "extremely strongly" or "very strongly"		
British	75	23
French	58	23
German	59	23

How strongly do you identify with your country (the country where you live)?	Muslims	Non-Muslims
Percentage who say "extremely strongly" or "very strongly"		
British	77	50
French	52	55
German	40	32

Now thinking specifically about Muslims, do you think each of the following applies or does not apply?	Applies	Does not Apply	Refused /DK
Muslims living in THIS COUNTRY are loyal to this country			
British Muslims	82	6	12
British Public	36	49	15
French Muslims	80	8	12
French Public	44	35	21
German Muslims	71	15	14
German Public	39	45	16

Many people are discussing the issue of "integration" of ethnic and religious minorities into society in this country. What does "integration" mean to you? To answer this, I will ask you a series of actions and you tell me if you think it is necessary or not necessary for minorities to do these things in order to integrate into society in this country. % Who say removing the headscarf	Muslims	Non-Muslims
British	3	32
French	22	62
German	6	36
% Who say removing the face veil		
British	12	53
French	32	63
German	29	45

Many people are discussing the issue of "integration" of ethnic and religious minorities into society in this country. What does "integration" mean to you? Accepting public comments they perceive as offensive about their faith or ethnicity % who say "it is necessary"	Muslims	Non-Muslims
British	9	45
French	25	37
German	19	31

MEDIA COVERAGE

Gallup Coexist Study 2009 – The Headlines You Didn't See!

.... Gallup Coexist do not define what they mean by loyalty and the survey has only the one question concerning loyalty. ["Identification" and "loyalty" discussed briefly p19] What the questionnaire means by the word or what a respondent understands by it is not explored by further relevant questions.

At one extreme it could mean (i) I support my country, right or wrong, (ii) it could mean I know the history of my country, which I am proud of, and even if I do disagree with what it is doing I try to see both sides of the matter, and (iii) it could mean, I have a passport, speak passable English, and obey the laws.

In fact, the range of meanings that could be given to loyalty in this context was so wide that the questionnaire designers didn't bother to give respondents the option of saying "not loyal" the other options being only "does not apply" and "don't know / refused".

Also, apart from the odd eccentric or extremist that interviewers might come across it seems most unlikely that many Muslims or other persons would openly state to an unknown interviewer that they were not loyal to the country which gives them protection, and good quality free education and healthcare, which many of them would not have had in their country of origin. [*Islam Surveyed*]

<http://islamsurveyed.blogspot.co.uk/2010/01/gallup-coexist-study-2009-headlines-you.html>

Three in 10 (31%) British Muslims agree Muslim conversion to another religion is forbidden and punishable by death

Half (51%) agree a Muslim woman may not marry a non-Muslim

Three in 10 (29%) would prefer to live in Britain under Sharia law rather than British law.

Publisher: Policy Exchange

Title: *Living Apart Together*

Agency: Populus

Survey Details: Survey of 1,003 Muslims in the UK through telephone and internet questionnaires. Telephone interviews were generally conducted in English but in a minority of cases the interview was conducted in a different language if requested by the respondent. Fieldwork dates: 4-13 December 2006.

Published Date: January 2007

Link to Report and Results:

<http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/images/publications/living%20apart%20together%20-%20jan%2007.pdf>

SUMMARY

Living Apart Together – British Muslims and the paradox of multiculturalism

Between a quarter or a third of British Muslims hold beliefs that are completely at odds with western secular values and British culture in particular. These proportions are even higher amongst younger Muslims in the age range 16-34 years.

The opening part of Policy Exchange's Executive Summary says:

"This report explores the attitudes of Muslims in Britain today and the reasons why there has been a significant rise in Islamic fundamentalism amongst the younger generation. It argues that the growth of Islamism in the UK is not solely a foreign problem, but something that must be understood in relation to political and social trends that have emerged in British society over the past two decades.

It also examines the impact of public policy on the Muslim population and suggests that the way the Government is responding to Islamism is making things worse not better.

Our research into the attitudes of Muslims in Britain showed that there is a growing religiosity amongst the younger generation of Muslims. They feel that they have less in common with non-Muslims than do their parents and they show a stronger preference for Islamic schools and sharia law.

Religiosity amongst younger Muslims is not about following their parents' cultural traditions, but rather, their interest in religion is more politicised. There is a greater stress on asserting one's identity in the public space, for example, by wearing the hijab."

Q.3 Many organisations seek to represent a Muslim viewpoint on issues.	%
Please name one or two organisations that you think of as best representing your views as a Muslim, or if there is no Muslim organisation that really reflects your views please say so?	
The Muslim Council of Britain	7
Muslim Association of Britain - Respect Party/George Galloway - The Mosque that you attend - Islamic Society of Britain - Muslim Aid - Islam Channel - Islam Relief - Any mentions of Mosques - Helping Hands/Muslim Hands - Hizb-ut-Tahrir - British Muslim Foundation	Each 1% or less
Other	9
None	52
Refused	1
Don't know	25

Q.5 I am going to read out various statements that different people have made about religion.	Agree strongly	Tend to Agree	Tend to Disagree	Disagree strongly	R/DK
Please say in each case if you agree or disagree?					
My religion is the most important thing in my life	66	20	9	4	1
One of the benefits of modern society is the freedom to criticise other people's religious or political views, even when it causes offence	18	20	17	40	5
I feel more in common with Muslims in other countries than I do with non-Muslims in Britain	16	15	30	29	11
I admire organisations like Al Qaeda that are prepared to fight against the West	4	3	10	76	7
Many of the problems in the world today are a result of arrogant western attitudes	34	23	19	16	7
On the whole, I feel that I have been treated fairly in this society, regardless of my religious beliefs.	55	30	8	5	2
If I could choose, I would prefer to live in Britain under Sharia law rather than British law	16	13	22	37	13
I feel that I have as much in common with non-Muslims as I do with Muslims	39	27	16	13	5

Q.6 The following is a list of laws that are defined in most scholarly interpretations of Sharia law. Please say if you personally agree or disagree with each law mentioned?	Agree	Disagree	Refused	DK
That a Muslim woman may not marry a non-Muslim	51	43	1	4
That a Muslim woman cannot marry without the consent of her guardian	43	51	1	4
That a Muslim male may have up to four wives, and a Muslim female is allowed only one husband	46	48	2	4
That Muslim conversion to another religion is forbidden and punishable by death	31	57	2	10
That homosexuality is wrong and should be illegal	61	30	2	7

Q.7 Some Islamic scholars have called for a major reinterpretation of Sharia law to reflect modern ideas about human rights, equality for women and tolerance of religious conversion. Other Islamic scholars disagree with this view and say that Sharia law is absolute and should not be reinterpreted to fit in with western values. Which of these views is closest to your own opinion?	%
Should be reinterpreted	45
Should NOT be reinterpreted	39
Refused	2
Don't know	4

5.0 Surveys - British People (non-Muslims)

The majority (55%) of British people believe there is a fundamental clash between Islam and British values.

For Conservative voters the figure is 68%. For Labour 48%, and UKIP 89%.

Only one in five (22%) believe Islam is compatible with British society.

Publisher: YouGov-Cambridge

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1641 GB adults. Fieldwork: 22 - 23 March 2015

Published Date: March 2015

Link to Results:

http://cdn.yougov.com/cumulus_uploads/document/ogqzisd2xq/Islam%20and%20British%20values.pdf

SUMMARY

Thinking about religion and society, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
Islam is generally compatible with the values of British society	22	17	27	39	4
There is a fundamental clash between Islam and the values of British society	55	68	48	38	89
Neither	10	7	12	13	1
Don't know	13	9	13	11	6

MEDIA COVERAGE

Islam and "British values" – do Brits believe them to be compatible?

.... of the 1641 adults polled by YouGov, only 22% said they felt "Islam is generally compatible with the values of British society". Fifty five percent of people agreed with the statement "There is a fundamental clash between Islam and the values of British society", while almost 25% didn't adopt either statement or answered 'don't know'.

That is, more people opted not to offer a response to the statements than affirmed that "Islam is generally compatible with the values of British society". And over half of those polled said they believed "There is a fundamental clash between Islam and the values of British society".

The data broken down by party affiliation shows that UKIP supporters are most likely to believe in the clash of values between Islam and Britain (89%) and the Lib Dems least likely (38%) with the Conservatives taking second place after UKIP (68%) and Labour, third place (48%). [MEND] <http://mend.org.uk/islam-and-british-values-do-brits-believe-them-to-be-compatible/>

The majority of voters doubt that Islam is compatible with British values

.... A clear distinction must be made, Mrs May concluded, between followers of the Islamic faith, which is "entirely compatible" with British values, and extremists who claim there is a "fundamental incompatibility". Hence the keystone of her new strategy is a proud promotion of "the values that unite us".

Except they don't unite us, according to a majority of the British public. As a recent survey by the YouGov-Cambridge Programme shows, a striking 55 per cent of British voters currently think "there is a fundamental clash between Islam and the values of British society", compared with just 22 per cent – little over one in five – who say Islam and British values are "generally compatible".

Among Tory supporters, this gap increases to 68 per cent who say "clash" versus 17 per cent who think "compatible". Ukip supporters look almost unanimous on the issue (89 per cent "clash" versus 4 per cent "compatible") while roughly half of Labour supporters take the negative view (48 per cent "clash" versus 27 per cent "compatible") and Lib Dems are divided (38 per cent "clash" versus 39 per cent "compatible"). [The Telegraph] <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/general-election-2015/politics-blog/11503493/The-majority-of-voters-doubt-that-Islam-is-compatible-with-British-values.html>

Six in 10 (61%) British adults have a negative or wholly negative view of Islam.

(Three in 10 (31%) have a negative or wholly negative view of Christianity.)

Publisher: YouGov

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1684 GB adults. Fieldwork: 8 - 9 January 2015

Published Date: January 2015

Link to Results:

http://cdn.yougov.com/cumulus_uploads/document/qpwv8pljek/InternalResults_150109_views_of_religions.pdf

SUMMARY

Which of the following best reflects your view of Christianity?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
I have a wholly positive view	14	17	12	13	20
I have a mainly positive view, though I have some criticisms	40	49	39	51	46
It has some positives, but I have a mainly negative view	22	20	27	19	18
I have a wholly negative view	9	7	11	7	6
Don't know	14	8	11	11	10

Which of the following best reflects your view of Islam?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
I have a wholly positive view	2	1	4	2	1
I have a mainly positive view, though I have some criticisms	23	22	29	35	12
It has some positives, but I have a mainly negative view	36	44	33	34	28
I have a wholly negative view	25	21	20	14	49
Don't know	15	11	14	14	9

Seven in 10 (69%) people believe it was acceptable for Charlie Hebdo to publish cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed

Seven in 10 (71%) believe the media have an obligation to show controversial items that are newsworthy even if they may offend the religious views of some people.

Only one in 10 (11%) believe the media have an obligation to avoid offending religious views.

Publisher: Sunday Times

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1684 GB adults. Fieldwork: 8 - 9 January 2015

Published Date: January 2015

Link to Results:

https://d25d2506sfb94s.cloudfront.net/cumulus_uploads/document/10nth9jzk9/YG-Archive-Pol-Sunday-Times-results-090115.pdf

SUMMARY

Charlie Hebdo is a satirical magazine that often published cartoons that some people might have considered offensive, aimed at many different political, religious and other targets. In the past this included publishing cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed.	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
Do you think it was or was not acceptable for Charlie Hebdo to publish cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed					
Was acceptable	69	73	64	74	80
Was not acceptable	14	15	18	10	7
Not sure	18	13	18	16	13

More generally speaking, which of the following best reflects your view?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
The media have an obligation to show controversial items that are newsworthy even if they may offend the religious views of some people	71	77	63	69	85
The media have an obligation to avoid offending the religious views of some people even if that prevents them from showing controversial items that are newsworthy	11	12	14	9	6
Neither	9	7	13	17	6

Don't know	9	4	10	5	3
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MEDIA COVERAGE

Je suis Charlie and Other News

Last week's news was dominated by a series of Islamist outrages in France, in which seventeen innocent people died, three police officers, four shoppers at a kosher supermarket, and ten journalists working for the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, which in 2011 and 2012 had controversially published cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed. The attack on Charlie Hebdo prompted an international campaign in defence of freedom of speech under the banner 'Je suis Charlie'.

Unsurprisingly, these Paris shootings were the most noticed news story of last week, according to an online poll of 2,047 Britons aged 18 and over by Populus on 7-8 January 2015. The then still unfolding events in France topped the list with 42%, far ahead of the AirAsia plane crash (9%) and the crisis in NHS hospitals (6%), which were in second and third places respectively.

In another online poll, by YouGov on 8-9 January 2015 (explored in the next two items, below), only 4% of the 1,684 respondents were unaware of the attack on Charlie Hebdo, with 72% closely following the story. The implications of this new spike in radical Islamism will doubtless be the subject of further surveys in the days and weeks ahead.

[*British Religion in Numbers*]

<http://www.brin.ac.uk/news/2015/je-suis-charlie-and-other-news/>

Eight in 10 (81%) people would support a ban on wearing of a full face veil or niqab in certain public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals.

More than half (55%) would support such a ban in any public place.

Publisher: Channel 4 News

Title: *Channel 4 Niqab Study*

Agency: ComRes

Survey Details: 1,077 GB adults online, on 23 October

Published Date: October 2013

Link to Full Results: [http://comres.co.uk/wp-content/themes/comres/poll/Channel 4 Niqab Study October 2013.pdf](http://comres.co.uk/wp-content/themes/comres/poll/Channel_4_Niqab_Study_October_2013.pdf)

SUMMARY

Q.2 Now thinking about the wearing of veils or any kind of head covering, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?	Agree	Disagree	DK
In Britain, women should be allowed to wear full face veils or niqabs in public	33	56	11
Women who wear any type of veil or head covering face widespread discrimination	51	31	18
People in Britain are generally accepting of women who wear a veil or head covering in public	46	44	11
People in Britain are generally accepting of women who wear a full face veil or niqab in public	24	66	11

Q.3 Would you support or oppose each of the following proposals?	Support	Oppose	DK
A ban on wearing of a full face veil or niqab when in public	55	34	12
A ban on wearing of any kind of veil or head covering when in public	35	53	12
A ban on wearing of a full face veil or niqab in certain public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals	81	12	7
A ban on wearing of any kind of veil or head covering in certain public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals	58	31	11

A ban on teachers in state schools - including free schools - wearing a full face veil or niqab in school	81	12	7
A ban on teachers in state schools - including free schools - wearing any kind of veil or head covering in school - either the hijab or niqab	63	27	10

Q.5 Thinking about if you personally came into contact with a woman wearing the full face veil or niqab, which of the following words or phrases describe or do not describe how you would feel?	Describes how I would feel	Does not describe how I would feel	DK
Threatened	30	60	9
Comfortable	19	71	10
Uneasy	64	31	6
Unsure of how to relate to them	76	19	5
Nervous	41	52	7
The same as with someone not wearing a full face veil or niqab	16	74	10

MEDIA COVERAGE

More than half of Brits want full face veil banned - 81% support ban in schools, courts or hospitals

An exclusive ComRes poll for Channel 4 News showed that more than half of the public believe women should not be allowed to wear the niqab in public - with 55 per cent backing an outright ban similar to the one in France.

An even greater proportion, 81 per cent, say they support a ban on wearing the niqab in certain public places, such as schools, courts or hospitals.

Controversy has dogged the niqab in recent weeks. In September, a college in Birmingham was forced to drop a ban on Muslim face veils after a Channel 4 News report, but in the same month a judge ruled that Muslim women must remove the full face veil to give evidence.

However, he said that women would be allowed to wear the niqab when facing trial, and called on parliament to provide a definitive answer. [*Channel 4*]
<http://www.channel4.com/news/brits-back-ban-of-full-face-veil-niqab-poll-exclusive>

Niqab Ban Supported By More Than Half Of Britons, According To Channel 4 News Poll

More than half the British public think that Muslim women SHOULD NOT be allowed to wear the niqab in public.

A ComRes opinion poll for Channel 4 found that 56% of respondents said they opposed the wearing of the full face-veil, while 55% said they would support a national ban, similar to legislation that was passed in France in 2010.

The niqab, which only shows the eyes of the wearer, has been the subject of intense debate in the UK, particularly over whether it should be permissible to wear the covering when giving evidence in court. The poll asked whether the niqab should be banned in public places, such as courtrooms, schools and hospitals, with 81% saying they would support such a ban. [*The Huffington Post UK*]
http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/10/24/niqab-ban-britain_n_4158159.html

Six in 10 (60%) young British people (18 – 24 years-old) think Islam has a negative image.

(For other religions it ranges from 11% to 17% thinking the religion has a negative image.)

Just over a quarter of young people (27%) do not trust Muslims.

Nearly half (44%) tend to agree or strongly agree that the Muslim community does not share the same values as people in the rest of Britain.

Publisher: BBC

Title: *BBC Young people and prejudice survey*

Agency: ComRes

Survey Details: 1,001 GB adults aged between 18 and 24 online, 7 - 17 June

Published Date: September 2013

Link to Full Results: http://comres.co.uk/wp-content/themes/comres/poll/BBC_Radio_1_Newsbeat_Discrimination_Poll_September_2013.pdf

SUMMARY

Q.8 Generally speaking, do you think that each of the following groups of people have a positive or negative image among the British public at present?	Positive	Negative	Neither	DK
Christians	35	13	38	13
Muslims	11	60	17	13
Hindus	16	17	49	18
Sikhs	15	17	49	18
Jewish people	18	16	50	16
Buddhists	22	11	49	18

Q.9 Now thinking specifically about religious groups and immigrants, would you say that you generally trust or do not trust each of the following groups?	Trust	Do not trust	DK
Christians	62	12	26
Muslims	43	27	31

Hindus	50	16	34
Sikhs	49	16	35
Jewish people	51	15	33
Buddhists	55	13	31

Q.10 Do you personally believe that the UK would be better or worse off if there were fewer people from each of the following groups in Britain?	Better off	Worse off	No difference	DK
Christians	17	19	49	15
Muslims	28	16	38	18
Hindus	14	14	53	18
Sikhs	14	15	52	18
Jewish people	13	16	55	17
Buddhists	14	15	54	17

Q.15 Now thinking about the Muslim community specifically, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	DK
The Muslim community in the UK is doing enough to combat extremism in their communities	8	22	24	15	31
The Muslim community in Britain does not share the same values as people in the rest of the country	17	27	23	6	27
Islam is an inherently peaceful religion	18	30	15	11	25
The Muslim community is no more extremist than other communities, as shown by the IRA	21	30	15	8	26
The recent attack on a UK soldier in Woolwich by two Muslim men is an example of some members of a group taking extreme and uncharacteristic action, rather than being indicative of the Muslim community as a whole	44	28	7	4	16

MEDIA COVERAGE

More than a quarter of 18 to 24-year-olds in Britain do not trust Muslims, a BBC Radio 1 Newsbeat poll suggests

Of the 1,000 young people questioned, 28% said Britain would be better off with fewer Muslims, while 44% said Muslims did not share the same values as the rest of the population.

Some 60% thought the British public had a negative image of Muslims.

An adviser on anti-Muslim hatred said the findings suggested young people needed to mix more.

Akeela Ahmed, from the Cross-government Working Group on Anti-Muslim Hatred, said: "These findings indicate that we need to ensure young people are mixing at local levels and that they're working on projects together so that people can get to know Muslims and vice versa."

Made up of civil servants, academics, and members of the Islamic community, the group was launched last year and its job is to advise the government on how to tackle prejudice.

Its members said prejudice among young people was particularly worrying because they were thought to be more liberal than older age groups.

Other findings in the Comres survey, conducted in June, include:

When asked about religious groups 27% said they didn't trust Muslims, 16% said they didn't trust Hindus or Sikhs, 15% said they didn't trust Jewish people, that figure was 13% for Buddhists and 12% said they didn't trust Christians

Young people place the blame for Islamophobia in Britain on terror groups abroad (26%), the media (23%) and UK Muslims who have committed acts of terror (21%)

Only three in 10 (29%) think Muslims are doing enough to combat extremism in their communities. However, overall young people are more likely to agree (48%) than disagree (27%) that Islam is a peaceful religion

Young people are divided over whether or not immigration is good for Britain overall. Two-fifths (42%) say it is a good thing but more than a third disagree (35%)

Professor Matthew Goodwin, another one of the group's members, said: "Every survey that I have run, and surveys run by my academic colleagues, makes it quite clear that a significant proportion of the British population hold negative views of Islam, and by extension British Muslim communities."

The government group says constant negative media coverage on Islam is shaping people's views. A report submitted to the Leveson inquiry into press standards last year concluded there was "a serious and systemic problem of racist, anti-Muslim reporting within sections of the British media". [BBC] <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/24204742>

Many young Britons do not trust Muslims

Some 27% of the thousand 18 to 24-year-olds questioned said they did not trust them, while fewer than three in 10 (29%) thought Muslims were doing enough to tackle extremism in their communities.

A similar proportion of the young people polled (28%) said the country would be better off with fewer Muslims and almost half (44%) felt Muslims did not share the same values as everyone else.

The BBC Radio 1 Newsbeat survey was carried out by the pollsters Comres in June after the soldier Lee Rigby was murdered in the street in Woolwich, south east London, in May. [*The Telegraph*] <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10333201/Many-young-Britons-do-not-trust-Muslims-poll-finds.html>

Do You Think The Wrong Thing?!

.... The reaction to the Glasgow story was reminiscent to that which followed the publication of a poll carried out by BBC Radio 1 in June of this year. When it was released in September, it transpired that of 1,000 young people polled, 27% said that they did not trust Muslims, with 44% saying they thought Muslims did not share the same views as the rest of the population.

On that occasion, too, the BBC and other media went into overdrive to work out what had gone wrong and how Britain could better "address" the problem that so many people thought this way.

Conversely, when the same poll showed that 15% of young people did not trust Jews, 13% did not trust Buddhists and 12% did not trust Christians, those facts were not deemed figures of significance. [*Gatestone Institute*] <http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/4085/do-you-think-the-wrong-thing>

British poll highlighting Islamophobia is 'deeply worrying' to Muslim groups

The findings were "understandable but no less shocking", according to Talha Ahmad, a spokesperson for the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), an umbrella organisation for British Muslim groups.

Mr Ahmad also blamed the results on a "climate of negativity" in the British media.

The survey, commissioned by the BBC and carried out by ComRes, a UK research group, found that 27 per cent of respondents said they did not trust Muslims.

That is more than 10 per cent higher than those who said the same for Hindus and Sikhs, both the second least-trusted religious groups at 16 per cent.

Nonetheless, the poll did show that 48 per cent respondents were more likely to agree that Islam is a peaceful religion, opposed to 27 per cent who disagreed.

Only one in three of the young people surveyed said Muslims were doing enough to combat extremists among them, but were divided on where blame for Islamophobia in Britain lies. Twenty-six per cent blamed foreign terrorist groups, 23 per cent the media and 21 per cent British Muslims involved in terrorism.

Forty-four per cent said they did not believe Muslims held the same values as them, while 28 per cent thought Britain would be "better off" with less. [*The National*] <http://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/british-poll-highlighting-islamophobia-is-deeply-worrying-to-muslim-groups>

Six in 10 (60%) British people believe the great majority of Muslims are peaceful and law-abiding citizens but there is a dangerous minority.

One in seven (14%) think a large proportion of British Muslims feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to condone or even carry out acts of terrorism.

Half (50%) think a significant number of the leaders of Britain's Muslim communities are turning a blind eye to terrorism.

Publisher: Sunday Times

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1839 GB adults. Fieldwork: 23 – 24 May 2013

Published Date: May 2013

Link to Full Results:

http://d25d2506sfb94s.cloudfront.net/cumulus_uploads/document/pdc1opqf1w/YG-Archive-Pol-Sunday-Times-results-240513.pdf

SUMMARY

Which of the following statements about British Muslims comes closest to your own view?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
Practically all British Muslims are peaceful, law-abiding citizens who deplore Wednesday's killing as much as everyone else	20	17	26	39	5
The great majority are peaceful and law-abiding citizens but there is a dangerous minority who feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to carry out, or at least to condone, acts of terrorism	60	68	60	52	57
A large proportion of British Muslims feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to condone or even carry out acts of terrorism	14	11	9	7	36
Don't know	6	3	6	2	3

Do you think the leaders of Britain's Muslim community are doing the best they can to fight terrorism, or are a significant number of them turning a blind eye to it?	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP
The leaders of Britain's Muslim community are doing the best they can to fight terrorism	28	26	35	46	10
A significant number of the leaders of Britain's Muslim communities are turning a blind eye to	50	57	43	35	81

terrorism					
Don't know	22	18	22	19	9

MEDIA COVERAGE

Islamophobia Post-Woolwich

Muslims in Britain are in the public opinion spotlight again following Wednesday's brutal murder on the streets of Woolwich of Drummer Lee Rigby at the hands of two alleged Islamist terrorists.

Post-event attitudes are explored in a YouGov poll published in two sections today, and conducted online among a representative sample of 1,839 Britons aged 18 and over on 23 and 24 May 2013. The poll included questions asked on behalf of The Sunday Times and Matthew Goodwin of the University of Nottingham.

The Sunday Times survey replicated one of the questions posed in the immediate aftermath of the London bombings of 7 July 2005. Then YouGov found that 10% believed that 'a large proportion of British Muslims feel no sense of loyalty to this country and are prepared to condone or even carry out acts of terrorism'.

The proportion now stands at 14%, peaking at 36% of UKIP supporters, with 19% among manual workers and residents of northern England; and 16% among men, the over-40s, and Londoners.

Most Britons (60%) consider that the great majority of British Muslims are peaceful and law-abiding but that there is a dangerous and disloyal minority predisposed to terrorism, while 20% argue that practically all British Muslims are peaceful and law-abiding who deplore Rigby's murder as much as everyone else.

However, fully one-half of respondents feel that a significant number of the leaders of Britain's Muslim communities are turning a blind eye to terrorism, rising to 81% of UKIP voters and 61% of the over-60s, and only 28% concede that they are doing their best to fight it (Liberal Democrats being most optimistic on 46%). [*British Religion in Numbers*] <http://www.brin.ac.uk/news/2013/islamophobia-post-woolwich/>

Over half (59%) of British people agree or tend to agree there will be a 'clash of civilizations' between Muslims and native white Britons.

(This followed the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby. Six months before the figure was 49%.)

63% agree or tend to agree the vast majority of Muslims are good British citizens.

45% think free speech in Britain is threatened by the influence of Muslims in the media.

Publisher: University of Nottingham - Matthew Goodwin

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1839 GB Adults. Fieldwork: 23 - 24 May 2013

Published Date: May 2013

Link to Full Results:

https://d25d2506sfb94s.cloudfront.net/cumulus_uploads/document/fbvruy6ra/Dr-Matthew-Goodwin-University-of-Nottingham-YouGov-Survey-Results-Extremism-In-Britain-130526.pdf

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Nor	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	DK
There will be a 'clash of civilizations' between British Muslims and native white Britons	21	38	14	14	7	6
Muslims make an important contribution to British society	11	29	30	14	9	7
The vast majority of Muslims are good British citizens	23	40	20	7	5	5
British Muslims pose a serious threat to democracy	13	21	21	19	18	6
Free speech in Britain is threatened by the influence of Muslims in the media	19	26	19	18	12	6
Differences in culture and values' make future conflict between British born Muslims and white Britons inevitable	13	35	20	16	9	6
British born Muslims generally share the culture and values of the majority society	8	30	24	22	9	7

Nearly half (49%) of British people agree or tend to agree there will be a 'clash of civilizations' between Muslims and native white Britons.

Over half (52%) agree or tend to agree higher birth rates within Muslim communities pose a fundamental threat to British national identity.

Fewer than one in four (24%) think Muslims are compatible with the British way of life.

Publisher: Chatham House - Matthew Goodwin

Title: Part of: *Understanding and Dealing with Populist Extremism in Europe*

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 1666 GB adults, October 2012, and 1691 GB adults, November 2012

Published Date: January 2013

Link to Full Results:

http://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/files/chathamhouse/field/field_document/0313bp_goodwin_dataissues.pdf

SUMMARY

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Nor	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	DK
Islam does NOT pose a serious danger to Western civilization	7	16	15	25	32	5
The growth of Muslim communities in Britain does NOT threaten the survival of the white British majority	10	18	16	22	29	5
There will be a 'clash of civilizations' between Muslims and native white Britons	17	32	20	17	7	8
Higher birth rates within Muslim communities pose a fundamental threat to British national identity	24	28	20	14	8	7
Muslims are compatible with the British way of life	5	19	21	26	22	7

MEDIA COVERAGE

Fewer than one in four people believe Islam is compatible with British way of life

Fewer than one in four people now believe that following Islam is compatible with a British way of life, Britain's most senior Muslim minister will warn today.

Highlighting unpublished research showing that a majority of the country now believes that Islam is a threat to Western civilisation Baroness Sayeeda Warsi will say that "underlying, unfounded mistrust" of Muslims is in itself fuelling extremism. [*The Independent*] <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/baroness-warsi-fewer-than-one-in-four-people-believe-islam-is-compatible-with-british-way-of-life-8464026.html>

Just 24% think Islam is compatible with being British

.... The Minister for Faith and Communities reveals stark polling conducted by YouGov which found that just 24 per cent of voters think Islam is compatible with being British, while more than half disagree. Only 23 per cent say Islam is not a threat to Western civilisation.

An unrepentant Lady Warsi, whose parents emigrated from Pakistan, said that she was right to speak out before and will use the new evidence to warn that the 'underlying, unfounded mistrust' of Muslims is fuelling extremism. [*Daily Mail*] <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2267515/Baroness-Warsi-Fewer-people-think-Islam-compatible-British-life.html>

Nearly four in 10 (37%) would you be more likely to vote for a party that promised to reduce the number of Muslims/presence of Islam in British society.

Publisher: Extremis Project

Title: *Matthew Goodwin - far left/right*

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: Survey of 1,750 respondents. Fieldwork dates: 19 – 20 August 2012. The survey was carried out online

Published Date: 17 September 2012

Link to Full Results: <http://extremisproject.org/2012/09/extremis-projectyougov-data-and-results/>

SUMMARY

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a party that promised to do each of the following or would it make no difference?	More likely	Less likely	It would make no difference	DK
Stand up to political and business elites	66	5	21	9
Stop all immigration into the UK	41	28	22	9
Prioritise traditional British values over other cultures	55	14	24	8
Reduce the number of Muslims/presence of Islam in British society	37	23	31	9

MEDIA COVERAGE

Voters more likely to back an anti-Muslim party than reject it

.... In addition, 37% admitted that they would be more likely to support a political party that promised to reduce the number of Muslims in Britain and the presence of Islam in society, compared with 23% who said it would make them less likely.

Matthew Goodwin of the Extremis Project, an independent group monitoring extremism and terrorism that commissioned the research, said that, although Britain lacked a successful extremist political party, much of the public was susceptible to far-right ideology.

He said: "The results clearly point towards enduring public anxieties over the performance of mainstream political and business elites, immigration and also the role of Muslims and Islam in society." [*The Observer*]

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/sep/16/voters-support-anti-immigrant-party>

YouGov poll suggests support for anti-Muslim parties

.... The results shed interesting light on developments in the last year, from Baroness Sayeeda Warsi's speech on Islamophobia in the UK passing the 'dinner table test' and the indignation it aroused in some quarters, to the speeches that followed from PM David Cameron on the failure of 'state multiculturalism' and the need for a 'muscular liberalism' and deputy PM Nick Clegg, on an 'open, confident society'. And from the exploitation of immigration, multiculturalism and Muslims in electoral contests in mainland Europe and the UK.

The YouGov results point to a dangerous mainstreaming of Islamophobia in political discourse when 37% of pollsters express support for a political party that 'promised to reduce the number of Muslims in Britain and the presence of Islam in society'.

A response suggesting that respondents would support a political party that promised to reduce the number of Jews or Blacks in Britain would, rightly, invite widespread denunciation.

The dismissive regard for growing anti-Muslim sentiment in the UK, alluded to in Warsi's remarks on the 'dinner table test,' is a particular problem. With the number of mosques and other Muslim institutions which have been targets of far right attacks, it is surprising that no senior member of Government has spoken out against the proliferation of National Front, BNP or English Defence League provocations. [ENGAGE]
<http://www.iengage.org.uk/news/2085-yougov-poll-suggests-support-for-anti-muslim-parties>

Two thirds (66%) of the public agree the burkha should be banned in Britain.

Publisher: YouGov

Agency: YouGov

Survey Details: 2258 GB adults. Fieldwork: 11 - 12 April 2011

Published Date: April 2011

Link to Results: http://cdn.yougov.com/today_uk_import/yg-archives-pol-yougov-burqa-130411.pdf

SUMMARY

"A burkha, is a loose garment worn by women in some Islamic traditions for the purpose of hiding a female's body and face when out in public. It is worn over their usual daily clothing and removed when the woman returns to their household, out of the view of men that are not their immediate family members."

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	DK
"The burkha should be banned in Britain"					
Survey, April 2011	40	26	18	9	7
Survey, July 2010	42	25	18	9	6

Two thirds Brits want burqa ban

Two thirds of the British public agree with the statement 'the burqa should be banned in Britain', our poll has found, in the wake of the ban on the niqab, or any face covering (with a few exceptions) coming into force in France this week.

We polled over 2,000 nationally representative British adults, in a question that explained the burqa is a loose garment worn by some Islamic women, which covers the face and body in public, and which is removed when the woman returns home to her household out of the view of men who are not her immediate family members.

- 66% agreed with the statement 'the burqa should be banned in Britain'
- 42% strongly agreed
- Men and women are largely in agreement over the issue (68% of men and 65% of women think it should be banned)
- While older people are more likely than their younger counterparts to favour a ban (79% of the over 60s agreed with a ban, compared to 51% of those aged 18 to 24)

[YouGov] <https://yougov.co.uk/news/2011/04/14/two-thirds-brits-want-burqa-ban/>

More than two in three (68%) people think religion should not influence laws and policies in this country.

Over half (52%) think Muslims create problems or a lot of problems.

(For other religions it ranges from 7% to 15% thinking the religion creates problems or a lot of problems.)

Six in 10 (60%) think people should be allowed to say what they believe about religion, however critical or offensive it might be.

More than four in 10 (43%) would support a campaign to stop the building of a mosque near where they live.

Publisher: Searchlight Educational Trust

Title: *Fear and Hope – the New Politics of Identity*

Agency: Populus

Survey Details: Populus interviewed a random sample of 5,054 adults aged 18+ online between 28 January 2011 and 31 January 2011. It is one of the largest and most comprehensive surveys into attitude, identity and extremism in the UK.

Published Date: February 2011

Link to Full Results: http://www.populus.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/download_pdf-310111-Searchlight-Fear-and-Hope-survey.pdf

SUMMARY

Q14 Agreement with statements regarding religion	Strongly disagree	2	3	4	Strongly agree
Religion should not influence laws and policies in this country	7	9	16	17	51
Religion is important to me	36	19	22	12	11
By and large religion is a force for good in the UK	21	21	35	15	8

Q15 Please say to what extent you think the following groups are similar to you in terms of habits, customs and values	Completely different	2	3	4	Completely the same
Jews	19	17	38	21	5
Muslims	44	25	23	6	3
Christians	5	5	24	30	36
Hindus	28	24	33	10	4

Sikhs	29	24	33	11	4
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Q18A Please tell me how far the following groups create problems in the UK	Create no problems	2	3	4	Create a lot of problems	DK
Jews	38	23	14	4	3	18
Muslims	6	10	19	20	32	12
Christians	29	25	20	9	5	12
Hindus	24	20	20	8	7	22
Sikhs	23	20	20	9	6	22

Q20E For each of these pairs of statements please say which one you agree with most, even if you don't fully agree with either	Agree with most	Agree with most
People should be allowed to say what they believe about religion, however critical or offensive it might be	60	
There are some things that people should not be able to say about religion, and if necessary they should be prosecuted if they do		40
Q20F For each of these pairs of statements please say which one you agree with most, even if you don't fully agree with either	Agree with most	Agree with most
People should be allowed to say what they believe about race, however critical or offensive it might be	42	
There are some things that people should not be able to say about race, and if necessary they should be prosecuted if they do		58

Q22 A new party is going to be set up which says it wants to defend the English, create an English Parliament, control immigration, challenge Islamic extremism, restrict the building of mosques and make it compulsory for all public buildings to fly the St George's flag or Union Jack. Would you:	%
Definitely support	21
Consider supporting	27
Probably not support it	15
Definitely not support it	27
Not know whether you'd support it	10

Q24 If there was a proposal to build a new mosque near where you live and some local residents began a	%
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campaign to stop it, do you think you would...	
Strongly support the campaign to stop the new mosque	23
Support the campaign to stop the new mosque, but not strongly	20
Neither support nor oppose the campaign to stop the new mosque	38
Oppose the campaign to stop the new mosque, but not strongly	11
Strongly oppose the campaign to stop the new mosque	8

Q26 When you see or hear that Muslims are increasingly associated with violence and terrorism, what is your immediate reaction?	%
It's not true and it's something got up by the media	6
It's not true but it's unsurprising people say this because of the actions and statements of a few Muslim extremists	49
It is true but it's unsurprising given the actions of the West in the Muslim world and the hostility displayed towards Muslims here at home	21
It is true because Islam is a dangerous religion that incites violence	25

Summary Project report by Searchlight Educational Trust *Fear and Hope*

There have been dozens of polls and analyses that have tracked changing attitudes towards immigration and race. However, Searchlight's experience of this shifting dynamic – of a politics of culture, identity, and nation suggested that much deeper forces were driving attitudes towards 'Others'. These forces did not seem to be adequately described by our traditional notions of social class.

The clearest manifestation of these deeper forces has been the rise of the British National Party (BNP), UK Independence Party (UKIP) and more recently the English Defence League (EDL). While some confidently wrote off the Far Right threat after the BNP's poor results in last year's general and local elections, Searchlight believed the threat remained, albeit in a new form. We felt that these far-right parties were simply symptoms of a deeper growth of identity politics, mixed with economic and (perceived and real) social change, which (left unaddressed) would eventually manifest politically. Nature abhors a vacuum; fringe groups seed in fertile ground.

.... The central contention is that a politics of identity – where people congregate around the clusters or segments outlined above – has risen alongside a traditional left-right, class-based political axis.

Without understanding these clusters of attitudes towards issues of identity, an understanding of British politics is not possible. As class weakens as a means of understanding social attitudes and political change, and the old left-right dynamic of British politics weakens with it, there is a search for dynamics driving political change.

*The 'tribes' outlined here are intended as a contribution to that discussion. See definition of "tribes" here: <http://www.fearandhope.org.uk/project-report/new-tribes>
See full project report here: <http://www.fearandhope.org.uk/project-report/>*

MEDIA COVERAGE

Poll finds huge support for far right 'if they gave up violence' - And 52 per cent of Britons agree that 'Muslims create problems in the UK'

Huge numbers of Britons would support an anti-immigration English nationalist party if it was not associated with violence and fascist imagery, according to the largest survey into identity and extremism conducted in the UK.

A Populus poll found that 48% of the population would consider supporting a new anti-immigration party committed to challenging Islamist extremism

Anti-racism campaigners said the findings suggested Britain's mainstream parties were losing touch with public opinion on issues of identity and race.

The poll suggests that the level of backing for a far-right party could equal or even outstrip that in countries such as France, the Netherlands and Austria.

39% of Asian Britons against further immigration

According to the survey, 39% of Asian Britons, 34% of white Britons and 21% of black Britons wanted all immigration into the UK to be stopped permanently, or at least until the economy improved.

And 43% of Asian Britons, 63% of white Britons and 17% of black Britons agreed with the statement that "immigration into Britain has been a bad thing for the country".

Over half of all respondents agree "Muslims create problems in the UK"

Just over half of respondents – 52% – agreed with the proposition that "Muslims create problems in the UK".

The poll also identified a majority keen to be allowed to openly criticise religion, with 60% believing they "should be allowed to say whatever they believe about religion".

By contrast, fewer than half – 42% – said "people should be allowed to say whatever they believe about race". [*The Guardian*]

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/feb/27/support-poll-support-far-right>

Half of Britain 'would vote for far-Right parties if they gave up violence'

Almost half the country would back a far-Right party if they gave up violence, an astonishing new poll revealed today.

A total of 48 per cent said that they would support a group that vowed to crack down on immigration and Islamic extremists.

They would also restrict the building of mosques and order the flag of St George or the Union Jack be flown on all public buildings.

In one of the most revealing questions, pollsters Populus asked people if they would back a party that 'wants to defend the English, create an English parliament, control immigration and challenge Islamic extremism'.

A total of 48 per cent said they would either 'definitely support' or 'consider supporting' a party with such an agenda, if it shunned violence and fascist imagery.

.... In the 12 months to last September, 238,950 migrants were allowed into Britain, the highest figure since records began.

Sixty per cent of people thought immigration had been 'a bad thing' for England, against 40 per cent who said it had been 'good'.

Thirty-four per cent said immigration should be stopped permanently or until the economy improved. The report also found opposition comes from all races, not just 'white Britons'.

'And 52 per cent of Britons agree that 'Muslims create problems in the UK'. [*Daily Mail*]
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1361068/Half-Britain-vote-far-Right-parties-gave-violence.html>

6.0 Surveys – Muslims in Islamic Countries

Large minorities (10-30%) in most large Muslim countries believe suicide bombing can be often or sometimes justified against civilian targets in order to defend Islam from its enemies.

Publisher: Pew Research Center

Title: *Concerns about Islamic Extremism on the Rise in Middle East - Negative Opinions of al Qaeda, Hamas and Hezbollah Widespread*

Agency: Pew Research

Survey Details: Survey conducted among 14,244 respondents in 14 countries with significant Muslim populations from 10 April to 25 May, 2014

Published Date: July 2014

Link to Report: <http://www.pewglobal.org/files/2014/06/PG-2014-07-01-Islamic-Extremism-Full-Report.pdf>

SUMMARY

The report explores attitudes about extremism in countries with significant Muslim populations. It includes opinions of extremist groups such as al Qaeda, Hamas and Hezbollah, and Boko Haram in Nigeria and the Taliban in Pakistan.

It also examines Muslim views of suicide bombing.

Muslim Views on Suicide Bombing (p9)	Often	Some times	Rarely	Never	DK	NET Often Some times
Suicide bombings can be justified against civilian targets in order to defend Islam from its enemies?						
% who say:						
Palest. Ter	28	18	13	32	10	46
Lebanon	7	22	25	45	0	29
Egypt	10	14	35	38	3	24
Turkey	6	12	11	58	13	18
Jordan	4	11	29	55	2	15
Tunisia	4	1	3	90	2	5
Bangladesh	14	33	14	33	6	47
Malaysia	7	11	15	60	8	18

Indonesia	1	8	13	76	3	9
Pakistan	1	2	4	83	11	3

MEDIA COVERAGE

42% of Muslims Polled by Pew Research Think Suicide Bombing and Other Violence Against Civilians Are at Least Occasionally Justified

A Pew Research study has found that 42 percent of Muslims in 15 locations think that suicide bombing and other forms of violence against civilian targets is at least occasionally justified in order to defend Islam from its enemies.

The study was concluded in Spring 2014 and the results were published Tuesday by Pew Research as part of its Global Attitudes Project. In a few of the nations polled, a large majority of Muslims were against suicide bombing.

Pakistan and Tunisia were found to be overwhelmingly against suicide bombing. Indonesia was also found to be significantly against suicide bombing. [*The Speaker*] <http://thespeaker.co/42-percent-muslims-polled-pew-research-think-suicide-bombing-violence-civilians-least-occasionally-justified/>

Muslims Worldwide Fear The Rise Of Islamic Extremism: Pew Survey

Though the extremist militant group ISIS has declared a restoration of the Islamic Caliphate and issued a call for all Muslims to pledge their allegiance to it, a Pew survey shows that most people living in Muslim majority countries are very concerned about the threat of Islamic extremism in their nations.

The poll investigated specific attitudes towards groups such as al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, the Taliban, Hezbollah and Hamas, in fourteen countries with significant Muslim populations, and found that almost universally negative opinions were held about them.

.... In the Middle East, fears about Islamic extremism have been on the rise since 2013, with Lebanon reporting that a staggering 92 percent of the country's residents are very or somewhat concerned about Islamic extremism in the nation. Its long border with conflict-stricken Syria is a likely factor in the high degree of concern.

.... Pakistan's negative opinions toward the Taliban have held fairly steady for the past few years, with 59 percent of the population holding an unfavorable view of the group based on the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Taliban are even more unpopular than al-Qaeda in Pakistan, with only eight percent of Pakistanis reporting a favorable view of the Taliban, compared with 12 percent holding a favorable view of al-Qaeda. [*The Huffington Post*] http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/07/02/muslims-against-extremism-pew-survey_n_5551693.html

Pew: Support for Hamas, Hezbollah collapsing in region

Support for terrorist groups Hamas and Hezbollah has slipped across the Middle East, according to a poll released Wednesday by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project.

The survey was conducted in April and May 2014 (before the ISIL offensive in Iraq) among 14,244 respondents in 14 countries with significant Muslim populations. Hezbollah is seen unfavorably in almost every Middle Eastern country. It does not poll much better in Africa or Asia, Pew found.

In its home country of Lebanon, 59 percent have an unfavorable view of the Shiite organization. Not surprisingly, 88% of Lebanese Sunni and 69% of its Christians disapprove of the party/terrorist group. [*The Times of Israel*]
<http://www.timesofisrael.com/pew-support-for-hamas-hezbollah-collapsing-in-region/>

One in three (34%) Turkish men believe violence against women is "occasionally necessary".

Publisher: University of Kirikkale and Happy Kids Association, Turkey

Agency: NA

Survey Details: Survey conducted in seven cities among 3,500 men

Published Date: April 2013

Link to Report: NA

MEDIA COVERAGE

Domestic violence OK sometimes: 34 percent of Turkish men

34 percent of Turkish men believe that violence against women is 'occasionally necessary,' with around 30 percent saying violence 'with a cause' is acceptable, according to a recent survey conducted in seven cities among 3,500 men

A total of 34 percent of men find violence "occasionally necessary," while 28 percent said violence could be used to discipline women, according to a nationwide survey conducted among 3,500 men by the Happy Kids Association (Mutlu Çocuklar Derneği) and Kirikkale University's Application and Research Center for Women's Problems.

The survey, which was intended to identify the perceptions of men and women regarding violence in Turkey, is the first of its kind conducted on men, not women, Dolunay Şenol, department chair for sociology at Kirikkale University, told Anatolia news agency yesterday.

A total of 7,000 people participated in the "Nationwide Survey on Violence against Women," in which men and women over the age of 18 were interviewed to identify their perceptions about violence against women.

The survey was carried out in Adana, Ankara, Istanbul, İzmir, Erzurum, Trabzon and Malatya, and each city was represented by 500 men and women. [*Hürriyet Daily News*]
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/domestic-violence-rarely-necessary-34-percent-turkish-men.aspx?pageID=238&nID=44974&NewsCatID=341>

On average, seven in 10 (70%) Muslims in each county in the greater part of the Muslim world, favour making Sharia the Law of the Land.

Of these, 58% favour whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers, 60% favour stoning as a punishment for adultery, and 53% favour the death penalty for apostasy.

18% of all Muslims say suicide bombing attacks against civilians in defense of Islam can be often/sometimes justified.

Nearly half (44%) believe in creationism; humans and other living things have always existed in their present form.

Publisher: Pew Research Center

Title: *The World's Muslims: Religion, Politics and Society*

Agency: Pew Research Center

Survey Details: Based on public opinion surveys conducted by the Pew Research Center between 2008 and 2012 in a total of 39 countries and territories on three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe. Together, the surveys involved more than 38,000 face-to-face interviews.

The surveys were conducted in two waves. Fifteen sub-Saharan African countries with substantial Muslim populations were surveyed in 2008-2009, and some of those results previously were analyzed in the **Pew Research Center's 2010 report "Tolerance and Tension: Islam and Christianity in Sub-Saharan Africa."**

An additional 24 countries in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa were surveyed in 2011-2012. Results regarding religious beliefs and practices were first published in the **Pew Research Center's 2012 report "The World's Muslims: Unity and Diversity."** The current report focuses on Muslims' social and political attitudes, and it incorporates findings from both waves of the survey.

Published Date: 30 April 2013

Link to Report: <http://www.pewforum.org/files/2013/04/worlds-muslims-religion-politics-society-full-report.pdf>

SUMMARY

[EXTRACT FROM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY] A new Pew Research Center survey of Muslims around the globe finds that most adherents of the world's second-largest religion are deeply committed to their faith and want its teachings to shape not only their personal lives but also their societies and politics.

In all but a handful of the 39 countries surveyed, a majority of Muslims say that Islam is the one true faith leading to eternal life in heaven and that belief in God is necessary to be a moral person. Many also think that their religious leaders should have at least some influence over political matters. And many express a desire for sharia – traditional Islamic law – to be recognized as the official law of their country.

.... solid majorities in most of the countries surveyed across the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia favor the establishment of sharia, including 71% of Muslims in Nigeria, 72% in Indonesia, 74% in Egypt and 89% in the Palestinian territories.

At the same time, the survey finds that even in many countries where there is strong backing for sharia, most Muslims favor religious freedom for people of other faiths. These seemingly divergent views are possible partly because most supporters of sharia in Pakistan – as in many other countries – think Islamic law should apply only to Muslims. Moreover, Muslims around the globe have differing understandings of what sharia means in practice.

The survey shows that Muslims tend to be most comfortable with using sharia in the domestic sphere, to settle family or property disputes. In most countries surveyed, there is considerably less support for severe punishments, such as cutting off the hands of thieves or executing people who convert from Islam to another faith.

And even in the domestic sphere, Muslims differ widely on such questions as whether polygamy, divorce and family planning are morally acceptable and whether daughters should be able to receive the same inheritance as sons.

In most countries surveyed, majorities of Muslim women as well as men agree that a wife is always obliged to obey her husband. Indeed, more than nine-in-ten Muslims in Iraq (92%), Morocco (92%), Tunisia (93%), Indonesia (93%), Afghanistan (94%) and Malaysia (96%) express this view. At the same time, majorities in many countries surveyed say a woman should be able to decide for herself whether to wear a veil.

Overall, the survey finds that most Muslims see no inherent tension between being religiously devout and living in a modern society. Nor do they see any conflict between religion and science. Many favor democracy over authoritarian rule, believe that humans and other living things have evolved over time and say they personally enjoy Western movies, music and television – even though most think Western popular culture undermines public morality.

[ISLAM SURVEYED SELECTED RESULTS*]

SHARIA

Favor or Oppose Making Sharia the Law of the Land? (p46)	
% of Muslims who favor making Islamic law the official law in their country	%
Southeast Asia	
Indonesia	72
Malaysia	86
South Asia	
Afghanistan	99
Bangladesh	82
Pakistan	84

Middle East-North Africa	
Egypt	74
Iraq	91
Jordan	71
Lebanon	29
Morocco	83
Tunisia	56
Central Asia	
Turkey	12

Should Sharia Apply to Both Muslims and Non-Muslims? (p48)		
Among Muslims who say sharia should be the law of the land, % who say it should apply to ...	Muslims only	All citizens
Southeast Asia		
Indonesia	48	50
Malaysia	55	41
South Asia		
Afghanistan	37	61
Bangladesh	60	39
Pakistan	64	34
Middle East-North Africa		
Egypt	25	74
Iraq	59	38
Jordan	41	58
Lebanon	51	48
Morocco	60	29
Tunisia	54	40
Central Asia		
Turkey	50	43

Among Muslims who say sharia should be the law of the land .. (p52-54) % who favor whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers % who favor stoning as a punishment for adultery % who favor the death penalty for apostasy	% Favor Whippings or Cutting off Hands	% Favor Stoning for Adultery	% Favor Death for Apostasy
Southeast Asia			
Indonesia	45	48	18
Malaysia	66	60	62
South Asia			
Afghanistan	81	85	79
Bangladesh	50	55	44
Pakistan	88	89	76
Middle East-North Africa			
Egypt	70	81	86
Iraq	56	58	42
Jordan	57	67	82
Lebanon	50	46	46
Morocco	-	-	-
Tunisia	44	44	29
Central Asia			
Turkey	35	29	17

OTHER BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

How Much Political Influence Should Religious Leaders Have? (p64)		
% of Muslims who say religious leaders should have ...	Large influence	Some influence
Southeast Asia		
Indonesia	30	45
Malaysia	41	41
South Asia		
Afghanistan	53	29

Bangladesh	25	44
Pakistan	27	27
Middle East-North Africa		
Egypt	28	47
Iraq	24	33
Jordan	37	43
Lebanon	18	19
Morocco	-	-
Tunisia	27	31
Central Asia		
Turkey	11	25

Is Suicide Bombing Justified? (p70)	
% of Muslims who say attacks against civilians in defense of Islam can be often/sometimes justified	%
Southeast Asia	
Indonesia	7
Malaysia	18
South Asia	
Afghanistan	39
Bangladesh	26
Pakistan	13
Middle East-North Africa	
Egypt	29
Iraq	7
Jordan	15
Lebanon	-
Morocco	-
Tunisia	12
Central Asia	
Turkey	15

Must a Wife Always Obey Her Husband? (p93) Should a Wife Have the Right to Divorce Her Husband? (p94)	% who completely or mostly agree that a wife must always obey her husband	% of Muslims who say a wife should be able to divorce her husband
Southeast Asia		
Indonesia	93	32
Malaysia	96	8
South Asia		
Afghanistan	94	-
Bangladesh	88	62
Pakistan	88	26
Middle East-North Africa		
Egypt	85	22
Iraq	92	14
Jordan	80	22
Lebanon	74	56
Morocco	92	73
Tunisia	93	81
Central Asia		
Turkey	65	85

Belief in Evolution (p132)		
% of Muslims who believe humans and other living things have ...	Always existed in present form	Evolved over time
Southeast Asia		
Indonesia	55	39
Malaysia	45	37
South Asia		
Afghanistan	62	26
Bangladesh	37	54
Pakistan	38	30

Middle East-North Africa		
Egypt	-	-
Iraq	67	27
Jordan	47	52
Lebanon	21	78
Morocco	29	63
Tunisia	36	45
Central Asia		
Turkey	49	35

* The following Muslim countries have also been omitted from the selected results: In Southern-Eastern Europe; parts of Russia, Albania, Bosnia-Herz., Kosovo. In Central Asia; Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan

MEDIA COVERAGE

Does This Paint It Black, or Am I A Fool to Cry? Breaking Down the New Pew Study of Muslims

.... The first section deals with shari`a, usually rendered simply as "Islamic law" but more accurately defined as "the rules of correct practice" which "cover every possible human contingency, social and individual, from birth to death" and based upon the Qur'an and hadiths (sayings and practices attributed to Muhammad) as interpreted by Islamic religious scholars.

Asked "should sharia be the law of the land," 57% of Muslims across 38 countries answered "yes" — including, most problematically for the US: 99% of Afghans, 91% of Iraqis, 89% of Palestinians, 84% of Pakistanis and even 74% of Egyptians.

Should sharia apply to non-Muslims as well as Muslims? Across 21 countries surveyed on this question, 40% answered affirmatively — with the highest positive response coming from Egypt (its 74% exceeding even Afghanistan's 61%).

And on the question whether sharia punishments — such as whippings and cutting off of thieves' hands — should be enacted, the 20-country average was 52%, led by Pakistan (88%), Afghanistan (81%), the Palestinian Territories [PT] (76%) and Egypt (70%).

On the specific penalty of stoning for adultery, the 20-country average was 51% — with, again, Pakistan (89%), Afghanistan (85%), the PT (84%) and Egypt (71%) highest in approval. Finally, 38% of Muslims, across those same 20 nations, support the death penalty for those leaving Islam for another religion.

.... this latest Pew study provides empirical evidence that many — far too many — Muslims cling to a literalist, supremacist and indeed brutal view of their religion. Insha'allah, this will change eventually — but time is not necessarily on our side. [zenpundit.com] <http://zenpundit.com/?p=21685>

U.S. Muslims more moderate than Muslims worldwide

Muslims in America are much less inclined to support suicide bombing than other Muslims abroad, and are more likely to believe that people of other faiths can attain eternal life in heaven, according to a new report released Tuesday (April 30) by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life.

"The World's Muslims" report looks at Muslim views across seven categories: Islamic law; religion and politics; morality; women; relations among Muslims; interfaith relations; and religion, science, and pop culture. There is also a special section on U.S. Muslims.

Of the countries surveyed, only a majority of Muslims in America — 56 percent — believe people of other faiths can go to heaven; by contrast, that figure among U.S. Christians is about 64 percent. U.S. Muslims are also less likely than Muslims abroad to believe in evolution, sharing views that are closer to those of U.S. Christians. [*The Washington Post*] http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/poll-us-muslims-more-moderate-than-muslims-worldwide/2013/04/30/265040ac-b1d9-11e2-9fb1-62de9581c946_story.html

Nearly two in three (64%) Muslims deny that Arabs (Muslims) carried out the 9/11 attacks. Only one in five (20%) believe Arabs (Muslims) were responsible.

Over half (56%) of Muslims first consider themselves as a Muslim. Only one in four (25%) first consider themselves as being a particular nationality.

Only 23% of Westerners first consider themselves as a Christian. Two in three (65%) first consider themselves as being a particular nationality.

Well over half (59%) of Westerners believe Muslims in their countries want to be distinct from the larger society.

Publisher: Pew Research Center

Title: *Pew Global Attitudes Survey - Common Concerns About Islamic Extremism - Muslim-Western Tensions Persist*

Agency: Pew Research Center

Survey Details: Survey results are based on national samples of about 1000 adults in each country. Fieldwork was carried out during March and April 2011.

Published Date: July 2011

Link to Publisher's Report: <http://www.pewglobal.org/files/2011/07/Pew-Global-Attitudes-Muslim-Western-Relations-FINAL-FOR-PRINT-July-21-2011.pdf>

SUMMARY

[EXTRACT FROM REPORT OVERVIEW] Muslim and Western publics continue to see relations between them as generally bad, with both sides holding negative stereotypes of the other. Many in the West see Muslims as fanatical and violent, while few say Muslims are tolerant or respectful of women.

Meanwhile, Muslims in the Middle East and Asia generally see Westerners as selfish, immoral and greedy – as well as violent and fanatical.

.... And, as in the past, Muslims express more unfavorable opinions about Christians than Americans or Europeans express about Muslims.

Muslims in the Middle East and elsewhere who say relations with the West are bad overwhelmingly blame the West. However, while Americans and Europeans tend to blame Muslims for bad relations, significant numbers believe Westerners are responsible.

..... One note of agreement between Westerners and Muslims is that both believe Muslim nations should be more economically prosperous than they are today. But they gauge the problem quite differently. Muslim publics have an aggrieved view of the West – they blame Western policies for their own lack of prosperity. Across the Muslim publics surveyed, a median of 53% say U.S. and Western policies are one of the top two reasons why Muslim nations are not wealthier.

.... Respondents in the non-Muslim nations surveyed believe Muslims in their countries want to be distinct from the larger society.

Majorities or pluralities hold this view in Western Europe, the U.S., Israel and Russia. This opinion is particularly widespread in Germany (72%), Spain (69%), and Russia

France is the country in which the largest percentage believes Muslims want to adopt national customs: 45% think French Muslims want to embrace the French way of life.

Most See Muslims in Country as Wanting to Be Distinct From Society	% Want to be distinct	% Adopt customs
% who		
France	54	45
U.S.	51	33
Britain	52	28
Israel	46	27
Germany	72	23
Spain	69	23
Russia	66	13

Across the nations surveyed, Christians and Muslims differ in the degree to which religion defines their identity.

Among most of the Muslim publics polled, Muslims tend to identify with their religion, rather than their nationality.

This is particularly true in Pakistan, where 94% think of themselves primarily as Muslim instead of Pakistani.

Lebanon and the Palestinian territories are exceptions to this pattern, however – more Muslims in both countries identify first with their nationality rather than with their religion. And many Muslims refuse to choose between nation and religion, volunteering that they identify with both.

What Do You Consider Yourself First?		
	% Nationality	% A Christian
U.S.	46	46
Germany	70	23
Spain	53	22
Britain	63	21
Russia	68	19
France	90	8

	% Nationality	% A Muslim
Pakistan	3	94
Israel	10	77
Jordan	24	65
Turkey	21	49
Egypt	31	46
Palest. Ter.	43	40
Indonesia	35	40
Lebanon	36	28

Opinions About September 11

Nearly a decade after September 11, 2001, skepticism about the events of that day still persisted among Muslim publics. When asked whether they think groups of Arabs carried out the 9/11 attacks on the U.S., most Muslims in the nations surveyed say they do not believe this.

There is no Muslim public in which even 30% accept that Arabs conducted the attacks. Indeed, Muslims in Jordan, Egypt, and Turkey are less likely to accept this today than in 2006.

Most Do Not Believe Arabs Carried Out 9/11 Attacks (Asked of Muslims only)	% Believe	% Don't Believe	% DK
Lebanon	28	60	11
Israel	27	59	14
Jordan	22	64	14
Palest. ter.	22	68	10
Egypt	21	75	4
Indonesia	20	58	23
Pakistan	12	57	31
Turkey	9	73	18

On average 43% of Muslims favour gender segregation in the workplace. This ranges from 85% in Pakistan to 11% in Lebanon.

One in two (49%) Muslims favour whippings or cutting off the hands of thieves and robbers, 53% favour stoning as a punishment for adultery, and 48% favour the death penalty for apostasy.

On average 65% say democracy is preferable to any other kind of government. This ranges from 81% in Lebanon to 42% in Pakistan.

Publisher: Pew Research Center

Title: *Pew Global Attitudes Survey - Most Embrace a Role for Islam in Politics - Muslim Publics Divided on Hamas and Hezbollah*

Agency: Pew Research Center

Survey Details: Samples of 1000 stratified proportional to population size and urban/rural population. Face-to-face interviews with adults 18 plus in main language of country. Fieldwork: April – May, 2010. Margin of error: ± 4.0 percentage points. Some variations on this in Indonesia, Lebanon and Pakistan and some areas excluded for security reasons.

Published Date: December 2010

Link to Report: <http://www.pewglobal.org/files/2010/12/Pew-Global-Attitudes-Muslim-Report-FINAL-December-2-2010.pdf>

SUMMARY

Islam's Role in Political Life

Majorities of Muslims in three of the six predominantly Muslim countries surveyed, as well as in Nigeria, say that Islam plays a very or fairly large role in the political life of their countries.

Role of Islam in Politics % who say role is:	Large	Small	DK
Indonesia	89	10	1
Nigeria	88	11	1
Turkey	69	19	12
Lebanon	54	45	1
Egypt	48	49	3
Pakistan	46	36	18
Jordan	34	64	2

Most Welcome Islam's Influence

Muslims in Nigeria and in nearly all of the predominantly Muslim countries surveyed overwhelmingly welcome Islamic influence over their countries' politics.

Islam's Influence in Politics % who say it is:	Positive	Negative	NS
Indonesia	91	6	3
Egypt	85	2	13
Nigeria	82	10	8
Jordan	76	14	10
Pakistan	69	6	22
Lebanon	58	32	10
Turkey	38	31	31

Only in *Turkey* are opinions about the role of Islam in political life more mixed. About four in ten (38%) Turkish Muslims say Islam plays a large role and embrace its influence in their country's politics or say it is bad that Islam plays only a small role; about three-in-ten (31%) say Islam's influence is negative.

Views of Gender Segregation

Muslim publics offer mixed views of gender segregation in the workplace. *Pakistani* Muslims are the most supportive: 85% say they would favor making segregation of men and women in the workplace the law in their country. A narrower majority (54%) of Muslims in *Egypt* also support making gender segregation the law in their country.

Gender Segregation in the Workplace % who:	Favour	Oppose	NS
Pakistan	85	11	4
Egypt	54	44	2
Jordan	50	44	6
Nigeria	49	48	3
Indonesia	38	59	3
Turkey	13	84	3
Lebanon	11	89	-

In *Lebanon*, *Turkey* and *Indonesia*, majorities of Muslims reject legalized gender segregation in the workplace. More than eight-in-ten in *Lebanon* (89%) and *Turkey* (84%) express this opinion, as do 59% of Muslims in *Indonesia*. In most of the countries where this question was asked, men and women express similar views of gender segregation in the workplace.

Support for Severe Laws

Majorities of Muslims in *Egypt*, *Jordan*, *Pakistan* and *Nigeria* say they would favor making harsh punishments such as stoning people who commit adultery; whippings and cutting

off of hands for crimes like theft and robbery; and the death penalty for those who leave the Muslim religion the law in their country.

Views of Harsh Punishments % who favour:	Whippings /cutting off of hands for theft and robbery	Stoning for Adultery	Death for Apostasy
Egypt	77	82	84
Pakistan	82	82	76
Jordan	58	70	86
Nigeria	65	56	51
Indonesia	36	42	30
Lebanon	13	23	6
Turkey	13	16	5

For the most part, views of strict punishments do not vary consistently across demographic groups in seven countries where these questions were asked. One notable exception, however, is in *Nigeria*, where Muslim men express considerably more support than Muslim women for these types of punishments.

Support for Democracy

In nearly all of the countries surveyed, support for harsh punishments such as stoning people who commit adultery, whippings and cutting off of hands for crimes like theft and robbery and the death penalty for those who leave the Muslim religion coexists with support for democratic governance.

Views of Democracy % who say:	Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government	In some circumstance a non- democratic government can be preferable	For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have	DK
Lebanon	81	12	5	2
Turkey	76	6	5	13
Jordan	69	17	10	4
Nigeria	66	18	16	1
Indonesia	65	12	19	4
Egypt	59	22	16	2
Pakistan	42	15	21	22

7.0 Surveys – Muslims in Western Countries

Three quarters of Australian Muslims think counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. This has generated a community backlash.

[A limited and biased knowledge of how the West and the Islamic world have interacted in modern times may have a lot to do with this attitude.]

Muslim Australians identify much more strongly with their religion than they do with being an Australian.

Publisher: Australian Research Council

Title: *Avoiding Community Backlash in the fight against terrorism: Research report*

Agency: Griffith University and the University of Queensland

Survey Details: Survey of 800 Muslims and 14 focus groups across Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. The focus groups were carried out between October 2013 and September 2014 and the survey between 17 June and the 9 August 2014

Published Date: March 2015

Link to Report:

http://www.researchgate.net/publication/273575879_Avoiding_Community_Backlash_in_the_fight_against_terrorism_Research_report

SUMMARY

Three quarters of Australian Muslims think counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. This has generated a community backlash.

The authors say the findings show what the Australian authorities can do to minimise these impacts and generate community cooperation with counter-terrorism strategies.

The police should treat Muslims with respect, impartially, in a trustworthy manner, and give them an opportunity to have a say in counter-terrorism policing. This way Muslims are more likely to trust the police, less likely to feel under siege, and more willing to co-operate.

Part 1 – What Muslims Think

No True Muslim - Sense of Being Under Siege

The focus groups provide examples of what Australian Muslims typically have to say, verbatim comment, about their views and feelings. The very first verbatim comment in the opening section is:

"... we need to separate Islam and separate it from people because these al Qaeda and whoever else, they're the ones who are saying they're Muslims and doing these acts, but a true Muslim wouldn't do that"

"... and that's why I think it sounded to me that these events September 11, the London bombings, all the things that are coming...making people think that Muslims all around the world believe in these acts and follow them, we're all evil, but in actual fact, doesn't have to be like that, and these groups and whoever else, all they're doing is causing us grief" (female).

Focus group participants spoke about an atmosphere of fear and suspicion towards Muslims they experienced in their day-day interactions. A sense of Muslims being under siege and attack was expressed in a variety of ways.

"Why is the world against us, why are we seen to be the bad people?...God does not accept people blowing themselves up in the name of God. The whole notion is to destroy Islam and its followers. The whole world is against us." (female).

For some participants it reflected a long history of persecution against Islam and was interpreted as part of a broader effort by governments to suppress Muslims.

The Media is Unfair - What About Christian Terrorists?

The focus groups concentrated on a number of topics including the "Media". There was a strong belief across the groups that media reporting exacerbated the stigmatisation of Muslims. A male participant said:

"I think the media has a big impact on the Muslim community here. Every time we watch media, they associate Islam with the terrorism, they say Islamic terrorism, Islamic terrorism, Islamic terrorists. They don't say Christian terrorists, they don't say for example like Jewish terrorist, although we have seen lots of Christians they are doing terrorist acts... they want to show that Muslim and Islam is a source of terrorism, so this has a big impact on the way people are thinking."

Focus group participants also complained generalisations made in the media about Islam and terrorism, distorted the fact there were many different denominations and "branches" of Islam, all of which did not interpret or practice Islam in the same way.

[EDITORIAL COMMENT- How many Christian terrorists are there compared with Muslim terrorists? And where there have been terrorist acts carried out by Christians in how many did the perpetrators claim Christianity justified their actions?

The Global Terrorism Database (GTD) shows in 2012 and 2013 the major proportion of terrorist outrages occurred in Muslim or predominantly Muslim countries, 74% of 8440 incidents in 2012 and 76% of 11,952 in 2013. There is good reason to associate the label "terrorist" with Islam.

Regarding large scale "terrorism" (like blowing up an aircraft) carried out for a religious reason or with a religious justification in the shape of attacks on innocent civilians, no other religion comes close to the scale of Islamically inspired or justified acts.]

Attitudes Towards Terrorism and the War on Terror

The study aimed to understand how the Muslim community felt about "terrorist groups and events such as 9/11, 7/7, the Bali Bombings and other high profile terrorist events and whether they believed Islamists distort the Islamic religion, and what they saw as motivating their actions".

Participants were adamant that terrorists who called themselves Muslims were distorting the meaning of Islam as a religion of peace. As one respondent stated: *"They weren't practicing Muslims."*

Other comments included: *"These guys [terrorists] are minorities. They don't speak on behalf of one point something billion Muslims around the world. You know what I mean?" (male).*

"There are a lot of people that are doing these things [in reference to terrorism] are obviously not true Muslim because as earlier we spoke, Islam means peace, so if anybody says that I'm a Muslim and goes to war and does things like that, is really a non believer" (female).

"...a person cannot commit suicide and blow themselves up and other innocent people up it's completely, haram, suicide is haram, and the scholars have absolutely condemned it, so I mean that's wrong" (female).

The "no true Muslim" belief runs very deep.

The response to the question "what motivates individuals or groups to commit terrorist acts" is equally strong.

In the opinion of participants the act of terrorism could not be divorced from broader events that fuelled resentment and frustration among Muslim populations. These events included:

[1] The Israel and Palestine conflict and the death of Palestinians due to what respondents regarded as Israeli aggression and unwillingness on the part of the international community to sanction Israel.

[2] The death of Muslims in wars such as Iraq and Afghanistan, and

[3] The lack of public and political outcry shown towards Muslim victims of overseas conflicts and government oppression compared to other religious or non-religious groups.

The quote below from a young female Muslim, sums up these sentiments expressed across the focus groups and the level of frustration they evoked:

".....a lot of it is political and it's - you have to - you can't just go from one thing and say, that's why it's started. So you can't just start from September 11 and say, oh, September 11 happened and that's when it started. Yeah, we have to really look back into history and look at the history of occupation and invasion throughout the Middle East, which resulted in September 11."

".... it's really interesting how since September 11 happened till now, every year it's always - people remember it and say that we lost so many people. But people - the invasion of Iraq does not - there is no such thing about, oh, maybe we did kill millions of people, not 1000, millions ... no one talks about that. Maybe we should commemorate that loss and that invasion day. Nope, you never hear that."

"About Afghanistan, more than 30 years of occupation and invasion throughout history from different countries. You never hear about that. That's the injustice. That's where injustice happens and that's when you feel a lot of - I feel, inside, I feel that there's a lot of - what's the word? There's like I'm boiling from inside. It infuriates me" (female).

A male participant also summed it up well: *"Every terrorist act we need to think what is the reason behind that first of all, the oppression against Islam everywhere around the world, every Muslim country has been attacked in the world from [inaudible] and now*

Syria and Libya, and after all the Muslim countries in a mess because of the western countries, so they play a big role" (male).

[**EDITORIAL COMMENT**- All this displays a shocking ignorance and a strikingly one sided view of history.

What do Australian Muslims know of the centuries of failure of Islamic government to make political, economic or social progress that culminated in the Caliphate's declaration of war on Britain and her allies in 1914? The foundations and divisions of the Middle East we know today were laid during those centuries of backwardness.

Do they know who abolished the Caliphate, the act that so exercised bin Laden?

The Islamic world including the Middle East has governed itself since the mid-sixties, and the invasions, occupations, and Muslim deaths have been overwhelmingly the work of Muslims themselves.

Here are a few examples: Pakistan and Bangladesh (1,250,000 deaths); the Iran-Iraq war (1,000,000); Saddam against minorities (300,000); Kurds in Iraq, Iran, Turkey (300,000); Islamists and Algerian government (200,000); Invasion of Kuwait (140,000); the Lebanese civil war (150,000).

There is a range of estimates regarding the Iraq war since 2003 and the ensuing insurgencies and civil conflicts. Respectable sources do not run into "millions". The greatest number of deaths is the result of Muslims fighting amongst themselves for tribal or religious reasons.

"Ignorance of History Fuels Australian Muslim Backlash Against Counter-Terrorism Laws" would be a reasonable headline for a report on this study.]

For a minority of participants the "war on terror" arises from "manufactured events" being used by governments and powerful interests to discredit Islam and further justify the singling out of Muslim communities. These sentiments were particularly pronounced among young participants.

The comment below reflects this theme and its relationship to the ongoing perception that rose throughout the focus groups that Islam was under attack:

"But first, can we confirm that these people committed these crimes. How do you know that some Zionist movement or American people haven't paid their people to commit these crimes [in reference the September 11 attacks] in the name of Islam to show how bad we are?"

Part 2 – How the Numbers Add Up

This section summarises results from the 800 face-to-face interviews with Muslims living in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The aim of this part of survey was to assess how Muslims in Australia see themselves in society and how they believe others in society view them. The Tables show the percentage of Muslims giving a particular reply to a question.

Identity

Muslim Australians identify much more strongly with their religion than they do with being an Australian.

Table 1 shows pride in being a Muslim has the edge over pride in being an Australian. And Table 2 shows seeing oneself as a Muslim first clearly beats seeing oneself as an Australian first.

Table 1					
I am proud to be: % who:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
An Australian	0	2	14	48	37
Muslim	0	0	2	39	60

Table 2					
I see myself as a: % who:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
Muslim First	0	2	6	33	59
An Australian First	4	22	21	25	28

Treatment

More than half of Australian Muslims think they are treated fairly at work, at school and by the authorities. There is a degree of reserve associated with this, not many going for "very fair" just "fair" and a quarter staying neutral.

A clear majority think they are treated unfairly in the media.

Table 3 - How Fairly Do You Think Muslims Are Treated?					
% who say:	Very Unfair	Unfair	Neutral	Fair	Very Fair
At Work or in School	3	11	27	43	17
When Dealing With Authorities	3	12	29	39	17
In the Media	32	27	12	20	10

Opinion of Terrorism and Jihad

21% think terrorists sometimes have valid grievances, but more interesting is the 26% who think *"the concept of Jihad in Islam supports use of violence as a means to an end"* and the 25% who say Jihad is more than a *"personal struggle for righteousness"*.

This suggests a quarter or so of Muslim Australians believe the use of violence is justified in furthering the aims of Islam. So much for the "religion of peace" and the "no true Muslim" conceit.

Table 4 - Below are some statements that describe different views on terrorism and the Muslim religion. What most closely resembles your own view?

% who:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
Terrorists sometimes have valid grievances	32	35	14	15	6
Islam is often misinterpreted as a religion that advocates violence	0	1	2	30	67
The concept of Jihad in Islam supports use of violence as a means to an end	28	32	15	16	10
Jihad is solely a personal struggle for righteousness	3	22	27	35	13
Jihad is a militarized struggle that can be conducted by individuals	63	29	5	2	1

Opinion on Foreign Policy

Over a third (36%) of Muslim Australians believe the "war on terror" is a "war on Islam". It seems however polite the police are it will not earn the support of these Muslims for Australia's counter-terrorism laws and procedures

Table 5 - Below are some statements that describe some people's views of Australia's international policies. What most closely resembles your own view?

% who:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
Australia made the right decision to align itself with the US with respect to military force in Afghanistan	27	53	15	5	1
Australia made the right decision to align itself with the US with respect to military force in Iraq	34	53	9	4	1
The War on Terror is a war on Islam	30	22	12	24	12

A Profile of Australian Muslims

The survey also collected demographic and profile data of the sample which the organisers of the study had gone to considerable lengths to make representative of Australian Muslims. Table 8 delivers one more shock.

English is not the main language spoken at home for well over a half (57%) of Australian Muslims. This is a stark indicator of the troubling gap between many of Australia's Muslims and the rest of the Australian people.

It suggests other questions that should be explored. If they speak Arabic at home do they get their news from Arabic sources? Do they take in the poisonous propaganda that pours out of the Middle East especially in regard to the Israel and Palestine conflict. [8]

Table 6	% Yes	% No
Were you born in Australia?	58	42

Table 7	
How would you best describe your ancestry?	%
Lebanese	38
Pakistani	11
Indonesian	10
Iraqi	7
Egyptian	5
28 other ancestries	Each less than 4%

Table 8	% Yes	% No
Is English the main language you speak at home?	43	57

[EDITORIAL COMMENT- CONCLUSION As this report concludes, polite and civilised policing can do a lot to encourage Muslim citizens to support Australia's counter-terrorism laws and measures. It might be added this is true for all citizens who probably believe polite and civilised policing should be the norm for everyone.

It does not address the bigger barrier to support and co-operation for counter-terrorism laws and measures. A substantial proportion of Australian Muslims out of ignorance of history, cultural baggage, and their religious beliefs, in their hearts or in their heads, don't agree with them.]

MEDIA COVERAGE

Community backlash leaves nation exposed in fight against terrorism

The majority of Muslims in Australia condemn terrorism and extremism. But they also feel that counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. This has generated a community backlash.

This is a key finding of research we have completed on the impact of counter-terrorism responses on Muslim communities in Australia. Preliminary findings from this research were reported in *The Conversation*.

Now we can report full results. These shine a light on the negative and unintended consequences of counter-terrorism activities on Muslim communities. The findings also show us what authorities can do to minimise these impacts. [*The Conversation*]
<http://theconversation.com/community-backlash-leaves-nation-exposed-in-fight-against-terrorism-38773>

Queensland University Study: Community Backlash Caused by Anti-Terrorism Laws

The majority of Muslims in Australia condemn terrorism and extremism. But they also feel that counter-terrorism policing and laws unfairly target their community. This has generated a community backlash.

This is a key finding of research carried out at the University of Queensland investigating the impact of counter-terrorism responses on Muslim communities in Australia. The results shine a light on the negative and unintended consequences of counter-terrorism activities on Muslim communities. The findings also show us what authorities can do to minimise these impacts.

.... Key findings from the focus groups were that the Muslim community feels under siege due to the social and political responses to terrorism. For instance, participants felt under constant attack and scrutiny, both politically and in the media. Respondents believed the media spread misinformation about Islamic principles (for example in relation to sharia, jihad, halal). [*Islam Today*] <http://en.islamtoday.net/artshow-231-5113.htm>

Three-quarters of Muslim Australians feel they are unfairly targeted by terror laws, study reveals

Muslim Australians believe overwhelmingly that they are unfairly targeted by counter-terrorism laws but say terrorist groups distort the true meaning of Islam, a survey of community attitudes has revealed.

Around one in five of the 800 Muslims polled believed that terrorist groups sometimes have legitimate grievances, the survey found, hinting at the delicate task Australian community leaders face in countering the propaganda war waged by groups such as Islamic State. [421 comments]

[TOP RATED COMMENT] WELL, of all the immigrants in Australia, it isn't maoris, Tongans, Chinese, Japanese, Italians, Dutch, Swedes, French, Germans, Jews, English, Americans Spanish, Irish etc etc etc who are behind the terrorist acts that have brought about the changes to our laws.

To deny there is a link between terrorism in and against the West and muslims beggars belief. Who would think that the terrorist laws drawn up in almost every Western country are not reasonably targeted at muslims? Nobody else did the 9/11 Twin Towers...nobody else did the Paris shootings and nobody else did the Lindt Cafe killings.....and most importantly, only muslims to any degree express sympathy for the perpetrators.

Are muslims completely stupid to the extent that they can't work out why they're the target of anti terrorism laws? I know they're reputed to have lower than average IQs but this is ridiculous.

I think muslims don't like infidels because we're not religious enough, yet, they choose to live amongst us infidels, and then complain about us carrying on our lives in the way that we always have.

[ANOTHER] "One of the most damaging and enduringly damaging things this regime has done is to continually highlight and isolate Australian Muslims through its actions and words and the use of conflict as a tactic when its poll rating flag."

Wrong - Muslims have isolated themselves.

[ANOTHER] It is such a difficult situation. I know a number of Muslims personally and also professionally. There is not one unpleasant statement I can make about any of them. They are all polite, intelligent, hard working and caring, yet at the same time I cannot dispute the fact that more than 90% of terrorist acts that I read about are undertaken by Muslims, on behalf of Muslim organisations, in the name of Allah and are simply barbaric

Wiser minds than mine need to work out a way to maintain the safety of the public and not offend what are no doubt the majority of peace loving Muslims.

[ANOTHER] Holding rallies calling for the deaths of those who insult the prophet might have something to do with it.

Ceasing the anti-Israel rhetoric might also help.

Clamping down on the halal certification scam (named as such by muslims themselves) would be a good idea, too.

[ANOTHER] One in five believe terrorist groups have legitimate grievances? Seriously and this backwards culture wonders why it is targeted.

[ANOTHER] A few years ago I worked in an M.P.s office for a while in Western Sydney and one day received a call from a journalist from a Muslim newspaper.

The caller complained that "the level of hostility is rising" and wanted his M.P. "to do something about".

I passed on the message but what I should have said to him was that if he wanted more acceptance then the best thing to do would be to denounce individuals like Taj El-Din Hilaly, the former Imam at Lakemba mosque who made statements comparing women to uncovered meat as a justification for rape.

Other Muslims that I have spoken to believe that the September 11 attacks and the Taj Mahal hotel attacks in Mumbai were the work of the CIA as a means to "discredit Muslims".

Until these sorts of ideas - which are evidently prevalent in the Muslim community - are themselves discredited, little progress will be made in improving the acceptance of Muslims in the wider population. [*The Guardian*]
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/mar/16/three-quarters-of-muslim-australians-feel-they-are-unfairly-targeted-by-terror-laws-study-reveals>

Islamic fundamentalism is widespread in Europe.

(Fundamentalism is defined as the return to eternal and unchangeable rules laid down in the past; the rules allow only one interpretation and are binding for all believers; and they have priority over secular laws.)

Two thirds (65%) of Muslim Turkish and Moroccan immigrants believe religious rules are more important to them than the laws of the country in which they live

Publisher: WZB - Berlin Social Science Center

Title: *Six Country Immigrant Integration Comparative Survey*

Agency: NA

Survey Details: Survey collected data in more than 9,000 bilingual phone telephone interviews with both Turkish and Moroccan immigrants in Germany, France, Netherlands, Austria, Belgium and Sweden. In each country, a minimum of 500 respondents for each group was surveyed.

Published Date: December 2013

Link to Report:

http://www.wzb.eu/sites/default/files/u8/ruud_koopmans_religious_fundamentalism_and_out-group_hostility_among_muslims_and_christian.pdf

And: http://www.wzb.eu/sites/default/files/u6/koopmans_englisch_ed.pdf

SUMMARY

Religious fundamentalism is not a marginal phenomenon in Western Europe. This conclusion is drawn in a study published by Ruud Koopmans from the WZB Berlin Social Science Center.

The author analyzed data from a representative survey among immigrants and natives in six European countries.

Two thirds of the Muslims interviewed say that religious rules are more important to them than the laws of the country in which they live. Three quarters of the respondents hold the opinion that there is only one legitimate interpretation of the Koran.

Religious fundamentalism among native Christians and Muslim immigrants in Western Europe	% of Christians	% of Muslims
Return to the roots	21	57
Only one true and binding interpretation	17	74
Religious rules more important than secular laws	12	65
Agree with all 3	3	43

These numbers are significantly higher than those from local Christians. Only 13 percent of this group put religious rules above national law; just under 20 percent refuse to accept differing interpretations of the Bible.

For Ruud Koopmans, this powerful tendency toward Muslim religious fundamentalism is alarming: "Fundamentalism is not an innocent form of strict religiosity", the sociologist says. "We find a strong correlation between religious fundamentalism – actually among both Christians and Muslims – and hostility toward out-groups like homosexuals or Jews."

Out-Group hostility among native Christians and Muslim immigrants in Western Europe	% of Christians	% of Muslims
Don't want homosexual friends	11	57
Jews cannot be trusted	8	45
West/Muslims are out to destroy	23	54
Agree to all 3	2	26

Almost 60 percent of the Muslim respondents reject homosexuals as friends; 45 percent think that Jews cannot be trusted; and an equally large group believes that the West is out to destroy Islam.

The Christians' answers for comparison: As many as 9 percent are openly anti-Semitic; 13 percent do not want to have homosexuals as friends; and 23 percent think that Muslims aim to destroy Western culture.

The Six Country Immigrant Integration Comparative Survey collected data in more than 9,000 telephone interviews in Germany, France, Netherlands, Austria, Belgium and Sweden.

The respondents were Turkish and Moroccan immigrants, as well as control groups of natives. This study is the first that allows analysis on an empirical base of the extent and impact of religious fundamentalism.

[The WZB was founded in 1969 by members of the German parliament from all parties. The WZB is funded by the Federal government and the state of Berlin.] [WZB Berlin Social Science Center] <http://www.wzb.eu/en/press-release/islamic-fundamentalism-is-widely-spread>

MEDIA COVERAGE

European research on religious "fundamentalism" criticised

.... Two-thirds of Muslims interviewed about their attitudes towards religion said religious rules were more important to them than state laws, according to the report from the WZB social science centre.

The survey also showed more than half of Muslim respondents believed the West was "out to destroy Islam".

.... Nine thousand people were interviewed in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Belgium and Sweden. However, the Muslim respondents were drawn only from Moroccan and Turkish communities.

This choice of sample reflected the strong presence of these groups in those countries. But Europe's Muslim community is much broader based, including people with origins in the Middle East, South-east Asia, the Indian subcontinent and Maghreb and African countries. [*The National*] <http://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/european-research-on-religious-fundamentalism-criticised>

Europe: Islamic Fundamentalism is Widespread

The majority of Muslims in Europe believe Islamic Sharia law should take precedence over the secular constitutions and laws of their European host countries, according to a new study, which warns that Islamic fundamentalism is widespread and rising sharply in Western Europe.

The "Six Country Immigrant Integration Comparative Survey"—a five-year study of Moroccan and Turkish immigrants in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland and Sweden—was published on December 11 by the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, one of the largest social science research institutes in Europe.

According to the study which was funded by the German government, two thirds (65%) of the Muslims interviewed say Islamic Sharia law is more important to them than the laws of the country in which they live. [*Gatestone Institute*] <http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/4092/europe-islamic-fundamentalism>

How widespread is Islamic fundamentalism in Western Europe?

One narrative about Muslim immigrants in Europe is that only a relatively small proportion holds views that are sometimes labeled as "fundamentalist." Ruud Koopmans from the Wissenschaftszentrum in Berlin argues that this perspective is incorrect.

He conducted a telephone survey of 9,000 respondents in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France, Austria, and Sweden and interviewed both Turkish and Moroccan immigrants as well as a comparison group of Christians.

His first finding is that majorities of Muslim immigrants believe that there is only one interpretation of the Koran possible to which every Muslim should stick (75 percent), and that religious rules are more important than the laws of the country in which they live (65 percent). Moreover, these views are as widespread among younger Muslims as among older generations. [*The Washington Post*] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2013/12/13/how-widespread-is-islamic-fundamentalism-in-western-europe/>

More than one in five (22%) Muslims in Germany are against integration.

Among those who are not German citizens this rises to nearly half (48%) who clearly reject German majority culture.

Among the 14 to 32-year-olds a subgroup of religious extremists holds anti-western views and are reportedly prepared to use violence. This group amounts to about 15% of Muslims with German citizenship and about 24% for Muslims who are not German.

Publisher: German Interior Ministry

Title: *The Daily Life of Young Muslims in Germany*

Agency: Universities of Jena and Linz, Austria, and opinion research agency Aproxima

Survey Details: The study's findings are based on telephone interviews with 700 Muslims in Germany between the ages of 14 to 32, including both citizens and non-citizens. 200 were German Muslims and 500 were non-German Muslims. In addition, researchers conducted group interviews with young Muslims.

Published Date: March 2012

Link to Report: [In German]

http://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Broschueren/2012/junge_muslime.html;jsessionid=0BDB99103F78C2BDF237192DF3B1C477.2_cid156?nn=110428

MEDIA COVERAGE

Muslims in Germany - Study Hints that Mutual Suspicion Is Slowing Integration

.... This year's discussion was kicked off on Thursday with the publication of a study carried out by Germany's Interior Ministry, which sought to gauge how Muslims living in the country view German culture and their attitudes to integration. The result? A significant minority encompassing 20 percent of Muslims in the country are skeptical when it comes to integration.

Perhaps more concerning, among Muslims in the age group between 14 and 32, "there exists a subgroup that could be described as 'strictly religious' with strong antipathy to the West, a tendential acceptance of violence and no willingness to integrate," the study says. Among Muslims with German citizenship, this group encompasses 15 percent, among non-citizens, it is 24 percent. [*Spiegel Online*]

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,818666,00.html>

Many German Muslims 'refuse to integrate'

Nearly every fourth non-German Muslim rejects integration, questions western values and tends to accept violence, according to a study commissioned by the German Interior Ministry and released late Thursday morning.

"Germany respects the background and cultural identity of its immigrants. But we don't accept the importation of authoritarian, anti-democratic and religiously fanatical points of

view," Friedrich told the Bild newspaper. [*The Local*]
<http://www.thelocal.de/society/20120301-41079.html>

Study sparks debate about Muslim integration

According to a study about young Muslims in Germany commissioned by the interior ministry, a quarter of those surveyed were reluctant to integrate into German society. Politicians from the pro-business Free Democrats and from other opposition parties have criticized the findings. The chairman of the Turkish Community in Germany, Kenan Kolat, said the study was putting young Muslims under general suspicion and was "pure populism."

Interior Minister Hans-Peter Friedrich said he was surprised to find that 24 percent of young Muslims had a dislike for the West. In Germany's biggest tabloid, the BILD newspaper, Friedrich said most Germans respected the young Muslims' background and their identity.

"But we don't accept that they should be able to import authoritarian, anti-democratic and fanatical religious views," Friedrich added. Hans-Peter Uhl of the ruling center-right coalition told the Osnabrücker Zeitung he was appalled about how many young Muslims were neither integrated into German society nor willing to be integrated.

.... Tören is joined in his criticism by Rauf Ceylan, a sociologist at the University of Osnabrück. Ceylan finds fault not only with the study in itself, but also with how it was released. For years, he says, the discussion about integration has been reduced to a debate under the label "Islam".

Many young Muslims, Ceylan says, have simply applied this label to themselves, professing to be followers of Islam without actually having any deep religious convictions. "It is important to find out what people mean when they say they are worshippers of Islam," Ceylan told DW. Most of the time, he added, "it is the young people's social situation which determines their attitude towards Islam." [*Deutsche Welle*] <http://www.dw.de/study-sparks-debate-about-muslim-integration/a-15779428>

No One-track State of Mind: Young Muslims in Germany

.... The qualitative in-depth interviews conducted by the Jacobs scientists with six Muslim families – third generation immigrants, as well as their parents and grandparents – corroborated the trend of the phone survey that Muslims in Germany usually are wishing for both, to live well integrated within the German society as well as the freedom to keep and actively shape their Muslim identity.

Furthermore, all three generations, independently of the participants' individual differences in religiosity and integration into German society, decisively distanced themselves from any form of Islamic terrorism.

On the other hand, however, the interviewees predominantly perceive "the Western world" as negative.

This is mainly due to how they perceive the West's dealings with the Islamic world and Islamic threats of terrorism. Especially within Germany the interviewed families have been witnessing a sweeping judgment of all Muslims as terrorists and a too-hasty linkage between Islam and terrorism. To them, these unjust generalizations appear to be forced mainly by the German media. [*Jacobs University Bremen*] <https://www.jacobs-university.de/2012/03/no-one-track-state-mind-young-muslims-germany>

Don't Be Fooled: Integration in Germany is Making Progress

With his highly selective summary of a 700- page integration report—focusing on the one in four "non-German Muslims" who resist majority society—Interior Minister Hans-Peter Friedrich confirmed his pattern of expressing skepticism about Muslim integration in Germany.

From the moment Friedrich took office, he updated the 1990s conservatives mantra that "Germany is not a country of immigration" for the post-citizenship reform era by arguing that Islam did not truly "belong" to Germany. He thereby inserted himself in a decades-long tradition of conservative politicians in denial of the country's ethno-religious diversity.

Germany is lacking the mainstream political leaders who can take away the punchbowl of nationalism and assume the adult role of informing the German public that they are now a diverse society. The new nationality law may mean that most Turkish-Germans would be born with German citizenship from 2000 onwards, but German politicians have still not fully digested the implications of cultural diversity that follow from that reform. [*The Brookings Institution*] <http://www.brookings.edu/research/opinions/2012/03/12-germany-islam-laurence>

Nearly half (47%) of Canadian Muslims believe they should be free to choose to be ruled by Sharia courts in the case of divorce and other family matters.

This belief is also very high, a third (33%), among Muslims who do not attend mosque regularly.

Publisher: Macdonald-Laurier Institute

Title: *What Do Muslim Canadians Want?*

Agency: NA

Survey Details: This study is based on quantitative data from a telephone survey of sample of 455 Muslims in Ottawa and qualitative data from eight focus groups among representative samples of Muslims held across the country.

Published Date: November 2011

Link to Publisher's Report: <http://www.macdonaldlaurier.ca/files/pdf/What-Do-Muslim-Canadians-Want-November-1-2011.pdf>

SUMMARY

Survey respondents were asked specifically about the merits of a return of the Caliphate or the introduction of Sharia law. Their varied responses lend support to the paradigm of a diverse and divided Islamic community. Had they overwhelmingly opposed the establishment of a Caliphate or been strongly opposed to Sharia law, the portrait of an assimilationist Muslim community would have made sense. But Canadian Muslims are not strongly opposed to a Caliphate or even moderately opposed to at least some role for Sharia law.

Respondents in the survey and participants in the focus groups are of two minds about terrorists, providing further evidence in support of a community divided. On the one hand, they seem largely opposed to Al Qaeda. The level of decided support for Al Qaeda (scores of 5-7 on the 7 point scale) seems lower than the support observed in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, support for the Muslim Brotherhood is stronger than one might have expected, and not limited to Muslims immigrating from the Middle East. Some Canadians might see national security implications in the evidence of plurality approval for the Muslim Brotherhood and minority support for other terrorist organizations.

.... In an ironic twist, perhaps the most disquieting aspect of the research endeavour is the discovery of complexity. The sheer complexity of Muslim opinion, including its apparent variation by national origin, cries out for more and better research on its character, causes and extent.

That a thoughtful minority of Muslim newcomers come to Canada to escape extremism and embrace pluralism is a cause for much celebration. So too is the fact that many Muslim newcomers to Ottawa and Canada are so admiring of Canada's freedoms and lawfulness. That only a small minority of Muslim newcomers unequivocally reject terrorist organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah or the Iranian regime gives pause for thought.

There's been some discussion, especially in the last Ontario provincial election, about what the laws in our province and country should be with respect to religion. In your judgment, should Ontario laws...	% of Muslims	% of Arabs	% of Iranians	% of Don't attend mosque	% of Mosque 1+ per week
Make no space for the practice of Sharia Law	22	15	33	40	15
Allow Muslims to choose to be ruled by Sharia courts in the case of divorce and other family matters	47	54	33	33	55
Require Muslims to be ruled by Sharia courts on family matters	8	8	9	4	9
Require Muslims to be ruled by Sharia courts on all matters	7	7	6	4	8
Don't know, refuse	17	16	18	19	14

MEDIA COVERAGE

Strong support for Shariah in Canada

.... "The most radical political views tended to be expressed by relatively secular people, often equipped with higher education in the social sciences, while devout Muslims were sometimes the most articulate advocates for Canada and democracy."

According to the Ottawa based think tank, only a small minority of Muslim newcomers to Canada reject Hamas, Hezbollah, or the Iranian regime.

The survey, which was released Tuesday, found 62% wanted some form of Shariah law in Canada, 15% of them saying it should be mandatory for all Muslims. [*Toronto Sun*] <http://www.torontosun.com/2011/11/01/strong-support-for-shariah-in-canada>

Muslim Canadians must abide by Canada's laws: OUR OPINION

.... The National Association of Women and the Law, the Canadian Council of Muslim Women and the National Organization of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women of Canada have all argued that under Shariah law, men and women are not treated equally.

These groups argue that women fare much worse in divorce, child custody and inheritance matters under Shariah law.

This flies in the face of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, our Constitution, which guarantees that women and men are treated equally under Canadian law.

.... Two of Canada's largest provinces have already rejected Shariah law. The Quebec National Assembly unanimously supported a motion to block the use of Shariah law in Quebec courts in May of 2005.

In September of the same year, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty said there would be no Shariah law here. McGuinty even said he wouldn't allow Ontario to become the first Western government to permit using Islamic dictates to settle family disputes, and that the boundaries between church and state would become clearer by banning religious arbitration completely.

.... Canada cannot have one set of laws which apply to one group of people and other laws which apply to everyone else. There has always been one law for all Canadians and there should always be just the one. There cannot be separate laws for Muslims in Canada. Muslim Canadians must abide by Canada's laws. [*The Barrie Examiner*]
<http://www.thebarrieexaminer.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3355940>

Much good news and some worrying results in new study of Muslim public opinion in Canada

.... Canadians will find much to reassure them, but also much to ponder, in a new study of Muslim public opinion in Canada published today by the Macdonald-Laurier Institute (MLI) What Do Muslim Canadians Want?

.... The positive views of Canadian society and political system among Canadian Muslims surveyed are good news. So too is the large majority opposition to Al Qaeda among respondents. Almost two-thirds (65%) "repudiate absolutely" this Islamist terrorist organisation.

On the other hand, a significant minority of respondents do not. As Winn and Leuprecht note, "From a security perspective, it is difficult to know if a 65% rate of repudiation [of Al Qaeda] is re-assuring or a 35% failure to repudiate troubling." [*Macdonald Laurier Institute*] <http://www.macdonaldlaurier.ca/much-good-news-and-some-worrying-results-in-new-study-of-muslim-public-opinion-in-canada/>

Over half of French Muslims say they will marry only another Muslim.

Publisher: Online Muslim dating service inchallah.com

Title: NA

Agency: Ifop

Survey Details: The telephone poll involved 503 respondents interviewed 23-24 November, 2010.

Published Date: January 2011

Link to Report: NA

MEDIA COVERAGE

Over half of French Muslims say they will marry only another Muslim

France's Muslims, regularly accused by the country's right-wing politicians of not adapting to the culture here, are torn between tradition and modernity when it comes to relationships and marriage, according to a poll released Tuesday.

Done for an online dating service, the poll found huge opposition to both polygamy and arranged marriages.

But a strong majority of respondents said they were opposed to premarital sex and a bare majority said they wouldn't marry someone of another faith background.

.... "In a country dominated by the principle of liberal lifestyle choices they are largely free of the religious or cultural dictates that legitimize polygamy and arranged marriages."

But the poll suggests that their value system remains "impregnated" with a moral code which views sex as legitimate only within a marriage and which strongly influences marriage partner choices.

The poll found that 84% opposed the legalization of polygamy in France, while 83% reject the notion that parents should choose spouses for their children.

Roughly three out of four (73%) are against sex outside marriage, while 53% said they were unwilling to marry a non-Muslim. [*National Post*]

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/01/11/muslims-in-france-torn-over-relationships-poll/>

8.0 Surveys – International (non-Muslims)

More than half (55%) of Americans have unfavorable view of Islam

Publisher: The Huffington Post **Published Date:** April 2015

Link to Results: <https://today.yougov.com/news/2015/03/09/poll-results-islam/>

More than half of Americans say they have unfavorable views of Islam, and six in 10 either aren't interested or don't know whether they want to learn more about the faith, according to a new poll.

Younger Americans are the most likely to have positive views on Islam, be interested in learning about the religion and have Muslim friends.

The findings, detailed in a HuffPost/YouGov poll on Americans' views of Muslims released Friday as part of HuffPost Religion's week-long Muslim Life in America series, show a nation of fractured opinions and experiences when it comes to Islam, with stark differences among age groups and political affiliations.

Overall, 55 percent of Americans had either a somewhat or very unfavorable view of Islam, while one in four said they were not sure how they viewed the faith. Just 7 percent said they had a very favorable view of the religion, and 14 percent said they saw it somewhat favorably. [*The Huffington Post*]

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/04/10/americans-islam-poll_n_7036574.html

Most Canadians (88%) say faces shouldn't be covered at citizenship ceremonies

Publisher: Global News **Published Date:** March 2015

A new Global News/Ipsos Reid poll indicates most Canadians agree with the prime minister when it comes to face coverings while taking their oath at citizenship ceremonies.

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper recently said that wearing the niqab is "rooted in a culture that is anti-women" and that it is "offensive" for someone to keep their face shrouded during the citizenship ceremony.

The poll indicated that 88 per cent of Canadians strongly or somewhat support the "requirement that people show their faces during Canadian citizenship ceremonies." [*Globalnews.ca*] <http://globalnews.ca/news/1894770/most-canadians-say-faces-shouldnt-be-covered-at-citizenship-ceremonies-poll/>

Canadians oppose niqab during citizenship ceremony

Publisher: Forum Research **Published Date:** March 2015

Two-thirds of Canadians oppose allowing women to wear the face-covering niqab during citizenship ceremonies, a new poll by Forum Research suggests.

The public opinion survey, conducted Friday and Saturday, found that 67 per cent of respondents oppose the idea, while fewer than a quarter (22 per cent) are in support. Ten per cent are undecided.

The issue has come to public prominence after Zunera Ishaq refused to take off her niqab during the oath swearing portion of her citizenship ceremony. [*Toronto Star*] <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/03/17/canadians-oppose-niqab-during-citizenship-ceremony-poll-suggests.html>

Majority of Austrians fear radicalization of Muslims

Publisher: Austrian Public Broadcaster ORF **Published Date:** February 2015

The survey was commissioned by the Austrian public broadcaster ORF, for its programme Bürgerforum. 58 percent of the 500 respondents said that they felt that more Muslims were becoming radicalized in Austria. 30 percent felt this was not the case and that such statements were exaggerated.

62 percent felt that the coexistence between Muslims and non-Muslims in Austria was "not so good", and only 27 percent felt it was "rather good".

ÖGM noted that the survey was carried out after the shootings in Paris and Copenhagen, and that the results were likely to have been affected by these events.

41 percent of people questioned feared a similar attack in Austria but the majority, 47 percent, said they did not believe something like this was likely to happen. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.at/20150225/poll-majority-fear-radicalization-of-muslims>

Seven in 10 (69%) Austrians say "Islam does not belong in Austria"

Publisher: Heute tabloid paper **Published Date:** February 2015

A new survey on how Islam is viewed in Austria suggests that anti-Muslim sentiment has risen sharply in the wake of the Paris shootings, with 69 percent of those polled saying they did not believe that Islam belongs in Austria

The survey, carried out by Unique Research for the Heute tabloid paper, polled 500 people. Only seven percent strongly agreed with the statement "Islam is part of Austria", with 42 percent responding "definitely not".

Around three quarters of those polled said that they believed Austrian citizens who travelled abroad to fight with Islamic State militants should have their citizenship withdrawn. Only five percent rejected this idea categorically.

Forty percent said that they felt Islam was a threat for Austria. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.at/20150209/poll-islam-does-not-belong-in-austria>

Half of Austrians believe Islam a 'threat'

Publisher: Der Standard Newspaper **Published Date:** January 2015

.... How do Austrians perceive Islam? What are their concerns, and how will this perception shape future policies? The survey polled more than 400 respondents in Austria to find out their views.

Generally, according to the survey, Austrians have a limited understanding of the world's second largest religion, consisting of 23 percent of the world's population.

The survey found that 51 percent of Austrians consider Islam a threat to Austrian society, while only 34 percent believe that it represents no threat. Additionally, 50

percent think that Islam is attempting to change Austrian society, with 25 percent thinking that's not the case.

40 percent of Austrians see Islam as a backward religion, as opposed to 27 percent who disagree. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.at/20150110/half-of-austrians-believe-islam-a-threat>

Half of Danes want to limit Muslims in Denmark

Publisher: Metroxpress **Published Date:** February 2015

Every other Dane thinks that there should be a limit to how many Muslims live in Denmark according to a YouGov poll conducted for Metroxpress.

When asked how many Muslims should live in the country, 50 percent of respondents set an upper limit and four in four respondents, that limit was no higher than five percent of Denmark's total population.

While 42 percent said that there should be no limit and that people shouldn't be categorised by their religion, seven percent of respondents said there should be no Muslims at all. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.dk/20150204/half-of-danes-want-to-limit-muslims-in-denmark>

One in two (50%) Danish citizens favor a cap on the number of Muslims permitted to live in Denmark

.... The poll, which was conducted for the Danish publication Metroxpress, specifically targeted immigration from non-Western countries and also found one in four Danes do not want the country's population to be more than 5 percent Muslim.

Martin Henriksen, a spokesperson for Danish People's Party, which is considered an anti-immigration group, told Metroxpress the poll is a reflection of the country's overall concern over welcoming foreign groups to come and live to Denmark, according to the Local, a Danish publication. "I see the results as a sign that Danes have a commonsense outlook and big worries about what is happening with our country and the consequences of mass immigration," Henriksen said.

.... The Local reported Muslims currently make up less than 5 percent of Denmark's population. Germany and France have the largest Muslim populations in Europe. The poll surveyed 1,027 Danish citizens between the ages of 18 and 74 and was conducted from Jan. 23-25. [*International Business Times*] <http://www.ibtimes.com/poll-50-denmark-want-limit-muslims-immigration-1810130>

More than half (57%) of Germans believe Islam poses a threat to Germany.

Six in 10 (61%) believe Islam is incompatible with the Western world.

Publisher: Bertelsmann Foundation

Title: *Religion Monitor - Understanding common ground
Special study of Islam, 2015 An overview of the most important findings*

Agency: TNS Emnid

Survey Details: Between October and December 2012, the Bertelsmann Stiftung's Religion Monitor asked 14,000 people in 13 countries about their personal religiosity, their values and the relationship between religion, politics and society.

The November 2014 Emnid survey included certain key questions about Germans' perceptions of Islam that had previously been asked by the Religion Monitor. Information was gathered from a total of 937 respondents

Published Date: January 2015

Link to Report: http://www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de/fileadmin/files/Projekte/51_Religionsmonitor/Religionmonitor_Specialstudy_Islam_2014_Overview_20150108.pdf

SUMMARY RESULTS

Attitudes toward Islam and Muslims in 2012 and 2014	2014	2012
% who agree:		
Islam poses a threat	57	53
Islam is incompatible with the Western world	61	52
Because of Muslims I feel a stranger in my own country	49	NA
Muslims should not be allowed to immigrate to Germany	24	NA

MEDIA COVERAGE

57 percent of Germans feel Islam is a threat

The survey was carried out in November - before the massacre of journalists in Paris by Islamist gunmen - but as the numbers attending anti-Muslim rallies in Dresden and other cities began to escalate.

The Bertelsman Foundation think tank survey looked at the perception of Islam in Germany from the eyes of Muslims and non-Muslims. Of the non-Muslims surveyed, 57 percent thought that Islam was threatening or very threatening to German society.

TNS Emnid, which conducted the survey for the Bertelsman Foundation think tank, said it's a rise of four percent since 2012 when the study was last conducted. The research institute surveyed 937 non-Muslim Germans for the survey in November 2014. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.de/20150108/muslims-make-their-home-while-germans-feel-threatened>

The Charlie Hebdo Effect - Anti-Muslim sentiment in Germany was already roiling. The Paris terrorist attack will make it much worse

While the attack on Charlie Hebdo sent shockwaves around the world, in Germany the news couldn't have come at a worse moment. Presiding over the second-largest Muslim population in Western Europe, after France, Chancellor Angela Merkel has been trying to stamp out a populist uprising in the country's east that is demanding an end to the "Islamization" of the West.

.... As coincidence would have it, the private Bertelsmann Stiftung published an in-depth study on Muslims in Germany the day after the Charlie Hebdo massacre. The group found that while the vast majority of the country's 4 million Muslims identify with German democracy, the population at large regards them with suspicion.

According to the study, 57 percent of Germany's non-Muslims view Islam as a threat, and 61 percent of Germans don't believe Islam is compatible with life in the West, up from 52 percent in 2012. What's more, 40 percent of respondents said they feel like strangers in their own country, with one in four supporting a ban on Muslim immigrants. [*Slate*] http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/01/germany_s_anti_muslim_sentiment_the_attack_on_charlie_hebdo_will_raise_far.html

About one in three (29%) Germans supports PEGIDA 'anti-Islamization' marches

Publisher: Stern **Published Date:** January 2015

An opinion poll has found that one in eight Germans would join a march against "Islamization" if one were held in their hometown. A series of rallies in the city of Dresden have drawn growing numbers, with more planned.

The poll of 1,006 people by German newsmagazine Stern found that 13 percent would attend an "anti-Islamization" march if it were held near their home.

The survey, while small, does show a level of support for the weekly rallies being held in the eastern city of Dresden, one of which attracted more than 17,000 people in the days before Christmas.

It also found that 29 percent of people thought the marches by the group PEGIDA, which translates to "Patriotic Europeans against the Islamization of the West," were justified because of the degree of influence that Islam was having on life in Germany. [*Deutsche Welle*] <http://www.dw.de/survey-finds-one-in-three-germans-supports-pegida-anti-islamization-marches/a-18166667?maca=en-rss-en-all-1573-rdf>

One in eight Germans would join anti-Muslim marches

One German in eight would join an anti-Muslim march if a rapidly-growing protest movement organized one in their home towns, according to an opinion poll published on Thursday.

The survey highlighted growing support in Germany, as in other European Union countries including Britain and Sweden, for parties and movements tapping into voter fears that mainstream politicians are too soft on immigration.

.... A poll of 1,006 people by Forsa for Germany's Stern magazine found 13 percent would attend an anti-Muslim march nearby. It also found 29 percent of people believed that Islam was having such an influence on life in Germany that the marches were justified.

While two thirds of those polled believed the idea of an 'Islamisation' of Germany was exaggerated, many Germans are concerned about the numbers of asylum seekers fleeing countries such as Syria.

Partly in response to its Nazi past, German asylum rules are among the most liberal in the world. The number of asylum-seekers arriving in Germany surged to about 200,000 in 2014, four times the numbers in 2012. Net immigration has hit a two-decade high. [*Reuters*] <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/01/01/us-germany-immigration-idUSKBN0KA1KZ20150101>

One in four (26%) Australians feel very negative or somewhat negative towards Muslims.

(This is five times greater than any negative feelings towards Christians or Buddhists.)

Publisher: Scanlon Foundation and Monash University

Title: *Mapping Social Cohesion - The Scanlon Foundation surveys 2014*

Agency: NA

Survey Details: The survey was conducted on 2,596 people in June and July, and was the seventh annual survey of its kind

Published Date: October 2014

Link to Publisher's Report: <http://monash.edu.au/mapping-population/public-opinion/surveys/scanlon-foundation-surveys/mapping-social-cohesion-national-report-2014.pdf>

SELECTED SUMMARY RESULTS

Is your personal attitude positive, negative or neutral towards ? (From Table 35, p56)	Christians	Buddhists	Muslims
% who say:			
Very positive	32	20	10
Somewhat positive	24	28	18
Neutral	37	44	44
Somewhat negative	3	2	14
Very negative	2	3	12
Refused/Don't Know	1	3	3

MEDIA COVERAGE

One in four Australians has negative attitude towards Muslims

.... people were five times more likely to hold negative attitudes towards Muslims than any other religious group.

Report author Professor Andrew Markus said the results were troubling.

"What we're finding is negativity towards Muslims is five times higher than towards Christians and Buddhists, so there's quite a significant issue there," said Professor Markus. [ABC News Online] <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-29/one-in-four-australians-had-a-negative-attitude-towards-muslims/5849744>

Over half (52%) of Germans believe Islam 'does not belong in German society'

Publisher: Stern Magazine **Published Date:** August 2014

A majority of Germans have rejected former President Christian Wulff's famous statement that "Islam is now also a part of Germany", with 52 percent against the idea.

Just 44 percent of people surveyed by the Forsa opinion institute for Stern magazine agreed with the former head of state that Islam was part of Germany.

However, a second question asking how people thought Germany should deal with hostility to Muslims found that 53 percent of people believed that it should be treated as seriously as anti-Semitism. [*The Local*] <http://www.thelocal.de/20140807/islam-does-not-belong-in-germany-poll>

Islam 'Does Not Belong in German Society'

The majority of Germans do not think that Islam is a true part of German society, according to a poll by Forsa for Stern magazine. A total of 52 percent said disagreed with former President Christian Wulff's statement that "Islam is now a part of Germany", with 44 percent agreeing.

However, when asked how Germany should deal with hostility to Muslims, 53 percent believed it should be taken as seriously as anti-Semitism.

Green Party supporters were most likely to be favourable towards Islam, with 69 percent thinking it is a full part of Germany society, while 61 percent of people aged 14 to 29 also agree.

Only 36 percent of supporters of Angela Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats agree with former president Wulff, while half of Social Democrat supporters agreed. People from former East Germany also strongly disagreed, with only 31 percent agreeing that Islam is now a full part of German society, while 61 percent of over-60s disagree.

Last week, Germany's biggest tabloid newspaper, Bild, came under fire after writing a scathing editorial attacking Islam. Deputy editor-in-chief Nicolaus Faust wrote: "I'm bothered by the considerably disproportionate criminality of youths from Muslim backgrounds. I'm bothered by Islam's murderous contempt for women and homosexuals. I'm bothered by forced marriages, 'justices of the peace,' 'honour killings.'"

The piece attracted thousands of angry comments, leading to editor-in-chief Kai Diekmann having to write another editorial rejecting Faust's arguments. [*Breitbart*] <http://www.breitbart.com/london/2014/08/07/poll-islam-does-not-belong-in-german-society/>

43% of Dutch people agree there should be fewer Moroccans in the country

Publisher: PVV (Freedom) Party **Published Date:** April 2014

This comes from research that the PVV requested pollster Maurice de Hond to carry out.

De Hond polled 2500 people, 43 percent of whom expressed that they would rather there be fewer Moroccan people in the Netherlands. Only 3 percent of the people want

there to be more Moroccans. [*NL Times*] <http://www.nltimes.nl/2014/04/22/pvv-43-percent-agree-fewer-moroccans/>

Over half (56%) of Germans consider Islam an "archaic religion, incapable of fitting into modern life"

Publisher: Friedrich Ebert Foundation **Published Date:** March 2014 (See also 2011)

.... There are several potential explanations for the rising skepticism of Islam in Germany. For one, many third-generation Muslim immigrants are living more strictly than their parents did, making them more conspicuous.

Also, in some neighborhoods in large German cities, Muslim girls are afraid of going outside without wearing a headscarf. There have also been several reports in the German media recently of ethnic-German men converting to Islam, radicalizing and going to Pakistan for terror training.

Just this past week, the Minister of the Interior warned that a total of 300 German Jihadists have left Germany to fight in Syria. [*Spiegel Online*] <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/islamophobic-hate-groups-become-more-prominent-in-germany-a-956801.html>

Danes: We are too tolerant of Muslims

Publisher: Berlingske newspaper **Published Date:** October 2013

After numerous heated debates over whether Muslims are imposing their culture upon Denmark, poll shows most think too many concessions are made for the minority.

The public debates over banned Christmas trees, halal meat at schools and cashiers wearing headscarves appear to have made the Danish population more wary about giving their Muslim neighbours cultural concessions.

According to a new survey by market researcher TNS Gallup, carried out for Berlingske newspaper, every third non-Muslim Dane is under the impression that Denmark is too tolerant of its Muslim minority population. [*The Copenhagen Post*] <http://www.cphpost.dk/immigration-amp-denmark/danes-we-are-too-tolerant-muslims>

On average in Europe's largest countries over half (54%) of Europeans believe Islam is incompatible with the Western world.

46% say it is very threatening or fairly threatening.

Publisher: Bertelsmann Foundation

Title: *Religion Monitor Understanding Common Ground - An International Comparison of Religious Belief and Religion Monitor 2013: Religiousness and Cohesion in Germany*

Agency: NA

Survey Details: The analysis of the 2013 Religion Monitor data includes responses from 14,000 people from 13 countries.

Published Date: April 2013

Link to Report: <https://app.box.com/s/80b4v7hxo69yz1sae226>

SELECTED SUMMARY RESULTS

Threat perception with respect to Islam. (Figure 9, p29)	%
% who say "very threatening" or "fairly threatening"	
Spain	60
Germany	57
Germany	49
Switzerland	50
France	39
Sweden	35
Great Britain	35

Islam is not compatible with the Western world (Figure 10, p30)	%
% who "agree"/"strongly agree"	
Spain	65
East Germany	55
West Germany	49
Switzerland	58
France	55

Sweden	48
Great Britain	45

MEDIA COVERAGE

Germans see Islam as a threat

A major study of attitudes towards religion says Germans approve of openness towards other religions. But many are still suspicious of Islam.

Former German President Christian Wulff earned much praise but also much criticism when said in a speech during his tenure, "Islam is also a part of Germany."

The criticism can be partly explained by the "Religion Monitor," a survey put together for the Bertelsmann Foundation. The findings have been published, and among them is the fact that half of all Germans believe that Islam does not fit into the Western world.

[*Deutsche Welle*] <http://www.dw.de/study-germans-see-islam-as-a-threat/a-16780089>

"Different and Threatening": Most Germans See Islam as a Threat

More than half of all Germans view Islam as a threat to their country and believe it does not belong in the Western world, according to a major new study on religious attitudes in Germany.

The findings confirm the results of dozens of other surveys, and reflect a growing divide between the views of ordinary Germans and those of Europe's multicultural elites, who, in the quest for "diversity," have been promoting mass immigration from Muslim countries for decades.

The study, entitled, *Religion Monitor 2013: Religiousness and Cohesion in Germany* was produced by the Bertelsmann Foundation, one of the most influential think tanks and lobbying groups in Europe, and a strong proponent of "progressive" causes such as multiculturalism and global governance.

According to the survey -- designed to measure the "most important forms and intensity of the religiosity" of German citizens -- the majority of Germans view Islam as "foreign, different and threatening." [*Gatestone Institute*]

<http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/3696/germany-islam-threat>

80% of French public favor tougher anti-veil laws

Publisher: Le Parisien **Published Date:** March 2013

The Islamic veil is still very much a national controversy, data from a front-page BVA survey in Le Parisien newspaper showed on Monday.

More than 80% of respondents favor toughening the country's 2004 law, which bans religious dress and insignia in schools, nurseries, and anywhere that involves the care and education of children. Another 83% is in favor of extending the ban to the private sector, and 16% is against.

Socialists, intellectuals, politicians and humanitarian NGOs signed an online petition launched by Marianne weekly, calling on the government to enact a new, tougher law in defense of secularism, one that will explain with "pedagogy and clarity" where and when the principle of secularism is to be applied. [ANSAméd]

http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/nations/france/2013/03/25/Islam-80-French-public-favor-tougher-anti-veil-laws_8457461.html

Poll shows French back veil ban in private sector

The debate over the Islamic veil in France is back, but this time it's taken on a new twist. Instead of only banning religious signs in public institutions, a new study has found that the vast majority of French people support the idea of a law that applies to the private sector as well.

The survey, which was conducted by French marketing and opinion centre BVA and published in the daily "Le Parisien" on Monday, found that 86 percent of French people back introducing legislation that would ban "all signs of religious or political affiliation" in private schools and nurseries. According to the same poll, 83 percent support imposing a law making it illegal in all privately-owned businesses. [FRANCE 24]

<http://www.france24.com/en/20130325-france-islamic-veil-ban-private-workplace>

Islamic veils still a source of conflict in France

Last week we reported on the case of a Muslim woman in France who won a court ruling that she had been unfairly dismissed from her job in a private nursery school after she refused to remove a headscarf.

The case seems to have sparked a backlash according to a poll in Le Parisien newspaper on Monday.

More than 80% of respondents favour toughening up the country's 2004 law, which bans religious dress and insignia in schools, nurseries, and anywhere that involves the care and education of children. Another 83% are in favour of extending the ban to the private sector, with 16% against. [National Secular Society]

<http://www.secularism.org.uk/news/2013/03/islamic-veils-still-a-source-of-conflict-in-france>

French back a ban on religious symbols at work

In recent days a new front has been opened up in the age-old debate about secularism in France - namely the wearing of the Islamic veil and other religious symbols in the workplace.

Two opinion polls published in recent days reveal the French are very much in favour of introducing a ban.

A whopping majority - 84% - of the French people now oppose the wearing of the Islamic veil or headscarf in private workplaces frequented by members of the public, according to a poll published on Sunday by regional daily Ouest-France.

Furthermore, 86% would support a law banning all religious symbols from any workplace centred on children, such as a school or crèche, according to a survey published on Monday by the Parisien. [*The Local Europe*] <http://www.thelocal.fr/page/view/veil-polls-ban-religious-symbols-french#.UV-5tKJJPe5>

Three quarters (74%) of the French think Islam is intolerant.

The same number (74%) think it is incompatible with the values of French society.

(In comparison, 10% think Catholicism incompatible and 25% think Judaism incompatible.)

Publisher: Le Monde

Title: *France 2013: les nouvelles fractures*

Agency: Ipsos

Survey Details: 1016 personnes constituant un échantillon représentatif de la population française âgée de 18 ans et plus. Dates du terrain: Du 9 au 15 janvier 2013. Echantillon interrogé par Internet grâce au Panel on line d'Ipsos

Published Date: January 2013

Link to Publisher's Report: <http://www.pharosobservatory.com/c/europe-1/france-1/25-01-2013-france-2013-ipsoss-full-study> [In French]

SUMMARY

Le niveau de tolérance de différentes religions En pensant à la manière dont chacune des religions suivantes est pratiquée en France, dites-moi si... (p68) % who say:	Elle est tout à fait tolérante	Elle est plutôt tolérante	Elle n'est plutôt pas tolérante	Elle n'est pas tolérante du tout
La religion catholique	24	48	21	7
La religion juive	13	53	24	10
La religion musulmane	5	21	35	39

La compatibilité de différentes religions avec les valeurs de la société française En pensant à la manière dont chacune des religions suivantes est pratiquée en France, dites-moi si... % who say:	Elle est tout à fait compatible	Elle est plutôt compatible	Elle n'est plutôt pas compatible	Elle n'est pas du tout compatible
La religion catholique	43	46	8	2
La religion juive	19	56	18	7

La religion musulmane	4	22	37	37
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MEDIA COVERAGE

Islam: 74% of French say it's an 'intolerant' religion

A new survey by Paris-based Ipsos research company on Thursday showed 74% of French respondents believe the Muslim religion is "intolerant" and incompatible with their social values.

The survey, published on the Le Monde newspaper website, also showed eight out of 10 French people believe the Islamic religion tries to impose its views on others, 10% believe a majority of Muslims are fundamentalists, and another 44% believe a many but not all Muslims are fundamentalists. Most respondents did not know how to define fundamentalism, however. [ANSAméd]

http://ansamed.ansa.it/ansamed/en/news/sections/generalnews/2013/01/24/Islam-74-French-say-an-intolerant-religion_8133243.html

Two thirds of French defy Islam according to poll

According to a recent survey conducted by Ipsos commissioned by the French daily Le Monde, two in three French (74%) reject Islam as "intolerant" and "incompatible" with French society. While 70% of the survey participant judged that there are "too many foreigners in France", 62% said they "don't feel like at home anymore".

The results mirror French society's sense and understanding of identity, which since three decades has intersected with the question of immigration in France. The rising Islamophobia and xenophobia exemplified by these polls reflects upon the existence of a massive populist movement, which exceeds the electorate of Le Pen's Front Nationale.

Whilst formerly articulating their rejection against labour migrants who were alleged to "take away jobs from the French", the rejection has now shifted to target both Islam and Muslims.

Accordingly, 74% of French reject Islam and Muslims as intolerant and incompatible with the "values of French society". The rejection entails all Muslims, whether they may be fully integrated, even assimilated or fundamentalists. Le Monde describes this poll as a rare moment of visualization of French defiance towards Islam. [Euro-Islam]

<http://www.euro-islam.info/2013/01/31/two-thirds-of-french-defy-islam-according-to-poll/>

Only 19 % of Germans believe that Islam is compatible with German culture.

Publisher: University of Bielefeld **Published Date:** January 2013

The cashier at the supermarket wears a headscarf, copies of the Koran are handed out on the streets, and mosques have become part of some cities' landscapes. Islam appears to be encroaching on life in Germany and that bothers a lot of people.

"For decades, woman fought for equal rights, and we have attained something. And now, women are choosing to wear headscarves. I don't want that and it scares me," a university-educated woman from Cologne says.

Her attitude is not uncommon. In the long debate over the new Cologne Central Mosque, which will be one of Europe's largest, fear and distrust of Islam have come to light and are widespread.

.... Over a period of ten years, the University of Bielefeld carried out a survey, which dealt with different aspects of attitudes to Islam. The survey showed that the mistrust of Islam is relatively widespread in Germany. Only 19 percent of Germans believe that Islam is compatible with German culture.

"That is the lowest (figure) that we found in Europe," says social psychologist Andreas Zick, who led and evaluated the study.

The survey also showed that 46 percent of all Germans say there are "too many Muslims" in Germany, and around 30 percent had specific concerns, for example, terrorist attacks. [*Deutsche Welle*] <http://www.dw.de/why-germans-distrust-islam/a-16536641>

German poll indicates a widespread fear of Muslims and Islam

Publisher: Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung **Published Date:** November 2012

The German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung has commissioned an opinion poll to find out what Germans think about Muslims. Generally, the results are regarded as "catastrophic".

Respondents to the poll were asked to choose which of 21 statements they were offered about Islam that most closely reflected their opinion.

Perceptions of Islam	%
Associated with impairing women's rights	83
Is a literalist religion	77
Associated with religious fanaticism and radicalism	70
Ready for violence	64
Ready for hatred	60
Associate Islam with love for neighbours	13
Charity	12
Openness and tolerance	7

[National Secular Society] <http://www.secularism.org.uk/news/2012/12/german-poll-indicates-a-widespread-fear-of-muslims-and-islam>

Survey exposes French anxieties over Islam

Publisher: Le Figaro **Published Date:** October 2012

Link to Publisher's Report: <http://www.lefigaro.fr/assets/pdf/sondage-ipsos-islam-france.pdf> [In French]

The role of Islam in France was once again under the spotlight on Thursday after right-wing daily Le Figaro published the results of an opinion poll that suggested 43 percent of French people believe the religion is a "threat" to national identity.

Six out of ten French people believe the influence of Islam in France is "too big" and 43 percent see the religion as a "threat" to national identity, according to the results of an opinion poll published on Thursday.

.... Two thirds of people surveyed said they thought French Muslims and people of Muslim origin were not well integrated into French society. Among them, 68 percent blamed this lack of integration on Muslims' "refusal to integrate", while roughly half said they believed it was a result of "insurmountable cultural differences". [France24] <http://www.france24.com/en/20121025-france-muslim-opinion-poll-survey-exposes-french-anxieties-over-islam-mosque-far-right>

Most French see Islam as too influential in society

An increasing majority of people in France believe Islam plays too influential a role in their society and almost half see Muslims as a threat to their national identity, according to a poll published on Thursday.

The survey by pollster Ifop in Le Figaro newspaper showed that 60 percent of people believed that Islam was "too important" in France in terms of its influence and visibility, up from 55 percent two years ago.

It found that 43 percent of respondents considered the presence of the Muslim community as a threat to their national identity, compared with just 17 percent who said it enriched society. Forty percent of those questioned were indifferent to the presence of Islam, Le Figaro said. [Reuters] <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/10/25/us-france-islam-idUKBRE8900LE20121025>

Most French See Islam Threat

With almost half of French see Muslims as a threat to their national identity, the majority of people in France believe Islam too influential role in their society, a new survey has found.

.... It found that 43% of French see Muslim presence in France is a threat to the national identity. The poll, which included 1,736 people, also showed a growing resistance to the Islamic symbols in France. 43% of respondents said they opposed the building of more mosques in France, up from 39% in 2010.

The poll also revealed that 63% of respondents oppose the wearing of Islamic headscarf in public, compared to 59% two years ago. [OnIslam] <http://www.onislam.net/english/news/europe/459697-most-french-see-islam-threat-poll-.html>

Half (52%) of Canadians distrust Muslims

Publisher: Association for Canadian Studies and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation **Published Date:** March 2012.

The nationwide survey indicates that as many as 52 percent of Canadians feel Muslims can be trusted "a little" or "not trusted at all." The poll showed that 48 percent of respondents said Muslims can be trusted "a lot" or "somewhat."

What's more, 42 percent of Canadians said discrimination against Muslims is "mainly their fault."

Muslims registered the lowest levels of trustworthiness of the religious groups asked about in the survey. [*The Huffington Post*]

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/26/canadians-distrust-muslims_n_1381239.html

Canadians believe discrimination against Muslims is "mainly their fault"

More than half of all Canadians believe Muslims can't be trusted and nearly as many believe discrimination against Muslims is "mainly their fault," according to the results of a new national survey released ahead of Wednesday's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The data was gathered via web panel over the past weekend, March 17-18, by the polling firm Leger Marketing. The results have a margin of error of plus or minus 2.9 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Asked if Muslims can be trusted, a countrywide total of 52 per cent of respondents said either "not at all" or only "a little." Conversely, 48 per cent of those surveyed said they trusted Muslims "a lot" or "somewhat."

No other group asked about in the survey registered such low levels of trustworthiness. Overall, 71 per cent of respondents expressed significant levels of trust in Protestants, 70 per cent trusted Catholics, 69 per cent trusted Jews, 64 per cent trusted aboriginal Canadians and 63 per cent trusted immigrants.

Among French Canadians — who regularly register stronger negative responses than English Canadians do toward Muslims — 70 per cent of those surveyed expressed little or no trust in Muslims, compared with 43 per cent of English speakers who said they felt that way.

On the question of who deserves blame for such negative feelings, Muslims again fared significantly worse than other groups in Canadian society. [*canada.com*]

<http://www.canada.com/life/More+than+half+Canadians+mistrust+Muslims+poll+says/6331705/story.html>

More than two in five (40-47%) in France, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK, say the presence of a Muslim community is a threat to their country's identity.

About three quarters (65-77%) say Muslims are not very or not at all integrated.

More than one in three (34-47%) say the cultural differences are too great.

Publisher: IFOP

Title: *How Europeans see Islam*

Agency: IFOP

Survey Details: Conducted 9-18 April, 2011 through online questionnaires in Germany, the Netherlands, France and the UK, samples of 600-800 people in each country.

Published Date: February 2012

Link to Report: http://www.ifop.fr/media/pressdocument/410-1-document_file.pdf [In French]

SUMMARY

Generally speaking, would you say the presence of a Muslim community is ... ?	A threat to our country's identity	A factor of cultural enrichment for our country	Neither one nor the other
% who say:			
France	42	22	36
Germany	40	24	36
Netherlands	44	19	37
UK	47	19	34

Would you say that today Muslims and people of Muslim origin are well integrated in society?	Totally	Moderately	Not very	Not at all
% who say:				
France	4	28	48	20
Germany	4	21	55	20
Netherlands	2	21	60	17
UK	4	31	47	18

Among the following reasons, which two do you consider best explain why Muslims are poorly integrated society?	France	Germany	Netherlands	UK
% who say:				
Their refusal to integrate in society	61	67	61	64
Cultural differences are too great	40	34	47	39
Group together in neighbourhoods and schools	37	32	34	58
Racism on the part of French/German/Dutch/British people	18	15	11	14
Economic difficulties and unemployment	20	10	6	6
Inadequate actions and budgets by authorities	2	5	2	2

Are you favourable, opposed or indifferent regarding Muslims who wear the veil or headscarf?	Favourable	Opposed	Indifferent
% who say:			
In the street			
France	9	59	32
Germany	13	42	45
Netherlands	20	42	38
UK	15	49	36
In the classroom			
France	3	90	7
Germany	11	70	19
Netherlands	13	62	25
UK	11	64	25

Are you for, against, or indifferent to the construction of mosques in when there is a demand from believers?	For	Against	Indifferent	No answer
% who say:				
France	20	39	34	7
Germany	18	50	25	7
Netherlands	13	51	27	9
UK	14	38	39	9

MEDIA COVERAGE

Nearly half of Europeans see Islam as a threat to their identity

French polling agency IFOP published the results of a survey on Europeans and Islam. The survey 'How Europeans see Islam' was conducted April 9-18, 2011 through online questionnaires in Germany, the Netherlands, France and the UK, with relatively low samples of 600-800 people in every country.

In those four countries, a plurality think that the presence of a Muslim community in their country represents a threat for their country's identity (47% in the UK, 44% in the Netherlands, 40% in Germany, 42% in France).

In France and more so in the UK, a higher proportion of youth under 35 tended to regard the presence of Muslims as a factor of cultural enrichment. In Germany the Netherlands the youth were more critical of Islam than those over 35. [*Islam in Europe*]

<http://islamineurope.blogspot.com/2012/02/eu-plurality-see-islam-as-threat-to.html>

Half (47-60%) of Europeans say Islam is an intolerant religion

Publisher: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (A social democratic foundation based in Berlin) (See also 2014)

Title: *Intolerance, Prejudice and Discrimination: A European Report*

Survey Details: In each country a sample of 1,000 individuals aged 16 or above was selected for landline telephone interviews. The samples were selected to be representative of the respective national population. Deviations from population demographics were dealt with by weighting.

Data was taken from 8,026 European interviewees representing approx. 270 million Europeans aged 16 or above. The samples include only persons holding the citizenship of the surveyed country.

Published Date: March 2011

Link to Report: <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/do/07908-20110311.pdf> [See

SELECTED SUMMARY RESULTS

Three opinion statements were selected for examination in the survey. They cover (1) the general impression that there are too many Muslims in the country, (2) the charge that Muslims make too many demands, and (3) broad-brush criticism of Islam as a religion of intolerance. Four further statements were surveyed in a random half of the sample.

In most of the countries a majority believe Islam to be a religion of intolerance, with agreement just below 50 percent only in Great Britain and the Netherlands. In almost all the countries more than half of respondents said that Muslims make too many demands.

Anti-Muslim statements (% in agreement) (From Table 7. p61)	D	GB	F	NL	I
There are too many Muslims in [country]	46	45	36	42	50
Muslims are too demanding	54	50	53	52	66
Islam is a religion of intolerance	53	47	52	47	60
The Muslim culture fits well into [country/Europe]	17	39	50	39	27
Muslims' attitudes towards women contradict our values	76	82	79	78	82
Many Muslims perceive terrorists as heroes	28	38	-	29	29
The majority of Muslims find terrorism justifiable	17	26	23	20	22

It is conspicuous that Europeans are largely united in their rejection of Muslims and Islam.

Seven in 10 (69%) Europeans approve a ban on veils that cover the whole face

Publisher: Pew Research Center

Title: NA

Agency: Pew Research Center

Survey Details: Samples: United States 1,002, Britain 750, France 752, Germany 750, Spain 755. Telephone interviews, April – May 2010.

Published Date: July 2010

Link to Report: <http://www.pewglobal.org/files/pdf/pew-global-attitudes-report-on-veil-ban-july-8.pdf>

SUMMARY

Widespread Support for Banning Full Islamic Veil in Western Europe

.... The French public overwhelmingly endorses this measure; 82% approve of a ban on Muslim women wearing full veils in public, including schools, hospitals and government offices, while just 17% disapprove.

Ban on veils that cover the whole face	% Dissapprove	% Approve
France	17	82
Germany	28	71
Britain	32	62
Spain	37	59
U.S.	65	28

Majorities in Germany (71%), Britain (62%) and Spain (59%) would also support a similar ban in their own countries.

In contrast, most Americans would oppose such a measure; 65% say they would disapprove of a ban on Muslim women wearing full veils in public places compared with 28% who say they would approve. [*Pew Research*]

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1658/widespread-support-for-banning-full-islamic-veil-western-europe-not-in-america?src=prc-latest&proj=peoplepress>