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Islamophobia Post-9/11 and its Effects on Afghan Refugees

Abstract

The topic that will be researched is as said; the ramifications of post-9/11 Islamophobia and its effects on Afghan refugees, as well as its global negative consequences due to the rise of radicals in the Islamic state. Since the events in 2001, there has been a clear change in how people view Islamic and Middle Eastern people. A deeper investigation is sought out and is studying Islamophobia, and how it has rapidly spread since the 9/11 attacks. One focused area of this study is to analyze how refugees from Afghanistan and neighboring countries have been treated inhumanely and unethically. Another is to identify why, twenty years after the terrorist attacks, Islamophobia is still present in many countries today. The research is leaning toward the interpretive methodology group. The research is being conducted using the KSU library and other well-known sources with credible authors and publishers. It is hypothesized that the 9/11 attacks were the primary source of Islamophobia in the last two decades, not just in the United States, but throughout the entire world.

Problem/Objective

Have you ever thought about the major impact 9/11 had on innocent Islamic families across the world? Have you ever realized that the concept of otherness has fueled the discrimination towards Muslims in society? Because of the terrorist attacks, many people started living in fear which caused negative generalizations towards Muslim families. Islamophobia has spread substantially since 9/11. This has compromised the safety of millions of Muslims all across the world.

Afghanis specifically have been unable to feel safe in their own country, causing them to become refugees. The bordering countries of Afghanistan have kicked them out due to lack of basic resources which makes the refugees become misplaced.

Review of Literature

For this research paper, sources ranging from books by distinguished authors, academic writing, and popular sources were used. The research paper is asking the question, "How has the 9/11 terrorist attacks effected islamophobia in the United States and other countries?" When researching this question, numerous sources can be found. It was immediately obvious that several commonalities exist between these sources.

The sources provided clearly show the strength and effects of islamophobia. Since the events of September 11, 2001, there has been a noticeable shift in the public image of Middle Easterners in America. Islamic and middle eastern people were shown under a bad light and these people get ridiculed for the way they look. In a news article titled, "Twenty Years On, Are We Any Smarter?", the author goes into detail about Muslim refugees being mistreated as a threat since coming from Afghanistan and Iraq. Hearing the stories of the refugees tells you some of the suffering that these people had to endure. The main issue with this mindset that these Islamic refugees are a threat is that Americans overlook them as humans and forget that they are people too.

All the authors that are being used for this paper agree that Islamophobia has been spreading in many aspects of our present world, especially thriving in certain areas of social and political background. In their own respected articles, each author discusses how Islamophobia has grown all over the world, especially in the United States since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. All

Islams are being marginalized as terrorists. Mirna Alsharif's articles , "9 tropes about Muslims that are a product of Islamophobia," is a prime example of this. Her article, along with many of the other sources we chose, is about these stereotypes that have been created by Islamophobic people. The article "Rise of Islamophobia across the World", by Peace Olanipekun, backs up the evidence that this issue is spreading beyond the United States. Their article gives examples of severe prejudice and islamophobia in countries all over the world. It is indisputable that the 9/11 attacks definitely influenced this.

The strong grip that islamophobic ideals have on the world is easily identifiable. All of the authors make sure to explain to the readers that Muslims all over the world have been getting discriminated against because of terrorist attacks. Since 9/11 took place in America, you would think that the only Muslims being treated poorly would be in the United States, but that is not the case. By taking a closer look at the rest of the world, it is clear that other countries took on islamophobic ideals as well.

There is no doubt that Islamophobia has been spreading increasingly in many countries, not just in victim communities. Labeling, stereotyping, and violence has flooded countries all over the world. These acts were not only towards the ones responsible for the tragedy but to every single person that looks like them, that share the same nationality and characteristics. The point of this research paper will be to examine these cases of Islamophobia from around the world, how it impacts these people, and what's being done about this issue.

Research Questions

This research paper will be asking the main question, "How has the 9/11 terrorist attacks effected islamophobia in the United States and other countries?", along with several other

questions that stem from this. When looking at immigrants, the big questions aren't "What were Afghans facing in Afghanistan that made them want to immigrate?", "How safe was it to live in Afghanistan?" and "How did the Afghanistan government treat their citizens?" Other questions are about other countries and how they viewed Islamic and Middle Eastern people after the 9/11 attacks. A few of these questions include, "Were other countries reluctant to accept Afghani refugees post 9/11?", "What is the process of moving out of Afghanistan?", and "What was the global consensus on refugees from Afghanistan?"

Procedures/Methodology

Methodology is defined as "a system of methods used in a particular area of study or activity" by Oxford Languages. To construct a piece of research that leaves its audience with impact and lingering thought, a well-rounded method of study is needed. For the investigated research topic, being the ramifications of post-9/11 Islamophobia and its effects on Afghan refugees, as well as its global negative consequences due to the rise of radicals in the Islamic state, the following strategies will be used to gather, digest, expand, and evaluate information. The study will be conducted, firstly, by collecting credible sources to inform ourselves and the audience of the topic in depth. Another reason why the gathering of sources is a desired approach is to also widen the detail of the information being collected and to view more opinions and real-life situations that reflect on the topic.

Many sources of popular and academic origins have been, are being, and will be viewed. These said sources, all branching off of the effects of Islamophobia, are academic journals, news articles, parts of informational books, and anecdotal videos of victims, already cited in the annotated bibliography. Some sources are focused on the effects of the "otherness" or labeling

Islamic people experience because of the rise of islamophobia after 9/11. Other sources remind its audience about common stereotypes or popular assumptions lingering in communities being of the ignorance or lack of knowledge of the Islamic culture and Muslim religion. From these works of literature the assembly of detail, information, and data will be successful and advantageous.

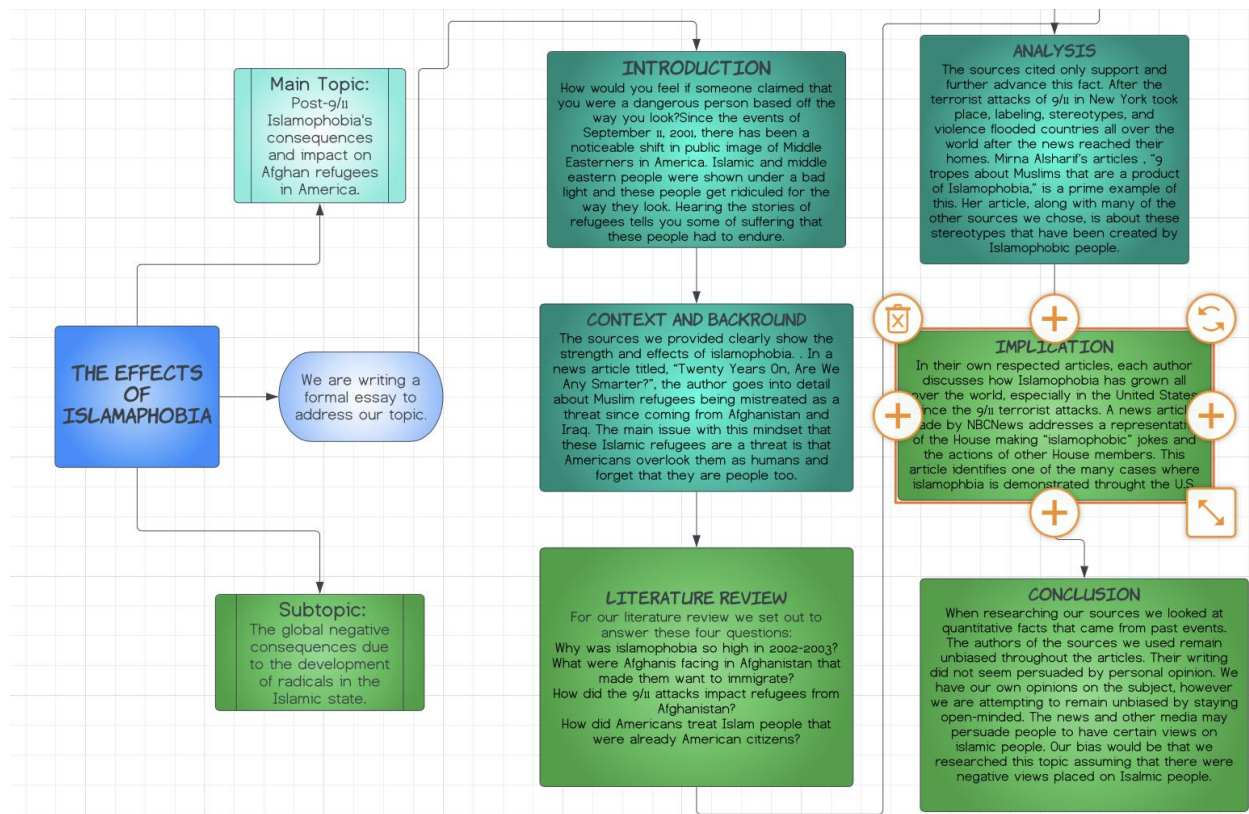
The study being conducted through the sources and external influences will be historical and exploratory. The conducted research is said to be historical because of the fact that the entire research proposal is based on the effects a historical act has and always has on a certain population of people. The conducted study is said to also be exploratory because of how it is being brought up and pieced together; by exploring various sources, points-of-view, and opinions all with the base foundation of Islamophobia being the root cause of the predicament. This exploratory research will identify all the affected areas of islamophobia growth, why it is a problem, and how this study can help the audience identify it as a problem as well. With this study it is desirable that the authors (researchers) not only persuade but provide knowledge and enlightenment on the matter to those who have a lack of it.

The research will be analyzed in the following ways to maximize understanding by executing in an uncomplicated way in terms of diction and syntax. By the sources that are being analyzed we will be collecting data and quotes will be used to provide support and understanding to the argument. The data that is going to be collected from the sources are expected to be quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data will be collected by gathering and viewing statistics on different aspects that correlate to the topic. Qualitative data will be gathered by looking at anecdotes of victims and surveys that have been conducted explaining how Islamic

refugees feel about being treated differently solely because of the color of their skin, and how this affects their actions and everyday lives.

The study will have various sub topics and explanations that are easy to follow yet professional and organized. This will be done through the research being conducted and the data being collected and will be compiled into a structured explanation of the importance of the topic. Since the approach is professional yet not difficult to understand or follow, a simplistic use of words will be used to get the point across to the audience. The concept of otherness will definitely be utilized and will be pronounced by providing the effects that islamophobia has caused many families and individuals of their own communities. Relationships and connections found throughout the sources will be established in the study. The product of the study is to provide the audience with explanatory and informational data. The execution of this data will be successful once at least one person of the audience has a change of perspective that will allow them to view a person that physically differentiates from them and embraces and appreciates their difference.

Planning and Layout of Final Project



Schedule

3/26 - 3/28, Work on recommendations from peer review.

3/28 - 3/31, Review statistical tables in articles.

3/31 - 4/2, Send in the final proposal.

4/3 - 4/8, Work on ideas of basic arguments and outline structure.

4/8 - 4/11, Review literature & review each of their arguments.

4/15 - 4/19, Write out draft paragraphs halfway through the planned outline.

4/19 - 4/23, Finish writing draft all the way to the end.

4/23 - 4/25, Finish up flaws/confusion in arguments and begin the final edits.

4/25 - 4/30, Finish final edits to research essay and submit.

Responsibilities

All of the work done in our project was divided equally between each member. The role of the submitter changed periodically so each person in our group was responsible for submitting our work for the day at least once. The role of the manager consists of breaking down the assignment due for the week and also changes periodically.

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