

ISLAMOPHOBIA AWARENESS MONTH

10
YEARS



UNIVERSITY PACK

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“To encourage individuals and organisations across society to raise awareness of Islamophobia



What is IAM?

Islamophobia Awareness Month (IAM) is a campaign founded in 2012 by a group of Muslim organisations to raise awareness of Islamophobia. It aims to raise awareness of the scourge of Islamophobia in society, as well as showcasing the positive contributions of Muslims in the UK.

The month-long campaign takes place every November. Resources are available on the website to help you to get involved and be a part of the growth of the campaign.

WWW.ISLAMOPHOBIA-AWARENESS.ORG





Our Vision

Our vision is to see the Islamophobia Awareness Month campaign widely recognised and supported every year. We want to see a society that is understanding and inclusive, and free from Islamophobia in all of its forms.



TACKLING DENIAL



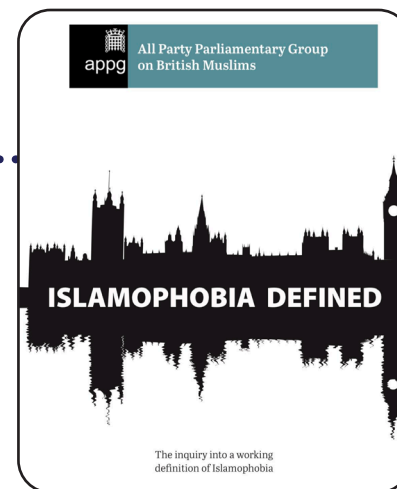
This year's theme

Our theme for IAM 2022 is **#tacklingdenial**. The denial of Islamophobia can be seen in many forms in both political and social spaces. Why is tackling denial important? Because if you allow people to deny the very existence of Islamophobia, how can we begin to have a sensible conversation about it and therefore tackle this problem? Denial simply shuts down this conversation.

Defining Islamophobia

"Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness."

APPG on British Muslims

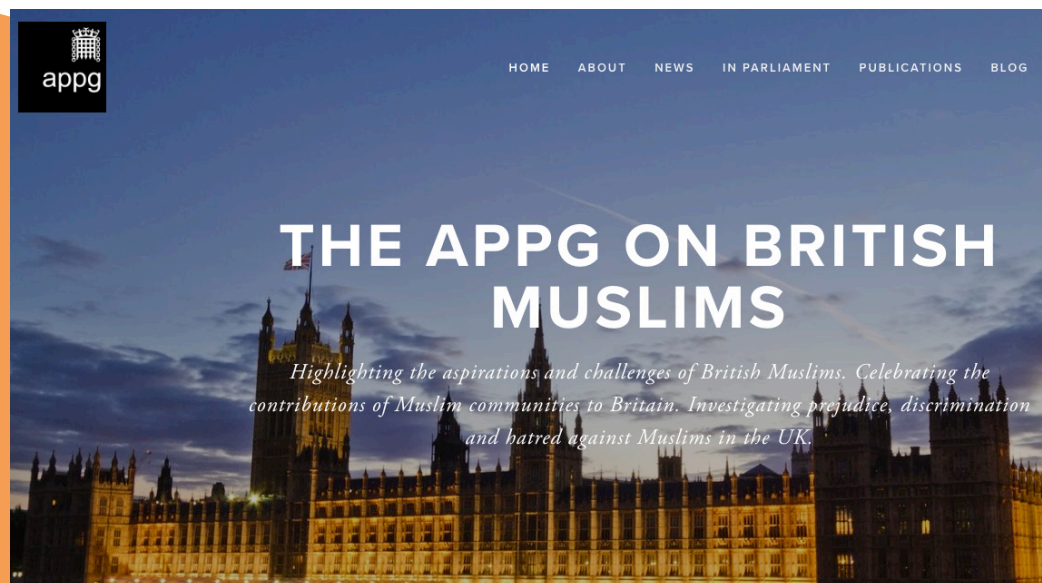


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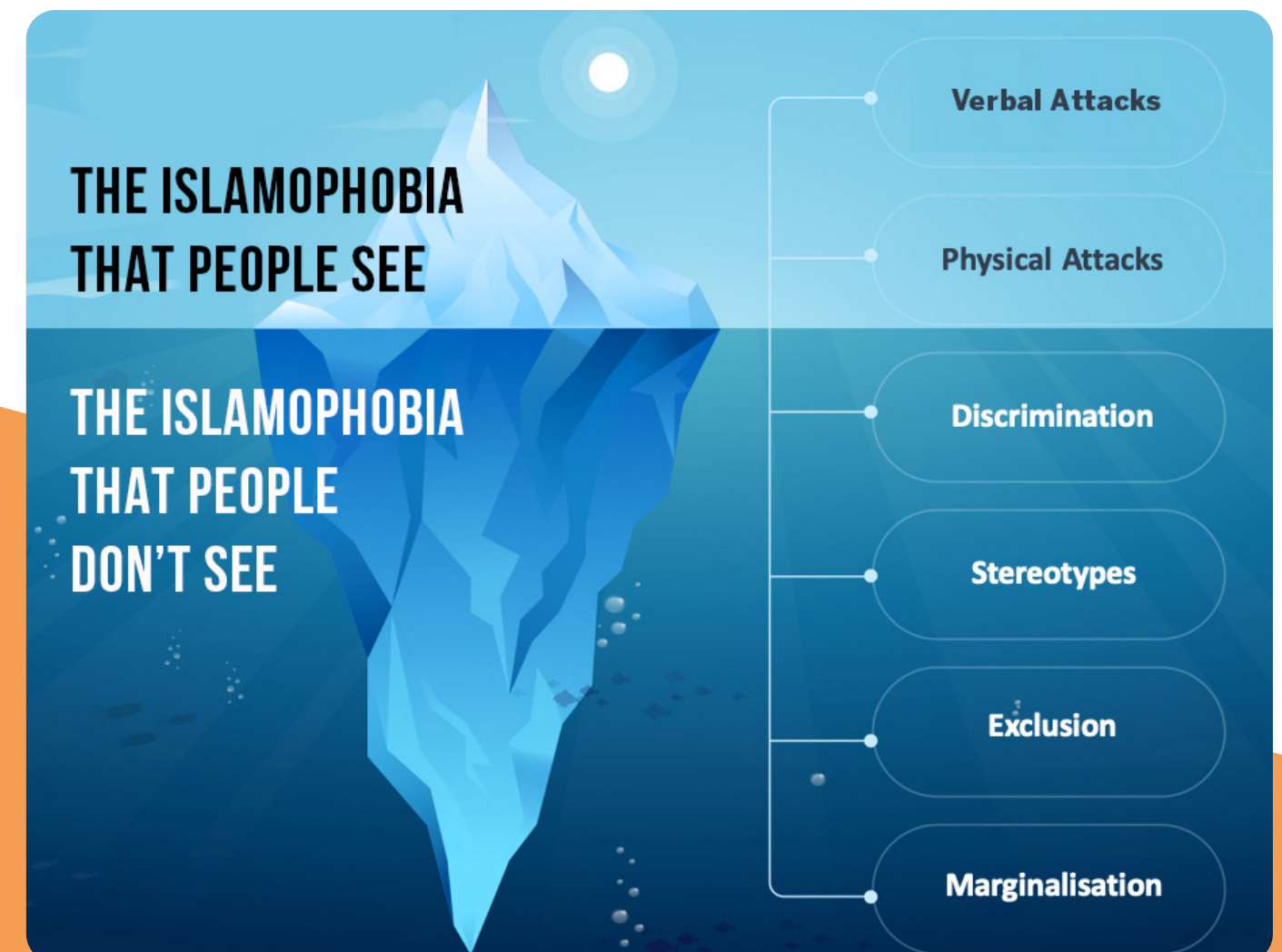
"An exaggerated, irrational fear, hatred and hostility towards Islam and Muslims perpetuated by negative stereotypes resulting in bias, discrimination of Muslims from civic, social and political life."

Fear Inc. Fear Inc 2.0
Center for American Progress

CAP



'Islamophobia Defined' is a report from the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on British Muslims.





Breakdown on **unconscious biases** in higher education



Work towards **closing the attainability gap** in higher education



Create a **culture of respect** and **equal opportunities** at university

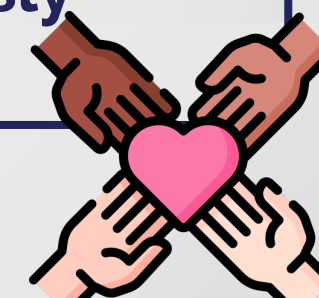
Why Support IAM?

Create **safe spaces** for students and staff to share and **explore difficult or sensitive** topics



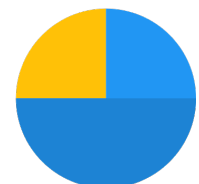
Providing **adequate support** for students who have been victims of discrimination

Instil **confidence** in students that universities are taking the matter of **discrimination seriously**



What is the evidence that Islamophobia exists at universities?

25%



Over 25% of female Muslim students report having had to defend the wearing of hijab and niqab whilst on campus, making them feel unsafe.

In the same report, 39% of Muslim staff believe that Islamophobia is normalised at LMU.

Reference: [A report](#) on 100 Muslim students by London Metropolitan's University (LMU) recently established Centre for Equity and Inclusion 2021, stated the need for universities to acknowledge and tackle Islamophobia on campuses across the UK.



1 in 5 Muslim students reported being the victims of verbal abuse

Reference: In 2018 a [NUS survey](#) of nearly 600 Muslim students at UK universities.

According to the HESA report Muslims are less likely to attain a first or a 2:1 degree in comparison to other students that identified with a religion or belief.

Reference: [Higher education Statistic Agency \(2017 - 2018\)](#)



How can getting involved in IAM help address this problem?

- The evidence on discrimination and hate crime is clear
- Universities have a duty to safeguard the welfare of their students and create a safe and inclusive environment
- By participating in IAM you will send a clear message to your staff and students that such behavior against them will not be tolerated.
- This will also give confidence to staff and students to speak out against Islamophobia
- It is an important first step in then tackling the problem

Case Study - Discrimination

A female in her twenties of south Asian heritage who studying at a university based in London, learned that the university does not permit students to wear face veils (niqab) on campus. The University did not prohibit religious dress from other faith groups.

The Islamophobia Response Unit (IRU) wrote a letter of concern on behalf of the client and is currently liaising with the university to overturn this. discriminatory uniform policy.

Reference: Islamophobia Response Unit, 2022, personal communication



How to Get Involved

Here are **5 ways** to get your school involved this November **November**

Step 1

Become an Official Supporter

Visit www.islamophobia-awareness.org/supporter and complete the form to sign your school up as a supporter of the campaign. Encourage students to follow the campaign too!

Step 2

Follow us on social media and play your part

Follow us on social media! Share our content, use our graphics, and use the hashtags #TacklingDenial, #IAM2022 and #10YearsOn. Promote the campaign on your Twitter platform!

Step 3

Display the IAM exhibition!

Our exhibition is a great way to showcase the positive Muslim contribution to UK society, and can be used in a variety of settings. Contact us at info@islamophobia-awareness.org to request the exhibition.

WWW.ISLAMOPHOBIA-AWARENESS.ORG



Step 4

Host Your Own Event: Learn more and celebrate!

Plan an afternoon learning and celebrating the various different Muslim cultures across your campus, or recognising a faculty member or student who has made an impact! Enjoy their favourite national dishes and get to know them better! Be creative, there is no limit to the kind of event you can host. Contact us for any further support you require.

Step 5

Do your Research

Similar to the work at LMU, carry out your own research at your institution to see how islamophobia may have impacted students and/or staff.



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Log & Manage your events via Events Portal



Download IAM Resources

Online IAM Exhibition

Get involved

Why not hire our Exhibition to showcase positive Muslim contributions by emailing us info@islamophobia-awareness.org



Give recognition to a Muslim at your university

Host a celebratory event for a staff member or student you know that has made a real change

Human Library

Help connect the people around you with inspiring and positive role models

VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.ISLAMOPHOBIA-AWARENESS.ORG OR
EMAIL US AT INFO@ISLAMOPHOBIA-AWARENESS.ORG FOR SUPPORT

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*Take part in the
conversation, be part
of the solution*

For more information, resources and links visit:
www.islamophobia-awareness.org

For all enquiries: info@islamophobia-awareness.org
For press enquiries: press@islamophobia-awareness.org



/IslamophobiaAM