

Muslim Women on Capitol Hill

Module 18, Lesson 1

Teaching Beyond September 11th © 2021 The University of Pennsylvania



Title: Greater Than Fear Artist: Shepard Fairey Photographer: Ridwan Adhami

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Rep. Rashida Tlaib (Michigan)

Rep. Ilhan Omar (Minnesota)

Only two other Muslims have served in Congress before them: Keith Elison (2007, Minnesota) André Carson (2008, Indiana)

Official Congressional Photos. Public Domain



Reps. Tlaib and Omar have gained national prominence as part of a progressive woman of color legislative group known as "The Squad" with Reps Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Ayana Pressley

Political Cartoon Analysis

Inner Frame (around the cartoon) -

Record short descriptions of what you see with a particular focus on symbols and elements that are exaggerated or stereotypical.

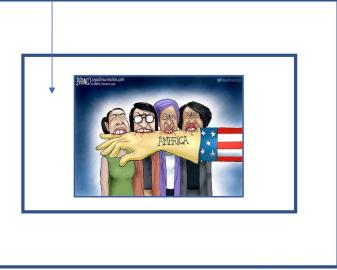
- List the objects or people you see in the cartoon.
- Identify the cartoon caption/title
- Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon.
- What are images, words, or numbers that seem significant?

Outer Frame (large frame)

Record the message(s) the image is meant to express/evoke and any particular points of view that are centered in it.

- Describe the action taking place in the cartoon.
- Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols.
- Explain the message of the cartoon.
- What special interest groups would agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why?

In your groups, analyze each cartoon and add your comments to the cartoons hanging around the classroom.



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Questions adapted from Cartoon Analysis Worksheet by the Education Team at the National Archives and Records Administration











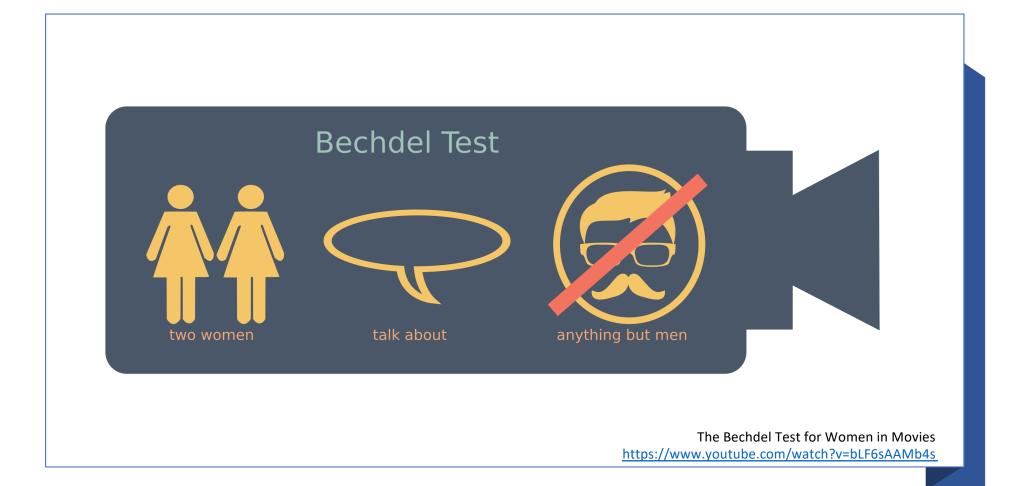
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Dual Frame Political Cartoon Analysis

Muslim Women and the Entertainment Industry

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Excerpt from step feed article by Razan Mneimneh:

Muslim character in Grey's Anatomy took off her hijab ... and people lost it If you needed yet another reason to obsess over American series, Grey's Anatomy, then you'll be thrilled to know Dr. Dahlia Qadri, the show's first hijabi intern, stole hearts everywhere with one bold, daring move.

In the show's 13th episode of Season 14, Dr. Qadri took off her hijab and wrapped it around a patient's leg to stop the bleeding in an attempt to save his life.

This single move sent people into a complete meltdown, inciting tears and thank you messages to the show's director, Shonda Rhimes.

Watch the excerpt here https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6fl16e



How might such representations (like the one in Grey's Anatomy clip) be stereotypical and problematic? Why does this matter?

Media Diversity Institute

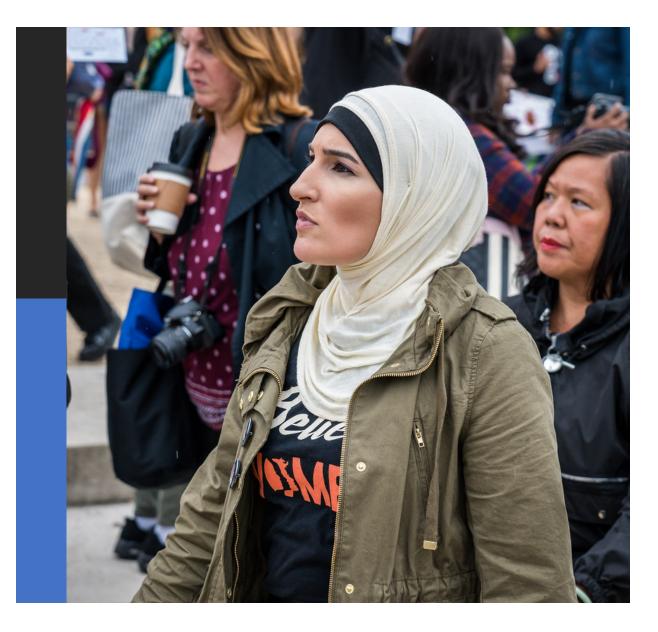
Author Viet Thanh Nguyen has described how SOME groupS experience narrative scarcity, in which their stories are limited and yet are somehow expected to represent diverse swaths of people and experiences.

What is the typical narrative of Muslim women in TV/film and why is it important to disrupt it? What might it look like for Muslim women to have narrative plenitude (many stories/representations)?

Muslim Women Resist

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Linda Sarsour

American political activist



QUARTZ: Linda Sarsour is every Islamophobe's worst nightmare

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