

## For Muslim women to make an impact, they have to explain Islam in a way that others can understand.

One of the most important things that we, Muslim women, are always asked about is the “rag on our heads”! Why do we wear that thing & why do Muslim women cover their hair?!

Unfortunately, maybe 1 out of 100 gives the right answer! Muslims don't know why women wear the scarf, so how do we expect the non-Muslims to understand?!

The Qur'an itself says why we cover our hair in Surat An-Noor, to identify ourselves as being Muslims, that we would be recognized. We put this on, this act of truthfulness so that everybody would know that we are Muslim women & we want everybody to know that we are Muslim women & we are proud of being Muslim women!

But it says a lot too, it tells everyone who sees me that who stands before you is a woman of enormous strength, courage and integrity and this woman will not lie or cheat nor deceive. She will be the best employer, the best employee, the best friend, the best advisor and the best counselor. That's the Muslim woman, you can trust her. And it is also a warning! It tells everybody that who stands before you is a woman who knows her value. She is not at a way so do not even try to play with her.

This is a woman you take serious and it lets people know straight up that I want to be set apart from everyone else and I want you to know who I am and this is what you have a right to expect from me and this is what I will accept from you. Therefore, when you come close to me, leave your profanity somewhere else, I will not hear it.

When you come to me, do not tell me stories about someone else, I don't eat the flesh of my brother. This identifies me as being a Muslim woman.

When the eye goes further, I would not be molested! “Molested” has nothing to do with rape, actually and rape has nothing to do with sexual attraction. Rape is an act of violence, hate and domination. Old women get rapped no matter what they wear because it has nothing to do with sexual attraction, they do not turn on, but their molesters do that because they are filled with hate and that's where rape comes from.

When we speak about protection, it comes from your own attitude, i.e. “The Islamic attitude”! I am not a toy, I am truth, I am honesty, you can trust me, I take my attitude and I will let you know! You don't go past this point with me, I will not accept that! That is my attitude.

That attitude makes everyone notice, when I walk up into a shopping centre everyone rushes to open the door for me, I expect it so they do it! When I get on a bus, they get up and give me their seats, when I walk into a room with people telling a dirty story, they stop because they know I will not tolerate it. So I have the Islamic attitude that lets people know what to expect from me.

At the same time, everyone having a trouble knows that they can come to me and talk to me about their problems and that their problems will be safe and secure. They know that the guidance they get will be the best of guidance; therefore I do counseling, not only for Muslims but also for non-Muslims because they know they can trust me.

These may sound like little things but they make a difference and some people think it is horrible, but it is not, it is closer to the truth.

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**Why** do Muslim women  
cover their heads?

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