
Resolution against Islamophobia

Whereas The American Library Association policy B.3 Combating Prejudice, Stereotypes and Discrimination (old policy number 60.3) “The American Library Association actively commits its programs and resources to those efforts that combat prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination against individuals and groups in the library profession and in library user populations on the basis of race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, creed, color, religious background, national origin, language of origin or disability.”;

Whereas library staff and patrons who appear to be Muslim have been subject to verbal abuse;

Whereas arson has been used against at least one Muslim education center¹;

Whereas members of the public have been subject to threats² and abuse³ while attempting to exercise their religion; and

Whereas places of worship have been subject to vandalism⁴ and attempts at intimidation⁵;

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the positive impact that Muslims have made in libraries and library science;
2. recognizes the contributions that Muslims have made to information and knowledge in regards to the sciences, mathematics, philosophy, medicine and geography;
3. stands with our colleagues, community members and users in speaking out against Islamophobia;
4. deplores the hate speech being directed at Muslims from every level of society; and
5. issues a public statement condemning Islamophobia and standing with our Muslim colleagues and users.

■ KEYWORDS: Prejudice; Stereotypes; Religious intolerance; Discrimination; Islamophobia.

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