



**98% of all  
Australians  
surveyed  
Associated  
Terrorism with  
Islam**

# **AUSTRALIAN ATTITUDES TO ISLAMOPHOBIA REPORT 2019**

**S.A.F.A. conducted this survey according to strict academic methodology as used by the University of South Australia, The Charles Sturt University and Griffiths University in each of their Islamophobia and extremism reports.**

The results, including all raw data, are included in the comprehensive tables of this report. (Draft January 2019)

**95% do not agree  
that Islam is a  
religion of peace**

**99.36% of  
Australians do not  
recognise Islam  
as a race**

**95% say  
criticizing Islam is  
not Islamophobia**

**75% Want a  
National Register  
of Islamic anti-  
Australian  
Activities**



## Introduction

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

SECURITY AND FREEDOM AUSTRALIA



Noticing the growing anecdotal evidence that suggested a rise in incidents of Islam inspired terrorism against Australians we felt compelled to start gathering evidence of what ordinary Australians felt about what was going on.

SAFA is a community organization observing that information coming out of our universities was being inspired by faculties that were dominated by those who subscribed to the ideology of Islam that they were asserting was under threat.

The Islamophobia Register was established in Australia in September 2014. The Register was the first of its kind in Australia to provide a platform for incidents of Islamophobia to be reported, recorded and ultimately analysed. It records incidents as trivial as a person who identifies as Muslim “being looked at” on public transport

Despite being under-resourced and only having a small number of regular volunteers, we have sought to provide an academic level survey of person to person contact using similar methodology to that reported by the University of South Australia, when collecting data under the supervision and guidance of their Islamic Professor, The University of Charles Sturt, under the guidance of their Muslim advisors and Griffiths University under the supervision of the celebrated anti-right left wing Professor Dean.

It has become apparent in our work in this area over the past few years that there are deeply inadequate resources committed to the effective investigation of anti-Australian incidents across Australia and the impact that they are having on Australians.

This is particularly concerning given that a rather significant number of reports detail the verbal and physical abuse directed at Australian women, with a large number happening in the presence of young children. Many victims and their loved ones are left feeling further vulnerable and end up restricting their civic and public engagement out of fear.



Over the past few years of tracking Islam in Australia we have seen a normalisation of Islamic acts against Australia and its continued growth will continue to plague the Australian community and in turn, adversely affect community harmony and social cohesion.

We hope this report helps provide the academically scrutinised evidence required for authorities at every level to start to tackle Islam in a more uniform and serious manner.

Throughout its history, Australia has emanated hope as a land of opportunity and become a beacon of refuge for immigrants from around the world. Australia has been a model multicultural society welcoming people from a broad array of cultures and religions for decades.

However, radicalisation and Islam stand to threaten social cohesion and cultural harmony.

Radicalisation is a fact and in its violent form is a serious malignancy that threatens Australia. Much research has been exerted to understand radicalisation and enormous resources are invested in addressing it as a security and to some extent as a social problem.

Islamic terrorism's impact on ordinary Australians, on the other hand, is under-researched, under-documented and as a result not accepted as a serious issue. This report makes a key contribution to our knowledge and understanding of Islamophobia. What it is, what it is not, and how Islam is perceived. It demonstrates that not only is Islam a real societal problem, it also illustrates for the first time the scale of the problem with quantitative data.

Terrorism shows that acrimonious emotions expressed in Islamic acts are necessarily associated with terrorism and appear to be largely about contempt of, and domination of Non-Muslims.

A very important aspect of Australian liberal democracy is the protection of its minorities. Minorities do not always have a voice in politics or media and can often find themselves overwhelmed by negative perception and antagonism. We would do disservice to the betterment of Australia if the problem of Islam is ignored or played down. It only serves to entrench the problem deeper.

**This report is an opportunity to openly discuss the impact of Islamic Acts so that strategies can be developed to counter it as a national threat and societal problem.**

This report focuses on the critical analysis of the impacts of Islam and how it is seen in its various manifestations in Australia.

Grounded within a theoretical and empirical framework, the report explores the individual and institutional aspects of the impact of Islam and the relationships between the two. While analysing diverse manifestations, the report does not claim to capture all forms of Islamic terrorism, Islamic promotion or apologists inclusively.

The survey was organised in sections. Section I describes the demographic of those surveyed. Their sex, age, and work status. Section II asks for an appreciation by the respondent of what “religion” is, what a “race” is. It seeks to ascertain if respondents have an appreciation of differences between theological, political and cultural aspects of Islam and other groups and religious ideologies.

Section III is an assessment of the respondents perception of terrorism as reflected in various media, reports and institutions. the political sphere, media reporting of Islam and Muslims, right-wing organisations and in the field of criminology.

Section IV seeks opinions about ways forward. What might be a way to counter the terror of Islamic violent acts, incursions and subversions in Australia.

The report captures and critically analyses Australians, men and women, in seven age groups from self-employed, unemployed, students and retirees. Personally conducted, verified survey questionnaires. And was conducted in the past year and collated in January 2019.

Unlike Griffith University’s 2015 survey which was conducted by merely scanning the internet to gather data about allegedly extremist groups. The data collect by SAFA is real and reliable. It is not reliant on data collected by or under the supervision of Muslims for Muslims like the University of South Australia telephone survey Report of 2015 overseen by Professor Riaz Hassan from the International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding at the University of South Australia or the Islamophobia report from Charles Sturt University based online internet reports by muslims to muslims.

While this report does not reflect all local experiences of Islam in Australia, it sheds light on many aspects of its manifestations, nuances and complexities. The report findings signify the impact that


Islamic or perceived Muslim anti-Australian hate incidents has, operates on and affects Australians, and illustrate specific surveyed responses to Islam.

## Summary SAFA Survey Results

56% of the respondents were men, 44% were women.

14% were under 40 years old and 86% were over 40 years old

Self-employed 21%, Employed 38%, Unemployed 8%, Student 5%, Retired 28%



SAFA has not manipulated the raw data which is provided in the annexed spreadsheet. Unlike the writers of the University of SA Islamophobia Report.” In which they state that they “weight data” “apply odds ratios” write off results, apply unstated “psychological differences” form conclusions on low data sets, apply “exponential of estimates” and use “unobserved underlying intervals”. Before publishing.

See:

Islamophobia Social Distance and the Fear of Terrorism in Australia.  
University of SA Preliminary Report.  
December 2015.

Islam is not a race to 99.36% of Australians surveyed. The only person who answered that Muslim is a race was an under 40 year old female.

Respondents were not confused. 85% of respondents identified “Arabian” as not being a religion and did not confuse Islamic ideology with being Arabic or Hindu. The actual figure may be higher as almost all of the 14% who said Islam was not a religion opted for that answer and did not answer about “Arabian” as well.

Islamophobia. 26% thought there was no such thing. 41% identified it as an “irrational fear of Islam” with 32% answering that they now understood Islamophobia to mean just “not liking Muslims”.

Answers to this question do not appear to have any significant connection with age or sex of the respondent.

An overwhelming 95% did not believe criticizing “Islam ideology” should be regarded as islamophobia. The majority of the 5% that did think that were female.

### THE ISLAMOPHOBIA REPORT

“The Islamophobia report” is a collaborative effort of political advocacy and fund raising by:

Islamophobia Register  
Australia, Centre for Islamic Studies and Civilisation, Charles Sturt University, Islamic Science and Research Academy, Diversity Council Australia, University of Western Australia, Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University, Public and Contextual Theology research Centre, Charles Sturt University, Just Media Advocacy.

..... [https://arts-ed.csu.edu.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/2811960/csu-islamophobia-in-australia-July-update-digital-after-launch.pdf](https://arts-ed.csu.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/2811960/csu-islamophobia-in-australia-July-update-digital-after-launch.pdf)

The definition of Islamophobia to be found in the report is:

#### ISLAMOPHOBIA/ISLAMOPHOBIC

*Islamophobia is a form of racism that includes various forms of violence, violations, discrimination and subordination that occur across multiple sites in response to the problematization of Muslim identity (.p 39)*

Subordination! **Not treating Islam as importantly as they think it should be treated is Islamophobia?** No

wonder Islamophobia is found everywhere, including in all of the Muslims who responded to the 2015 Uni. SA survey.

Only 1.6% did not regard calling for the killing of all Jews by the Islamic group Hizbt-Tahir as Hate-Speech. 98.4% said that it was.

When asked if they believed the media and Islamic leaders who say that Islam is a religion of peace 95% of Australians surveyed said that they did not believe it.

87% believe the Islamophobia register was created to discourage criticism of Islam rather than protect Muslims against discrimination.

*100% of Australians surveyed said that not looking up to Muslims is not Islamophobic.*

### SAFA Report 2019

Over 90% said they believed the word Islamophobia is used to silence discussion on Islam

97% of Australians  
surveyed associate  
terrorism with Islam

- 97% of Australians surveyed associate terrorism with Islam
  - SAFA 2019
- Just 14% do *not* want a National Register that records Anti-Australian activities by Islamists.

## WHERE DOES ISLAMOPHOBIA – the WORD COME FROM?

The University of SA 2015 report cites with approval a report from Runnymede Trust. The Runnymede Trust is a left-wing think tank founded in 1968. The quoted Runnymede Trust report begins by describing the nature of anti-Muslim prejudice and draws a key distinction between closed views of Islam on the one hand and open views on the other.

Islamophobia is equated with closed views “Racial violence is all of a piece therefore with anti-Muslim prejudice.”

Yet the Uni SA questions show that when the questions are about “Muslims” and not about “Islam” just 6.6% agree they are uncomfortable with Muslim people.

This shows Australians know the difference between ordinary Aussie Muslims and the totalitarian ideology.

**The SAFA** survey is calculated to shed more light on the capacity of Australians to ignore media, Islamic propaganda and government officers who mislead them. Indeed, authorities mislead themselves when they assert that Australians do not know the difference between ordinary people and Islamists.

**The SAFA** survey seeks out what Australians think and feel about those important differences.

The UNISA asked no questions about how Australians feel about “Islam” the ideology, even though Islam and not just Muslims are an integral part of Runnymede’s definition. **The SAFA** results show that Australians know the difference.

The UNISA report has been criticized for using very small numbers to form its conclusions.

*There is a very significant question about the reliability of the results. When Religion was used as a measure of phobia Jews came out with a zero on levels 1,3,4 and 5. (100% level 2) But only two Jews were surveyed. This compares with those who followed Islam who registered 28.5% level 2 Islamophobia and 71.6% level 1 with 26 “Islam” people being surveyed.*

*In other words, those who identified as “Islam” according to the definitions in the report “hate themselves”*

Academic Jihad – Australian Cultural Suicide. Bolton. January 2016

So too there may be criticism of this SAFA report but readers can rest assured that the raw data is provided with no manipulation.

This report is issued as a draft in the hope that others will offer feed back to be considered for inclusion in the final report.



# ANNEXURES

## SAFA Questionnaire

## SAFA Tabled results

## References

Islamophobia Social Distance and the Fear of Terrorism in Australia.  
University of SA Preliminary Report.  
December 2015

Academic Jihad – Australian Cultural Suicide. Jan 2016 Bolton. – Critique of  
Islamophobia Social Distance and the Fear of Terrorism in Australia.

Right-wing extremism in Australia: the rise of the new radical right Geoff Dean , Peter Bella  
and Zarina Vakhitovab a School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University,  
Brisbane, Australia; b Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia  
The rise of right wing extremism October 2016.

Fear Mongering for Funding – 2016 Bolton – Critique of Right-wing extremism in Australia:

The Islamophobia Report. 2016

Centre for Islamic Studies and Civilisation, Charles Sturt University, Islamic Science and  
Research Academy, Diversity Council Australia, University of Western Australia, Alfred  
Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University, Public and Contextual  
Theology research Centre, Charles Sturt University, Just Media Advocacy.

Islamophobia Report – More Pseudo Academic Jihad. ,Bolton. July 2017 Critique of The  
Islamophobia Report 2016



SECURITY AND FREEDOM AUSTRALIA

**2018 SAFA Survey - Attitudes to Islamophobia**

State: Interview number [ ]

**1. Are you:**

[ ] Male.

[ ] Female.

**2. What's your age demographic?**

[Under 20] [20-30] [30-40] [40-50] [50-60] [60-70] [Over 70]

**3. Which option is closest to your employment situation?**

[ ] Self Employed

[ ] Employed

[ ] Unemployed

[ ] Student

[ ] Retired

**4. Which of the following is a race?**

[ ] Chinese

[ ] Christian

[ ] Muslim

**5. Which of the following is NOT a religion?**

☐ Arabian

☐ Islam

☐ Hindu

**6 Q. What do you think Islamophobia means?**

☐ Not liking Muslims

☐ An irrational fear of Islam

☐ There is no such thing

**7. Do you believe criticising Islam ideology should be regarded as Islamophobia?**

☐ No.

☐ Yes.

**8. Recently in Australia the Islamic group Hizbut-Tahrir called for the killing of all Jews. Is this hate speech?**

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

**9. The media and Islamic leaders often tell us Islam is a religion of peace, do you agree?**

☐ No.

☐ Yes.

**10. Do you think that not looking up to Muslims is Islamophobic?**

☐ No

☐ Yes

**11. Do you believe the word Islamophobia is used to:**

☐ Silence discussion on Islam.

☐ Improve social harmony.

**12. Is it right, that "looking the wrong way" at a Muslim wearing a face covering is enough to be recorded as an anti-Islamic incident?**

☐ No.

☐ Yes.

**13. Do you think the Islamophobia Register was created to:**

☐ Discourage criticism of Islam?

Or to;

☐ Protect Muslims against discrimination and attacks?

**14. Do you associate terrorism with Islam?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**15. Do you think we should establish a national register that records Anti-Australian activities by Islamists?**

☐ Yes.

☐ No.

☐ Unsure.

**THANK THEM FOR PARTICIPATING**

**Important - SAY to them:** "If you'd like a copy of the survey results I'll write down your email and we'll send it to you as soon as possible."

\*Respondent's email:.....

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## ISLAMOPHOBIA SURVEY 2018

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1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
123	2 121	6 127		140	15 149		4 131	26 151		4 116	22					17

Q. 8		Q. 9		Q. 10		Q. 11		Q. 12		Q. 13		Q. 14		Q. 15		
YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	A	B	NO	YES	A	B	YES	NO	YES	NO	UNSURE
123	2	121	6	127	0	140	15	149	4	131	26	151	4	116	22	17

