

Hijab and Abaya in College Campuses in the United States

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HYPOTHESES

- ✓ Increased knowledge of Islam is related to more positive attitudes of traditional dress.
- ✓ Increased knowledge of Islam is related to more positive attitudes of Islam overall.



PARTICIPANTS

- ❖ 50 Students
- ❖ 41 Women, 5 men and 4 no response
- ❖ Race
 - ❖ African American (N =33, 71.7 %)
 - ❖ Nigerian, (N= 3)
 - ❖ El Salvadorian (N =2)
 - ❖ Puerto Ricans (N =2)
 - ❖ Jamaican (N = 1)
 - ❖ Mexican (N = 1)
 - ❖ Dominican (N =1)
 - ❖ German (N = 1)
 - ❖ Bangladeshi (N=1)
 - ❖ Six participants indicated their race as Other.

MEASURES

- ❖ Knowledge of Islam, overall attitudes towards dress, and attitudes towards Islam was measured on a 16-item scale created by the researcher using a four-point scale ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. Higher scores indicate more knowledge of more positive attitudes towards Islam. Sample items include:
 - ❖ Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance (attitudes towards Islam)
 - ❖ I feel comfortable in a public space with Muslim women when they are wearing hijab and abaya. (attitudes towards Islamic dress)
 - ❖ I am aware of difference in headgear worn by Muslim women (Knowledge of Islamic dress)

RESULTS

Increased knowledge of Islam is related to more positive attitudes of traditional dress and Islam overall.

$r(40) = 0.50, p = .001$
Results are significant



Increased knowledge of Islam is related to more positive attitudes of Islam overall.

$r(40) = .48, p = .002$
Results are significant

DISCUSSION

- ❖ Poor knowledge of Islam is associated with Islamophobia, harassment, and religious prejudice.
- ❖ It is important to make sure students get the correct knowledge of Islam as a result there are more positive overall attitudes towards traditional dress and attitudes towards Islam.

