



I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim

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Muslim American women are the subject of endless discussions regarding their role in society, their veils as symbols of oppression or of freedom, their identity, their patriotism, their womanhood. Yet the voices and life experiences of Muslim American women themselves are rarely heard in the loud rhetoric surrounding the question of Muslims in America. Finally, in *I Speak for Myself*, 40 American women under the age of 40, share their experiences of their lives as Muslim women in America. While their commonality is faith and citizenship, their voices and their messages are very different.

Readers of *I Speak for Myself* are presented with a kaleidoscope of stories, artfully woven together around the central idea of limitlessness and individuality. A common theme linking these intimate self-portraits will be the way each woman uniquely defies labeling, simply by defining for herself what it means to be American and Muslim and female. Each personal story is a contribution to the larger narrative of life stories and life work of a new generation of Muslim women.

There are approximately six million Muslims living in the United States and over one billion around the world. While the events of 9/11 certainly engaged Americans with the religion of Islam, many enduring stereotypes continue to belittle the Muslim American experience; this often leads to a monolithic interpretation of Islam. Such a treatment is especially inappropriate when reflecting on the Muslim American identity, which is by far one of the most culturally, ethnically, and socially diverse of any in the Islamic world. Women of the Muslim community in America could be described as both patriots and practitioners (of faith). Their experiences call for a body of literature that reflects how they celebrate and live Islam in distinctive ways.

In the wake of the current rising tide of Islamophobia (see *Time Magazine*, Aug. 30, 2010), *I Speak for Myself* is a must read for Americans seeking understanding of Islam from young women who were all born in the USA.

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From reader reviews:

Anthony Harrison:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the publication untitled I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim can be great book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

India Mead:

In this age globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended to your account is I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim this guide consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The language styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some research when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book suited all of you.

Silvia Smedley:

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