

**A Reading about the  
"Islamophobia" phenomenon in the Western media**

**Prepared by**



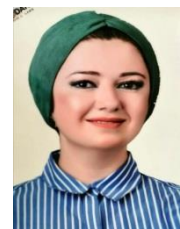
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## **Abstract**

The term of “Islamophobia” has become popular in the West to express the phenomenon of pathological fear of Islam. This phenomenon has historical and recent reasons. Its main features include insulting the message of Islam, raising suspicion of the prophecy of the Messenger of Allah Muhammad (peace be upon him), stirring up conflicts among Muslims and striving to occupy Islamic countries. Moreover, this phenomenon has passed from the West to the Westerners within our Islamic world.

This phenomenon should be faced by intensive efforts of the Islamic world to come up with a unified strategy, and the best way to confront this phenomenon is by reviving the shining aspects of the Islamic civilization.

The weakness and incompetence of the Arab media and shallowness of its content also have contributed to make American media dare on the Arabs and Muslims. Moreover, it is found that there is an official silence and Arab naiveté media mixed with the intended ignorance and a desire to avoid disagreement with the West for the fear of exploding political problems with their countries.

**Keywords:** Islamophobia-Western media -American cinema -Arab media – terrorism

## **Problem statement, aims and significance of the study:**

The problem of study lies with what Islam and the Islamic world face throughout history to this day; there are multiple classes of mutilation, repression, misrepresentation, and misinformation.

The study aims to identify the phenomenon of "Islam phobia" which has spread in Western culture and Western media and she fed Arab Muslims toward hatred of their religion, and how they were defending this reality by Arab media

## **We derive from this goal the following questions:**

1. What are the intellectual roots of Islamophobia?
2. What are the causes of hatred and hostility to Islam?
3. What is the relation between Islamophobia and contemporary Orientalism?
4. How did American cinema promote to the phenomenon of Islamophobia?
5. What is the difference between Western media and the Arab media in dealing with the phenomenon of Islamophobia?
- 6- What is the relationship between lobbyists and the pro-Israel lobby in promoting Islam phobia?

## **Significance of the Study**

1. This study is an additional attempt to supplement the Arabic library for the phenomenon of Islamophobia.

2. Identifying the extent of the relationship between Islamophobia and the recent terrorism issues.
3. Finding the extent of the conflict between the Islamic and Western worlds.
4. Investigating how "anti-Islam" affects the lives of Muslims in the West.
- 5- Showing the extent of the response of the Arab media and its interaction with anti-Islam movements.

### **The applied importance of research:**

Measuring the status of the phenomenon of Islamophobia in American cinema by analyzing some American films that have dealt with this phenomenon, with an indication of the impact of these films on Muslim immigrants in the West.

### **Limits of study:**

Temporal limits: This study is specified from (21-2-2020 to 21-4-2020)

Spatial limits: Western media and particularly the American media

Applied Limits: A sample of American films that dealt with the Islamic religion.

### **Data of the Study:**

The target preview method was used, so that several American films that have dealt with Islam will be discussed and contributed to the promotion of the phenomenon of Islamophobia.

### **Causes of hostility to Islam?**

- Ignorance of Islam

Adopting a negative stereotype for Muslims:

- Some poor application of Islam groups:
- The non-neutral media role:
- Coverage on the political failure of some governments:

### **American cinema and Islamophobia**

Western and American media, especially against Islam and Muslims, are waging an unannounced war using the various possibilities that may have such as cinema, a theater, or even graphics. Such media have always portrayed Muslims as either racist terrorists or backward illiteracy.

### **Examples of these films include:**

The film of “The Siege (2004)” which was produced in Hollywood, carries the spread of hostility and hatred for Muslims Among the broad audience, and incites hatred and contempt for Arabs and Muslims because they are simply terrorists.

The film “The American Sniper, 2014”, narrates the story of an American soldier who has killed a huge number of Iraqis, who if he had not killed them, they would have killed the American soldiers according to the events and dialogues in the film. Activists on Twitter began to monitor what people are writing about the movie after watching it. Some of the did not only express their admiration for the movie, but went further than this to express their desire to kill the Arabs.

### **Processors and recommendations proposed:**

To treat the phenomenon of Islamophobia, the current research therefore recommends:

1. Exposing and displaying the massacres committed against Muslims
2. Launching an international organization to defend Muslim communities abroad
3. Enhancing communication with the enlightened Western thinkers -
4. Translation of Islamic heritage
5. Activating the political and social roles of Muslim communities
6. Monitoring of Muslims Haters themselves
7. Get to know Islam on the part of its children first

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