

# The Rivers of Hope Anti-Islamophobia Workshop

#### **HOW TO BOOK A WORKSHOP**

- If you're interested in booking a workshop, please fill out the following online form: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GGXDQM5">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GGXDQM5</a> or contact Sidrah Ahmad at sidrahmay@gmail.com.
- If you have any questions before booking, please reach out to Sidrah Ahmad at <a href="mailto:sidrahmay@gmail.com">sidrahmay@gmail.com</a>.

### **ABOUT THE RIVERS OF HOPE COLLECTIVE**

- We are a grassroots group of young Muslim teachers, researchers, writers, artists, and change-makers.
- Our work is based upon the ground-breaking research project on Islamophobic violence faced by Muslim women in the GTA, which was completed by Sidrah Ahmad (M.A., B.Ed., OCT) at the University of Toronto in 2017. This research project received positive media coverage from the Toronto Star, CBC radio, OMNI Television, and other media outlets.
- We provide resources and education on Islamophobic violence, including the Rivers of Hope Toolkit, which can be found online at www.riversofhopetoolkit.ca.
- Most recently, we have developed a workshop for High School students and community
  organizations on Islamophobia. Our workshop empowers participants with knowledge,
  resources and tools to challenge and heal from Islamophobic violence and hate.

#### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

- The Rivers of Hope Workshop on Islamophobia is a free, one-hour, interactive workshop that engages High School students and community groups on the issue of Islamophobic violence and hate in a sensitive, thoughtful and informative way.
- The workshop content is based upon the research on Islamophobia and features the work of Muslim artists and activists, interactive activities, and a short, powerful video on the reality Islamophobia in High Schools



The Workshop features an interactive theatre activity to illustrate what Islamophobia looks like and how to address it

## **SAMPLE WORKSHOP OUTLINE**

- When you book a workshop, you can request that we focus in on a specific issue. The facilitator will adapt the workshop outline in order to meet your needs.
- A follow-up lesson plan, developed by a High School teacher, will be provided to you following the workshop, should you choose to use it in a subsequent class.

| Time                   | Topics  | Activities   |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 5 mins                 | <ul><li>Introductions</li><li>Land Acknowledgement</li><li>Ground Rules</li></ul>   | <ul><li>Facilitators speaking</li><li>PowerPoint</li></ul>   |
| 15 mins                | <ul> <li>Defining Islamophobia</li> <li>Understanding the "Double-Standard"</li> <li>Islamophobia and anti-Black racism</li> <li>Gendered Islamophobia</li> <li>Valuing LGBTQ+ Muslims</li> <li>Islamophobic Bullying and Violence</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Personal reflection activity</li> <li>Myth-busting interactive activity</li> <li>Facilitators provide comprehensive definitions and examples</li> <li>Group reflection activity to build empathy</li> </ul> |
| 10 mins                | Islamophobia in High Schools  | <ul> <li>Watch a short video on students' experiences of Islamophobia in High Schools</li> <li>Discussion of the video</li> </ul>  |
| 10 mins                | <ul> <li>How to be an ally</li> <li>How you can help someone who has been through Islamophobic bullying or violence</li> <li>Support resources/where to get help</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Facilitators share concrete suggestions</li> <li>Resource lists are shared in the PowerPoint and distributed to the class</li> </ul>  |
| 15 mins                | How to take action  | <ul> <li>Popular theatre exercise, based in a classroom setting</li> <li>Students are invited to identify Islamophobia in a skit and model how they would respond to it</li> </ul>                                   |
| 5 mins                 | <ul><li>Evaluation</li><li>Commitment to Action</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>Students are invited to fill out<br/>a commitment to action<br/>pledge</li> <li>Evaluation form</li> </ul>  |
| TOTAL TIME: 60 minutes |   |  |



