

RELIGIOUS IDENTITY POLITICIZED

*Analyzing the role of Muslim American religious
identity in U.S. politics*

LAYERED IDENTITIES RACE & IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES



- 51% of Muslims who are third-generation or higher identify as black
- 58% of Muslims in the U.S. are immigrants
- The largest share of Muslim American immigrants are Pakistani (9%) and the second largest are Iranian (6%)

THE FORMATIVE ELECTION YEARS

1996

Muslim American associations begin creating coalitions and building political organizing power through fundraising

2000

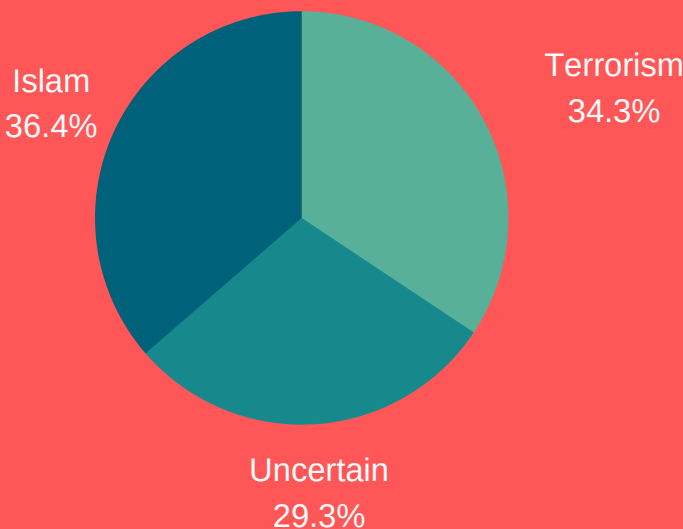
George W. Bush is elected president for his first term with the support of a majority of Muslim Americans

2004

Of those who voted for Bush in 2000, 15.9% indicated that they would vote for him again in 2004. Consequently the Muslim American vote went Democratic

THE WAR ON TERROR

Q: Is the government in a war against terrorism or Islam? (2004)



- 2001: The Muslim community was solidly behind the government
- 2004: Roughly 44% of Muslims were willing to express skepticism
- During this same period, the most devout Muslims moved from being the group with the most confident in the government to the least

THE COMMUNITY AS A RESOURCE



Those who follow Islam more actively, are 34% more likely to vote than those who do not



During electoral cycles community organizations have engaged in voter drives and other methods of providing political resources



Muslims who live closer to other Muslims are more likely to civically engage and vote than those who do not live close to other Muslims

9/11:THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS



Despite discrepancies in knowledge regarding foreign and domestic policy, approximately 41% of Arab Americans have heard of the Patriot Act by name.



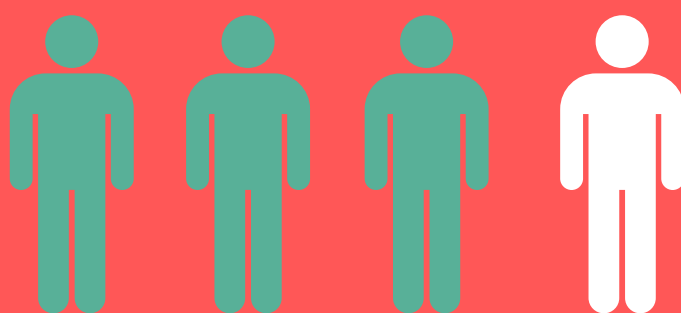
In a 2004 study, 91% of Muslim Americans surveyed disagreed that the War in Iraq was important for U.S. national security

THE 2016 ELECTION & RESENTMENT TOWARDS MUSLIMS



- Resentment towards Muslim Americans (MAR) was associated with an 8%-16% increase in the probability of support for Trump
- MAR was a predictor for the likelihood of supporting Trump among both minorities and whites.

LOOKING FORWARD: POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION



More than three out of four Muslims (76%) cast ballots in the 2018 midterms for a Democrat, while 13% voted for a Republican



Today, significantly more American Muslims lean Democrat than Republican (66% vs.13%)