



# IDENTITY POLITICS

GROUP IDENTITY IN AMERICA



## DEFINITION



Politics in which groups of people having a particular racial, religious, ethnic, social, or cultural identity tend to promote their own specific interests or concerns without regard to the interests or concerns of any larger political group



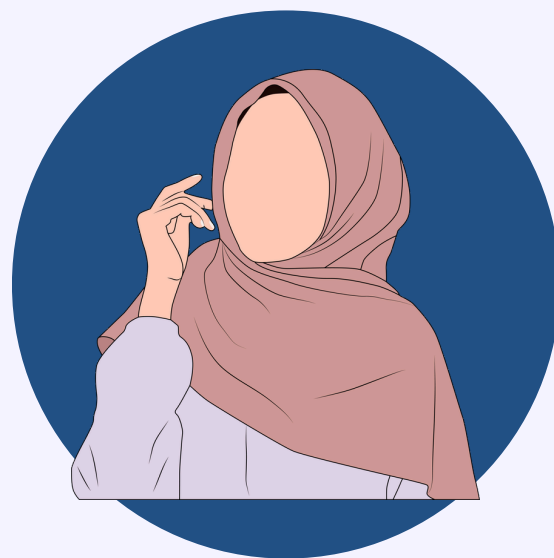
## ORIGINS

The term was coined by Barbara Smith and other activists in 1977



## CIVIL RIGHTS

The political and social unrest of the 1960's American South, such as sit-ins and lynching laid the foundation for the mass formation of group identity in America.



## RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS

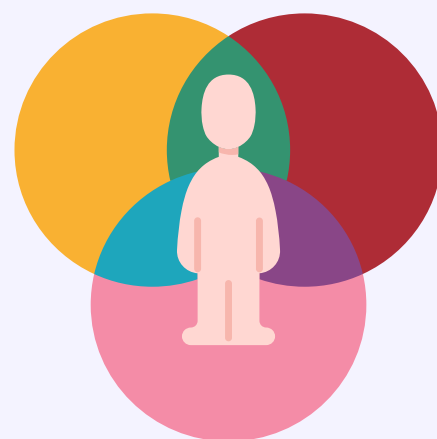
Muslims, particularly those in America, experience high levels of Islamophobia and much of this can be attributed to the 9/11 attacks. As a result, Muslim communities across America have come together to bond over their troubles.

## THEORIES



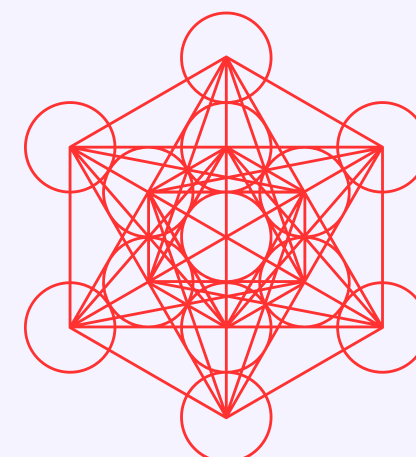
### INTERSECTIONALITY

Intersectionality refers to the study of overlapping discriminations



### GROUP CONSCIOUSNESS

Group consciousness in political science refers to the phenomenon in which members within a social identity group become aware of how their group identification impacts their position in society, and therefore come together to pursue collective action to advocate for their shared interests.



### SOCIAL IDENTITY THEORY

Social Identity Theory (SIT), a social psychological theory developed by Henri Tajfel and John Turner, posits that individuals derive a significant part of their identity, their "social identity," from their membership in social groups



# EXAMPLES OF IDENTITY POLITICS

**KAMALA HARRIS**



## **RACE AND ETHNICITY**

Harris used her Black-South Asian identity to mobilize voters

**DONALD TRUMP**



## **IMMIGRATION**

He used nationalism to push an anti-immigration agenda to gather support

## **HOW DOES IT SHAPE POLITICS?**



- **DACA**
- **Muslim Ban,**
- **Border Wall**
- **Political Polarization**
- **LGBTQ Rights**



## **SOURCES**

- [HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/TOPIC/INTERSECTIONALITY](https://www.britannica.com/topic/intersectionality)
- [HTTPS://WWW.SIMPLYPSYCHOLOGY.ORG/SOCIAL-IDENTITY-THEORY.HTML](https://www.simplypsychology.org/social-identity-theory.html)
- [HTTPS://WWW.MERRIAM-  
WEBSTER.COM/Dictionary/IDENTITY%20POLITICS](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/identity%20politics)
- [HTTPS://WWW.THEGUARDIAN.COM/COMMENTISFREE/2020/FEB/10/IDEN  
TITY-POLITICS-BERNIE-SANDERS-ENDORSEMENT](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/feb/10/identity-politics-bernie-sanders-endorsement)