

## ABSTRACT

### WHERE ARE THE REAL ARABS AND MUSLIMS? A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF THE PORTRAYALS OF ARABS AND MUSLIMS IN ONLINE PRINT AND VIDEO NEWS REPORTS

The present study examined the dominant portrayals of online news media coverage of Arabs and Muslims. Online video and print stories published on ABC, NBC, and CBS's websites were analyzed to determine the portrayals of Arabs and Muslims. The purpose of the content analysis was to investigate how online network news frames Arab and Muslim men and women within visual and written discourse and determine whether this research replicates popular trends of media coverage of those groups. A total of 119 reports published on ABC, NBC, and CBS's websites were content analyzed during 14 days of examination. Consistent with popular media images, research results showed Arabs and Muslims were most frequently associated with war, conflict, radicalism, terrorism, and violence. Arab and Muslim women were almost nonexistent in the news media coverage. When present, women were portrayed as victims or targets of violence committed by other Arabs or Muslims.

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