

Why are So Many Muslims Angry at America? **Compiled by Karen Sue Nyquist**

Christians have a wide variety of opinions on many subjects, so no one person can speak for them. Likewise, Muslims also have many differing perspectives. However, one thing is obvious, many Muslims are angry at America. Why?

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From 2006 - 2011, Steven Kull conducted surveys and focus groups from the Middle East, North Africa, and the Asian Pacific to find the answers. Not all Muslims are angry at America, but a majority around the world are and usually for the same four reasons. The closer you get to the Middle East the more the anger intensifies.

Because America is considered the leader the western world, many Muslims' anger and resentment for the oppressions and injustices of the other nations of the western civilization are often projected onto the United States. (2) They point out our recent military actions.

Many Muslims are angry because they believe that the United States:

- 1. Oppresses the Muslim World** - "They believe the U.S. coercively dominates the Muslim world – often through the threat of military aggression – to shape it in America's interests," . . . to maintain control of Middle East oil, and it "controlled even their own countries' elected officials." (1) They resent the colonization by some western countries of Muslim peoples, (yet the US has not done so except for a brief period in the Philippines). (2) Many resent that infidels rule over Muslims in many nations of the world, not allowing them to live by the standards of the Qur'an and Sharia Law. (2)
- 2. Threatens Islam** - Many believe the US has policies that threaten Islam. (1) Many, but not all, believe that the the western world and America are enemies of Allah and Islam and must be defeated. (2) If Islam is the true religion, then America and the West's cultural influences on Islam, their culture, and their laws must be stopped. (2) They resent the efforts of missionaries to convert Muslims. (2) The lure of America's capitalism, materialism, and democracy threatens the traditional ways of thought. (2) Secularism, the separation of church and state, threatens the theocratic government ideals of the fundamentalists.
- 3. Supports Israel Unfairly** - Many see America favoring Israel in the region. (1) "A 2003 Pew Global Attitudes poll found that enormous majorities in Arab and Muslim countries (at least 90% in Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Morocco, and Lebanon) believed the U.S. favors Israel too much. Although our most recent survey did not ask this same question, it did find strongly negative views towards Jews in the Arab world. For example, no respondents in either Lebanon or Jordan had a favorable view of Jews (on the other hand, 91% of Lebanese and 58% of Jordanians had a favorable view of Christians)." (3). Many believe **America's support for Israel is integral toward American domination over Islam and the Middle East.** (4)

Surprisingly, there are many Muslims are who are very disappointed in America.

- 1.** "... they admired the values America once embodied – **fairness, equality, self-determination, respect for human rights**" but they feel that "at some point in a linear timeline, the U.S. had turned on those values, and on its responsibility as a world superpower to promote them abroad." (1)

(1) "Why Are the World's Muslims so Mad at America?", by Emily Badger, Updated: June 14, 2017/Original: May 19, 2011. <https://psmag.com/.amp/social-justice/why-are-the-worlds-muslims-so-mad-at-america-31383>

(2) "The Roots of Muslim Rage - Why so many Muslims deeply resent the West, and why their bitterness will not easily be mollified", by Bernard Lewis, The Atlantic. <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1990/09/the-roots-of-muslim-rage/304643/>

(3) "Arab and Muslim Perceptions of the United States," by Tom Rosentiel and Andrew Kohut www.pewresearch.org › 2005/11/10 › arab-and-muslim.

(4) "Why Muslims are Still Mad at America," by Stephen Kull, September 5, 2011. globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com › 2011/09/05 › whymuslimsarestillmadatamerica