Network Against Islamophobia

Islamophobia and Israel

Goal: To gain a deeper understanding about the relationship between Islamophobia and Israel politics, particularly how it is promoted and manifests itself.

- FAQ handout on U.S. Islamophobia and Israel Politics
- Handout #1: Introducing the Three Issue Areas on Islamophobia, the U.S., and Israel Politics
- Handout #2: Islamophobia and Israel's Anti-Palestinian Politics
- Handout #3: Islamophobia in the U.S. and the U.S. "War on Terror"
- Handout #4: Key Concept: The "Clash of Civilizations"
- Handout #5: The "Good Muslim-Bad Muslim" Paradigm and the Israel Litmus Test
- Handout #6: Following Where the Money Goes (*This handout will not be for the discussion but is for participants to have.)

I. The Connections and Intersections between Islamophobia and Israel Politics (10 minutes)

Facilitators:
Using handout #1, present overview on handout #2 (a-d): Islamophobia, the US, and Israel Politics, with clarifying questions on the three outlined areas:

a) Islamophobia and Israel's anti-Palestinian politics
b) Islamophobia in the U.S. and the U.S. "war on terror"
c) the "good Muslim-bad Muslim" paradigm and the Israel litmus test

II. Three Key Areas (25 minutes)

Facilitators:
Divide participants into three groups for an in-depth discussion. Each group will have one of the three issues to address, and can spend more time on their own with the other areas. Have participants choose the issue they are most interested in. Each group will be given a piece of chart paper and will be asked to write their issue in the center and organize their thoughts in a web around it. Ask each group to read the description of their issue, discuss the following questions about it, and add their notes to the chart paper:
- What are your experiences with this issue?
- What questions or challenges does this issue raise for you?
- What might be the consequences (politically and to your work) of the issue you are discussing?
- What else would you want to know in relation to this issue?

Groups:
Use the chart paper and take notes on the conversation and responses, forming a web of ideas, questions and reflections around the issue you are discussing.

After group conversations, come back to the large group and share key points from the conversation using the chart paper.

III. Closing (10 minutes)

Facilitator:
Guide discussion on questions, next steps, comments or concerns. With the group, think about concrete ideas and plans for continued work or thoughts about how to engage with Islamophobia. Thank everyone for participating and share additional resources.