SensiClass: Tackling sensitive topics in the classroom Module: The Muslim veil in Central and Eastern Europe perceptions

You have met peers from different regions of the world. What similarities and what differences did you noticed about wearing the female veil? What similarities or differences regarding religion, history, regions of the world did you notice?

Write your ideas on cards and then discuss your views in pairs/groups. **Similarities Differences**

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"Hi! My name is Adilah and I'm from Namibia. I would like to tell you about doek, the traditional Namibian veil. In South Africa, the Afrikaans word doek, which meaning cloth, is used for the popular head covering used by most women in rural areas."



Adilah 17 years old Windhoek, Namibia "Hi! My name is Alicja and I'm from Poland. I would like to tell you about my veil. This wedding veil is a symbol of virginity of the bride. In addition to symbolizing purity, the veil is an element of the Polish folklore. Women often decide to wear it in respect to tradition but also as wedding fashion trends dictate."

Alicja 18 years old Lublin, Poland



"Hi! My name is Fatima and I'm from the United States of America. I would like to tell you about my lack of headscarf. I am a Muslim, but I do not wear any Islamic veil. I follow a simple principle in my life: "There is no compulsion in religion!"

There is no compaision in religi

(Quran, 2:256)



18 years old Chicago, United States of America





"Hi! My name is Nabila and I'm from Indonesia, which is the largest Muslim country in the world. I would like to tell you about my veil – jilbab. Under Indonesian national and regional law, female head-covering is entirely optional and not obligatory."

Nabila

17 years old Jakarta, Indonesia

"Hi! My name is Rosita and I'm a nun from Argentina. I would like to tell you about my veil, which is a part of religious habit. It is worn pinned over the coif head coverings. Some veils can be worn down to cover the face or up to expose it. The veil sometimes includes a white underveil. The colour of the veil is determined by the colour of the habit of the order to which a nun belongs and by her status."



20 years old Buenos Aires, Argentina





"Hil My name is Priti and I'm from India. I would like to tell you about Ghoonghat, the traditional Hindu veil. Facial veiling is not sanctioned in Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism but some sections of the society advocated the use of the veil for married women, which came to be known as Ghoonghat. It has been both romanticized and criticized in religious and folk literature."

Priti

17 years old New Delhi, India

