



HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND AFGHAN WOMEN'S APPEARANCE: THE CONFLATION OF GENDER, ETHNICITY, AND RELIGION

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The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview and critical analysis of human rights violations that are based on Afghan women's appearance. Though subtle, other body and dress practices remain underreported as human right violations against women.

The research data include three major sources of information: archival material, electronic retrieved material, and verbal data. The archival material covers ethnographic data of Afghan women and Islamic literature. A review of electronic print media focuses on the human right issues addressed by two opposing groups: the Feminist Majority Foundation and the Taliban Islamic Movement. The verbal data documents informal interview conducted in Afghan refugee camps in Peshawar, Pakistan among refugee Afghan women.

The research is useful because the data collected from these three different sources and perspectives and its analysis suggests their divergent goals and objectives for Afghan women. The research results add to the textile and clothing scholarship of Afghan women. But more importantly the research is of value to those who advocate for the equitable treatment, resource management, and education and economic sustainable programs for immigrant and refugee populations.