

Research on Marital Relationships and/or Conflict in the Muslim Community

Assalamu Alaykum! My name is Nada Ibrahim and I am currently conducting a large-scale PhD research project under the **Griffith Islamic Research Unit**, Griffith University that investigates *Attitudes, Beliefs and Experiences of Marital Relationships and/or Conflict in the South East Queensland Muslim community*, supervised by Prof Paul Mazerolle and Dr Mohamad Abdalla.

As part of the research, 1400 **confidential** and **anonymous** questionnaires were sent out in 3 different languages - Arabic, Bosnian and English - to members of the South East Queensland Muslim community through a random sampling process. These questionnaires were sent out through various mailing lists; directly via some organisations to maintain the confidentiality and privacy of its members, as well as through mailing lists that were originally compiled through the electoral roll and *whitepages* listings.

This research is about an important aspect of marriage in the Muslim community. Due to the lack of research on the marital needs of the Australian Muslim community, services and programs that are culturally and religiously-appropriate are largely absent. To address the issue, it is necessary to solicit your views and experiences to inform policies and programs that meet the needs of the Muslim community in South East Queensland.

The findings of this research will inshaAllah be beneficial for a number of different service providers of our community - including social agencies, counsellors, educators, social workers and Imaams. It will also inform policies to ensure greater understanding of the needs of the Muslim community. Educational as well as training programs will be informed through the research findings that ensure the sanctity of marriages and maintains the structures of Muslim families. My work with the Muslim community in the past 8 years has highlighted the need to involve the Muslim community in generating workable solutions.

The questionnaires are designed to be **anonymous** and **confidential** to safeguard your identity. Every view is **important** to design services that are informed by YOUR voice. Your responses will be safeguarded and grouped together with the responses of others. Only the research team will see the individual **anonymous** questionnaires. The data collected from this survey will be reported in general terms and will **not** involve any identifying features. All data will be managed and stored securely in accordance with university ethical guidelines.

I encourage you to fill the questionnaire and share YOUR valuable views that are of extreme importance to me in identifying the marital needs of OUR South East Queensland Muslim community. Together, I believe, we can move forward in generating positive solutions to meet the Muslim community's marital needs inshaAllah.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact me on (07) **373 56992** or email me on n.ibrahim@griffith.edu.au. Alternatively you may contact Dr Mohamad Abdalla on (07) 373 56983 or Prof Paul Mazerolle on (07) 373 56994.

For further information about my research you may refer to the following link: <http://www.griffith.edu.au/arts-languages-criminology/key-centre-ethics-law-justice-governance/our-rhd-students/nada-ibrahim>