

MUSLIM WOMEN'S NEEDS SURVEY, 2005

GENERAL

1. Please enter the name of the city where you live _____

2. Enter the FIRST THREE DIGITS of your postal code _____

A. PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

1. In the last FIVE YEARS, did you ever vote in a

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. federal election | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. provincial election | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. municipal or local election | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. If you did not vote in the 2004 federal election, what was the main reason?

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a. I did not care, I was not interested | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. I was not aware that it was the last day to vote | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. I did not know where to vote | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. My name was not on the voters list | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. I did not know I was eligible to vote | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. I was ill or out of town | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. My vote was meaningless as I knew which party would win | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. I did not like any of the candidates or political parties | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. I was too busy with family or business or work | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. I did not have transportation to go to the polling station | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k. I think voting in Canadian elections is un-Islamic | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| l. Candidates or parties did not raise issues of my interest | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| m. I do not trust politicians | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| n. Other Please specify ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3. In the last 12 MONTHS, did you ever: (Please check as many as apply)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a. participate in a demonstration or rally for any cause | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. take part in a boycott | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. sign a petition | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. write a letter or article in a newspaper (including those not published) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. appear in a radio or TV program to discuss an issue | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. write or telephone your federal, provincial or municipal representative | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. none of the above activities | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4. In the 2004 federal election, how much chance was there that your vote would make a difference in *deciding the winning candidate in your riding*?

- Good Some None

5. How often do your family, friends or people with whom you associate discuss current world and Canadian events?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Not at All

6. If you were asked, could you name your

- a. Member of federal parliament Yes No
- b. Member of provincial parliament Yes No
- c. City councillor Yes No

7. Do you think by voting Muslims strengthen the voice of their community in Canada?

- Yes No Maybe

8. Which of the following statements is closest to your views?

- a. Voting is the *religious and civic duty* of Muslim Canadians
- b. Voting is the *civic duty* of Muslim Canadians
- c. Voting is *a choice*, not a duty

9. How important were the following to you in the 2004 federal election as a source of information about candidates, their positions, etc. Rank each source, using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 IS VERY IMPORTANT and 5 IS NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL.

- a. Internet (exclude Muslim web sites and e-mails from Muslim organizations)
1 2 3 4 5
- b. TV, radio and newspapers
1 2 3 4 5
- c. Muslim organizations (including their web sites and e-mails)
1 2 3 4 5
- d. Visits to Islamic centres (mosques, *imambargah*, *jamatkhana*)
1 2 3 4 5
- e. Material sent by political parties
1 2 3 4 5
- f. A male member of your family
1 2 3 4 5
- g. Participation in political meetings
1 2 3 4 5

10. Do you intend to vote in the next:

- a. federal election
Yes No Maybe
- b. provincial election
Yes No Maybe
- c. municipal election
Yes No Maybe

11. Were you eligible to vote in the 2004 federal election?

- (Note: Canadian citizens age 18 years and over at the time of election can vote)
Yes No

B. DISCRIMINATION AND UNFAIR TREATMENT

1. In the last five years, do you feel that you have experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly by others in Canada because of your ethnicity, culture, race, skin colour, accent or religion? (Note: Discrimination may happen when people are treated unfairly because they are seen as being different from others)

Yes No

2. How often did you experience such discrimination or unfair treatment?

Often Sometimes Rarely

3. For which reason or reasons do you feel that you have experienced discrimination or unfair treatment? PLEASE SELECT ALL THAT ARE APPLICABLE. Was it because of:

- a. your ethnicity
- b. your race or skin colour
- c. your language or accent
- d. your religion
- e. your gender

4. In which place or situation did you experience discrimination or unfair treatment? PLEASE SELECT ALL THAT ARE APPLICABLE. Was it:

- a. at work
- b. when applying for a job
- c. when applying for a promotion
- d. On the street
- e. In a store, bank or restaurant
- f. When dealing with the police or courts
- g. Somewhere else. Please specify _____

5. Have you personally experienced a change in discrimination or unfair treatment over the last five years? Has it:

Increased Decreased Remained more or less unchanged

6. In the last five years, have any crimes been committed against you in Canada? (Crimes include offences such as theft, robbery, assault, sexual assault, break and entry, fraud, and vandalism. (Please include it in your response even if you did not report it to the police).

Yes No

7. Do you believe that any of the crimes committed against you in the last five years could be considered a hate crime? (Note: Hate crimes are defined as crimes motivated by the offender's bias, prejudice or hate based on the victim's race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or any other similar factor.

Yes No

8. Do you believe that this crime was committed against you because of:

- a. your ethnicity or culture
 - b. your race or skin colour
 - c. your language or accent
 - d. your religion
 - e. or for some other reason Please specify _____
-

C. SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

1. Using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1= VERY STRONG AND 5 = NOT STRONG at all, how would you describe your sense of belonging to your:

- a. Neighbourhood where you live
1 2 3 4 5
- b. Your ethnic or cultural group
1 2 3 4 5
- c. Your religious group
1 2 3 4 5
- d. Canada
1 2 3 4 5
- e. Country of your origin or ancestors
1 2 3 4 5

2. How many of your close friends would you say are Muslims

- a. All of them
- b. Most of them
- c. About half of them
- d. A few of them
- e. None of them

3. Do your parents or parents-in-law live with you?

Yes No

4. If your parents or parents-in-law do not live with you, do they live elsewhere in Canada?

Yes No

5. In the LAST THREE MONTHS, how many new people did you meet outside of work or school, you intend to stay in contact with?

- a. more than five
- b. fewer than five
- c. none

6. Would you say that you know:

- a. Most of the people in your neighbourhood?
- b. Many of the people in your neighbourhood?
- c. A few of the people in your neighbourhood?
- d. Nobody else in your neighbourhood?

7. How often do you go to an Islamic centre (mosque, imambargah, jamatkhana, etc).

- a. at least once a week
- b. at least once a month
- c. at least 3 times a year
- d. once or twice a year
- e. Not Applicable (N/A)

8. How often does your Islamic centre (mosque, imambargah, jamatkhana, etc) offer or organize activities of social or recreational nature for the YOUTH.

- a. at least once a week
- b. at least once a month
- c. at least 3 times a year
- d. once or twice a year
- e. none at all
- f. Don't Know

9. How often does your Islamic centre (mosque, imambargah, jamatkhana, etc) offer or organize any activities of social or recreational nature for the SENIORS.

- a. at least once a week
- b. at least once a month
- c. at least 3 times a year
- d. once or twice a year
- e. none at all
- f. Don't Know

10. How important is it, in order to create a community spirit among Muslims, that Islamic centres (mosques, imambargahs, jamatkhanas, etc) make all people feel welcome?

Very important Important Not important

11. How welcome do you feel at your Islamic centre (mosque, imambargah, jamatkhana)

Very welcome Welcome Not welcome

12. How adequate are the facilities in your Islamic centre (mosque, imambargah, jamatkhana, etc) for young people of both sexes to interact to facilitate a relationship leading to marriage. Use a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 IS ADEQUATE and 5 IS NOT ADEQUATE at all

1 2 3 4 5

13. Using a scale of 1 to 5, how comfortable or uncomfortable would you feel if your DAUGHTER OR SISTER was going to marry someone: (1 is very comfortable; 5 is very uncomfortable)

- a. who is a Muslim and from the same ethnic group as you
1 2 3 4 5
- b. who is a Muslim and from a different ethnic group
1 2 3 4 5
- c. who converts to Islam
1 2 3 4 5
- d. who is from among the people of the Book
1 2 3 4 5
- e. who is a non-Muslim (other than among people of the Book)
1 2 3 4 5

14. Using a scale of 1 to 5, how comfortable or uncomfortable would you feel if your SON OR BROTHER was going to marry someone: (1 is very comfortable; 5 is very uncomfortable)

- a. who is a Muslim and from the same ethnic group as you
1 2 3 4 5
- b. who is a Muslim and from a different ethnic group
1 2 3 4 5
- c. who converts to Islam
1 2 3 4 5
- d. who is from among the people of the Book
1 2 3 4 5
- e. who is a non-Muslim (other than among people of the Book)
1 2 3 4 5

15. Are you a member of, or do you attend events organized by, any of the following types of organizations? CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY

- a. Religion affiliated groups (e.g. interfaith groups)
- b. Professional associations including union membership
- c. Non-profit, charitable organizations (excluding religion affiliated organizations)
- d. Ethnic organizations (excluding religious affiliated groups)
- e. Cultural groups (heritage society, genealogical society, film society, dance troupe)
- f. Hobby groups (book club, gardening club, stamp collectors association, etc)
- g. School, neighbourhood, or community-associated groups
(e.g., block parents, alumni association, school volunteer)
- h. Support groups or social service organizations
- i. Political party
- j. Other Please specify _____
- k. I am not a member of any of the above types of organizations

16. How often do you attend meetings organized by the group (s) identified above

- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Not applicable

17. In the last one year, did you do any volunteer work for:

- a. Muslim organizations
Yes No
- b. Non-Muslim organizations
Yes No

18. Do you have children who are of:

- a. pre-school age (under 6 years of age)
Yes No
- b. school age (6 to 18 years old)
Yes No

19. Please choose ONLY ONE of the following options:

I would like my children

- a. to grow up as Muslim and retain their parents' culture
- b. to grow up as Muslim and adopt and adapt good things from both their parents' culture and the Canadian culture

20. In the LAST FIVE YEARS, how has your involvement with non-Muslim organizations such as inter-faith groups, food banks, changed?

- Increased Decreased remained the same

21. If your involvement with non-Muslim groups *did not increase*, have you become more or less interested in getting involved?

- More interested Less interested No change
-

D. LABOUR MARKET PARTICIPATION

1. Which of the following categories best describes your current employment status:

- a. Working full-time (35 hours or more a week)
- b. Working part-time (working less than 35 hours a week)
- c. Self-employed
- d. Holding two jobs or doing more than one shift at the same job
- e. On maternity or paternity leave
- f. Full-time homemaker
- g. Full-time homemaker and attending school
- h. Unemployed, looking for work
- i. Retired
- j. Full-time student
- k. Working part-time and attending school

2. If you do not work full-time outside the home and are not looking for a job, what is the main reason:

- a. your family responsibilities keep you busy
- b. your religious beliefs
- c. your volunteer work keeps you occupied
- d. you looked for a job for a long time and then gave up
- e. Other Please specify _____

3. In the last ONE MONTH, who did most of the housework work in your household?

- a. You
- b. Your spouse
- c. Your parents
- d. Other relatives
- e. Household help
- f. You and your spouse share it more or less equally

4. In your experience, what are the main barriers to finding a job that fits your qualifications? Please CHECK THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIERS.

- a. Lack of evaluation and recognition of foreign credentials and experience
- b. Proficiency in English
- c. Proficiency in French
- d. Proficiency in both English and French
- e. Lack of knowledge about the Canadian culture
- f. Workplace practices
- g. Lack of Canadian work experience
- h. Racial discrimination
- i. Anti-Muslim feeling
- j. Union rules and regulations
- k. Lack of uniformity in rules between provincial regulatory bodies
- l. Employers not fully engaged in hiring immigrants
- m. Employers are looking for young people rather than experienced workers
- n. Lack of security clearance
- o. Lack of recognition for foreign work experience
- p. Employers raising the level of education or training required for the position
- q. Standardized testing which all applicants for any position must undergo but which is not necessarily related to the skills for the job
- r. Employers benefit from under-employing people

5. Where did you obtain your highest degree or certificate

- a. Canada
- b. United States
- c. Germany, France, the U.K. (United Kingdom)
- d. Other please specify the country _____

6. Did you upgrade your education and skills since you came to Canada?

- Yes No

7. Are you the only income earner in the family?

Yes No

8. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: *A working mother can establish as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work outside the home.*

strongly agree
agree
disagree
strongly disagree

9. Please indicate below the occupation in which you are working and the occupation for which you were trained.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| a. Clerk, including sales clerk, salespersons and cashiers | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Clerical and sales supervisor | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Manager | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Teachers and professors | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Scientists and engineers | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Secretaries | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Child care and home support workers | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. Administrative positions | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. Physicians and surgeons | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. Nurse supervisors, registered nurses, technologists, etc | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k. Judges, lawyers, psychologists, social workers | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| l. chefs and cooks | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| m. Senior management occupations | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
| n. Other. Please specify ----- | Trained for <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently working <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

E. SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEMOGRAPHICS

1. In which of following age groups do you fall?

- a. Under 18 years
b. 18-24 years
c. 25-34 years
d. 35-44 years
e. 45-54 years
f. 55-64 years
g. 65-74 years
h. 75 years and above

2. Were you born in Canada

Yes No

3. What is your current marital status:

- a. Single (never married)
- b. Married
- c. Separated
- d. Divorced
- e. Widowed
- f. Other please specify _____

4. If you were born outside Canada, when did you come here?

- a. Between 2001 and 2005
- b. Between 1996 and 2000
- c. Between 1991 and 1995
- d. Between 1980 and 1990
- e. Before 1980

5. Are you a Canadian citizen?

- Yes No

6. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

- a. Some high school
- b. Completed high school
- c. Completed post secondary -- community college, technical college, etc
- d. Some university but no degree
- e. Bachelor's degree
- f. Master's degree (M.A.; M.Sc; M. Phil; M. Litt)
- g. Master's degree (profession-specific such as MBA; M.Ed.; LL.M; MBBS, MD, M.Eng.)
- h. Doctorate (Ph.D. LL.D., D.Litt., etc.)

7. Please estimate in which of the following groups does your household annual income fall (INCLUDE INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES pension, old age security, salary, children's allowance, dividends, etc. RECEIVED BY ALL PEOPLE IN THE HOUSEHOLD)

- a. Less than \$10,000
- b. \$10,000 - \$20,000
- c. \$21,000 - \$30,000
- d. \$31,000 - \$40,000
- e. \$41,000 - \$50,000
- f. \$51,000 - \$75,000
- g. \$76,000 - \$100,000
- h. Over \$100,000

8. Which one of the following groups best describes YOUR (excluding all other members of your household) annual income?

- a. Less than \$10,000
- b. \$10,000 - \$20,000
- c. \$21,000 - \$30,000
- d. \$31,000 - \$40,000
- e. \$41,000 - \$50,000
- f. \$51,000 - \$75,000
- g. \$76,000 - \$100,000
- h. Over \$100,000

9. Have you taken or are you currently taking ESL?

Yes

No

10. Do you have an Internet connection at home?

Yes

No

11. Do you have a Canadian driver's license?

Yes

No