

SUAD JOSEPH LAB: Media Project  
Representing Muslims and Islam in the New York Times: 1850 – 2016.

Media Project Abstract: The Middle East and Muslim Women in U.S. Media  
Representations

Gizem Basar

UC Davis Undergraduate Research Conference

University of California, Davis

2/7/14

My research is geared towards questioning the representation of the Middle East in the *New York Times* (NYT) in the years 1920-1929. The data revealed a pattern of “othering” of the Middle East and its natives in comparison to Western superiority. While most scholars expect the NYT, considered a liberal, unbiased media outlet in the U.S., to be objective my research shows otherwise. This project is important because my research has the potential to raise awareness and reframe the NYT. My work is grounded in Edward Said’s *Covering Islam*, which explores the representation of Islam in the modern Western media. The research was conducted through an archival search using ProQuest. 3279 articles were examined and analyzed relating to the term “Arab” in the NYT from the years 1920-1929. This project is part of a larger project analyzing 150 years of the NYT conducted in the lab of Professor Suad Joseph.