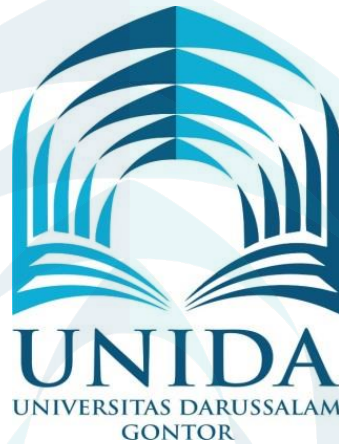


John L. Esposito on Islamophobia



By:

Malika Shafari Hidayatika

NIM. 42.2021.215.095

DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RELIGIONS

FACULTY OF USHULUDDIN

UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR-PONOROGO

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JOHN L. ESPOSITO ON ISLAMOPHOBIA

THESIS

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In Partial Fulfillment of Requirement

For the Bachelor Degree

In the Department of Comparative Study of Religions

By:

Malika Shafari Hidayatika

42.2021.215.095

Supervisor:

Dr. Asep Awaludin, M.Ag.

NIDN: 0703108304

DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RELIGIONS

FACULTY OF USHULUDDIN

UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR-PONOROGO

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ABSTRAK

ISLAMOPHOBIA PERSPEKTIF JOHN L. ESPOSITO

Malika Shafari Hidayatika

422021215095

Islamophobia telah mencapai kulminasinya dalam dua decade terakhir terlebih setelah peristiwa 11 September 2001, yaitu memberikan dampak negative yang signifikan terhadap umat Islam, terutama di negara-negara Barat di mana mereka merupakan kelompok minoritas. Seorang orientalis, John L. Esposito memiliki pandangan unik mengenai isu tersebut, yaitu, bahwa ia berpendapat Islam sebagai agama yang tidak mendukung kekerasan dan bahkan menolak prinsip tersebut, Esposito juga menggarisbawahi bahwa Islamophobia terjadi kerap kali dikaitkan untuk kepentingan politik, dan juga peran media dalam membentuk persepsi public tentang Islam yang sering kali menyoroti tindakan ekstremis tanpa memberikan konteks yang lebih luas tentang ajaran Islam yang damai.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan pemikiran John L. Esposito tentang Islamophobia dan menganalisis berbagai Upaya yang dilakukan oleh John L. Esposito dalam menanggapi isu tersebut dalam rangka harmonisasi kehidupan sosial Masyarakat, khususnya pada dinamika kehidupan sosial di Barat.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan filosofis untuk mendalami pandangan John L. Esposito terhadap fenomena Islamophobia yang menyebar di Barat. data dikumpulkan melalui analisis data konten dan literatur yang disajikan oleh media serta kebijakan public di Barat, serta analisis dokumen terkait. Pendekatan ini bertujuan untuk menentukan landasan pemikiran yang jelas dan tepat dalam pemahaman tentang stigma dan stereotip yang menyebar atas nama Islam.

Hasil dari penelitian mengungkapkan bahwa John L. Esposito menjelaskan Islamophobia di Barat sebagai prasangka yang muncul dari perbedaan dan intoleransi terhadap keyakinan serta budaya Islam. Akibatnya, Muslim menghadapi dampak yang signifikan, termasuk tekanan psikologis, sosial, diskriminasi, hingga rasisme. Adapun saran darinya sebagai antipati terhadap isu tersebut adalah berbagai gagasan dan pemikiran untuk mengatasi fenomena tersebut seperti perlu adanya dialog antar umat beragama dan pemahaman tentang pentingnya pendidikan dan kesadaran akan adanya keberagaman dalam kehidupan manusia di dunia ini.

Penelitian ini diharapkan dapat menjadi referensi bagi studi lebih lanjut mengenai hubungan antara umat beragama dan mengatasi konflik yang muncul diantara mereka dalam konteks masa kini, serta pemahaman yang lebih mendalam tentang interaksi antaragama untuk menciptakan harmoni dan toleransi dalam Masyarakat yang semakin pluralistik. untuk penelitian selanjutnya diharapkan dapat membuat penelitian ini menjadi lebih baik karena penulis mengetahui bahwa penelitian ini belum sempurna dan masih memiliki ruang untuk perbaikan, oleh karena itu, untuk peneliti selanjutnya, diharapkan dapat melakukan pengembangan lebih lanjut yang lebih komprehensif dan mendalam.

Kata kunci : *Islamophobia, Esposito, Barat, Stereotip negative*

ABSTRACT

JOHN L. ESPOSITO ON ISLAMOPHOBIA

Malika Shafari Hidayatika

422021215095

Islamophobia has peaked in the last two decades since the events of September 11, 2001, significantly impacting Muslims, particularly in Western countries where they are a minority. Orientalist John L. Esposito offers a unique perspective on this issue, asserting that Islam is fundamentally a religion that rejects violence. He emphasizes that Islamophobia is often intertwined with political interests and highlights the media's role in shaping public perceptions of Islam, which frequently focuses on extremist acts while neglecting the broader context of Islam's peaceful teachings.

This research aims to explain John L. Esposito's thoughts on Islamophobia and to analyze his various efforts in responding to this issue, particularly in the context of harmonizing social life within communities, especially regarding the dynamics of social life in the West.

This study employs a qualitative method with a philosophical approach to explore John L. Esposito's views on Islamophobia spreading in the West. The data were collected through content analysis and literature review, focusing on media representations and public policy in the West, and examining of related documents. This approach aims to establish a clear and precise foundation for understanding the stigma and stereotypes that proliferate in the name of Islam.

The results of this study indicated that John L. Esposito defines Islamophobia in the West as a form of prejudice arising from a lack of understanding and intolerance toward Islamic beliefs and culture. Consequently, Muslims experience considerable consequences, including psychological and social pressures, as well as discrimination and racism. His suggestions for addressing this issue include various ideas and thoughts aimed at overcoming this phenomenon, such as the need for dialogue between religious communities and understanding the importance of education and awareness regarding diversity in human life.

This research is expected to serve as a reference for further studies on the relationship between religious communities and their efforts to overcome conflicts that arise between them in the current context. It also aims to provide a deeper understanding of interreligious interactions to foster harmony and tolerance in an increasingly pluralistic society. For future research, it is hoped that this study can be enhanced, as the author acknowledges its imperfections and recognizes that there is room for improvement. Therefore, future researchers are encouraged to conduct more comprehensive and in-depth developments.

Keywords: *Islamophobia, Esposito, Western, Negative stereotypes*

DECISION OF SUPERVISOR

To Honorable,

Dean of Faculty of Ushuluddin

University of Darussalam Gontor-Ponorogo

Bismillāhirrahmānirrahīm

Assalāmu'alaikum Wr. Wb

It is my honor to present the thesis written by:

Name : Malika Shafari Hidayatika

Reg. Number: 42.2021.215.095

The Title : John L. Esposito on Islamophobia

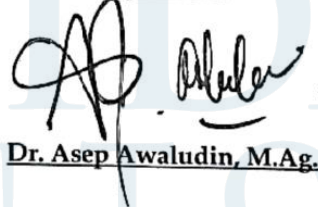
I declare that this thesis has been processed and corrected to fulfill the requirement for the degree of Licentiate in **Comparative Study of Religions** in the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor. Therefore, I request that the thesis be examined soon.

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Bismillāhirrahmānirrahīm

Assalāmu'alaikum Wr. Wb

The Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor-Ponorogo, Indonesia has received a thesis written by:

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Reg. Number: 42.2021.215.095

The Title : John L. Esposito on Islamophobia

In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Licentiate in **Comparative Study of Religions** in the faculty of Ushuluddin, the academic year 1445-1446/2024-2025

Wassalāmu'alaikum Wr. Wb

Ponorogo, 20 January 2025 M

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Dean of Faculty Ushuluddin,



Syamsul Hadi Untung, M.A., M.L.S.

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DECISION OF THE EXAMINERS TEAM

The committee holds the thesis examination in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Licentiate in Comparative Study of Religions in the Faculty of Ushuluddin, University of Darussalam Gontor on :

Day and date : Thursday, 23 January 2025

Place : SAA Office

Office and stated that the student below:

Name : Malika Shafari Hidayatika

Faculty/Department: Ushuluddin/ Comparative Study of Religions

Reg Number : 422021215095

Title : John L. Esposito on Islamophobia

She has passed the thesis examination and is eligible for the Undergraduate program of the Department of Comparative Study of Religions in the Faculty of Ushuluddin.

Chief of Board Examination,



(Dr. Asep Awaludin, M.Ag)

Secretary,



(M. Kharis Majid, M.Ag.)

1st Examiner : Dr. Muttaqin, S.H.I., M.Ag. ()

2nd Examiner : M. Kharis Majid, M.Ag. ()

DECLARATION

Name : Malika Shafari Hidayatika
Registered No. : 42.2021.215.095
Faculty : Ushuluddin
Department : Comparative Study of Religions
Title : John L. Esposito on Islamophobia

I declare that this thesis is the result of my research, except where otherwise stated. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted as a whole for any other degrees at the University of Darussalam Gontor or other institutions. When otherwise found that this thesis is plagiarism, I am ready to accept any punishment according to the university's academic regulations.

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MOTTO

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قال الله تعالى:

وَقَدْ مَكَرُوا مَكْرَهُمْ وَعِنْدَ اللَّهِ مَكْرُهُمْ وَإِنْ كَانَ مَكْرُهُمْ لِتَزُولَ مِنْهُ الْجِبَالُ

(إبراهيم : ٤٦)

"And verily, they have made deceit when Allah (knows and will recompense) their deceit. And verily their deceit was not able to destroy the mountains."

In the rule of the principles of jurisprudence :

عَنْ أَبِي عُمَرَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: الْمُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ لَا يَظْلِمُهُ وَلَا يَخْذُلُهُ وَلَا يُسْلِمُهُ

"From Ibnu Umar he said : Rasulullah SAW said : A Muslim is a brother to another Muslim. Therefore, don't oppress or belittle him, and do not harm him."

(HR Ahmad, Bukhari, and Muslim)

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to:

Allah has given me the strength and patience to complete this thesis.

My beloved parents, Father Edi Kurniyanto and Mother Maesaroh have prayed for me and given me love and attention, and they always strive for the best for me to achieve a glorious future.

Thank you so much for your support, motivation, and prayers.



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All praises to Allah SWT, the most Merciful and Beneficence, which has given us countless life, enjoyment, opportunity, experience, and happiness. Do not forget also that Prophet Muhammad *Sallahu 'Alaihi wa Sallam*, as leader of the faithful, is an exemplary example that motivates us to always strive hard in God's way and provide aid during the apocalypse.

The researcher is fully aware that this arrangement will not be successful without the contribution, motivation, encouragement, direction, and guidance of the various parties. Therefore, with all modesty, the researcher expresses thanks and high appreciation to:

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4. Dear Mr. Muttaqin as the Head of the Department of Comparative Study of Religions at the University of Darussalam Gontor.
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May Allah reciprocate a proportionate reward and bless them, and may this humble thesis be valuable and useful for the readers, especially for the writer/researcher.

Ponorogo, 01 Rajab 1446 H
01 January 2025 M

Sincerely yours,



(Malika Shafari Hidayatika)

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