

Open Mike
Colored Paper –unedited notes
Creating Possibilities and Seeking Change –
Friday, November 17, 2006

1. Rediscover and reclaim our histories for ourselves.
2. Respect one another no matter what we look like and stop stereotyping based on preconceptions/ misconceptions. Everyone can make a contribution. (E)
3. Empower the position of Muslim women as interpreters and presenters of Islam. Facilitate female Muslim Jurists and Khateeb's. (E/R/C)
4. Create space in the Mosques for women. (R)
5. De-link Muslim women's issues from imperialist propaganda.
6. Increase/ foster a democratic culture within Muslim communities and societies, as well as increasing Democratic participation of Muslims in the political process. (P)
7. Develop a comprehensive understanding of justice as the starting point of our work. (Pr)
8. Most Islamic literature about Male/Female relations don't leave much to explore. The abuse of male power. The rights of women if Male power is abused. (R/Cr)
9. Building bridges. Honoring our collective self. One Ummah. Erase Racism, Nationalism and cultural arrogance to get the job done. A Muslim women's movement to end violence and spread love (S)
10. I would like to see the dissolution of male hegemony on women's right to pray, to think for her self, to get an education, to choose with whom she wants to marry. (C/P)

11. Economic Independence for women. (E/S)
12. Education is a great task for the next generation (E)
13. Education, Capacity building, Opportunity, Awareness, Empowerment. (E/S)
14. Gender Diversity and Equality- Inclusion and acceptance of queer Muslims (R)
15. Address sexual abuse- within relationships. Eliminate child sexual abuse in our communities (Cr)
16. End sexual abuse & violence against Women. Equal application of Islamic principles of Modesty for Men & Women . Honor Killings. Education for women. (Cr/R/E)
17. Empower women by greater self Esteem and instilling self confidence (E)
18. No Honor killing- Interpretation of Quran which promotes equality between men and women. Stop the war in Iraq. Form open spaces for women's public spiritual leadership. No more Demonization of Islam in the Media. (R/P/M)
19. Establish a Shura Council in this conference (Pr)
20. Women's Right is Human Right (S)
21. Improve the image of Muslim Women in the Media. (M)
22. Equality for women must be conceived as an absolute under the law (P)
23. Clarify Muslim Women's rights in Islam: Quran & Fiqh . End Injustice to Women in the name of Islam. Honor killings – Domestic Violence-Financial independence (R/Cr/S)
24. End denial about the realities of Muslim communities –especially about violence against women, AIDS, discrimination, prejudice (C)
25. Educate Women & Men about their Rights and Responsibilities in Islam (E/R)

26. Domination & control by Mullahs. Muslim Women should get their Rights.
Muslim Women will be freed from the Cleric controlled Jammaths. Muslim women will get a new space. Would like to complete Muslim Women Mosque
(R/Pr)
27. Equality across Private- Public Spectrum. Equality not Equity (S)
28. Tolerance of all. My understanding of Islam is as valid as yours (R/S)
29. Right to an Islamic Education to all Muslim women and girls. Right to civic/Social Education to all women and girls (R/C/S)
30. To raise the living standard of Muslim women through Education (E)
31. Resolve the Status of Refugees. 2/3 of the world's refugees are women and children. More access to girl's Education – (E/P/S)
32. Inequality—Patriarchy—Violence—Double Standards—Lies (S/C/Cr)
33. Clarify the image of Islam in the American and international media. Stop “Dumbing Down “the faith for Readers and viewers. Increase the representation of Muslim women on Screen, on the Air and in News rooms all over the world
(M)
34. Misconceptions regarding the role of women in Islam. It is not only non-Muslims but Muslim Communities that misinterpret the Quranic verses regarding the role of Muslim women. How to interpret Quran for them (R)
35. I want to be known as an Artist- flowing as human Spirit- not to be categorized as “Muslim” & “Women”. How can I do it? (Mi)
36. Untrained/ Biased Imams giving advice on couples relationships & domestic violence (R)

37. It begins with end to war. War exemplifies violence. War brings hunger. War brings protectionism (and women are victims of protectionism). War brings domestic imprisonment- destroys environment, destroys health (not to mention Death). Scatters communities and creates poverty, that creates expatriation etc. Start with peace in Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Israel Congolese etc (P)
38. Men's Education & Women's/ Girl's Leadership development. Educate Men on Pro- Women interpretation, views & visions of Islam. To disseminate Scholarship that canters views of "women as fitna" etc. "PAIRED WITH" Women/ Girl's leadership development & encouragement. So women & girls do not shy away from vocal & visible role in their communities (E)
39. End Intolerance about Women's Issues. End Ignorance, Judgementalness, Pettyness. (S)
40. Eliminate Injustice & Oppression (C/S)
41. No to "Honor Killings". No to Hudood Ordinances in Pakistan. Can WE here in the U.S- bring pressure to bear on Govt's like Pakistan to disband such regressive laws? NO to Mullah Islam. No to Theocracies. Freedom in Religion and Interpretation (R/C/P)
42. End Invisibility, Separation and Subordination of Women in Muslim spaces—Intellectual, Economic, spiritual spaces. Institutional and personal spaces -public and private spaces (S)
43. Educate the Muslim Girls, Women of tomorrow and give them a VOICE to speak out for their Rights as Muslim women & human beings. Break the strong hold of male patriarchy as a dominating force in their lives (E/C)

44. Women of color feminists should'nt have to choose between categories(or loyalties) of race/nationalism & gender, when discussing feminism in their communities (S)
45. To end to discussion over Muslim Women's body , Discrimination on head Scarf or discrimination against Muslim women who don't want to wear headscarf or want to wear different Hijab (R/C)
46. Stop gender segregation of women in the Mosques and the Islamic Community (R)
47. Women Religious Leaders all over the world. Break the heavenly Glass ceiling. Recognition of unity and depth of spirit among all human beings and all of creation. Honoring of spirit in all (S)
48. Islamic Family law reform. Comprehensive reform and in framework of Justice and Equility (R/P)
49. Abolish religious Illiteracy among Muslims (E)
50. Unity!!! Muslim women must not separate themselves from the mainstream women's movement (S)
51. Liberation, Joy & Power of GIRL that brings forth justice and love that heals the world.
52. Diversity :- Of opinion within Islam, Treating Muslims as individual citizens. Muslims are more than Islamic (Also students, mothers, workers). Islam is about and of Men and Women , young and old. Sharia is also social laws Ethics (R)
53. Muslim women need to put themselves on top of the list instead of Last. Teach women to stand up for themselves.

54. Re interpreting Islam (Quran & Hadith) for modernity, particularly the U S / Western context . Starting up Family Law & Women's rights (R)
55. Improve our image. Tell the truth about women's opportunities in Islam & the Impact of Culture and Patriarchy (S)
56. Ijtihad ! This golden gate was shut long ago and must be reopened in order to solve many obstacles especially women's rights in Islam (R)
57. We need to :- Separate Islam from Nationalism (e. g East/West dichotomies).Trying to incorporate contemporary Social Issues within an Islamic framework –(R/P)
58. Intra- and Inter faith Dialogue & peace making. Bringing a deeper understanding of Islam to the world, Shattering of misconceptions :- Peace Building (S)
59. Legislation as we look up to has to depend not on tradition lone but rather on 1) Spirit of teaching 2) Human Experience 3) sound knowledge (R/P)
60. Women's Right's on giving evidence and inheritance. (R/C)
61. Experiencing true Islam through the Evolution of women's Equal Participation. (S)
62. Health Education for all women. (E)
63. Reinforce Women's economic/ Financial autonomy (S)
64. Protecting friends. Men & Women, working together for the establishment of Social Justice. “ Justice is closest to God consciousness (S)
65. Social and Civic participation by Muslims wherever we are in the World (P/S)
66. Education = Women in the Quran (E)
67. I want less Gossip (S)

68. Dream & vision you came here with. Issues you would like this conference to address...Polygamy (S)
69. Solidarity among Muslim Women (S)
70. To find ways to empower girls & women to their highest potential. To bring the leaders here today into the awareness of all the rest of the Muslim world. Men & Women to inspire them and uplift the entire Ummah. To brainstorm the ultimate ways to raise education & empowerment programs quality (E/S)
71. Universal education for Muslim Girls and all peoples (E)
72. Break through Sectarian thinking—Create space for individual interpretation of Islamic culture & protocol for the youth (R/S)
73. Women's voices welcome in public and spiritual space, mosques and religious education (R/S)
74. To stop the War—How can we organize concrete stops all over the Globe (In our own community) to end violence. To bring Muslim women's voices to the forefront. To take back Islam and its Spirituality from Patriarchy (P/R/C)
75. Help Muslim women to get more confidence in their abilities, to have more ambitions, to develop themselves in all fields ; academic; Islamic; political; Economic. Sky Is the limit (E)
76. I want to struggle for equality, freedom and liberty through empowerment of women ,Promotion of gender equality and women leadership (S/E)
77. Empowering Women (at all levels) on their Islamic Rights (E)
78. Beyond superficiality. Educating the Muslim Ummah. Enlightening the world (E)

79. Lack of Female representation in the Mosques, on the Board and administration
(E/S)
80. Stop wife beating Muslim women no longer beaten in the name of God (Cr)
81. Re-interpreting so Called “Islamic law” from the perspective of women.
(marriage, no muslims , modesty) (R)
82. to address mental health/depression. Emotional issues that young women/men go through because of traditional male scholars only speak of black and white issues of right and wrong leaving out the grey. For the youth who slip into the “grey” (domestic violence or rape) have no spiritual or religious backing (Cr, S)
83. for all to acknowledge the rights of women in Islam and to realize that the experience of women is and should be important to All. (R)
84. Women’s place in mosque; re-interpreting shariah law from women’s perspective; Muslim women in leadership position within Muslim community; recognizing domestic violence within the Muslim community (R/Cr)
85. Stop misinterpretation of Quran against women. Do not legitimize violence against women; do not prevent participation of women in society eg: mosques; do not keep women from receiving education; give reproductive rights; stop characterizing women as being inferior. Promote knowledge, science and stop superstition. (E/R/S)
86. leadership. Muslim women in leadership roles gaining the respect and recognition they deserve around the world. (S)
87. why some Muslim women shall add a female contribution to the Islamic doctrine.? (R)

88. Women accepting each other. Hijab, no Hijab; practicing non practicing; helping one another (S)
89. End domestic, state, intimate, sexual violence against women and violence of war and occupation (Cr/P)
90. Educate Muslim women and men about difference between what is connected to islam and what is connected to local culture, wheter it is about war, their roles or their rights (E)
91. for the one that dies giving birth, the one that dies saving anothers life, the one that lives a life of pain and suffering, the one that cannot feel, the one no one can see.
92. education of women; end forced marriages, end honor killings (E/R/C)
93. Muslim women. Children families right to health care (S)
94. Fight against religious and judicial illiteracy (R/P)
95. Polygamy perhaps; marriage rights for women; end honor killings; violence-domestic and emotional; equal opportunity for sons and daughters; implementation of shariah rights of women eg: women's wealth and men's responsibilities towards the household (C/R/Cr/P)
96. to increase awareness of mental illness/psychological issues that affect muslim women and to provide resources from where to get help (S)
97. to have feminist muslim women jurists in order to achieve full legal equality for women in Islamic law (E)
98. funding for media for programs promoting enlightened moderate islam (Pr)
99. dialogue between on the way of the heart and activism.

100. .access to quran, law, sunnah. Education for women, right to have a council.

domestic abuse propogated by cultural /societal norms. Need to address this in our society and religion. (E/Cr/C)

101. equal treatment, ban double standards, empowerment of women, creating co-alitions all over the world (S/E)

102. end violence in women's childrens and mens lives (Cr)

103. education. Equal opportunity for education (E)

104. Fun, a good time..

105. need women jurists educated in islamic law to end honor killings, rape accusations forced marriages and other crimes in Islamic law (E/R/C)