

QUESTIONS

For Workplaces

1. What is a stereotype?
 - a. Historically, how have stereotypes led to mistreatment of others in workplaces?
 - b. What does that mistreatment look like?
 - c. Is it overt or more subtle?

2. How do social media, technology, and the 24-hour news cycle inform stereotypes?

3. What policies does our workplace have regarding:
 - a. Diversity?
 - b. Harassment?
 - c. Religion specifically?

Is it important to reemphasize these policies around the 10th Anniversary of 9/11?
Why or why not?

4. Even when companies have powerful policies on diversity and inclusion, employees may still hold stereotypes. How can they affect workplaces?
 - a. Do you see a relationship between stereotypes and workplace productivity?
 - b. Are there stereotypes that people have about your religious tradition?

5. What can employees do to help derail harassment based on identities such as country of origin or religion?

6. How could our workplace be more inclusive?

7. Why is diversity important? What can we learn from others whose experiences are different from our own?

8. How can we respectfully ask others about their diverse religious and/or cultural backgrounds? What can we learn from this type of interaction?
9. How could learning about our differences, including our religious and cultural differences, improve our workplace, and our customer/client relations?
10. There is a great deal of information about Muslims in the public square.
 - a. When we look at the facts, what is surprising?
 - b. How do you respond to the demographical data about Muslims in the United States?
 - c. How do the experiences of Muslims in the United States compare to the experiences of other religious and/or immigrant groups in the United States, both historically and presently?
 - d. What can we learn from the cycles or patterns that seem to recur over time? What can we do to break the cycles?
 - e. What are the similarities across religious or non-religious traditions? What informs perceptions of Muslims in the United States? What can be done to change inaccurate perceptions?
11. Who is targeted in the United States?
 - a. When looking at the history of opposition to places of worship and religious practices in the United States, what strikes you?
 - b. Are there / what are the similarities and differences between what happened near Ground Zero with Park51 and what happened with other communities throughout U.S. history who opposed the building of houses of worship and religious practices?
12. Given the media focus on Islam, Muslims and the upcoming 10th Anniversary of 9/11, in what ways have Muslims become the “target of the hour”?
 - a. What is the difference between Islamophobia and anti-Muslim Sentiment?
13. Although the proposed Park51 Community Center is located in lower Manhattan, the controversy surrounding it swept across the nation and globe.
 - a. Is this a local issue, a national issue or a global issue?
 - b. What do you think the broader long-term impact and implication of this issue is/will be for global companies?
 - c. What impact, if any, do you see on our industry?

14. How has the world changed over the past ten years as a result of 9/11?
- a. Where were you on September 11, 2001?
 - b. Was there an impact in our industry as a result of Osama bin Laden's death? Do you anticipate a longer-term impact?
 - c. Who were the victims of 9/11? How do you define who is a victim?
 - Who were the perpetrators of 9/11? How do you define perpetrator?
 - Who were the first responders of 9/11?
 - d. Is it important for companies to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of 9/11? If yes, why? If not, why not?

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