

Written Podcast

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Hi Guys! I'm Anna Topacio and welcome to my website! In this podcast, I will be talking about a TED Talk by Yassmin Abdel-Magied, called, "What Does My Headscarf Mean to You?". This speech really gave me insight on looking beyond your "bias" or in other words, what you may assume one's identity to be based on preconceived notions. We will be exploring how this TED Talk conveys that identity isn't something you should assume, but instead is something that has many different aspects.

Yassmin proves that having biases are true when she mentions that "an experiment was done in 2012 by Yale University, using identical resumes for a lab technician. This resulted in finding out that women are less likely to be offered the job, and paid less than men." showing how bias clearly exists. When a male and female with the exact same qualities apply for a job, a male is still preferred, concluding a man is more capable. Biases are there because of the media and the people you surround yourself with, leading us to think things like males are dominant when this is definitely not true. We must step out of that bias and think for ourselves.

Yassmin explains that she was born brown, female, and Muslim. All things that are still very prejudiced and biased in today's society. She is still proud of these things and they all shape her identity, although there is more to her than what meets the eye. She uses different pieces of clothing to express her identity, like her abaya which is a traditional Muslim clothing, construction gear to show what she works as, and finally, reveals her everyday clothes. All of these things contribute to her identity and makes her, herself. This shows that

“Muslim women are more than the piece of cloth they choose or not choose to wear on their heads.”

Okay, so this TED Talk explains that when you walk past someone on the street, you should look beyond your bias when in fact that person could end up being something so great like a doctor, a race car driver, or a boxer. There are stereotypes towards people's identities because of these biases. We mustn't feed that stereotype, and instead try to understand and learn another's identity. It could really surprise you. We must be open-minded as identity is not something one can assume based on bias.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to this video! I hope you enjoyed!

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