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Andrea Elliott

Pulitzer Prize-Winning New York Times Reporter
Islam in the West

THE LATEST: Read Andrea Elliott's latest article in The New York Times, "White House Quietly Courts Muslims in U.S.", which explores the relationship between the Obama administration and American Muslims, and how the White House is trying to improve relations between Muslims and the U.S. both at home and around the world. Follow the link [HERE](#).

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Andrea Elliott is among the most distinguished chroniclers of Muslim life in America. Her penetrating, deeply-observed stories in *The New York Times* have brought international attention to the plight of Muslims in a post-9/11 America. Gaining unparalleled access to the nation's Muslim communities, Elliott's stories have explored the travails of a young Egyptian imam in Brooklyn, the challenges of Muslim men and women serving in the American military and the simmering conflicts between Muslim immigrants and African-American converts to Islam.

In her work overseas and at home, Elliott has broken new ground in the study of terrorism, illuminating how young Muslim men are being drawn into the violent jihad against the West. Elliott's coverage of Islam in America earned her the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for feature writing, along with many other awards, and is featured in "Best Newspaper Writing of 2007." Her *New York Times Magazine* cover story on the radicalization of young men in Morocco won the Overseas Press Club award for best magazine reporting from abroad and was a finalist for the National Magazine Award. In her citation, the judges for the Overseas Press Club wrote, "Her account, beautifully written, provides an unparalleled look into the making of terrorists and is a reporting tour de force." Elliott has appeared on *The Charlie Rose Show*, the NPR shows *Fresh Air* and *Talk of the Nation*, CNN and the BBC. Now part of the Investigations team at *The Times*, she has lectured widely.

Andrea Elliott Speech Topics

The Jihadist Next Door: Understanding the Threat of Homegrown Terrorism

In the years after 9/11, law enforcement officials concluded that America was largely immune to the militant movements that have gripped Europe's Muslim youth. America is now at a crossroads. In recent months, a dizzying sequence of Muslim men in the United States have been identified as terrorism suspects. The cases have sent Muslim leaders and terrorism analysts scrambling for answers as they reckon with the threat of homegrown terrorism. Why are young Americans being drawn to this movement now? How does the process of radicalization work? And can it be stopped? Elliott draws on her own groundbreaking investigative work to answer these questions, taking her audience on a journey from Madrid to Minneapolis, as she explores three case studies that shed important new light.

Islam in a Post-9/11 America



Andrea Elliott transports her audiences into the little-known world of American Islam -- a community in search of itself, still reeling from the attacks of September 11th and the backlash that followed. As terrorism in the name of Islam thrives overseas, Muslims in America are engaged in an urgent quest to reclaim their faith. At the same time, they have reckoned with harsh, new scrutiny, from mass detentions and ethnic profiling to news media coverage that has routinely characterized Muslims as untrustworthy and even dangerous. Elliott mixes gripping anecdotes with careful analysis to paint a nuanced and unforgettable portrait of today's Muslim Americans: alienated teenagers seeking refuge in their faith, women at the fore of a growing feminist movement, religious leaders striving to balance the strictures of Islam with the dizzying pressures of contemporary American culture. Elliott's lecture, which can range in focus depending on the needs of the audience, traces the evolution of America's Muslims -- who they are and how they identify politically, socially and religiously. In the process, she explains what their struggles in America tell us about the broader crisis within Islam and why America's ability to absorb Muslim immigrants might portend a more hopeful future than in Europe.