

Scholars Circle Resource Guide

Double-sided

Common Ground: Where Extremists Converge



About Dr. Mia Bloom

Mia is an International Security Fellow at New America and a Professor at Georgia State University. She speaks eight languages and has authored six books on violent extremism, including "Dying to Kill" and "Bombshell." Her most recent book, "Veiled Threats", coming out Winter 2025, explores the diverse roles of women involved in jihad. Mia has held appointments at Cornell, Harvard, Princeton, and McGill, and serves on several Counter-Radicalization boards. She holds a PhD from Columbia University and advanced degrees from Georgetown and McGill.

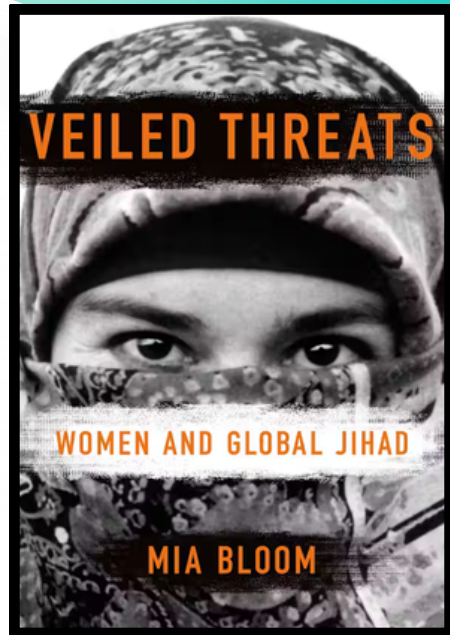
DR. MIA BLOOM

International Security Fellow at the New America and Professor at Georgia State University

Veiled Threats explores the range of roles of the women involved in jihad. Pre-order available - visit cornellpress.cornell.edu



Scan QR and get 30% OFF with code 09BCARD



SCAN ME and ENTER 09BCARD in shopping cart to save 30%



Contact Dr. Mia Bloom
X: @miambloom
Email: miambloom@me.com

Learn more at chaimitzvah.org

Common Q&A's

Why would completely different extremist groups all hate the same groups?

While extremists on the right and Jihadis have very different ideologies, they converge in their antipathy of LGBTQ and Jews. This constitutes the horseshoe theory of extremism in which the ends of the spectrum meet. Many extremists blame Jews for the ills of society and use antisemitic tropes.

Is the prominent role by Jews played in empowering the LGBTQ community why these groups are clumped together?

Just as Jews played important roles in political movements of the 19th century, they have been leaders for many social justice movements. Jews have played prominent leadership roles in the LGBTQ rights movement, racial justice movements (from Martin Luther King Jr. to Black Lives Matter) and so Jews have been blamed for the decline of Western civilization, pornography, undermining the traditional family.

Given the history of jihadi violence against the LGBTQ community, why does *Gay for Gaza* even exist?

Many left of center groups and organizations understand the Israel Palestinian conflict through the lens of neocolonialism and perceive incorrectly that Israelis are white and Palestinians are people of color. This has meant that the social justice warriors tend to divide political conflicts between occupied and occupiers, victims and victimizers. To that extent, any group framed as occupiers cannot be victims.

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Groups with little in common can converge on antipathy towards Jews and LGBTQ+ communities. This becomes apparent when one considers the role of social media in amplifying and exacerbating extremist rhetoric and moving people from radical intentions to radical actions.
- ✓ Evidence shows that social media has expanded the capacity for malicious actors to exploit “identity politics” by leveraging strategic communications for political or financial gain.
- ✓ Far-right White Nationalist ideology is anchored by the fourteen words: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children.” One of their fundamental viewpoints is that the white race must procreate and produce white children to avoid being replaced by non-Whites. Notions of purity and masculinity are embedded within key components of replacement theory (that whites are being replaced by immigrants and nonwhites).
- ✓ Incel antagonism towards the LGBTQ+ community reflects anger towards lesbians who reject them, trans women who they feel fool them, and gay men who have augmented metrics for physical attractiveness.

The views expressed by the speaker don't necessarily reflect Chai Mitzvah's official position.

Contact Dr. Mia Bloom

X: @miambloom

Email: miambloom@me.com

Learn more at
chaimitzvah.org