

March 1, 2019

Re: Emma Rifai review

To whom it may concern,

Emma Rifai was invited to Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Iowa last night (2/28) as Guest Lecturer. She facilitated a presentation and discussion regarding the practice of female veiling in Muslim communities around the world. She touched on how veiling intersects with feminism, domestic life, public life, as well as potential places of intersection in politics, sports and recreation.

Emma is extremely knowledgeable on this subject matter. She was able to present information in a way that was engaging and interesting for my students. She alternated between discussion and image presentation, which was an effective method of illustrating the points she was making. Emma answered questions thoroughly and readily. She is a dynamic leader who draws her listeners and participants into the discussion. She tailored her presentation to college-age students well, offering discussion and slide imagery about female veiling and the role it is currently playing for female Muslim athletes.

I invited Emma to Lutheran Campus Ministry, because she had done a similar presentation at JustChurch, a worshiping community that meets downtown. JustChurch centers itself on issues of social justice, and Emma was able to effectively facilitate this discussion regarding the role (or lack thereof) of female oppression in relationship to the practice of veiling.

Both groups expressed deep gratitude for Emma's presentations and the consequential valuable discussions and learning. We are deeply grateful for the wisdom she shared.

We wish our deepest blessings on her continued learning and she works to enlighten others about this fascinating practice.

Respectfully,

Reverend Sarah Goettsch