

ISLAM AND THE FEMALE BODY: NEGOTIATING LOCAL AND GLOBAL INFLUENCES ON SPORT AND EXERCISE

Wednesday **October 13th, 2004 2 - 3:30 pm**

A presentation by:

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featuring:

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In the west there is a tendency to view Muslim women as essentially oppressed and to focus on their bodies as the locus of oppression. This idea will be discussed with specific reference to Kuwait, which is a relatively liberal Arab state where women can dress in western clothing without recrimination. To add to the complexity of understanding women's physical culture, the unstable link between local and global influences is also important - ie. the Islamic tradition, or 'way of life' vis-a-vis the pervasive influence of western culture – as are the ways in which women negotiate these differences. The presentation raises such questions as: 'How can doctrinaire, conservative Islamic codes of behaviour co-exist with liberal attitudes to the female body?' 'How is it possible for some young Kuwaiti women to join fitness clubs and wear lycra and for others to have no opportunities during the whole of their adult life to take part in any form of vigorous physical activity?' 'To what extent and in what ways do Kuwaiti women have control over their bodies in physical culture; to what extent are they active subjects?'

Location: BCCEWH

Room E311A
Women's Health Centre of BC
Street Address: 4500 Oak Street
Vancouver

(Note: Entrance to the Women's Health Centre is at Heather and 29th Streets, Parking Lot 3)

Information

604.875.2633
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www.bccewh.bc.ca

Admission is FREE. Everyone welcome!

**Please RSVP to
bccewh@cw.bc.ca or 604-875-2633.**



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