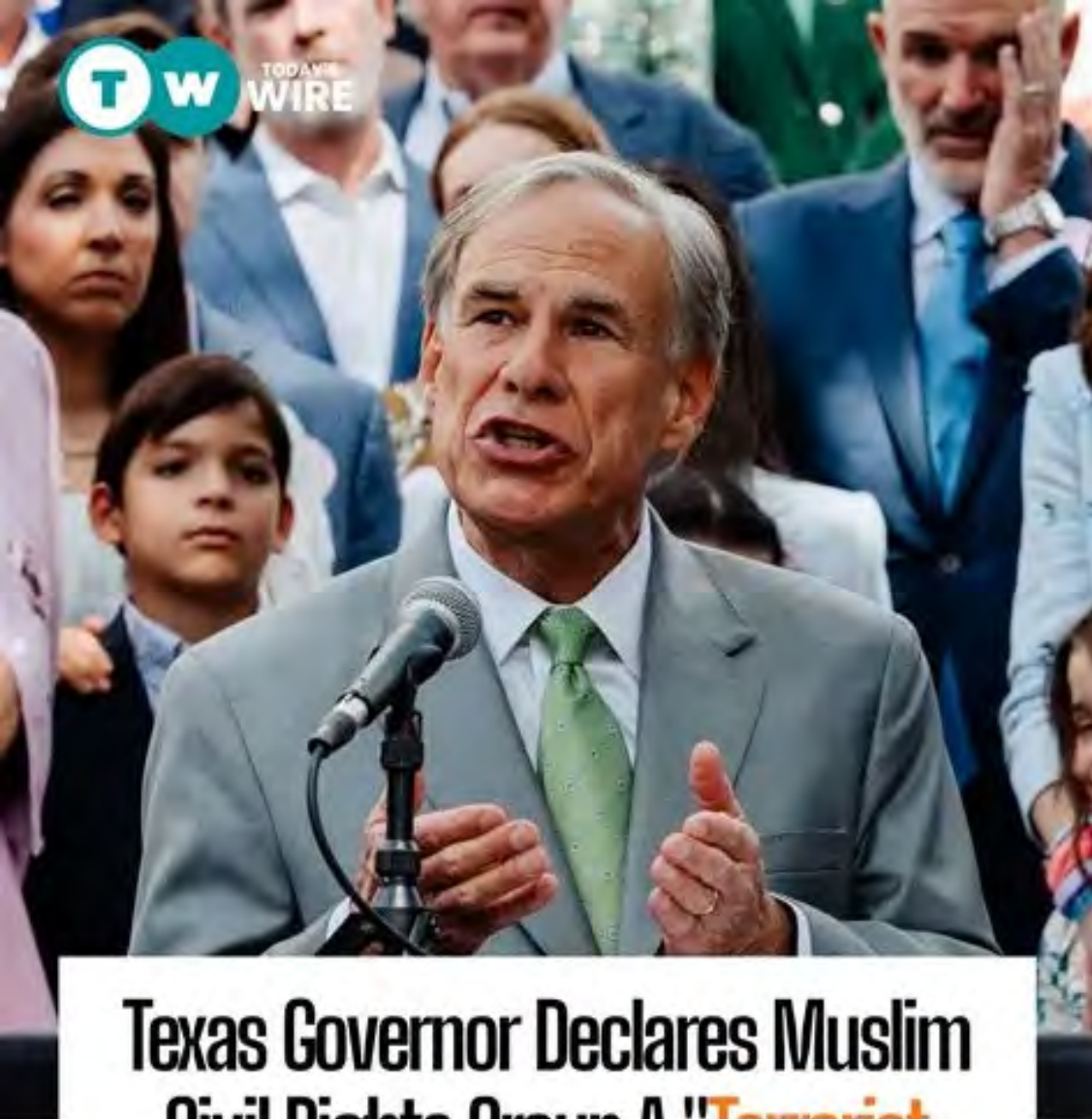




**Texas Governor Declares Muslim
Civil Rights Group A "Terrorist
Organization"**

THE NEW BOOGEYMAN: TEXAS MUSLIMS, ISLAM, AND SHARIA

Faizan Syed, Council on American-
Islamic Relations Austin & Dallas
Fort-Worth offices (CAIR-TX)

August 2026

TODAY'S AGENDA

3:00 Opening Comments (Rosemary)

3:05 Meet Nick Pappas - Candidate for Denton County Judge

3:20 Group Business

- Good News (Rosemary)
- Monthly Highlight (Chris)
- Activism Actions (Cammy)

3:45 Meeting Topic - The New Boogeyman: Texas Muslims, Islam, and Sharia

- Presenter - **Faizan Syed**
- Includes time for questions and discussions

4:30 Wrap-up (Rosemary)

MEET NICK PAPPAS, FOR DENTON COUNTY JUDGE

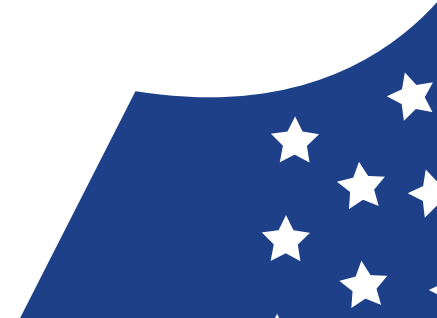


- Retired, disabled Marine Corps veteran of multiple combat deployments.
- A father and community leader who has spent decades serving communities.
- It's time for leadership that listens, acts, and gets things done. Let's build the county we all deserve.
- Priorities:
 - Accountability & Infrastructure
 - Community Support
 - Elections & Voting
 - Public Safety
 - Veterans





GROUP BUSINESS



GOOD NEWS



Voting Centers

- Aug 11 @ Denton County Commissioner Court - **Biggest Turnout Yet!**
- Sept 1 - Last chance to attend



Coffee With the Mayor

- August 14 - **First with the new Mayor**
- Biggest Turnout



NATIONAL SENIOR
CITIZENS DAY

NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

Celebrated every August 21 to honor and appreciate senior citizens for their services, accomplishments and dedication they have given in their lives.

Everyone is encouraged to spend quality time with an elderly family member or neighbor, offer assistance, or advocate for senior well-being.

- **Take advantage of planned events and senior discounts**
- **Share your stories with family members!**



ACTIVISM ACTIONS

Cammy Dunford



ELECTION SEASON OUTREACH

1

Yard Signs

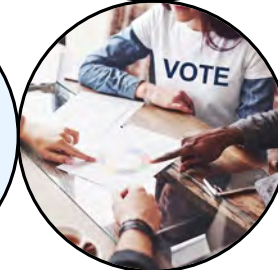
Dori & David Weaver



2

Wearables

APV, Candidates, Issues, Ask Me



3

Blue Neighbor Network

Election Reminders



POSTCARD PROJECT

Flip the House and Senate!
Rosie Washburn and Team of Writers
Postcard Stamp Donors



1000

MARY PELTOLA
Senate – Alaska

500

KATY PADILLA
STOUT
HD 23 – Texas

Donations still needed – 200 stamps!

SATURDAY MORNING PROTESTS



**Every Saturday from 9:00-10:00
FM 423 & Main/King**

AUG:	The Many vs. The Money
SEPT:	Hands Off Our Vote!
OCT:	Vote Early Oct 19-30

CRAFTY ACTIVISM



Saturdays from 9:00-12:00

Aug 15 & 29, Sept 12
WVC Rooms 2 & 3

Sept 26
WVC Rooms 4 & 5

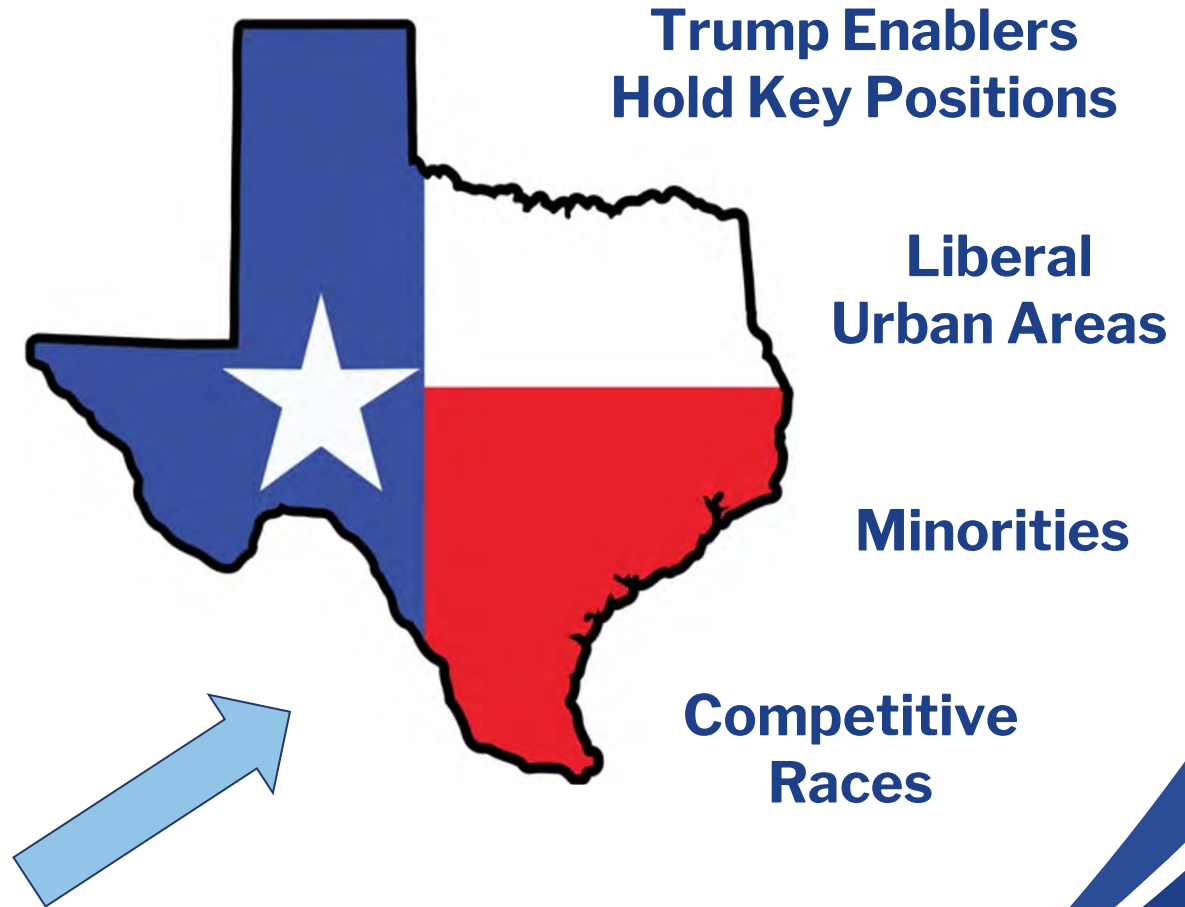
materials for making signs & painting rocks provided

SUBVERTING & SABOTAGING ELECTIONS

What it Looks Like

Gutting Voting Rights Act
Gerrymandering
New Voter ID Requirements
Purging Voter Rolls
Polling Location Confusion
Threat of Federal Troops
Elon Musk's Money
Pardoning J-sixers
Attorney General Todd Blanche
... and more!

TARGETING TEXAS



ELECTION PROTECTION STRATEGY

INDIVISIBLE
HANDS OFF
OUR VOTE
I'M PROTECTING
THE VOTE IN 2026



Goal

every eligible voter is able to cast a ballot
those ballots are counted
election results are honored

Toolkit

what to do right now
be a trusted messenger
rapid response
talking to decision makers
scenario planning
fighting disinformation
looking ahead

PREPAREDNESS IS THE KEY

ELECTIONS '26

Voter 'suspense list' hits 1.2M in Texas

By Sarah Bahari

Staff Writer
sarah.bahari@dallasnews.com

More than 1.2 million Texas voters are on the state's "suspense list," three months before a high-stakes midterm election.

Voters should be able to vote with a suspended status, but it will take a couple extra steps, and there's still time to get off the list. Here's what Texans should know about being on the suspense list ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

What is the voter suspense list? Suspense means your county does not know your address or thinks you moved, typically because a voter registration card or jury summons sent through mail is returned as undeliverable.

New voter registration cards are mailed every two years to the most recent address on record. If you do not receive a new certification card this year, it could mean you moved without updating your address.

More than 6% of the 18 million registered voters in Texas are on the suspense list, according to the secretary of state's office.

In Dallas County, more than 129,000 voters are suspended. Nearly 56,000 voters are suspended in each of Collin and Denton counties. More than 73,000 voters are suspended in Tarrant County.

How to check your status? Check your registration on the state's portal or your county's voter website. Suspended voters will see their status listed as "suspense."

What should you do if you're suspended? You should update your address by Oct. 5, which is the deadline to register to vote, to be removed from the suspense list. You can do so on the state's website. You will need a current driver's license or ID, Social Security number and Voter Unique Identifier Number, or VUID, on your registration card. You can also find your VUID number with your county registrar.

You might be directed to fill out a new registration form if you have moved.

If you arrive at your polling place to vote and find you are on the suspense list, don't worry. You can still vote, but it will require a couple extra steps.

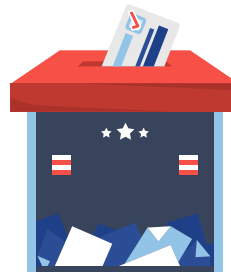
First, you will be required to fill out a "statement of residence" form, which should be available at every polling location. That form will be used to update your voter registration, and you should be removed from the suspense list by the next election.

If you have moved to a new county, you will be required to vote in your previous county or submit a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is used to record a vote when there are questions about a voter's eligibility that must be resolved before a vote can count.

How long can you stay on the suspense list? You will be removed from Texas' voter rolls following two general elections on the suspense list, or about four years.

Local Discussion virtual roundtable

Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 pm
7 weeks starting August 20
explore toolkit & plan local
response



Do Right Now

verify voter registration
VDR team can help
votedenton.gov
vote411.org
citizenship documents

PLEASE TAKE HOME
REMINDERS
ON YOUR TABLE

Dallas Morning News 08.12.26

NEXT ACTIVISM COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday, August 25
2:00-4:00
West Village Center
Rooms 4-5**

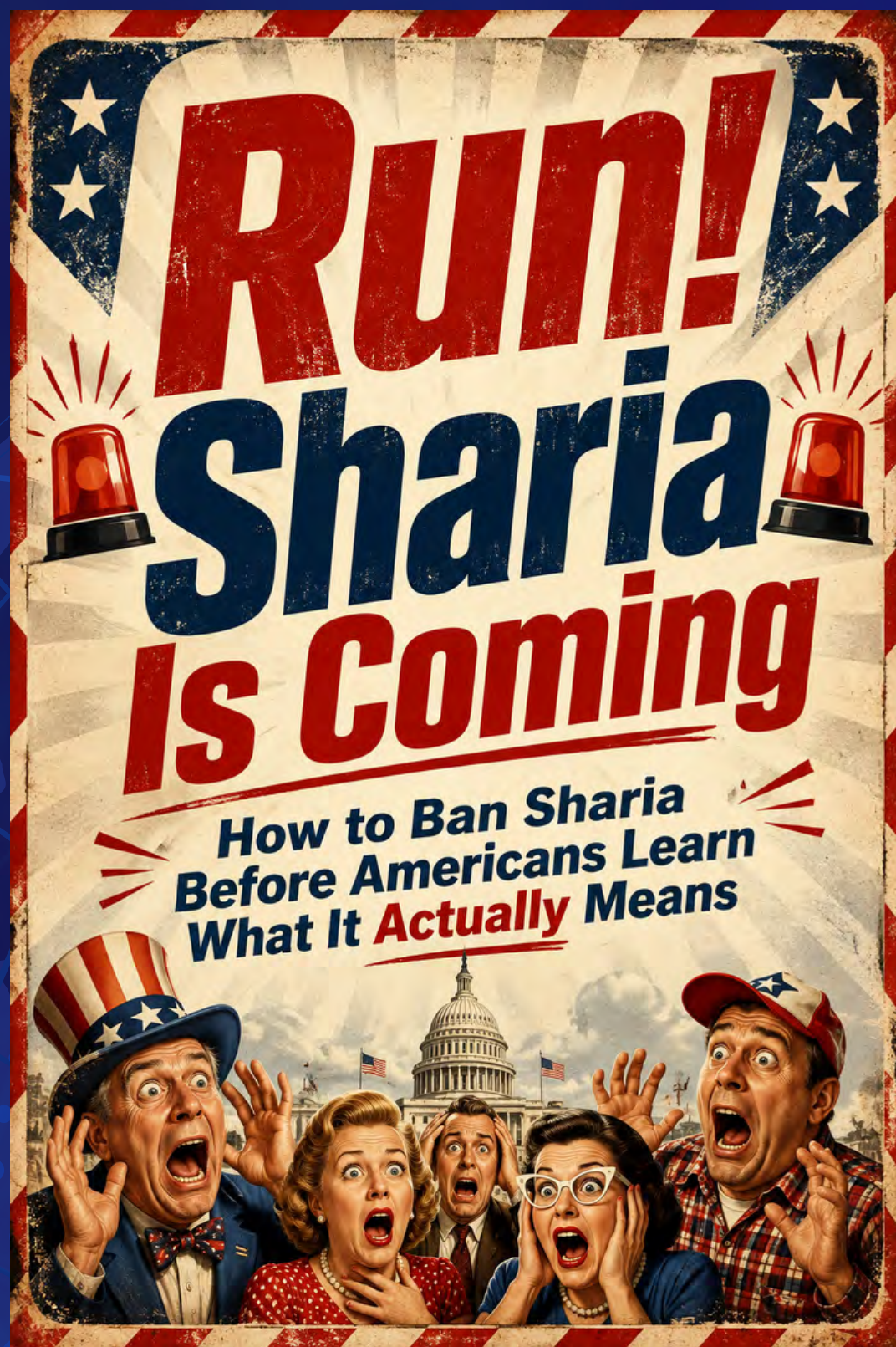
**Who should attend?
Blue Neighbor Leaders
and
ANYONE INTERESTED
in joining the action**



MAIN TOPIC

THE NEW BOOGEYMAN: TEXAS MUSLIMS, ISLAM, AND SHARIA

Speaker: Faizan Syed



● *Breaking*

RUN!

SHARIA IS COMING

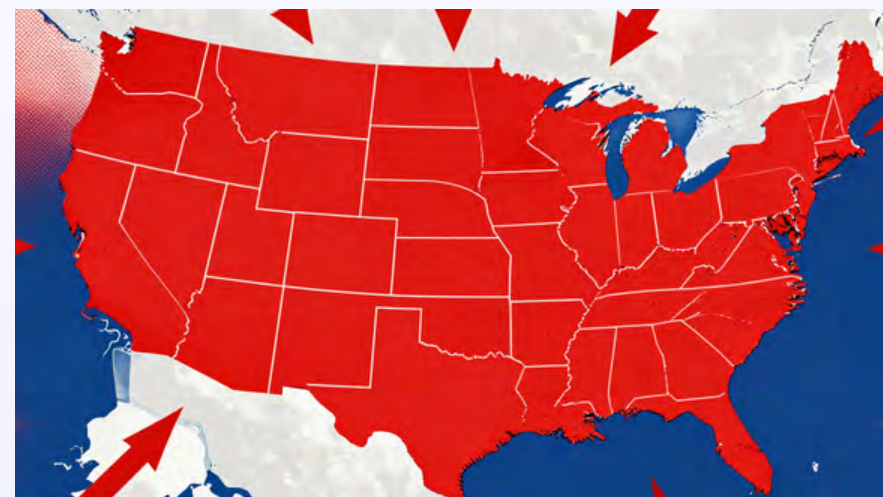
FAIZAN SYED

SHARIA ALERT

FEATURED HEADLINES



**COMING TO A
NEIGHBORHOOD
NEAR YOU!**



**AUTHORITIES URGE ALL
AMERICANS TO REMAIN IN
A STATE OF VAGUE,
UNINFORMED PANIC**



**THIS HAS BEEN AN OFFICIAL
SHARIA ALERT. OFFICIALS ARE
URGING CITIZENS TO PANIC
FIRST AND ASK QUESTIONS
NEVER. STAY TUNED FOR
FURTHER UPDATES THAT EXPLAIN
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.**



The background of the entire graphic is a photograph of the Texas State Capitol building. The image is split vertically down the middle. The left half is tinted with a red color, and the right half is tinted with a blue color. On the far left, there is a blue graphic element consisting of three stacked chevrons pointing to the right.

AMERICA HAS BEEN WARNED

***FOR DECADES, AMERICANS HAVE
BEEN TOLD THAT SHARIA IS COMING.
THE HEADLINES NEVER STOPPED. THE
WARNINGS NEVER ENDED. THE PANIC
NEVER PAUSED.***

***THE TRUE
MIRACLE DRUG***



***TEXAS
REPUBLICAN
PARTY***



***BOOST TO
SOME CHURCHES***

WAIT...WHAT IS

SHARIA?



Most Americans have heard the word.
Far fewer have actually learned what it means.

Spoiler: It's not what cable news told you.
But don't worry — you're about to find out.

**"What is Sharia?" — Searched by millions of Americans.
Explained by almost none of their politicians.**



NATIONAL NEWS

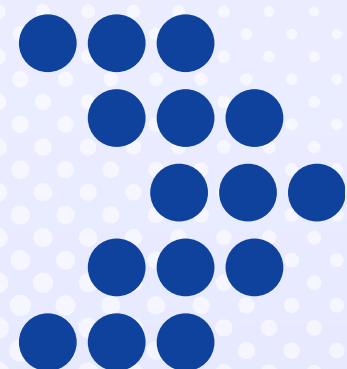
SHARIA DOESN'T JUST MEAN 'ISLAMIC LAW.'



Sharia broadly refers to the Islamic path of ethical and religious guidance — covering how to live, treat others, and fulfill one's duties to God and community.

PLOT TWIST: It's not a secret legal takeover. It's a framework for how to live ethically — covering prayer, charity, family life, and personal conduct.

Most of what Sharia covers looks a lot like...
being a decent person. Shocking, we know.



Prayer & Worship
Charity & Giving
Family & Community
Business & Ethics



NATIONAL NEWS

SHARIA HAS ALREADY "INFILTRATED" AMERICA

🚨 Muslims have been practicing Sharia in America for decades.

😱 In plain sight.

⚠️ Right next door.

Praying. Giving charity. Eating halal. Fasting Ramadan. Calling their moms.

Someone alert Congress. ● ● ● ● ●



NATIONAL NEWS

PERSONAL PRACTICE VS. GOVERNMENT LAW



PERSONAL RELIGIOUS PRACTICE

- Prayer & Fasting
- Charity (Zakat)
- Dietary Rules (Halal)
- Marriage & Family Ethics
- Personal Conduct
- Ethical Decisions

GOVERNMENT LAW

- The U.S. Constitution
- Federal Law & Courts
- State Law & Courts
- Bill of Rights
- Due Process
- Equal Protection

Following Sharia personally does not replace American law. Religious practice and constitutional law operate in completely separate lanes.

Someone alert Congress. ● ● ● ● ●



NATIONAL NEWS

WAIT... OTHER RELIGIONS HAVE RELIGIOUS LAW TOO?



Jewish Law — Halakha

Catholic Canon Law

Islamic Tradition — Sharia

→ All coexist under the U.S. Constitution



Jewish & Catholic communities have followed religious law in America for generations.

Religious communities have maintained internal ethical and legal traditions for centuries — all while living under American law.

Someone alert Congress. ● ● ● ● ●



SHARIA SCARE INDUSTRY

MONEY, POLITICS, & LIKES



NATIONAL REPUBLICAN PARTY

Bad Economy, On the Epstein List, Bring Back Communism...



MONEY MAKING

Sell Books, Get Booked on Podcasts, Build Audiences for Ad Dollars



SOCIAL MEDIA LIKES & SHARES

Get Views, Get Likes, & Grow Your Audience



SHARIA SCARE INDUSTRY

STEP 1: FIND A SCARY FOREIGN WORD



Arabic word + unfamiliar
concept + political
messaging = excellent
campaign material

Just repeat it loudly. Never define it.
Watch the donations roll in.



SHARIA SCARE INDUSTRY

STEP 2: NEVER DEFINE IT.



- ✗ Don't ask Muslims
- ✗ Don't study Islamic history
- ✗ Don't talk to scholars
- ✗ Don't explain American constitutional law
- ✓ Just keep saying "SHARIA!"

Whatever We Hate → Blame Sharia

SHARIA SCARE INDUSTRY

STEP 3: Make It Sound Like an Invasion

From the people who brought you halal chicken and Ramadan.

Rated PG-13 for mild misunderstanding and excessive cable news consumption.

Nothing says "political campaign season" like a scary-sounding foreign word with zero context. No definition required. No explanation needed. Just vibes, volume, and a dramatic font.



GUESS WHO'S BACK

STEP 4: Reuse Old, Tired, Hate Tactics



Over 200 anti-Sharia bills introduced
Across 40+ U.S. states since 2010
Some bills passed into law
Funded by organized political
networks. Targeted Muslim
communities directly

States rushed to ban "foreign law" — a barely-
disguised effort to target Islamic practice.
Courts struck down many of these laws as
unconstitutional.



REPUBLICANS LOVE

SHARIA!

QUICK HEADLINES

PRESIDENT TRUMP

GOVERNOR GREGG ABBOTT

BRANDON GILLS

KEITH SELF

COMMON SENSE

Could Sharia Take Over America?

NO. ➤

U.S. Constitution

- ↓ **Federal Courts**
- ↓ **State Courts**
- ↓ **Local Law**

**Religious rules cannot override
American constitutional law.**

**The First Amendment protects religious freedom. The
Supremacy Clause protects constitutional law. No
religious code — from any faith — can override
American law. This is not a debate. It is settled law.**



COMMON SENSE 

THE FIRST AMENDMENT HAS ENTERED THE CHAT

-  **FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION**
-  **Guaranteed since 1791**
-  **Applies to ALL religions**
-  **Yes, including Muslims**
-  **Still in effect (we checked)**

Americans are free to practice their religion — including Muslims — within American law. The Constitution already handled this. In 1791.



COMMON SENSE



MUSLIMS HAVE DIFFERENT OPINIONS

-  Scholars disagree on jurisprudence
-  Four major legal schools exist
-  Debate is a feature, not a bug
-  Interpretations vary by region
-  Ijtihad: independent legal reasoning

Hanafi, Maliki, Shafi'i, and Hanbali scholars have debated finer points of Islamic law for centuries. If Muslims themselves can't agree on everything — maybe the panic about a secret unified Sharia takeover is slightly overblown.

COMMON SENSE 



**SHARIA
≠ SAUDI ARABIA
≠ IRAN
≠ TALIBAN
≠ ISIS**

Each of these governments made political choices. Those choices are not the definition of a 1,400-year-old religious tradition followed by 1.8 billion people worldwide.

■ **INVITE ME**
FAIZAN SYED



THANK YOU
FOR LISTENING

STAY INFORMED. STAY CONNECTED.



FaizanSyed.org