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Miami-Dade

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Posted on Friday, 04.16.10

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Miami-Dade Transit to remove `offensive' Islamic bus ads [Like](#)

BY JAWEED KALEEM
JKALEEM@MIAMIHERALD.COM

Miami-Dade Transit is pulling advertisements from 10 buses that South Florida Muslims have said are offensive to Islam.

The ads, which went up Tuesday, said ``Fatwa on your head? Is your community or family threatening you?" and directed Muslims to a website encouraging them to leave Islam.

Robert Spencer, associate director of New York-based Stop the Islamization of America, which purchased the ads for one-month as the first leg of a national campaign, said they were ``offered in defense of religious liberty."

But on Thursday, Miami-Dade Transit spokeswoman Karla Damian said that after reviewing the ads, the department decided they ``may be offensive to Islam" and would remove them before the buses ran on Friday.

Damian said the ads were able to initially go up because Miami-Dade Transit has an outside company sell ad space and does not routinely review ads before they run.

The South Florida chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations had critiqued the ads as promoting ``bigotry" and making false statements about Islam.

``Islam guarantees freedom to and freedom from religion. . . . [We] reject as un-Islamic any extremist interpretation that sanctions the killing of any individual because she decided to `leave Islam," said director Muhammed Malik.



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The Miami Herald is pleased to provide this opportunity to share information, experiences and observations about what's in the news. Some of the comments may be reprinted elsewhere in the site or in the newspaper. We encourage lively, open debate on the issues of the day, and ask that you refrain from profanity, hate speech, personal comments and remarks that are off point. In order to post comments, you must be a registered user of MiamiHerald.com. Your username will show along with the comments you post. Thank you for taking the time to offer your thoughts.

Comments (110)

POWERED BY Pluck

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Comments: 110 Showing: Newest first



DeucePrez wrote on 05/15/2010 06:00:06 AM:

Replying to DailyKenn_com (04/17/2010 08:22:56 AM):
 "Freedom be a Muslim?
 Freedom from all other faiths?"

RIF (reading IS fundamental)!!

It states:

"Islam guarantees freedom to and freedom from religion. . . ."

Read more: http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/04/16/1581903/miami-dade-transit-says-it-will.html?qwxq=304740&pageNum=3&&mi_pluck_action=page_nav#Comments_Container#ixzz0nzUW83I5

Stop trying to read into or out of it!

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DeucePrez wrote on 05/15/2010 04:33:30 AM:



The origin of this anti-Islamic smear campaign was no surprise to me after reading that the world-renown Islamophobe, Robert Spencer, was the "brain-bust" behind this attack.

And I know of a few Muslims who've converted to other faiths and they have no fear of someone attempting to harm them because of their conversions. Those who make such accusations prove, by their own statements, that they know little to nothing about Islam.

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bapakgila wrote on 04/23/2010 03:19:14 PM:

No more am I amazed at the unabated complicity of our media industry with advancing the complete destruction of our Constitution and everything it stands for. In fact, the whole purpose of our 1st amendment is to protect free speech even if it does offend a few individuals such as the author of this article. What continues to puzzle most of America is that our government and media are further advancing the destruction of free speech and out individual rights. The whole purpose of this ad was to help out thousands of people right here in America trying to leave Islam who are afraid for their lives and of course the millions of female Muslims trapped in a Burqa in oppressive Muslim regimes throughout the world. CAIR has stated in numerous public forums they want to implement Sharia law which opposes everything our Constitution stands for so will someone explain to me why the Miami-Dade beyond the fact that they are giving in to the subtle subversive techniques of CAIR attempting to subvert our constitution? Clearly, EVERYTHING anything and everything offends CAIR that doesn't tow the line according to their narrow interpretation of what they hope will be a country based on Sharia Law. We as American should "reject everything un-American such as the killing of the thousands of individuals around the world attempting to leave Islam and we should reject CAIR that protects the very individuals attempting to subvert our laws.

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Islamophobia wrote on 04/20/2010 09:57:44 AM:

Replying to PamelaGeller (04/18/2010 02:06:28 PM):
"Notice how the journalist, Jaweed Kaleem, does not have any comment from me (as Executive Director of SIOA, it was my initiative) or anyone from my organization respond to this breach of contract and violation of free speech.
Further, he prints, unchallenged, the remarks by un-indicted...":

Since my comments are "abusive" let me tune down my abuse a bit :)

Islamophobia wrote on 04/20/2010 09:22:44 AM:

Islamophobia's comment is abusive and has been removed.

Read more: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/04/16/1581903/miami-dade-transit-says-it-will.html#ixzz0leFvNbMD>

Dearest Pam,

Please tell us what it means when someone is an "un-indicted co-conspirator".

Thank you so very much.

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Islamophobia wrote on 04/20/2010 09:30:56 AM:

Replying to LindaRivera (04/17/2010 08:43:23 PM):
"to new_day, I'm really wasting my time replying back to you for sure. Israel has not kicked Muslims out! Or stolen land! 10,000 Gaza Jews were kicked out of Gaza, the Jews were made homeless for the sole reason they are Jews and not Muslim. Disgusting. Many of the Jews, forced into poverty had to...":

Islamophobe,

Get your facts right, else it's just worthless propaganda.

<http://www.annainthemiddleeast.com/> (an American Jewish woman who has a conscience).

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Islamophobia wrote on 04/20/2010 09:22:44 AM:
Islamophobia's comment is abusive and has been removed.

Recommend (0)  Report abuse



JAQUEBAUER wrote on 04/19/2010 01:54:12 PM:
JAQUEBAUER's comment is abusive and has been removed.

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new_day wrote on 04/18/2010 06:06:23 PM:
To my Zionist friend who turned the discussion to the violence of Muslims against peace-loving and harmless Zionist.

<http://www.evilbible.com/>

<http://www.gotquestions.org/war-Bible.html>

:)

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new_day wrote on 04/18/2010 06:03:15 PM:
dfg: Yeah, Yeah, soon you'll say that President Obama is a Muslim and all that nonsense...
Your writing is enough to tell who you are! When you're making a statement about more than a billion people as "filthy" you're saying how stupid, ignorant and filthy you are. There're many words can describe you too but

this is enough.

Put the ad back on and give the Muslim the opportunity to do the same thing, Idiot!!!

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PamelaGeller wrote on 04/18/2010 02:06:28 PM:
Notice how the journalist, Jaweed Kaleem, does not have any comment from me (as Executive Director of SIOA, it was my initiative) or anyone from my organization respond to this breach of contract and violation of free speech.

Further, he prints, unchallenged, the remarks by un-indicted co-conspirator, Hamas tied and Muslim Brotherhood front, CAIR without so much as mentioning who and what they are. The slander and accusations CAIR has fabricated and published about me and my associate Robert Spencer is libelous.

My 'crime' was responding to the inquires from desperate Muslims seeking sanctuary from the dangers of leaving Islam. SIOA and FDI are human rights organizations seeking religious freedom, individual rights protections and free speech. We have filed a lawsuit.

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ADS BY YAHOO!