"God enjoins justice, kindness and generosity toward one’s fellow humankind."

- Qur’an 16:90
WHO WE ARE

About Us

In a world that has been plagued by terror and Islamophobia, Muslims for Progressive Values (MPV) seeks to counter radicalization, hate and misunderstanding of Islam by fostering intercultural and inter-religious dialogues on a local level as well as on a global platform.

MPV is guided by ten principles, namely collective identity, equality, the separation of religious and state authorities, freedom of speech, universal human rights, gender equality, LGBTQI inclusion, critical analysis and interpretation, compassion and diversity. Based on these principles, services MPV provides to the Muslim community include interfaith marriages, same-sex marriages, female-led prayers and the provision of avant-garde educational materials.

The main focus of MPV’s work is to stimulate critical thinking of sacred texts and to promote the implementation of progressive values, such as human rights, gender equality, freedom of expression, and freedom of and from belief, which are all deeply rooted in both Islamic and democratic principles.

MPV also provides advocacy work on a high policy level at the United Nations in order to promote inclusive and tolerant understandings of Islam based on universal human rights, peace and justice.

History

The progressive Muslim movement in the United States of America (US) came about as a result of the events of 9-11. Many Muslims started reflecting on Islam, its teachings and felt it was time to get organized in promoting a progressive and inclusive interpretation of Islam against the backdrop of extremism as played out by al-Qaeda and conservatism as played out by the influence of Wahhabism in the US.

Through social media, the discovery of like-minded progressive Muslim individuals and communities in the US coalesced into the founding of MPV in July 2007 at Sarah Lawrence College, New York and the incorporation into a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization later that year.

Mission

MPV’s mission is to embody and be an effective voice of the traditional Qur’anic ideals of human dignity, egalitarianism, compassion and social justice. MPV envisions Islam and an Islamic community that embodies the ten principles of MPV. Further, MPV envisions a future where Islam is understood as a source of dignity, justice, compassion and love for all humanity and the world.
WHO WE ARE

Guiding Principles

Muslims for Progressive Values is guided by the following ten principles. The ten branches of the tree in our logo represent MPV’s ten principles rooted in Islam.

1. Collective Identity

We accept as Muslim anyone who identifies as such. The veracity and integrity of that claim is between the individual and God, and is not a matter for the state nor an issue which other individuals can or should judge. We welcome all who are interested in discussing, promoting and working for the implementation of progressive values – human rights, freedom of expression, and separation of church and state – as well as inclusive and tolerant understandings of Islam.

2. Equality

We affirm the equal worth of all human beings, regardless of race, sex, gender, gender identification, ethnicity, nationality, creed, sexual orientation, or ability. We are committed to work toward global societies that ensure social, political, educational, and economic opportunities for all.

3. Separation of Religious and State Authorities

We believe that freedom of conscience is not only essential to all human societies but integral to the Qur’anic view of humanity. We believe that secular government is the only way to achieve the Islamic ideal of freedom from compulsion in matters of faith.

4. Freedom of Speech

We support freedom of expression and freedom of dissent. No one should be legally prosecuted, imprisoned or detained for declaring or promoting unpopular opinions whether political, artistic, social or religious, even when that expression may be offensive and that dissent may be considered blasphemous.

5. Universal Human Rights

We are committed to social, economic and environmental justice. We believe that the full self-realization of all people, in a safe and sustainable world, is a prerequisite for freedom, civility, and peace. We support efforts for universal health care, universal public education, the protection of our environment, and the eradication of poverty.
6. Gender Equality

We support women’s agency and self-determination in every aspect of their lives. We believe in women’s full participation in society at every level. We affirm our commitment to reproductive justice and empowering women to make healthy decisions regarding their bodies, sexuality and reproduction.

7. LGBTQI Inclusion

We endorse the human and civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals. We affirm our commitment to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and we support full equality and inclusion of all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, in society and in the Muslim community.

8. Critical Analysis and Interpretation

We promote interpretations that reflect traditional Qur’anic principles of tolerance, inclusiveness, mercy, compassion, and fairness. We call for critical engagement with Islamic scripture, traditional jurisprudence, and current Muslim discourses. We believe that critical thinking is essential to spiritual development.

9. Compassion

We affirm that justice and compassion should be the guiding principles for all aspects of human conduct. We repudiate violence, whether on an individual, organizational, or national level.

10. Diversity

We embrace pluralism and the diversity of inspirations that motivate people to embrace justice. We affirm that one’s religion and belief system is not the exclusive source of truth. We engage with a diversity of philosophical and spiritual traditions to pursue a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.
WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

**Ani Zonneveld: Founder and President**

Ani Zonneveld is founder and President of MPV. Since inception, Ani has presided over MPV’s expansion to include chapters and affiliates in Los Angeles, Washington DC, Atlanta, New York, Chicago, Columbus (OH), Canada, France, Chile, Malaysia and Australia. She has organized numerous interfaith arts and music festivals, participated in many interfaith dialogues and is a strong supporter of women and LGBTQ rights. She is the brainchild of Literary Zikr – a project that counters radical Islam online, co-editor of MPV’s first book, an anthology titled “Progressive Muslim Identities – Personal Stories from the U.S. and Canada”, and a contributor for HuffingtonPost. Ani is a singer/songwriter/producer and is the first woman to release an English Islamic pop album in the U.S. Ani performs Islamic wedding services for mixed faith and same-sex couples and in 2006, she was named a Muslim Leader of Tomorrow by the American Society for Muslim Advancement, and is on the Planned Parenthood’s Clergy Advisory Board.

Born and raised Muslim from Malaysia, Ani spent a good portion of her formative years raised in Germany, Egypt and India as an Ambassador's daughter. Her exposure to different politics, religions and cultures has shaped her inclusive worldview.

**Kelly Wentworth: MPV Secretary/MPV-Atlanta Director**

Kelly Wentworth was inspired by her strong belief in an open and inclusive worship space to create the American Islamic Fellowship (AIF) in Atlanta, GA in 2007. In 2011, AIF became a part of Muslims for Progressive Values and Kelly joined its board. In Atlanta, she has helped create a mosque space with continuous activities, educational programs, and chaplaincy and officiant services. Kelly received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Language from Tennessee Technological University. She spent two years in Yemen and worked as an EFL Instructor where she received a diplomacy citation from the U.S. Department of State. She currently works as a Training Developer for a software company and a Content Developer for a web design firm. Kelly actively participates in human rights, women’s rights and LGBT rights efforts everywhere she can. She is also a part of various projects that promote music and arts in the community.
WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

Barza Diaz: MPV Treasurer/MPV-New York Director

Barza Diaz was born in Pakistan and raised in New Jersey. As an eldest child of first generation immigrants in the US, Barza was encouraged to continue to appreciate her religious and cultural background. After graduating from Saint Peter’s University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, Barza actively sought a progressive Muslim community that would accept people judgment-free and found MPV. Barza became one of the founding steering committee members of MPV New York. She previously worked as an auditor for CohnReznick to review financial integrity of her clients’ financials. Today she works as a Cost Accountant for Benjamin Moore.

Mahfuzul Islam: MPV United Nations Youth Representative

Mahfuzul was born and raised in Queens, New York. He has a BA in International Political Economy and Economics from Fordham University. Currently an intern with the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, where he helps coordinates the Youth Assembly at the United Nations and other international projects. He’s been active abroad in South Africa, the Philippines, Bosnia, Turkey, and Bangladesh. He has aspirations of higher education and a career in International Relations. He believes an inclusive community will naturally gravitate towards progress for mankind as a whole.
WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

Matthew Simonds: Board Member

Matthew Simonds has taught the Arabic language, Islamic studies and Middle Eastern history, and is particularly interested in interfaith dialogue, LGBT rights and issues surrounding those living with HIV and AIDS. He attended the University of California, Berkeley where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with high honors with a BA in Political Science and Middle Eastern Studies. He went on to get a Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies at Berkeley with specializations in Islamic history and Sufism, and studied Arabic for a year at the Center for Arabic Study Abroad in Cairo, Egypt. He has received many grants and awards including two Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships in Arabic, a one year fellowship at the American Research Center in Egypt, a research grant in Morocco from the American Institute for Maghreb Studies, and a grant from the Social Science Research Council to attend a dissertation workshop held in Istanbul at the American Research Institute in Turkey.

Frank Parmir: MPV-Columbus Director

Frank Parmir is a lifetime native of Columbus, Ohio. He is a retired carpenter and anti-nuclear weapons activist. Because he experienced such a common and casual tolerance for war and poverty within his society, Frank spent most of his adult life publically agitating for better ethics, but identifying himself as an atheist. After a visit to Konya on the eight hundredth anniversary of Rumi’s Union with God, Frank became deeply interested in Islamic Sufism. With subsequent readings of the Qur’an he found an ‘utterly magnificent description of the Infinite Power and Perfect Goodness of The One Reality.’ Frank and his wife took shahada at Masjid Omar in 2008. Visiting various nearby Mosques and finding none that would be welcoming of their two lesbian daughters (should they embrace Islam) with full equality. Frank started MPV-Columbus which is the only inclusive mosque in Ohio, and perhaps the whole Midwest, with a regularly scheduled female Imamah.
WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

Ahmed Karrar: MPV-Chicago Director

Ahmed Karrar is a second year law student at Loyola University Chicago School of Law. He was born in Coventry, England and has been living in America since 1996. He grew up in Grand Blanc, Michigan and attended University of Michigan-Flint for undergrad; currently a civil rights law clerk at the Council of American Islamic Relations in Chicago and has aspirations of going to business school after attaining his law degree. He has always been an advocate for progressive values within the Muslim world and looks forward to working with MPV to building Muslim communities in which inclusion and open dialogue are promoted.
Reza Aslan

Dr. Reza Aslan, an internationally acclaimed writer and scholar of religions, is author of the #1 New York Times Bestseller *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*. He is the founder of AslanMedia.com, an online journal for news and entertainment about the Middle East and the world, and co-founder and Chief Creative Officer of BoomGen Studios, the premier entertainment brand for creative content from and about the Greater Middle East. Aslan's degrees include a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from Santa Clara University (Major focus: New Testament; Minor: Greek), a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard University (Major focus: History of Religions), a PhD in the Sociology of Religions from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Iowa, where he was named the Truman Capote Fellow in Fiction. Born in Iran, he lives in Los Angeles with his wife (author and entrepreneur Jessica Jackley) where he is Associate Professor of Creative Writing and Cooperating Faculty in the Department of Religion at the University of California, Riverside. His previous academic positions include the Wallerstein Distinguished Professor of Religion, Community and Conflict at Drew University in New Jersey (2012-2013), and Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion at the University of Iowa (2000-2003).

Amir Hussein

Dr. Amir Hussain is Associate Professor in the Department of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he teaches courses on world religions. His own particular speciality is the study of Islam, focusing on contemporary Muslim societies in North America. Although born in Pakistan, Amir immigrated to Canada with his family when he was four. His academic degrees (BSc, MA, PhD) are all from the University of Toronto where he received a number of awards, including the university’s highest award for alumni service. Amir’s PhD dissertation was on Muslim communities in Toronto. In 2008, Amir was chosen by vote of LMU students as the Professor of the Year. Amir's new book is an introduction to Islam for North Americans entitled Oil and Water: Two Faiths, One God (Kelowna: Copper House, 2006). He is currently working on a scholarly book on Islam in Canada entitled Canadian Faces of Islam; and a textbook entitled Muslims: Islam in the West in the 21st Century.
Karima Bennoune

Dr. Karima Bennoune is a professor of international law at the University of California–Davis School of Law. She grew up in Algeria and the United States and now lives in northern California.

She has published widely in many leading academic journals, as well as in the Guardian, The New York Times, Comment is Free, the website of Al Jazeera English, The Nation and is a Dayton Literary Peace Prize award winning author of ‘Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here’.

She has served as a member of the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law and on the board of directors of Amnesty International USA. Currently, she sits on the Board of the Network of Women Living Under Muslim Laws. She has also been a consultant on human rights issues for the International Council on Human Rights Policy, the Soros Foundation, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, and for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Her human rights field missions have included Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Fiji, Lebanon, Pakistan, South Korea, southern Thailand, and Tunisia.

She has served as an observer at pro-democracy protests with the support of the Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights, and volunteered as an election observer during the Tunisian constituent assembly elections with Gender Concerns International.
WHO WE ARE

Advisory Council – Activists

Daayiee Abdullah

Daayiee is a prominent veteran sexuality rights activist within Muslim and interfaith contexts, and Imam of Masjid el-Tawhid An-Nur Al-Isslaah (Mosque for Enlightenment and Reform), and affiliated with the California-based organization MPV (Muslims for Progressive Values) as MPV-Washington, DC co-chapter leader. Daayiee is a scholar, a former public interest lawyer and a specialist in Shari’ah Sciences/Quranic Interpretation. He frequently lectures internationally on progressive Muslim concepts, interfaith networking and the development of inclusive revisions of Islamic theological thought and interpretations of Sharia. He has also long been involved in actively promoting understanding and awareness of issues of racial, sexual and gender equality both within and beyond Muslim communities.

Zainah Anwar

Zainah Anwar is a prominent Malaysian non-governmental organisation leader and activist. She was the head of Sisters in Islam (SIS) for two decades. Ms. Anwar currently serves as project director for the SIS-initiated global movement for justice and equality in the Muslim family (MUSAWAH) and is on the board of directors for SIS. Ms. Anwar received a postgraduate degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, and is a former member of Malaysia’s Human Rights Commission. She has been profiled in the International Herald Tribune and on the PBS news show, Frontline. Ms. Anwar’s book, Islamic Revivalism in Malaysia: Dakwah among the Students (Pelanduk, 1987), continues to be cited for its insights into modern-day Islam in Malaysia, and she is a frequent contributor to the editorial pages of Malaysia’s main newspaper, the New Straits Times. Her recent editorials cover such topics as freedom of the press, the underachievement of boys in Malaysian schools, compassion and pluralism in Islam, freedom of religion in the Arab world, and Malaysia’s gender gap in politics and the economy.
Advisory Council – Activists

Saleemah Abdul-Ghafur

Saleemah Abdul-Ghafur is part of a national movement to end gender discrimination in the American Muslim community by participating in a civil action to give women space and voice in American mosques where they have traditionally been banned. In addition to working to establish women as prayer leaders and co-organizing a historic woman-led prayer in New York City, Abdul-Ghafur edited Living Islam Out Loud: American Muslim Women Speak, the first anthology collecting the voices of American Muslim women. The book presents American Muslim women dealing with the complexities of forging their own identities while contributing powerfully to public life. She is a graduate of Columbia University.

El-Farouk Khaki

El-Farouk Khaki is a refugee and immigration lawyer. His practice primarily involves representing women fleeing gender violence, LGBTQI People fleeing persecution because of their sexual orientation and or gender identity, as well as people fleeing persecution because of their HIV status. A human rights and social justice advocate, he leadership has been recognized by the awards he has received including: 2006 “Excellence in Spirituality” Award – Pride Toronto; 2007 Hero Award, Canadian Bar Association The Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Conference; 2007 Steinert and Ferreiro Award from the Lesbian and Gay Community Appeal. In 2009 in addition to being the Grand Marshall for the 2009 Toronto Pride Parade, he was also the recipient of the “Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop”, Pride Toronto Theme Award. In 2008, he ran for Canadian Federal Parliament in two elections for the New Democratic Party of Canada. El-Farouk is the founder of Salaam: Queer Muslim community, an organization he originally started in 1991. In May 2009, he co-founded the el-Tawhid Juma Circle with his partner Troy Jackson and dear friend, Dr. Laury Silvers. He is also co-founder of Canadian Muslim Union of which he is Secretary General, as well as co-Founder of the Muslim AIDS Project. El-Farouk has set on many boards and is a public speaker on Islam, the Immigration and Refugee system, human rights, racism, politics and HIV/AIDS.
WHAT WE BELIEVE

Key Positions

Islamic Fundamentalism

• MPV is strongly opposed to acts of terror and violence carried out in the name of Islam. Yet, we believe that radicalization can be prevented when dialogue, tolerance and freedom of expression are promoted within Muslim communities and when youth has access to education that promotes progressive understandings of Islam. As such, MPV advocates for an inclusive Muslim community, accepting of freedom of expression and a diversity of philosophical and spiritual traditions, while promoting universal human rights. Moreover, MPV believes that it is imperative that progressive and innovative educational materials are accessible to Muslims around the world in order to counter radical content, which is particularly prevalent online.

Women's Rights

• MPV is strongly against the oppression of women, particularly in the name of Islam. We believe that women should be in complete control of her thought, expression and sexuality rather than the current gradient from silencing a woman’s voice to complete control of thought, of expression, of sexuality. We condemn violations of women’s rights carried out in the name of Islam as baseless, such as female genital mutilation and cutting, forced marriages, acid attacks, honour killings, and others.
LGBTQI Rights

- MPV believes in an inclusive community and we endorse the human and civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTQI) individuals. We affirm our commitment to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and we support full equality and inclusion of all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, in society and in the Muslim community. We stand firmly against laws in Muslim-majority countries that criminalize homosexuality.

Freedom of Expression

- MPV advocates for freedom of expression and freedom of dissent. No one should be legally prosecuted, imprisoned or detained for declaring or promoting unpopular opinions whether political, artistic, social or religious, even when said expression may be offensive or afore-mentioned dissent may be considered blasphemous.

Freedom of and from Religion

- MPV upholds the Qu’ranic mandate "let there be no compulsion in religion" (Q:2:256), that freedom of conscience is not only essential to all human societies, but integral to the Qu’ranic view of humanity.
WHAT WE DO

Work Structure

MPV's Programs

Community Programs

- Arts
- Faith-based Initiatives
- Social Justice
- Educational Campaigns
- Analysis
- Events
- Advocacy & Outreach

Global Advocacy Programs
WHAT WE DO

Programming - Community Level

MPV carries out grassroots activities through its local chapters in the US, namely in Atlanta, Columbus, Washington DC, Chicago, New York and Los Angeles, and in Australia, Canada, Chile, France and Malaysia. These activities serve to promote the mission and values of MPV at the local level. The activities fall under the following categories:

**Arts**
- Creation of specific progressive ijtihad content targeted to youth. This content is distributed via social media, forums, lectures, YouTube, music, arts festivals and other communication vehicles utilized by youth, thus by-passing established religious and political institutions.
- Sponsoring and hosting of lecture series, faith/interfaith-based services, arts, music and theater events that promote inclusive expressions of Islam.
- Development of a comprehensive media and public relations campaign that includes strategic use of press releases, social media, earned media, and cultural expressions.

**Faith-Based Initiatives**
- Supporting the Unity Mosques in their religious activities, such as Eid prayer services, Quran studies.
- Conducting marriages, including interfaith and same-sex Islamic marriages.
- Engaging and collaborating with progressive interfaith groups.
- Engaging and collaborating with Islamic scholars in disseminating sound progressive Qur’anic ijtihad based on traditional Qur’anic texts.

**Social Justice**
- Coordination of a National Day of Action to support the development of local efforts and MPV's collective identity such as International Women's Day, Human Rights Day and Pride celebrations.
- Building alliances and partnerships and engaging with US-based organizations, such as Sauti Yetu and others, on the domestic issues of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting and child/forced marriages.
- Advocating for key changes on issues of gender equality, LGBTQI rights, freedom of expression and freedom of and from belief within American Muslim communities.
- Partnering with several national organizations on women's reproductive rights.
- Advocating for parole of youth offenders in partnership with Fair Sentencing for Youth.

**Educational Campaigns**
- Creation of specific progressive ijtihad content targeted to youth. This content is distributed via social media, forums, lectures, YouTube, music, arts festivals and other communication vehicles utilized by youth, thus by-passing established religious and political institutions.
- Sharing educational materials and raising awareness through conferences, universities and seminars.
- Engagement and collaboration with Islamic scholars in disseminating sound progressive Qur’anic ijtihad based on traditional Qur’anic texts.
WHAT WE DO

Programming - Global Level

On a global level, MPV carries out activities geared at advocating against human rights abuses carried out in the name of Islam in Muslim-majority states. MPV particularly monitors human rights issues in Muslim-majority countries related to women's rights, LGBTQI rights, freedom of and from religion and freedom of expression. The activities carried out under MPV's Global Advocacy Work fall under the following categories:

Educational Campaign
- Production, translation and dissemination of innovative educational materials addressing key areas of concern, such as infographics, social media content, short videos.
- Translation and dissemination of MPV’s shadow reports, policy briefs, statements.

Analysis
- Production of statements, policy briefs and shadow reports to be shared with country representatives, policy makers, civil society and lay audience.
- Monitoring of human rights issues in Muslim-majority countries.
- Collection of grassroots information on human rights issues in Muslim-majority countries.

Events
- Participating in debates, interactive dialogues, panel discussions and informal meetings with relevant Member States of the UN, civil society leaders and like-minded religious and non-religious non-governmental organizations.
- Organizing and attending parallel events and hosting of speakers, including scholars in Islam, progressive religious leaders and civil society leaders, to share their expertise and first-hand accounts on human rights issues to a global audience.

Advocacy and Outreach
- Sharing MPV's mission, vision and guiding principles with women and LGBTQI human rights advocates, religious minority advocates, UN Member States, human rights NGOs and members of relevant UN human rights committees to build support and collaboration in preparing oral and written statements and when building advocacy campaigns.
- Promoting perspectives derived from MPV’s work and analyses to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN treaty bodies and special mechanisms, and international, regional, and national NGOs involved in international advocacy.
WHAT WE DO

Current Projects

⇒ On-going panel discussions at the United Nations in Geneva and in New York.

⇒ Literary Zikr Project: the adaptation of progressive Islamic concepts into simple middle-school level English in countering conservative and radical literature found online, in order to provide educational material for youth.

⇒ National annual retreats.

⇒ Monthly LGBTQI gatherings and support circles.

⇒ Book readings with authors.

⇒ Movie screenings with producers and actors around social issues.

⇒ Mosaic - nurturing and promoting American Muslim artists.

⇒ “It’s Your Mic” – a monthly open mic event with a mission to create a safe space for youth to feel valued, empowered and celebrated, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, and/or any other aspect of their identity.

⇒ Annual hosting of VDay that promotes domestic violence awareness, LGBTQI inclusiveness, and women’s empowerment.

Past Projects

⇒ God Loves Beauty - an annual interfaith arts and music festival.

⇒ The production of the documentary *Jihad: Feminism and Reform*.

⇒ Publication of the anthology “Progressive Muslim Identities: Personal Stories from the U.S. and Canada”.

⇒ Production of the first lecture series on *LGBTQI Rights in Islam*. 
WHAT WE DO

In Action

Educational Meetings

Female-Led Prayers

Marriage Services

Panel Discussions
WHERE WE WORK

MPV Chapters and Affiliates

Within 7 years, MPV has spread all around the world. MPV now has chapters and affiliates in:

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Around The World

Los Angeles, USA
Atlanta, USA
Washington DC, USA
New York, USA
Chicago, USA
Ohio, USA
Australia
Canada
Chile
France
Malaysia
WITH WHOM WE WORK

Partners

MPV has been able to work together with like-minded non-religious and religious organizations who seek to promote respect for human rights and the promotion of human dignity, regardless of culture or religious affiliation.

In North America, such partners include:

⇒ Americans United for Separation of Church and State (USA)
⇒ ASMA Society, (New York, USA)
⇒ Canadian Muslim Union (Canada)
⇒ Catholics for Choice (USA)
⇒ Council of Canadian Muslim Women (Canada)
⇒ Council on Foreign Relations (USA)
⇒ Human Rights Campaign (USA)
⇒ Levantine Culture Center (USA)
⇒ Libforall Foundation (North Carolina, USA)
⇒ Los Angeles LGBT Center (Los Angeles, USA)
⇒ Muslim Women’s League (California, USA)
⇒ Muslimah Media Watch (USA)
⇒ National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (USA)
⇒ Network of Spiritual Progressives (Berkeley, CA)
⇒ Planned Parenthood (USA)
⇒ Religious Coalition for Reproduction Choice (USA)
⇒ Salaam Canada (Canada)
⇒ Temple Beth Hillel (Studio City, CA)
⇒ Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (New York, USA)
In the Muslim World and Global South, partners include:

- **Bedayaa** (Egypt and Sudan)
- **International Arab Group** (Muslim World and Global South)
- **Musawah – For Equality in the Family** (Malaysia)
- **Sisters in Islam** (Malaysia)
- **The Inner Circle** (South Africa)

In Europe, partners include:

- **ARC International** (Switzerland)
- **British Muslims for Secular Democracy** (United Kingdom)
- **CALEM** (France)
- **Forum for Critical Muslims** (Denmark)
- **IMAAN** (United Kingdom)
- **Inclusive Mosque Initiative** (United Kingdom)
- **International Service for Human Rights** (Switzerland)
- **Liberal Islamischer Bund e.V.** (Germany)
- **Liberal Muslim Network** (Norway)
- **Muslim Institute** (United Kingdom)
- **Pakistanis for Peace** (United Kingdom)
- **Quilliam Foundation** (United Kingdom)
- **Safra Project** (United Kingdom)
- **The Association of British Muslims** (United Kingdom)
- **The Association of Democratic Muslims** (Denmark)

MPV is also part of the following committee:

- **United Nations Committee on the Freedom of Religion or Belief** (New York, USA)
In 2014, MPV launched the Alliance of Inclusive Muslims (AIM): a collective of progressive Muslims across all nationality, race and sectarian affiliation. The purpose of AIM is to consolidate the efforts of progressive Muslims and progressive Muslim organizations from around the world in order to counter radical, intolerant and supremacist attitudes and behaviours in Muslim communities. AIM seeks to challenge theological justifications for hate and supremacism with the progressive values that we feel to be inherent in Islam, namely:

1. Human Rights for All
2. Freedom of Expression
3. Freedom of/from Religion
CONNECT WITH US

Social Media

MPV shares its mission, work and activities through various social media outlets. As of January 2015:

www.facebook.com/mpvusa
Over 4108 Likes!

www.facebook.com/groups/MPVUSA
Over 15687 members!

www.twitter.com/mpvusa
Over 881 followers!

www.youtube.com/progressivemuslims
Over 1,559 subscribers!
Over 2,519,929 views!

www.plus.google.com/+ProgressiveMuslims
Over 61 followers!
Over 7292 views!
CONNECT WITH US

Media Contact

For media inquiries, please contact MPV President Ani Zonneveld:

**Mailing Address:**

1626 N. Wilcox Ave., Suite 702
Los Angeles, CA 90028
USA

**Phone:**

+ 1.323.696.2678

**Website:**

www.mpvusa.org

**Email Address:**

info@mpvusa.org
WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT MPV

Testimonials

“I want you all to know, that even when this becomes hard for you to continue doing that slowly but surely you are opening the eyes to people who aren't Muslim but believe in what you believe and you open the eyes to people who are Muslims but may be too afraid to come forward.”

“I am fourteen and was born and raised Muslim but felt sort of out-of-place for my more liberal views and though I am straight I've always supported LGBT rights but felt it kind of stifling how it is not traditionally widely accepted. So I'm so happy I found this sect and I think it's so cool how it defies the traditional expectation of what a Muslim should look like. (I saw your Eid prayer video). Me and my friends often have conversations about religion and they were sort of shocked when I told them I'm Muslim because I guess I don't fit to that assumed category of what a Muslim needs to seem like (they have had other Muslim friends as well). So obviously I'm not old enough to pay credit card membership but I definitely would love to be a member later on! Thank you so much for proving that you can be an all out freakish liberal artsy person and not go against the word of God at all!!! Asalamualakum.”