



Photo credit: Loïc Bourgeois - Adobe Stock

Promises, Possibilities, and Pitfalls: Participatory Methodologies and the Politics of Knowing with Somali Muslim Youth



Suad Ahmed
York University



In this presentation, I explore the promises, possibilities, and pitfalls of participatory methodologies in educational research through a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) project with Somali Muslim youth in Toronto. Combining narrative and visual methods, including photovoice and narrative interviews, this project aims to position the youth of this study as co-researchers rather than objects of study. Drawing on decolonial and participatory scholarship, I examine how research can move beyond the language of “giving voice” to attend to refusal, silence, ambivalence, and desire as meaningful forms of knowledge production.

Suad Ahmed is a Ph.D. candidate in Education at York University, and CSRS visiting research fellow at UVic, studying Somali Muslim youth identity in Toronto using YPAR, Islamic ways of knowing, and arts-based methods.

Wednesday 12 August
5:30pm-6:30pm
[CLE C305](#)



Centre for Studies in
Religion and Society