
ISLAM, CARTOONS OF THE PROPHET, AND MURDER

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Brutal murder again by young Muslim fanatics in several European cities. Are these further cases of a clash of civilisations? Of western freedom of speech versus reactionary religious views? Or not?

The spectacle of bloody executions over caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad in France and Austria is horrifying. Nor is it the first time. There is zero justification for the murder of anyone and especially over ideology or religion. Period.

Citizens issue ringing statements upholding free speech □ value that is familiar, affirmative, and comforting. Yet looking at it more closely some discomfiting issues emerge that make it harder to simply reduce it all to simple freedom of speech as if that were the end of the story.

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