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Labor Market Outcomes of Middle Eastern Immigrants in the Aftermath of September 11th

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Oral Presentation O4.1

**LABOR MARKET OUTCOMES OF MIDDLE EASTERN IMMIGRANTS IN THE
AFTERMATH OF SEPTEMBER 11TH**

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Media reports all over the USA reported that a wave of Islamophobia had gripped the USA after the September 11, 2001 attacks. It seemed as though the American population were blaming not the radicals but the Middle Easterners and the Muslims in general for the inhumane act. Some reports even suggested a new sort of McCarthyism in the USA but this time against the Middle Eastern populace. My paper will investigate whether such discrimination transformed itself in the US labor market by conducting an econometric analysis, taking Becker's taste for discrimination theory as its theoretical basis. My paper will first analyze whether there was a significant change in wage differentials between Middle Eastern population groups compared to native Americans pre and post 2001. Secondly, my paper will accomplish a regional analysis to see whether the populations from certain Middle Eastern regions were discriminated more than other regions due to the perception of being closely related to the attacks of September 11th. Lastly, my paper will look at other labor market determinants such as labor force participation rates and unemployment rates, to make out whether discrimination was present in other avenues and to provide an all encompassing picture of Middle Eastern immigrants in the US labor market.