# The Right to Choose:

#### Women's Political Activity in Islamic States

Emily Gibson Friday, March 21, 2014

### Middle-East/North African Region (MENA)



#### Three Types of Political Activity (least to most active)

\* 1) Political discourse and communityaffiliated activities, such as meetings

\* 2) Political protest and demonstration

\* 3) Holding public office

Are Muslim women relatively inactive (compared to Western expectations) in politics due to oppression by their maledominated society or by personal choice?

## Muslim women are elected when...

\* They run for office at the municipal level

 They run with a lesser or non-religiously affiliated party

\* There is a quota system in place









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