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THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF
COMMUNITY ACTIVISM
MUSLIM CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANISATIONS IN
AUSTRALIA
NORA AMATH



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Series Editor: Shahram Akbarzadeh

Nora Amath will be available
for interview from December.

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THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF COMMUNITY ACTIVISM

Muslim Civil Society Organisations in Australia

by Nora Amath

'Amath has displayed rigour, authenticity and clarity of thought and analysis. This is a solid piece of research that investigates a significant issue pertaining to Australian Muslims through the lens of Muslim civil society organisations in Australia.'

—PROFESSOR FETHI MANSOURI, DIRECTOR OF THE ALFRED DEAKIN INSTITUTE FOR CITIZENSHIP AND GLOBALISATION AND UNESCO CHAIR IN COMPARATIVE RESEARCH

'This book reveals what will be surprising to some, that there are many and varied MCSOs in Australia, that in many ways they are similar to other civil society organisations, serve similar purposes and encounter similar issues. This is a very important datum to stand against the prejudices about Muslims and their organisations.'

—PROFESSOR EMERITUS GARY BOUMA, EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY AT MONASH UNIVERSITY, UNESCO CHAIR IN INTERCULTURAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONS—ASIA PACIFIC

Muslim communities are among the least understood in Australia, and yet they form a vibrant part of the multicultural society to which we aspire.

The Phenomenology of Community Activism provides a deeper understanding of Australian Muslim civil society organisations. It explores how these groups have responded to the challenges of the national sociopolitical context, the perceived impact of these experiences, and how Islam is manifested within the contexts of these experiences. In contrast to much publicised jihadist and radical groups, these organisations are far more representative of Muslim communities and integral to the long-term position of Islam in Australia.

This book offers researchers, policy makers and those engaged in community development a rich understanding of Muslim community building, engagement and agency.

Nora Amath completed her PhD at Griffith University, looking at how Muslim civil society organisations have responded to the sociopolitical context in Australia. Amath's academic interest includes Muslims in the West, the sociology of Islam and community development. She is also highly active in human rights advocacy, community work and international development, including interfaith understanding, and has received a number of awards.

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