

STATE OF BRITISH MEDIA 2025

REPORTING ON MUSLIMS AND ISLAM

BIAS
MISREPRESENTATION
IMPACT

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ISBN: 9781905461141

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STATE OF BRITISH MEDIA 2025

REPORTING ON MUSLIMS AND ISLAM

**A REPORT BY
CENTRE FOR MEDIA MONITORING**

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01

About Us

The Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM) is an independent non profit organisation dedicated to analysing how Muslims and Islam are represented in British media. Through systematic monitoring and evidence-based analysis, we document patterns of coverage, identify problematic reporting practices, and highlight examples of responsible journalism. We engage constructively with editors, journalists, regulators and policy makers to promote fair, accurate, and contextualized media representation.



02

Introduction

Media representation shapes the public consciousness. The narratives constructed by journalists, the headlines chosen by editors, and the context provided or omitted by news outlets collectively form the lens through which millions of people understand communities different from their own. For Britain's Muslim population, estimated at over 4 million people, media coverage serves as a primary source of information for the non-Muslim majority, influencing everything from workplace interactions to voting patterns, from policy debates to acts of discrimination or solidarity.

This report presents a comprehensive quantitative analysis of how British media covered Muslims and Islam throughout 2025, examining 40,913 articles across 30 major news outlets, from national broadcasters to tabloid newspapers, from international wire services to specialist publications. Unlike previous studies that have relied on selective sampling or qualitative analysis of notable cases, this research systematically evaluates the entire landscape of coverage using consistent and rigorous metrics designed to identify bias, misrepresentation, negative association, generalisation, contextual omission, and problematic headlines.

The methodology employed here moves beyond subjective assessments to create measurable, replicable criteria. An article is deemed “Biased” if it includes two or more of the following five factors and 'Very Biased' if it includes four or five: presence of negative associations with Islam or Muslims, use of broad generalisations rather than specific attribution, instances of misrepresentation, omission of contextual information or diverse perspectives, and quality of headlines.

Additionally, each article has been categorised by themes, allowing for analysis of how subject matters influence coverage quality. This multi-dimensional approach enables us to identify not just which outlets perform poorly, but precisely how they fail, whether through sensationalised headlines, lack of Muslim voices, sweeping generalisations, or systematic omission of exculpatory context.

The findings documented in this report are not merely academic. They have real-world consequences. Research has consistently demonstrated correlations between negative media coverage of Muslims and increases in hate crimes, employment discrimination, and support for restrictive policies. When newspapers consistently associate Muslims with terrorism, when broadcasters fail to include Muslim perspectives in stories about Muslim communities, when headlines sensationalise rather than inform, the cumulative effect is a distorted public understanding that treats a diverse population of millions as a monolithic threat.

This report is structured to provide both breadth and depth. We begin with overall statistics demonstrating the scale of problematic coverage, then drill down into publication-specific patterns to identify which outlets bear greatest responsibility. We examine how bias manifests differently across topics, revealing that the same outlets capable of fair coverage of Muslims in sports or entertainment systematically fail when addressing politics, immigration, or terrorism. We also employ weighted scoring methodologies that account for both the proportion of biased coverage and its absolute volume, ensuring that outlets producing thousands of biased articles cannot hide behind slightly better percentages than smaller publications.¹ The evidence presented here should serve as a catalyst for change for editors to examine their output and editorial processes, for journalists to question their framing choices, for media literacy educators to highlight these patterns, and for readers to approach coverage with informed skepticism. British media can do better. This report shows precisely how far there is to go.

1. More details of how this is calculated can be found in the Methodology.

03

Executive Summary

Scope of the Study

This analysis examines how Muslims and Islam were covered across major British news websites in 2025, focusing on articles referencing Muslim communities, Islamic practices, or related issues. In total, 40,913 articles from 30 media outlets were assessed, with the full list of publications provided in Appendix A. The findings reveal consistent patterns of bias, misrepresentation, and problematic framing in reporting.

This report documents a media environment where Muslims are systematically portrayed through lenses of conflict, threat, and controversy. The data reveals not isolated incidents of poor journalism, but structural patterns of bias embedded across British media, with profound implications for social cohesion, public perception, and the lived experiences of Muslim communities in the UK.

This report reveals a profound and systemic crisis in the quality of British media coverage of Muslims and Islam. With 70% of articles highlighting negative aspects, 44% omitting essential context, 17% containing generalisations, and 13% featuring outright misrepresentation, the cumulative evidence points to a widespread information integrity crisis that places public understanding at serious risk. When nearly half of all articles demonstrate measurable bias, audiences are routinely denied the balanced, accurate information necessary to form considered views on matters of significant social importance. This crisis of public understanding is further compounded by deep media concentration concerns, with a small cluster of right-wing outlets dominating every category of harmful reporting, constraining the diversity of perspectives available to the British public and creating a media environment in which distorted portrayals of Muslims and Islam have become normalised at scale. These conditions give rise to the following key findings.

Key Findings

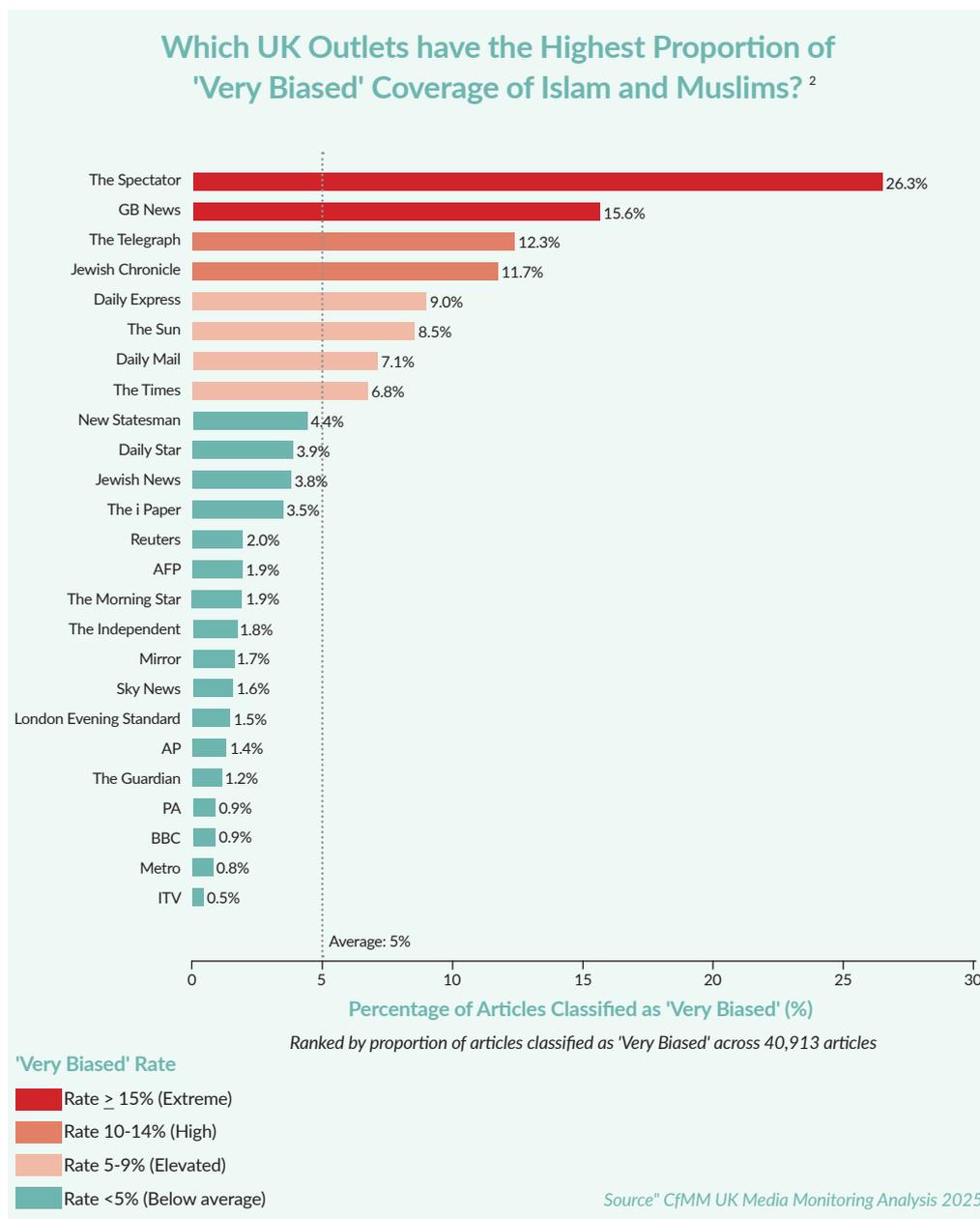
Nearly 50% of all articles published about Muslims in the UK (approx. 20,000 pieces) contained varying degrees of bias. This means audiences are routinely denied balanced and accurate information on matters of significant social importance. Extensive research has shown correlations between negative portrayals of Muslims and rising hate crime, employment discrimination, and support for restrictive policies.

01

02 Negative framing is pervasive among the UK media's coverage of Muslims and Islam. Across all 40,913 articles analysed, 70% contain information that associate Muslims and/or Islam with negative aspects or behaviours. While negative stories about Muslims and Islam are not inherently biased, this 70% figure suggests a deeply concerning trend.

03

A distinct cluster of right-wing publications consistently produced the highest amount of biased coverage against Muslims. *The Spectator*, *GB News*, *The Telegraph*, *Jewish Chronicle*, *Daily Express*, *The Sun*, *Daily Mail* and *The Times* scored the worst across all five bias-categories: negative coverage, generalisation, misrepresentation, contextual omission and problematic headlines. Such multifaceted-issues suggest that harmful coverage is not incidental among these outlets, but the result of a coherent and/or widespread editorial hostility towards Islam and Muslims.



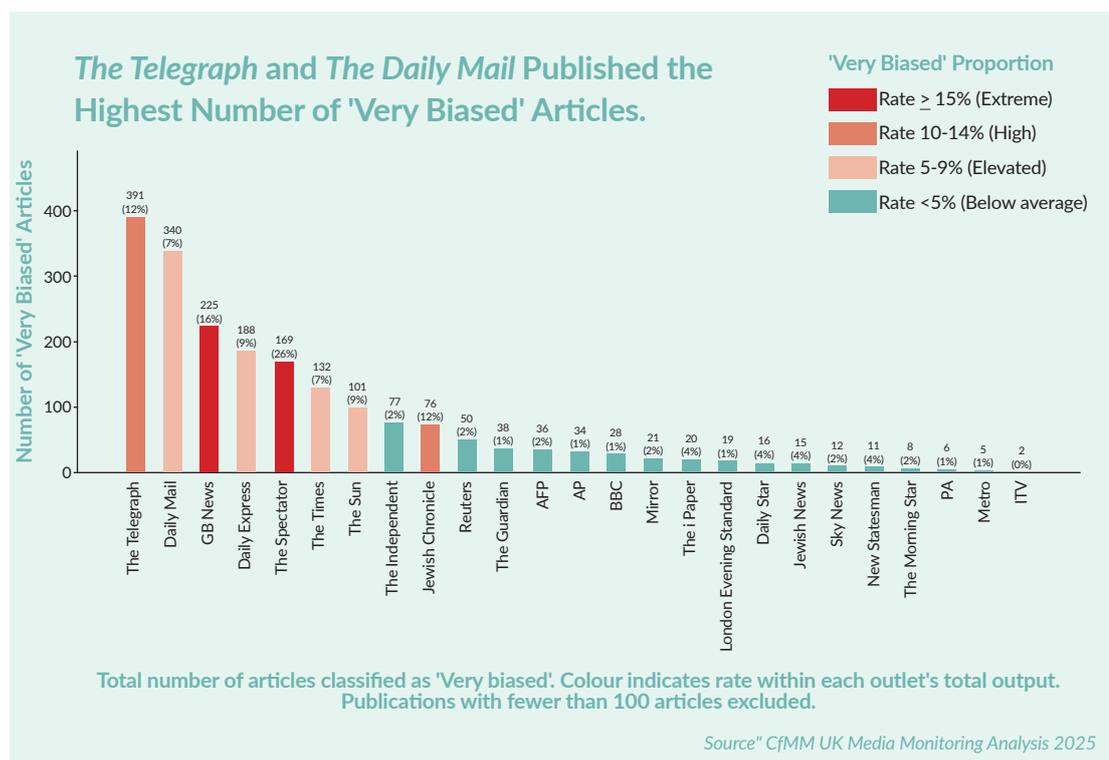
2. Publications with fewer than 100 articles have been excluded from this graph on the grounds that a limited sample size risks producing disproportionate or unrepresentative rates, where a small number of articles classified in any category can generate misleadingly high percentages that do not reliably reflect a sustained editorial pattern. A threshold of 100 articles provides a sufficient volume to identify meaningful and consistent trends rather than statistical anomalies.

04

Over 1 in 4 of *The Spectator's* articles were ranked as 'Very Biased', thereby representing the highest concentration of severely anti-Muslim bias among UK publications. Its coverage suggests a publication where negative, generalising, and distorted portrayals of Muslims and Islam are near-universal, rather than exceptional.

05

The Telegraph, followed by *The Daily Mail*, published the highest number of 'Very Biased' articles against Muslims. While smaller right-wing outlets like *The Spectator* are more biased, proportionally speaking, *The Telegraph* and *The Daily Mail* pushed out the highest volume of anti-Muslim pieces.



Generalisation about Muslims is almost exclusively a right-wing editorial practice. The outlets with the highest amount of generalisation were almost all right-wing: *GB News* (where 39% of its biased articles included generalisations), *The Telegraph* (32%), *Daily Express* (24%), *The Times* (22%), *The Sun* (21%), and *The Daily Mail* (20%). By contrast, *The BBC* (6%), *The Guardian* (11%), and *The Independent* (11%) record substantially lower rates, demonstrating that sweeping characterisations of Muslims as a collective are a distinguishable feature of right-wing editorial culture rather than a general media tendency.

06

07 **Contextual omission is the most widespread form of media failing across all outlets.** 44% of the 18,614 biased articles analyzed in this study contained contextual omissions. This failure to provide adequate context is the single most prevalent harmful practice identified in this research. Unlike other categories where harm is concentrated in right-wing outlets, contextual omission extends to titles across the spectrum, such as *The Guardian* (where 51% of its biased articles failed to provide context) and *The Independent* (44%), thereby suggesting a structural failing embedded across UK journalism as a whole.

GB News has rapidly established itself as one of the most harmful outlets despite its relatively recent launch. Across all 5 bias-categories, *GB News* records rates that place it consistently among the worst performing outlets, thereby suggesting that *GB News* has embedded a systematic pattern of hostile coverage towards Islam and Muslims as a core feature of its editorial identity.

08

09 **The BBC consistently records the lowest or near-lowest rates of bias among major outlets across all metrics.** While its coverage is far from perfect, its relative performance demonstrates that scale need not come at the cost of editorial standards and that public service obligations provide meaningful constraints on the most harmful forms of coverage.

International wire services amplify harmful coverage through syndication despite moderate rates. While *AP*, *Reuters*, and *AFP* all recorded relatively moderate rates of bias, their danger lies in their reach. As content syndicated across hundreds of outlets globally, even moderate levels of negative framing or contextual omission in wire service reporting carry a disproportionate real-world impact, thereby embedding harmful narratives throughout the broader media ecosystem.

10

11 **Harmful coverage of Islam and Muslims cannot be attributed to media-wide tendencies alone; it reflects identifiable editorial choices.** The wide variation between publications across every category, such as the *BBC*'s 49% negative-framing rate to *The Spectator*'s 93%, demonstrates conclusively that the level of harmful coverage a publication produces is a product of deliberate editorial decisions rather than the inevitable constraints of news reporting. Five publications record zero problematic headlines, several maintain generalisation rates below 10%, and broadcasters (like the *BBC*) consistently outperform print outlets across most metrics, thereby proving that responsible, accurate, and contextualised reporting on Islam and Muslims is entirely achievable.

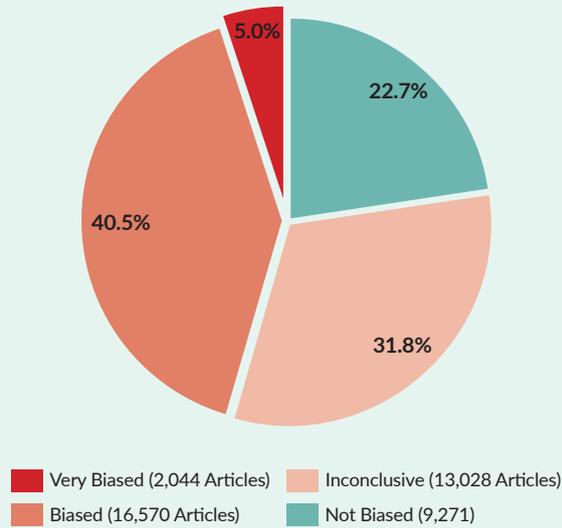
04

Most Biased Publications in UK Online News 2025

This section describes patterns of media bias across a range of UK and international news outlets, using four categories: 'Biased', 'Very Biased', 'Inconclusive', and 'Not Biased'. Rather than relying only on article counts, it assesses the proportion of 'Very Biased' articles in each publication by percentage and volume giving a combined rating. The accompanying graphs highlight not only which outlets publish the highest volume of biased content, but also where bias appears to be a recurring editorial feature rather than an occasional lapse.³

3. A full table of publications and their Bias scores can be found in Appendix C.

'Bias' Classification Across 40,913 Articles



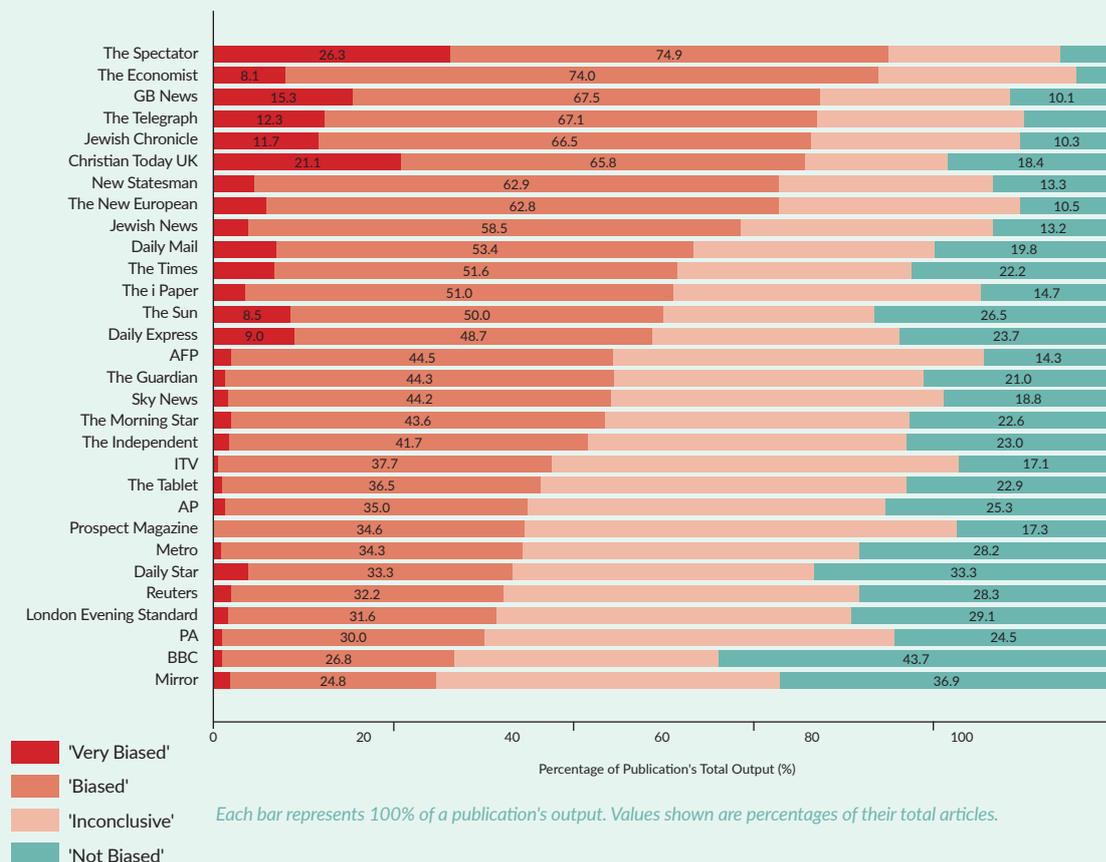
Source" CfMM UK Media Monitoring Analysis 2025

'Bias' Classification Across 40,913 Articles

Bias Level	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total
'Very Biased'	2,044	5.00%
'Biased'	16,570	40.50%
'Inconclusive'	13,028	31.84%
'Not Biased'	9,271	22.66%
Grand Total	40,913	100.00%

Source" CfMM UK Media Monitoring Analysis 2025

Article Classification as Proportion of Each Publication's Total Output



Key Findings

- 01** | ***The Spectator* had the most 'Biased' coverage (proportionally speaking).** With 26.3% of its articles classified as 'Very Biased', *The Spectator* produced the highest rate of any major outlet, meaning more than one in four of its articles were marked in the most extreme category of biased coverage.
- 02** | ***The Telegraph's* 'Bias' has the greatest overall impact.** *The Telegraph* is the single most impactful outlet for 'Very Biased' coverage when volume and proportionality are considered together (known in this study as the 'weighted score').
- 03** | ***GB News* sustains extreme 'Bias' at scale.** Despite being a new player in the UK media industry, *GB News* ranks highly for its 'Very Biased' coverage, with nearly one in six articles reaching the most severe classification.
- 04** | **A distinct right-wing cluster exceeds the 10% threshold.** Among publications with over 100 biased articles, every outlet exceeding a 10% 'Very Biased' rate is rightwing: *The Spectator* (26.3%), *GB News* (15.6%), *The Telegraph* (12.3%), and *The Jewish Chronicle* (11.7%). This clustering confirms that the most extreme 'Bias' is not a general media failing but an ideologically specific pattern.
- 05** | **Mainstream and public broadcasters show relative restraint.** The *BBC* (0.86%), *ITV* (0.49%), *Reuters* (2.0%), and *AP* (1.35%) all record very low rates of 'Very Biased' rates, remaining well below the 5% overall average. This suggests that editorial oversight within broadcasters and international wire services provides meaningful protection against the most severe forms of 'Biased' coverage.

05

‘Very Biased’ Content Analysis

The ‘Very Biased’ category represents the most severe level of editorial bias identified in our analysis, capturing articles where prejudicial framing, distortion, or hostility towards Islam and Muslims is not merely present but dominant. Across all 40,913 articles analysed, 2,044 were classified as Very Biased, representing an overall rate of 5%. However, this figure is highly uneven in its distribution, with a concentrated cluster of right-wing publications responsible for the vast majority of ‘Very Biased’ output. The combined volume and rate score reveals that *The Telegraph*, *The Spectator*, and *GB News* together account for the three highest weighted scores by a considerable margin, demonstrating that the most extreme forms of biased coverage are not isolated incidents but systematic features of specific editorial cultures.

Critical finding: Just three publications *The Telegraph*, *Daily Mail*, and *GB News* account for nearly half (46.8%) of all ‘Very Biased’ content, despite representing only 22.5% of total coverage. This extreme concentration indicates that severely problematic content is not equally distributed across the media landscape.

Scale and Distribution of ‘Very Biased’ Content

- ▶ **Overall Prevalence:** 2,044 articles classified as ‘Very Biased’ out of 40,933 total (5.0%). While representing a minority of content, these articles pose disproportionate risks to information quality due to their severity.
- ▶ **Extreme Variation:** ‘Very Biased’ rates range from 0% (*Prospect Magazine*) to 26.3% (*The Spectator*) a difference that cannot be explained by topic, format, or audience alone. This demonstrates that extreme bias is a choice, not an inevitability.
- ▶ **Below-Average Performance Widespread:** The median ‘Very Biased’ rate is 2.75%, yet 13 of 30 publications (43%) exceed this level, indicating that severe bias problems affect a substantial portion of the media landscape.
- ▶ **Severe Concentration:** The top 10 publications account for 85.6% of all ‘Very Biased’ content, demonstrating that extreme ‘Bias’ is highly concentrated among a small number of outlets.

Publications with Highest ‘Very Biased’ Rates

The following publications have the highest proportion of ‘Very Biased’ content relative to their total output, indicating systematic editorial failures:

- ▶ ***The Spectator*: 26.3%** (169 of 642 articles) - More than one in four articles classified as ‘Very Biased’. This is the most extreme rate among all publications and represents a complete breakdown of editorial standards. For context, this is 29 times higher than the *BBC*’s rate.

- ▶ **Christian Today UK: 21.1%** (8 of 38 articles) – Despite a small sample size, this extraordinarily high rate indicates severe problems. More than one in five articles reach the ‘Very Biased’ threshold.
- ▶ **GB News: 15.3%** (225 of 1,466 articles) – With a substantial sample size, this high rate is particularly concerning. Nearly one in six articles classified as ‘Very Biased’, representing 11.0% of all ‘Very Biased’ content across all publications.
- ▶ **The Telegraph: 12.3%** (391 of 3,170 articles) – Approximately one in eight articles reaches ‘Very Biased’ classification. Combined with high volume, this makes *The Telegraph* the single largest producer of ‘Very Biased’ content (19.1% of all such articles).
- ▶ **Jewish Chronicle: 11.7%** (76 of 650 articles) – More than one in ten articles classified as ‘Very Biased’.

Publications Producing Most ‘Very Biased’ Content

These five right-wing publications produce the highest absolute numbers of ‘Very Biased’ articles, giving them outsized influence on the information ecosystem. These publications together produce 1,313 ‘Very Biased’ articles, 64.2% of all such content across all 30 publications.

- ▶ **The Telegraph: 391 articles** (19.1% of all ‘Very Biased’ content) - By far the largest single source of ‘Very Biased’ articles. Nearly one in five of all such articles across all 30 publications come from *The Telegraph*.
- ▶ **Daily Mail: 340 articles** (16.6% of all ‘Very Biased’ content): Second-highest volume despite a relatively moderate ‘Very Biased’ rate (7.1%). The combination of high total output (4,812 articles) with a 7.1% ‘Very Biased’ rate produces this substantial volume.

- ▶ **GB News: 225 articles** (11.0% of all 'Very Biased' content) - Third-highest volume, combining high rate (15.3%) with moderate output (1,466 articles).
- ▶ **Daily Express: 188 articles** (9.2% of all 'Very Biased' content) - Fourth-highest volume with 9.0% 'Very Biased' rate.
- ▶ **The Spectator: 169 articles** (8.3% of all 'Very Biased' content) - Fifth-highest volume. Despite smaller overall output (642 articles), the extremely high 'Very Biased' rate (26.3%) produces substantial volume.

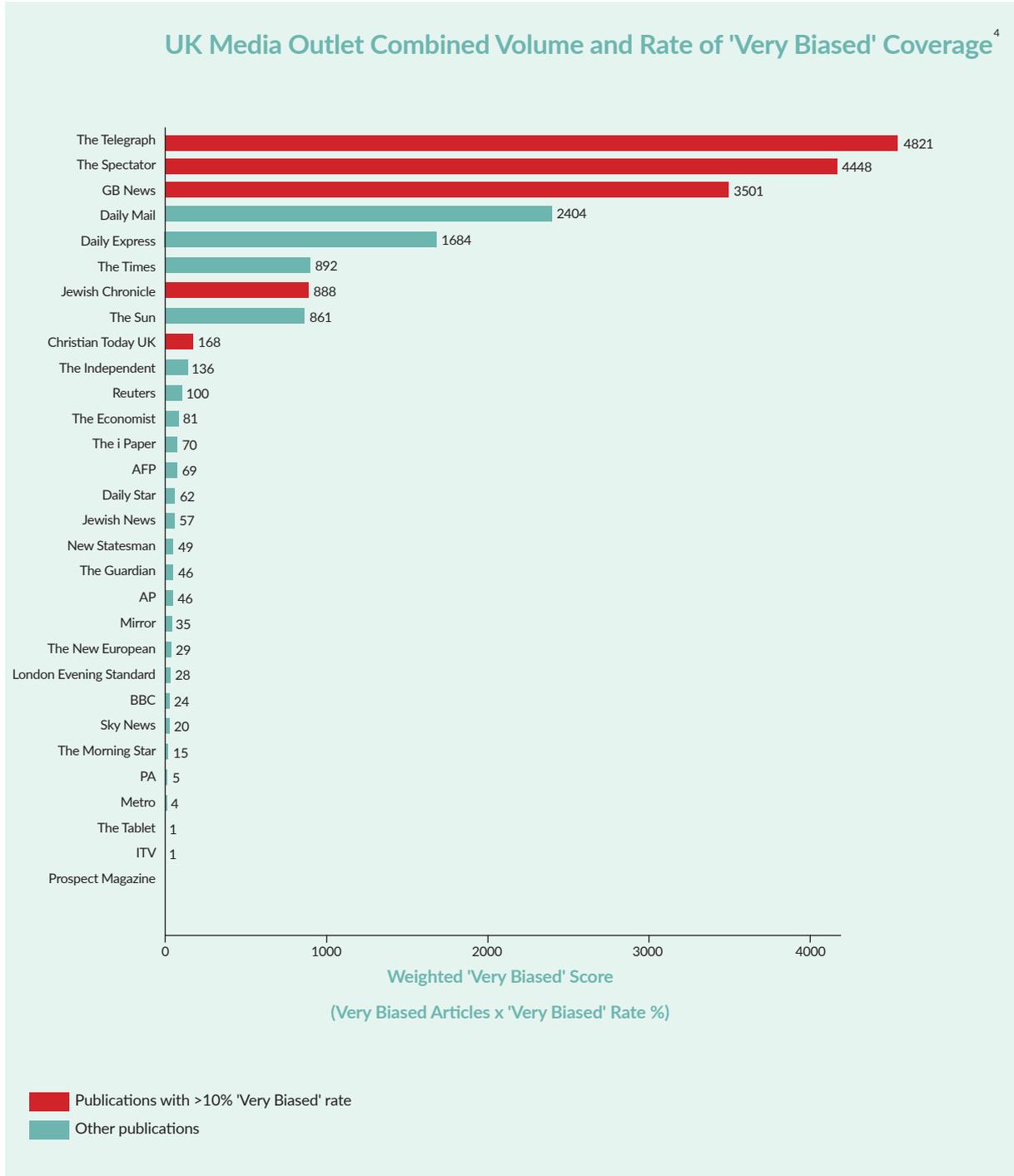
Publications with Lowest 'Very Biased' Rates

The following publications demonstrate editorial excellence in avoiding extreme 'Bias'. These publications demonstrate that it is possible to maintain reporting without crossing into 'Very Biased' territory:

- ▶ **Prospect Magazine: 0.0%** (0 of 52 articles) – Zero 'Very Biased' articles. While the sample size is small, this demonstrates that some publications successfully avoid extreme bias entirely.
- ▶ **ITV: 0.5%** (2 of 409 articles) – Effectively zero 'Very Biased' content despite substantial sample size.
- ▶ **Metro: 0.8%** (5 of 595 articles)
- ▶ **BBC: 0.9%** (28 of 3,244 articles) – Remarkably low rate given extremely high volume. This demonstrates that high-volume publishers can maintain editorial standards and avoid extreme bias.
- ▶ **PA: 0.9%** (6 of 657 articles)

Critical Patterns and Disparities

- ▶ **Magnitude of Disparity:** *The Spectator's* 'Very Biased' rate (26.3%) is 29 times higher than the *BBC's* (0.9%). This cannot be explained by topic coverage, audience, or format; it reflects fundamentally different editorial standards and oversight.
- ▶ **Volume Amplifies Problems:** *The Telegraph* produces more 'Very Biased' articles (391) than *The Spectator* (169) despite having a lower rate (12.3% vs. 26.3%). High-volume publishers with even moderate 'Very Biased' rates have massive ecosystem impact.
- ▶ **Top-3 Concentration:** *The Telegraph*, *Daily Mail*, and *GB News* together account for 956 'Very Biased' articles 46.8% of all such content. These three outlets shape nearly half of the most extreme biased discourse.
- ▶ **Sample Size Validation:** Several high 'Very Biased' rate publications have substantial sample sizes (*GB News*: 1,466 articles; *The Telegraph*: 3,170 articles), confirming these are not statistical artifacts but genuine patterns.
- ▶ **Broadsheet vs. Tabloid Divide Not Determinative:** Both broadsheets (*The Telegraph*, *The Spectator*) and tabloids (*Daily Mail*, *The Sun*, *Daily Express*) appear among the worst performers, indicating that publication type does not predict 'Very Biased' rates. Editorial culture matters more than format.



4. 'Rate' in all the charts refers to percentage.

Selected Examples

01 | Donald Trump's claim at the UN that London is "wanting to go to Sharia Law - Various Outlets."⁵

Right-wing media outlets amplified Donald Trump's false claim that London is governed by "Sharia law." Although *The Telegraph* initially labelled the claim as false, it simultaneously ran coverage referring to so-called "Sharia courts" thereby generating confusion and indirectly reinforcing the broader narrative. While various bodies often referred to as Sharia courts do exist in the UK, they are not formal courts of law, have no legal authority to overrule the UK legal system, and are typically religious councils or arbitration bodies whose decisions are not legally binding unless voluntarily chosen by the parties involved.⁶

Opinion-led outlets such as the *Daily Express* went further by treating the conspiracy as credible, publishing commentary that endorsed Trump's claims and citing partisan sources to lend them legitimacy. Similarly, *GB News* amplified the rhetoric by framing Trump's remarks as warnings about so called Islamic extremism and migration, rather than rigorously challenging their factual accuracy. This reflects a broader pattern identified in CfMM's earlier research, which found *GB News* referenced "Sharia" at a disproportionately higher rate compared to mainstream broadcasters.⁷

In contrast, some outlets demonstrated responsible journalism: *The Metro* explicitly fact-checked and debunked the claim, while the *Evening Standard* provided crucial context by explaining that Sharia councils in the UK are voluntary and limited to personal matters such as marriage and divorce, with no legal authority. Commentators like Patrick Cockburn further contextualised Trump's rhetoric as rooted in exaggeration and ideological fantasy rather than reality. Overall, CfMM stresses that presenting baseless claims as matters of debate normalises misinformation and fuels anti-Muslim narratives, underscoring the media's responsibility to challenge falsehoods decisively rather than inadvertently legitimising them.

By platforming commentators and political figures who sought to validate or rationalise the claim, the coverage blurred the distinction between fact and conspiracy. This approach allowed misinformation to circulate under the guise of journalistic neutrality, while shifting the burden of proof onto Muslim communities rather than onto those making false allegations. The repetition of the claim without clear debunking reinforced a narrative that Muslim communities operate outside the rule of law, feeding into broader

5. The Centre for Media Monitoring (@cfmmuk), X (formerly Twitter), Tweet on 25 September 2025 outlining how various UK media outlets reported or amplified Donald Trump's claim about "Sharia London," including examples of promotion, amplification, and debunking by different outlets. <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/197124317658655404>.

6. Full Fact, "The UK's Sharia 'courts,'" See more at <https://fullfact.org/law/uks-sharia-courts>

7. Centre for Media Monitoring, *GB News: A Snapshot of Anti-Muslim Hate* (Dec 2024), <https://cfmm.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/CfMM-GB-News-Report-2024.pdf>

tropes of Muslim separatism and disloyalty. The cumulative effect of this coverage was to normalise an anti-Muslim conspiracy theory within mainstream media discourse, increase public belief in demonstrably false claims about the legal status of Muslims in Britain, and contribute to an environment in which suspicion toward Muslim communities is treated as reasonable rather than as the product of misinformation.

The Telegraph News Sport Business Money Opinion Ukraine Travel Health Lifestyle Best schools Culture

UK news Politics World Donald Trump Health news Defence Science Education Environment Investigations

The Daily T: The truth about the rise of sharia law in Britain

Moderate Muslim campaigner Fiyaz Mughal says sharia courts are "prevalent" in the UK

Camilla Tominey Associate Editor
 Tim Stanley, Fiyaz Mughal

Related Topics
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THE STANDARD
 Trump attacks Sadiq Khan and claims London 'wants to go to Sharia law'

0:05 / 0:46

02 | Teacher who targeted Muslim Children - *GB News, The Daily Mail, and The Telegraph*.⁸

In this example, pupils who used the school bathrooms to perform ablution before prayer were told by their teacher that the school was not a religious institution and that they could attend an Islamic school a mile away if they preferred. He also stated that “Britain is still a Christian state” and noted that the King is the head of the Church of England. The story was reported by *GB News, The Daily Mail, and The Telegraph*. Rather than focusing on the rights and welfare of the children involved, the reporting reframed racist abuse as a matter of free speech and personal grievance, positioning the teacher as the primary victim. This approach shifted attention away from the impact of discriminatory behaviour on Muslim pupils’ religious rights, dignity, and wellbeing.

By presenting protections for Muslim children as an infringement on freedom of expression, the coverage implicitly normalised discrimination against a particularly vulnerable group, while failing to apply the same logic to safeguarding measures designed to protect other minorities or children more broadly. This selective framing not only downplayed institutional responsibilities within educational settings but also reinforced a narrative in which Muslim children’s rights are treated as secondary to adult political debates. The cumulative impact of such coverage is significant: it risks communicating to young Muslims that their safety and dignity are less valued, while contributing to a hostile educational environment in which discriminatory behaviour is legitimised rather than challenged.

03 | “The Truth About Halal Slaughterhouses” - *The Telegraph*.⁹

The Telegraph published an article titled “The Truth About Halal Slaughterhouses” which claimed that abattoirs performing halal slaughter particularly those that do not stun animals before killing were much more likely to have poor hygiene and animal welfare records compared with other slaughterhouses. The article reported an analysis of Food

8. GB News, Daily Mail, and Telegraph coverage of teacher dismissal, December 9, 2025.

All three outlets headlined their coverage simplifying the slew of issues and comments made by the teacher as The teacher being banned *because* He told a Muslim child that Britain is a Christian country.” A London primary school teacher was banned from working with children and ultimately dismissed after telling a Muslim pupil that “Britain is still a Christian state,” during an incident in which he reprimanded students for washing their feet as part of their prayer-related ablution. The teacher, who was at a non-faith school, then lectured about British values and the King’s role in the Church of England and suggested the pupil could attend a nearby Islamic school. Written complaints from pupils led to the local safeguarding board and a police inquiry; although the police investigation was later dropped. GB News,

“Primary school teacher banned after telling Muslim pupil Britain is a Christian country,” GB News, available at: <https://www.gbnews.com/news/primary-school-teacher-banned-muslim-pupil-christian-country>;

The Telegraph, “Teacher banned for telling Muslim child Britain is a Christian country,” 8 December 2025, available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/12/08/teacher-banned-telling-muslim-child-britain-is-christian/>;

Daily Mail, “Primary school teacher banned for telling Muslim child Britain is a Christian country,” available at: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15365785/Primary-school-teacher-banned-telling-Muslim-child-Britain-Christian-country.html>;

Daily Express, “Teacher banned for telling Muslim child Britain is a Christian country,” available at: <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2143936/teacher-banned-telling-muslim-child>.

9. Ben Butcher and Gabriella Swerling, “The truth about halal slaughterhouses,” *The Telegraph*, 5 Dec 2025, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/12/05/the-truth-about-halal-slaughterhouses/>.

Standards Agency (FSA) inspection data suggesting that a significantly higher proportion of non-stun facilities received lower ratings for hygiene and welfare than conventional slaughterhouses.

The coverage was problematic for several reasons. The article failed to explain that Food Standards Agency (FSA) inspection grades cover a wide range of factors (including hygiene systems, packaging, and procedural controls) and that lower audit scores do not necessarily indicate breaches of animal welfare law, a distinction made in the FSA's own data. It also omitted important context about pre-stunning practices: surveys conducted in 2024 showed that around 88% of halal chicken meat in England and Wales was pre-stunned before slaughter.¹⁰

By focusing narrowly on non-stun facilities without clarifying that the majority of halal production involves stunning, the article risked misrepresenting how halal slaughter operates in practice and implying that halal dietary practices are inherently unhygienic or cruel. Although presented as investigative journalism, the reporting produced a distorted picture of halal meat production by excluding key qualifiers and regulatory context, thereby contributing to negative perceptions of Muslim dietary practices.

Case Study: Coverage of Bondi Beach Attacks

The media coverage following the Bondi Beach attack in Sydney in December 2025 demonstrates a troubling pattern of reporting that exploits a tragic incident involving Jewish victims to advance a broader anti-Muslim narrative while simultaneously delegitimising protests against military actions in Gaza.

CfMM analysis reveals that one hundred and thirty-six biased articles were published across various UK press outlets in just four days. The scale of 'Bias' suggests something systematic rather than isolated editorial misjudgments.¹¹ *The Telegraph* led with twenty-nine 'Biased' articles (51.8% of their coverage), followed by *Daily Mail* with seventeen (17.7%), *GB News* with thirteen (48.2%), *The Sun* with eleven (45.8%), and *The Times* with ten (38.5%). These percentages suggest consistent editorial patterns across outlets rather than isolated reporting decisions.

10. Beth Winspear, "Non-stun slaughter in the UK: what it means for animal welfare," RSPCA Assured (12 September 2025), <https://www.rspcaassured.org.uk/blog/non-stun-slaughter>

11. Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM), "Series of tweets on media coverage of the #BondiBeach attack," X (formerly Twitter), December 19, 2025, <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/2001986374359265481>.

Top 5 Worst News Outlets ¹²

News Outlet	# 'Biased' Articles	% 'Biased' Articles
The Telegraph	29	51.8
Daily Mail	17	17.7
GB News	13	48.2
The Sun	11	45.8
The Times	10	38.5

The *Daily Express* exemplifies this problematic approach by suggesting pro-Palestine demonstrations in London are “directly linked” to the Bondi attack, describing protests as a “sinister cloak for antisemitism” that emboldens “racist murders” and “terrorists.”

The publication’s proposed “solutions” include shutting down mosques and Islamic schools, coupled with inflammatory language about “gangs of Muslim men rampaging through our streets chanting Allahu Akbar.” One *Daily Express* piece connects the attack to “the Nazi Final Solution” while blaming Palestine flags, keffiyehs, musician Bob Vylan, and Maccabi FC fan incidents, creating what can be described as “an everything-bagel of distortion.”

The Telegraph employed guilt-by-association tactics across multiple articles, linking the Bondi attack to “UK problems” including pro-Palestine marchers, “Islamist-aligned” MPs, mosque preachers, police restrictions on Maccabi FC fans, Labour’s Islamophobia definition, and “Muslim voters” across Birmingham, Bradford, and Oldham. Another *Telegraph* article claimed attackers were responding to “events in Gaza after the Oct 7 pogrom,” dismissing genocide claims as “false propaganda” that “Islamist Jew-haters” follow. A separate column warned of an “Islamist threat to Western civilisation,” calling it a “death cult.”

The Times published four articles drawing causal lines between pro-Palestine marches and the attack, claiming “behind these marches lies a murderous ideology seeking to overthrow modernity.” *The Sun* published an article showing UK protestors with Palestinian flags captioned “The day before the Bondi Beach atrocity, there was a hate march in Birmingham,” creating implicit causal relationships between different countries’ events.

12. The analysis was taken over a 4 day period between 15 December - 19 December 2025 with the search determined by all the key words used in this study plus the term “Bondi”.

The Spectator argued the attack proves “diversity is not our strength,” linking grooming gang failures to “even more heinous crimes” supposedly caused by Islamism.

Even *The Guardian* published an opinion piece claiming antisemitic terror is “normalised” by anti-Israel marches, written by a Community Security Trust representative.

The organisation was founded by Gerald Ronson, a known supporter and donor to Benjamin Netanyahu, raising questions about platforming partisan voices without adequate disclosure and context.¹³

This reporting blurred several distinct issues: antisemitism as a serious problem, legitimate security concerns, the right to protest military actions, and the position of Muslim communities in British society. Instead of sticking to verified facts and avoiding collective blame, the coverage used the attack to advance pre-existing political agendas directed at Muslim communities and Palestine solidarity activists. In doing so, it risked exploiting Jewish victims, scapegoating Muslims, and undermining legitimate political expression about international conflicts.

13. Tom Mills, Hilary Aked, Tom Griffin, and David Miller, “The UK’s pro-Israel lobby in context,” openDemocracy, December 2, 2013, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/opendemocracyuk/uks-pro-israel-lobby-in-context/>

THE SPECTATOR

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Patrick West

The Bondi Beach attack shows diversity is not our strength

📅 15 December 2025, 3:34pm



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Around the world, anti-Jewish hate is growing. In Bondi, we see the tragic results

Dave Rich



After the latest in a series of deadly attacks on the global Jewish community, Jews are angry. And we have good reason to be

- Dave Rich is director of policy at the Community Security Trust



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06

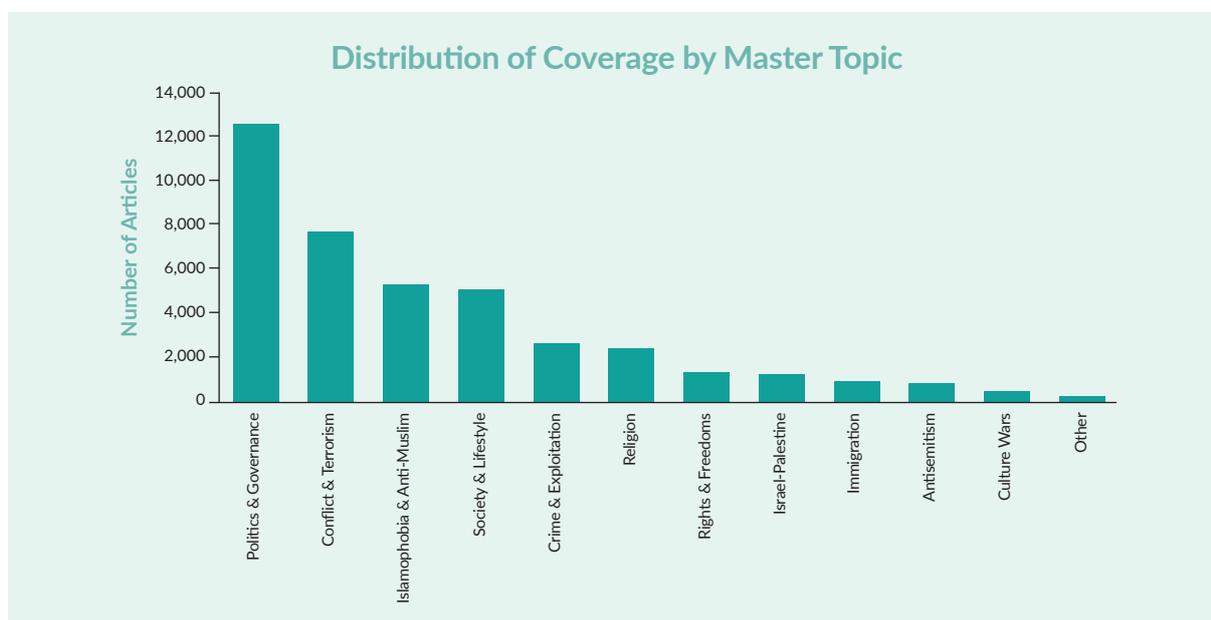
Themes in UK Press Coverage on Islam and Muslims

Each article was assigned a top theme which the AI analysis determined was the main focus of the article being assessed. The following analysis examines how coverage is distributed across these major thematic areas, revealing which topics dominated the conversation.

Distribution of Coverage by Master Theme

Key Findings

- 01** | **Politics & Governance dominates coverage at 30.78%** (12,594 articles), making it the single largest topic, followed by **Conflict & Terrorism at 18.75%** (7,672 articles), revealing that Muslims are most frequently discussed in political and conflict contexts.
- 02** | **Islamophobia & Anti-Muslim Prejudice accounts for 12.88% of coverage** (5,272 articles), representing a substantial portion of articles explicitly addressing prejudice against Muslims, though this also includes coverage defending Muslims.
- 03** | **Society and Lifestyle topics, 12.49%** (5,110 articles), together with **Crime and Exploitation coverage at 6.70%** (2,740 articles), account for a substantial share of reporting on Muslims in everyday contexts. However, crime-related stories remain disproportionately prominent compared with coverage of the general population.¹⁴



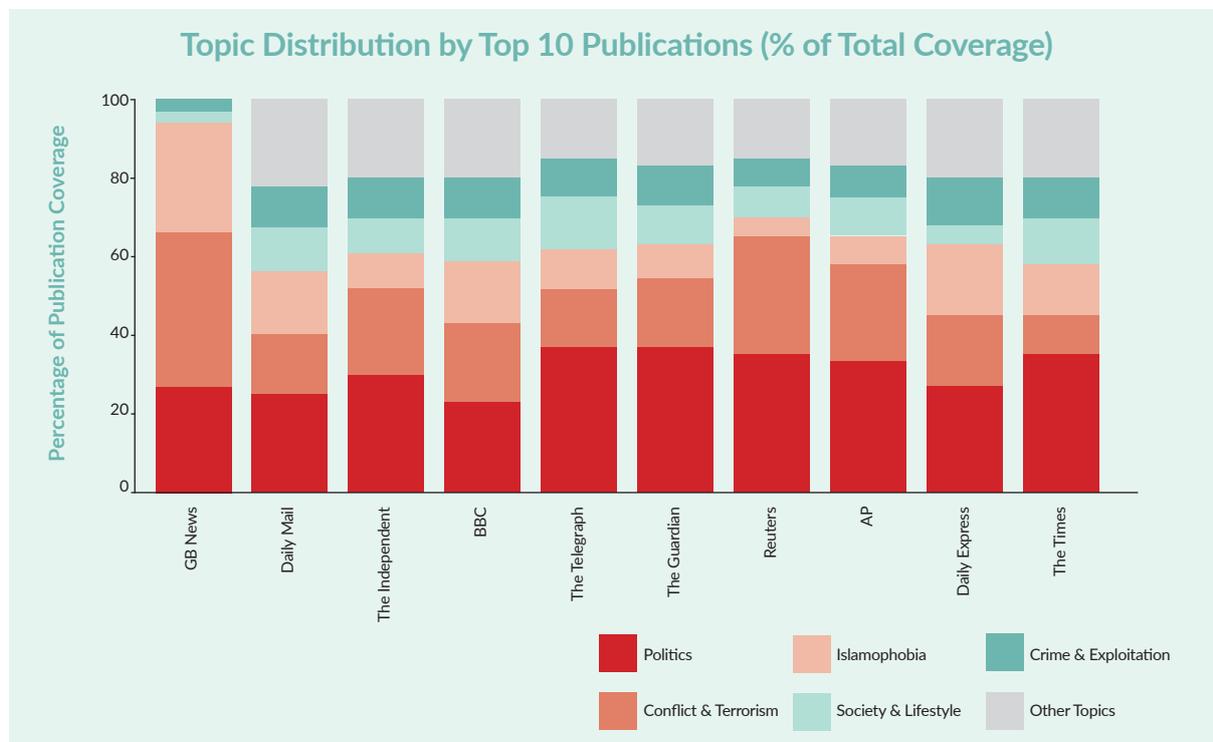
14. For full table see Appendix C

07

Top Themes by Publication

Key Findings

- 01** | *GB News* shows the most skewed coverage with 39.97% on **Conflict & Terrorism** (578 articles), 28.91% on **Politics** (418 articles), and 28.36% on **Islamophobia** (410 articles), demonstrating an editorial focus almost entirely on divisive and contentious topics.
- 02** | *The Telegraph* demonstrates heavy emphasis on **Politics** at 38.36% (1,216 articles) and **Conflict & Terrorism** at 14.07% (446 articles), with minimal coverage of everyday **Society & Lifestyle** topics at 8.80% (279 articles), framing Muslims primarily through political lenses.
- 03** | *The Mirror* and *BBC* show more balanced topic distribution, with *The Mirror* covering **Society & Lifestyle** at 17.90% (222 articles) and *BBC* at 9.60% (311 articles), though **Politics** still dominates even in these outlets at 16.37% and 23.77% respectively.



Case Study: Comparative Example of Reporting on Crime and Exploitation

A comparison of *Sky News* and *The Sun*'s reporting on the same grooming and trafficking case highlights significant differences in framing, contextualisation, and editorial balance particularly in relation to Muslim communities. Scarlett West, a 14-year-old Manchester student, was groomed and trafficked by organised gangs who raped her repeatedly over four years, while authorities dismissed her abuse as a "lifestyle choice" despite her father's desperate attempts to get help. While both articles document the severe abuse experienced by the victim, their narrative choices diverge in ways that shape public understanding of crime, responsibility, and identity.

Sky News' reporting adopts a relatively restrained and contextualised approach. As the outlet behind the original investigation, *Sky* focuses on the victim's account and highlights systemic failures in safeguarding, policing, and criminal justice responses. While the report refers to perpetrators' backgrounds where relevant, it does not present religion or ethnicity as primary explanatory factors, thereby limiting the extent to which blame is generalised beyond individual offenders.

Overall, *Sky*'s coverage was assessed as neither 'Biased' nor 'Unbiased'. Although it avoids overtly stigmatising Muslims and provides important context, it does not

explicitly challenge wider public misconceptions that grooming and sexual exploitation are uniquely associated with Muslim communities. This lack of clarification leaves room for misinterpretation, even if the reporting does not actively promote a discriminatory narrative.

In contrast, *The Sun's* reporting was rated as 'Biased' due to its selective framing and exclusion of critical contextual information. The lack of clarification that perpetrators of child sexual exploitation come from a range of ethnic and religious backgrounds, draws upon a well-established and racialised media trope. As a *BBC* report from 2023 on Grooming Gangs and Ethnicity says; "The 2010 convictions of a group of white men, and a woman, for abusing 30 children in the Camborne area of Cornwall, "received less attention" than cases highlighted by senior politicians such as Suella Braverman which involved men of Pakistani heritage.¹⁵ The disparity in terminological framing applied to sexual abuse gangs across UK media provides a striking illustration of racialised reporting standards. Coverage of the Glasgow sex abuse gang in January 2025, whose perpetrators were white, was consistently described by outlets including the *BBC*, *Sky News*, *ITV News*, *The Guardian*, and *GB News* as a "sex abuse gang," whilst gangs of Muslim or Pakistani heritage committing comparable offences are routinely labelled "grooming gangs" despite this term having no legal status.¹⁶ This inconsistency in language is not merely semantic; it reflects a broader editorial pattern in which the ethnicity or religion of perpetrators shapes not only the framing but the very terminology applied to identical crimes, reinforcing the association between Muslim identity and sexual predation in the public consciousness while obscuring equivalent offending by white perpetrators.

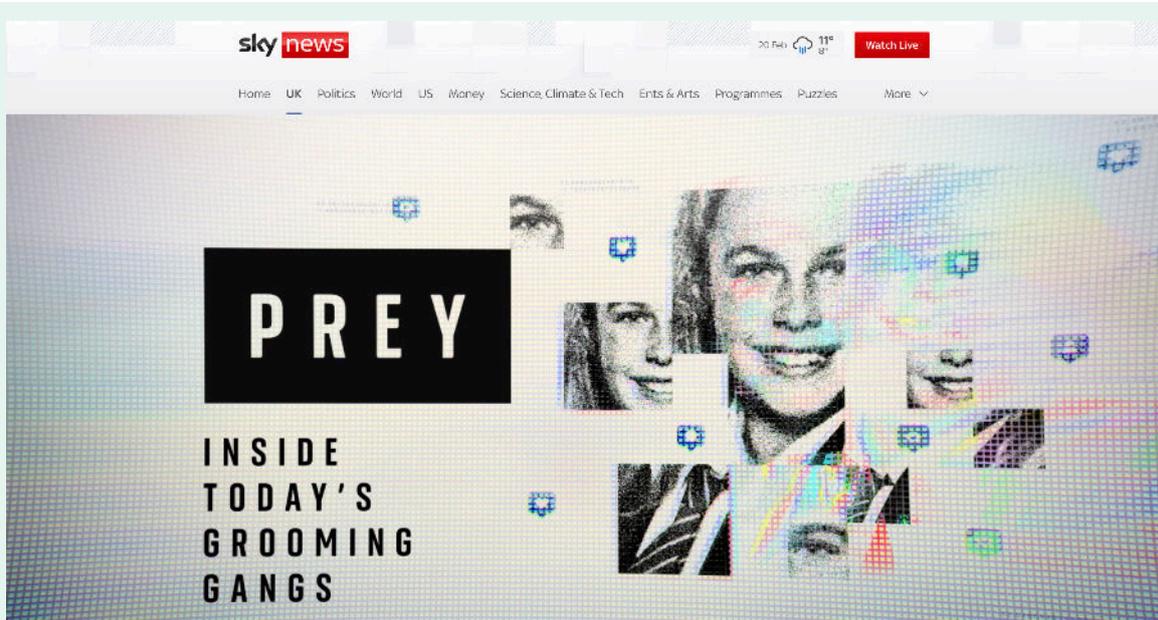
Although Muslims are not always explicitly named, *The Sun* article's structure and emphasis encourage readers to associate the crime with Muslim men by implication. By excluding information that would complicate or counter this narrative, *The Sun* shifts the focus away from individual criminal accountability and institutional failure toward an implicitly racialised collective, reinforcing harmful stereotypes and contributing to moral panic.

Overall, *Sky News'* reporting represents a more ethically robust approach by limiting generalisation and prioritising systemic analysis, even if its conclusions remain cautious and incomplete. *The Sun's* coverage, by contrast, exemplifies how sensationalism and omission can result in biased reporting that disproportionately implicates Muslim communities and undermines responsible journalism.¹⁷

15. Tom Symonds, 'Grooming gangs and ethnicity: What does the evidence say?', *BBC News*, 4 April 2023, available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-65174096>

16. CFMM UK (@cfmmuk), post on X (formerly Twitter), 28 January 2025, available at: <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1884653981667917832>

17. *Sky News*, "Scarlett was 14, groomed and trafficked in Manchester to be raped by dozens of men" (<https://news.sky.com/story/scarlett-was-14-groomed-and-trafficked-in-manchester-to-be-raped-by-dozens-of-men-13479468>); *The Sun*, "WHERE'S THE JUSTICE? I was raped by dozens of men aged 14 after being trafficked by grooming gang... but they're still free to walk streets" (<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/37541335/raped-by-grooming-gang-trafficked-predators-free/>).



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WHERE'S THE JUSTICE? I was raped by dozens of men aged 14 after being trafficked by grooming gang... but they're still free to walk streets

Scarlett kept the evidence on an iPad - which is full of videos and photos of the horrors

Sam Creed, General News Reporter
Published: 10:37, 5 Dec 2025 | Updated: 15:06, 9 Dec 2025

The 20-year-old, from Hyde, Manchester, told how she was plied with booze and [drugs](#) by the predators.

Scarlett kept the evidence on a battered [iPad](#), which is full of videos and photos of the horrors, out of fear her attackers may never see justice.

The survivor – who was privately educated in the area – [would often wake up disorientated](#) and covered in bruises.

She says the iPad was her lifeline, telling [Sky News](#): "I knew I would not be able to get hold of this stuff ever again if I didn't keep this."

READ MORE ON GROOMING GANGS



GROOM PROBE Grooming gangs inquiry **MUST** look into cold cases, says PM after Khan 'cover-up'



GROOMING HORROR I know first hand why Sadiq Khan can't keep ignoring grooming gang problem

Scarlett's story demonstrates how working class white girls were not the only young women to fall victim to Pakistani-Muslim [gangs](#).

The horrifying ordeal began when Scarlett was attacked in a park by a group who kicked her, pulled a knife on her and set fire to her [hair](#).

It was from this moment Scarlett said her life went rapidly downhill.

In a heartbreaking confession, she told how she thought it was "easier" to become part of the gang and continue to be bullied.

Case Study: Right-Wing Press Exploit Government Anti-Misogyny Policy to Target Muslims

The Labour government announced plans to train teachers to identify and address misogyny in the classroom, alongside sending high-risk pupils on behavioural courses, as part of a strategy to halve violence against women and girls (VAWG). Right-wing UK media quickly reframed this policy announcement as an attack on Muslim communities and migrants. The following examples illustrate how a story focused on national policy and political reform (entirely unrelated to Muslims) was transformed into a festival of Muslim-bashing, often relying on crude generalisations.

The *Daily Express* used highly inflammatory language, referring to migrants as “alien” and invoking “Pakistani grooming gangs,” while claiming that Britain is the “rape capital of Europe.” The article accused Labour of pandering to the “Muslim vote” and incorporated elements of the Great Replacement conspiracy theory, framing misogyny as an imported problem rather than recognising it as a broader societal issue in the UK.¹⁸

The Telegraph framed the burka and niqab as “tools of patriarchal oppression” and highlighted Afghan men as allegedly more likely than British men to commit sexual offences. This selective focus on women’s rights functioned less as genuine advocacy for gender equality and more as a justification for anti-migrant sentiment.¹⁹

The Times published several problematic articles. One questioned whether Labour would “sanction imams who preach that beating women is allowed under sharia law” and linked “the misogyny of small boat migrants” to isolated cases such as that of Israr Niazal, making broad generalisations from individual incidents. Another piece attributed misogyny to “ethnic subcultures,” using a fringe Muslim charity and a Birmingham imam as representative examples an obvious case of collective blame based on selective reporting.²⁰

GB News claimed “some Islamic cultures don’t teach that women are equal” and stated Afghans are “22 times more likely to commit a sexual offence” than white Britons presenting statistics without crucial context about base rates, reporting biases, or socioeconomic factors.²¹

18. Carole Malone, “You Don’t Fix the UK’s Rape Crisis by Lecturing Young Boys – Deal with Uncontrolled Migration,” *Daily Express*, 19 December 2025, Available at <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2148581/you-dont-fix-uk-rape>

19. Michael Deacon, Multiculturalism Is Fuelling Misogyny, but Britain’s Schools Don’t Seem to Care, *The Telegraph*, December 18, 2025, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/12/18/tackle-misogyny-schools-multiculturalism/>

20. Janice Turner, “We Should Applaud Labour’s War on Misogyny,” *The Times*, December 2025 available at <https://www.thetimes.com/comment/columnists/article/we-should-applaud-labours-war-on-misogyny>

21. Pearce, Georgia. “‘Utter Joke!’ Alex Armstrong Skewers Labour’s Attempt to Tackle Misogyny with New ‘Helpline’ – ‘We’re Paying for This!’” *GB News*, December 19, 2025. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/labour-misogyny-helpline-blasted-alex-armstrong-utter-joke>

Collective Failures: All outlets downplayed systemic misogyny in British society, overlooked institutional sexism in majority-white contexts, and completely excluded the perspectives of Muslim women. They engaged in what scholars term “femonationalism,” using feminist concerns selectively against minoritised groups while ignoring misogyny in British entertainment, politics, and other mainstream institutions. This pattern of coverage reflects not accidental bias, but a deliberate editorial strategy that prioritises anti-Muslim messaging over both journalistic integrity and genuine efforts to address misogyny across all communities.

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Michael Deacon

Multiculturalism is fuelling misogyny, but Britain's schools don't seem to care

Teachers would much rather blame 'toxic masculinity' for violence against women instead of holding convicted migrants to account

Michael Deacon
Columnist & Assistant Editor

Michael Deacon writes the satirical "Way of the World" column twice a week (published at 6am every Tuesday and Saturday), plus a weekly Features column.

18 December 2025 7:00am GMT

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The Netflix series, 'Adolescence', offers schools a risk-free way to discuss misogyny – but does it get to the root of problem?
Credit: Netflix

Case Study: Media Representation of Eid al-Fitr Celebrations - *BBC, Mirror, Spectator*.²²

This case study examines three articles published on 30–31 March 2025 covering Eid al-Fitr, highlighting stark differences in British media approaches to Muslim religious observance.

BBC: This article adopts a community-focused approach, featuring direct quotes from Bradford residents celebrating Eid at the Central Mosque. This coverage prioritises authentic voices, highlighting themes of unity and family. Shafiq Janjua, a 50-year-old resident who moved from Pakistan 30 years ago, notes that access to faith centres is much easier now and that different religious groups in Bradford coexist peacefully. The article demonstrates high degrees of Muslim agency by featuring diverse perspectives across gender, age, and background, including a rare female voice from Saima Mahboob. It also marks a historic milestone with the first televised Eid prayer, with sixteen-year-old Muhemmad Naafees reflecting on the importance of being represented. However, a brief mention of Muslims raising funds for those affected by the Israel-Hamas conflict could inadvertently link Muslim celebration to Middle Eastern violence.

Mirror: This article takes an educational, explainer-style approach, relying primarily on TikTok creator Mohmmad Mustafa to interpret Islamic practices for non-Muslim readers. While generally respectful and positively received from non-Muslim viewers who expressed appreciation for learning about the faith, this pedagogical approach positions Muslims as cultural translators, maintaining an observer–observed dynamic. The article’s explanation of Eid al-Adha as commemorating Prophet Ibrahim’s readiness to sacrifice his son, described as the festival of sacrifice involving slaughter, potentially risks reinforcing negative perceptions among readers unfamiliar with theological context, particularly without broader framing that situates it alongside biblical narratives.

Spectator: In contrast, *The Spectator* fundamentally questions the legitimacy of public Eid recognition. Its headline sets a suspicious, accusatory tone, framing Eid greetings from public institutions (including the Prime Minister, Royal Family, and BBC) as evidence of cultural cringe and opportunism. The article contains no Muslim voices and makes sweeping, unsubstantiated claims about reciprocity from Muslim-majority countries. By framing all Eid acknowledgments as insincere virtue signaling, comparing them to Black Lives Matter protests and rainbow flag displays the article transforms Muslims from active participants in society into objects of political critique. It also applies an extraordinary conditionality to

22. "Celebrating Eid is about unity and family," BBC, March 31, 2025, <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0jzwp4xe6po>.

"I'm a Muslim - here's an explanation of what Eid is all about," Mirror, March 30, 2025, <https://www.mirror.co.uk/lifestyle/im-muslim-heres-explanation-what-34923422>.

"Why is Keir Starmer wishing us Eid Mubarak?" The Spectator, March 31, 2025, <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/why-is-keir-starmer-wishing-us-eid-mubarak/>.

Muslim observance that is not applied to other British religious communities, weaponising Christian observance to critique Muslim recognition.

Analysis: These three articles exemplify fundamentally different paradigms:

- ▲ *The BBC's* community integration model portrays Muslims as integrated citizens contributing to British society.
- ▲ *The Mirror's* cultural education model educates non-Muslims while maintaining some distance, validating Muslim presence without fully centring community voices.
- ▲ *The Spectator's* cultural threat model systematically delegitimises Muslim public recognition, omits community perspectives, and advances prejudiced claims.
- ▲ *The Spectator* was assessed as 'Bias', reflecting detectable anti-Muslim hostility and prejudice, confirming its departure from responsible journalism into polemic that questions whether Muslims belong in British public life.

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'Celebrating Eid is about unity and family'



Shafiq Jarjua (third from left) attended the mosque with his family on Monday

Adam Laver
BBC News, Yorkshire, Bradford Central Mosque
31 March 2025

Muslims around the world are celebrating Eid al-Fitr with food, family and reflection.

In Bradford, where nearly a third of the district's population is Muslim, worshippers gathered at the city's Central Mosque to pray before festivities began.

Eid al-Fitr is the "festival of breaking the fast", taking place the day after the new moon is seen at the end of the month of Ramadan.

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Lifestyle > Eid Al-Fitr

'I'm a Muslim - here's an explanation of what Eid is all about'

A Muslim man gave an explanation of Eid for people who might be unaware of this special Islamic occasion and are interested to learn about it. He explained what Eid means and what Muslims do on this day.



Comments 2

LIFESTYLE By **Rahima Miah** Social News Reporter
07:02, 30 Mar 2025 | Updated 07:37, 30 Mar 2025



Eid is an Islamic holiday celebrated by Muslims all over the world (Image: Annice Lyr/Getty Images)

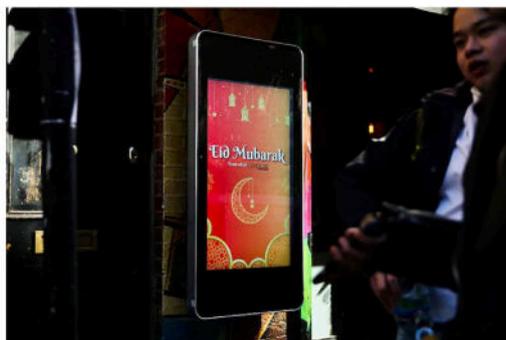
A Muslim content creator has explained what Eid is for those who are unaware of this important Islamic celebration.

THE SPECTATOR Coffee House Politics Economy World Culture Life Magazine SIGN IN SUBSCRIBE

Patrick West

Why is Keir Starmer wishing us Eid Mubarak?

31 March 2025, 5:27pm



A screen in London's Brick Lane wishes passers-by 'Eid Mubarak' (Getty Images)

In case you hadn't noticed, it's Eid. But of course you noticed. You'd have to be living in a cave not to be aware that today marked the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. That's because nearly all public bodies, along with a plethora of private institutions, have been busy on social media reminding you of the fact.

From the Prime Minister, the Royal Family, the Army to the BBC, all the principal manifestations of the state have been at it. Our public broadcaster put on a special *Eid Live* show on BBC1, followed with another programme, *Celebrity Eid*. Our private bodies have been following suit, with such unlikely candidates as the Formula 1 team McLaren and Leeds United football club among those joining in the chorus of 'Eid Mubarak'.

08

Overwhelming Focus on Negative Aspects of Islam and Muslims

This section examines whether media articles associate negative aspects and/or behaviours with Islam or Muslims, a metric that captures how frequently coverage links a religious identity to crime, disorder, extremism, or other harmful characteristics even when it is not relevant. Across the reporting period, 70% (28,455 articles) were assessed as affirmatively highlighting negative aspects of Islam or Muslims, making this one of the most prevalent patterns identified in the dataset. At face value, this figure suggests a dominant tendency within media coverage to frame Islam and Muslim communities through a negative lens, often in connection with social problems, security concerns, or cultural conflict.

The Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM) recognises that news reporting is, by its nature, disproportionately focused on negative events, such as crime, conflict, and controversy. As a result, the presence of negative aspects or behaviours within an article does not automatically indicate inaccurate reporting, malicious intent, or journalistic misconduct.

An article may legitimately report on criminal cases, protests, or political disputes involving Muslims without being misleading or prejudiced. This metric therefore does not assess factual correctness, but rather identifies patterns of association specifically, whether negative phenomena are repeatedly linked to Islam or Muslims as a group, rather than being attributed to identifiable individuals or contextual factors.

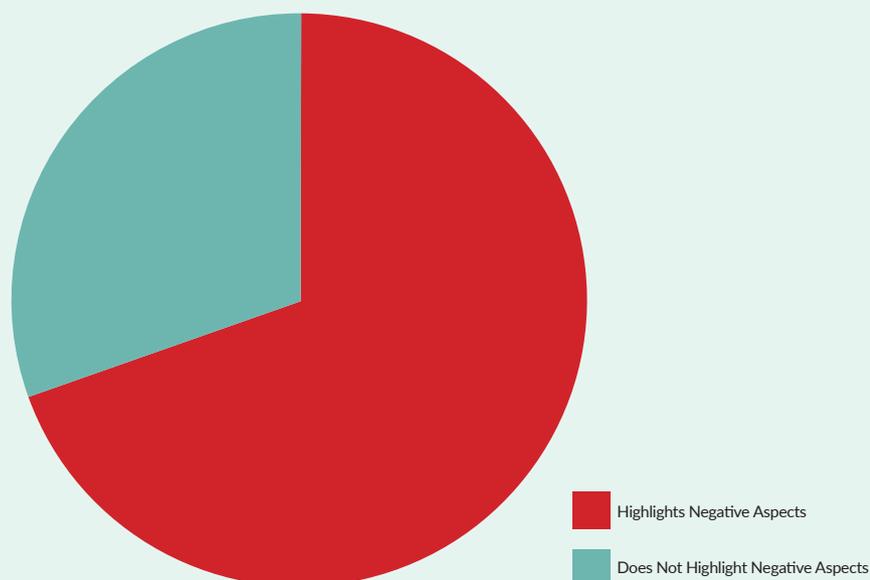
In CfMM's 2021 report analysing coverage from Oct 2018 – Sept 2019, it identified almost 60% of articles across all publications were identified as associating negative aspects and behaviour with Muslims or Islam.²³ Whilst the methodology has been improved and it is not an exact like-for-like comparison, it does appear that coverage has become more negative.

Key Findings

- 01** | 70% of all articles (28,455 out of 40,913) associated Muslims and Islam with negative aspects or behaviors.
- 02** | *The Spectator* shows near-universal negativity - 93% of *The Spectator's* 597 articles were negative stories about Muslims or Islam.
- 03** | *Daily Mail* combines scale with high negativity - 73% of *The Daily Mail's* 3,490 articles were negative stories about Muslims or Islam.
- 04** | *The Telegraph* shows extreme proportionality - 84% of *The Telegraph's* 2,659 articles were negative stories about Muslims or Islam.
- 05** | Right-wing outlets display systematic negativity - On top of the above findings, this study found that 84.6% of *GB News'* articles contained negative framing, while *The Telegraph* scored at 83.9% and *Jewish Chronicle* at 83.3%, thereby showing that their negative coverage isn't sporadic but represents their standard editorial approach to reporting on Islam and Muslims by the right-wing media.

23. Centre for Media Monitoring: British Media's Coverage of Muslims and Islam (2018-2020). <https://cfmm.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/CfMM-Annual-Report-2018-2020-digital.pdf>

Articles Highlighting Negative Aspects of Islam/Muslims

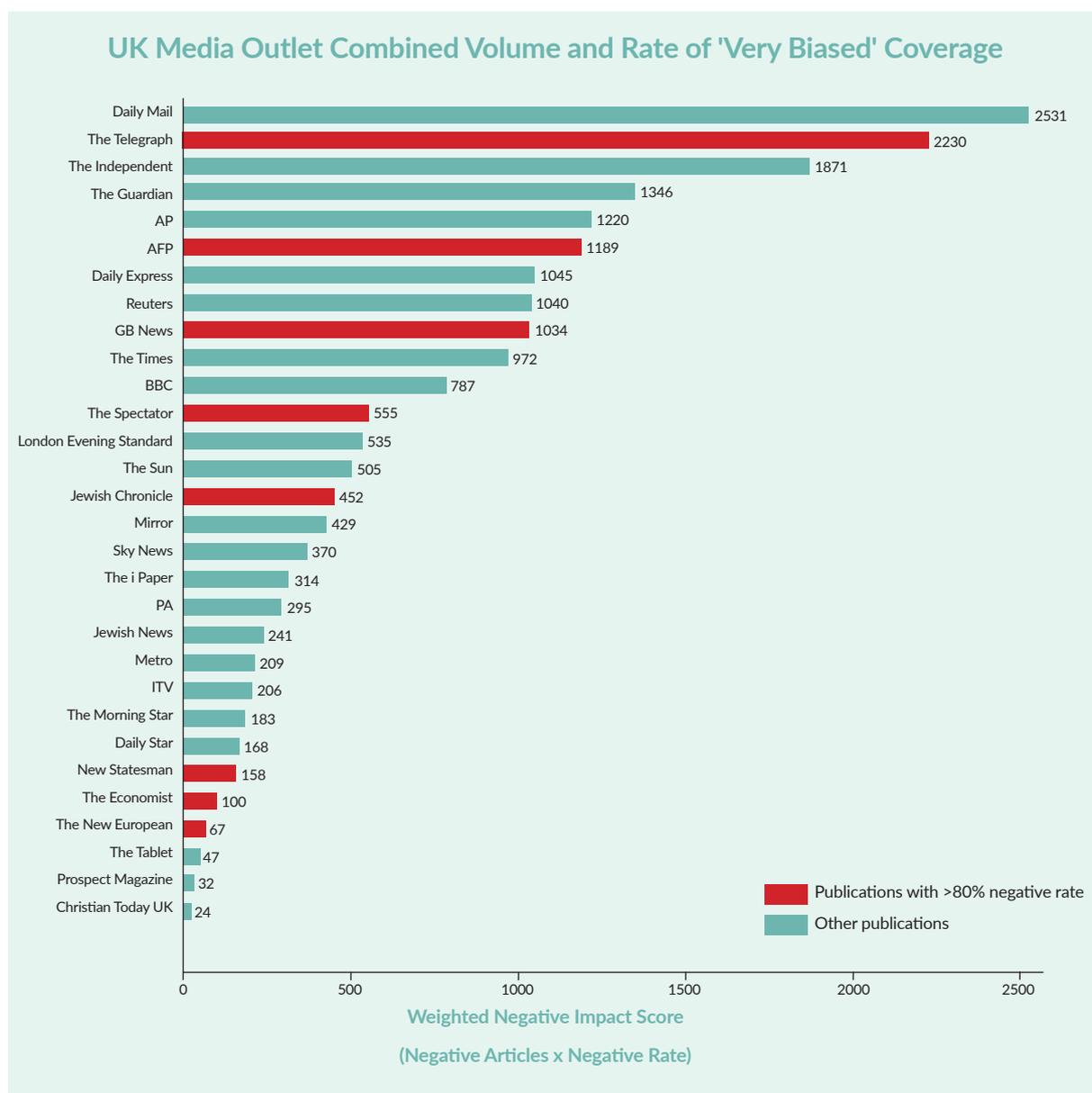


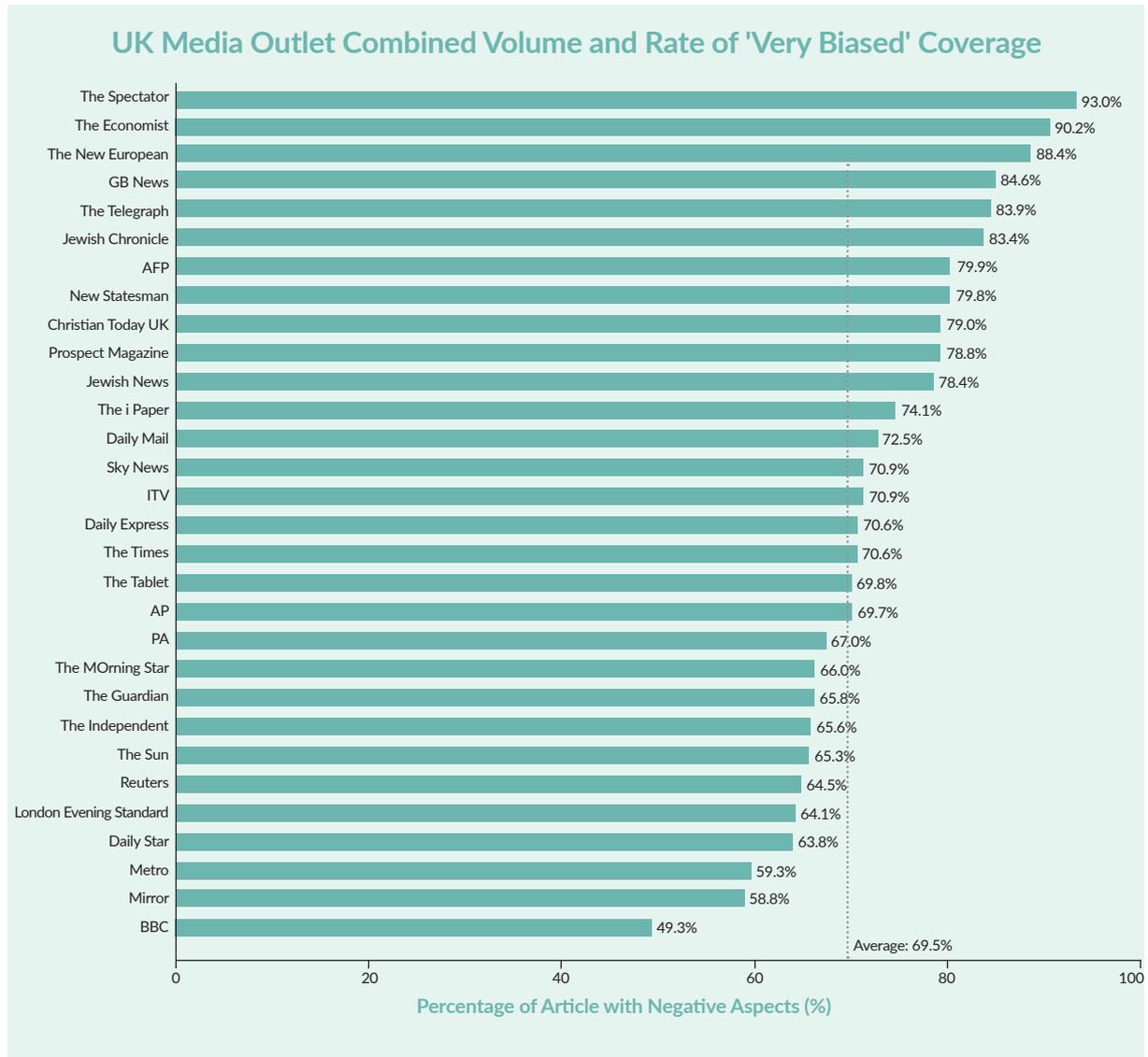
Negative Association	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total
Articles Highlighting Negative Aspects	28,455	69.54%
Articles NOT Highlighting Negative Aspects	12,458	30.46%
Grand Total	40,913	100.00%

This chart shows the combined volume and percentage for negative coverage in individual UK media outlets, showing both the rate and volume of negative coverage. A small number of traditional newspaper brands dominate the rankings, with the *Daily Mail* showing the highest overall volume, followed by *The Telegraph*, *The Independent*, and *The Guardian*. Their prominence reflects not only editorial positioning but also the sheer volume of reporting produced by long-established national titles, alongside the broader structural tendency within news media to prioritise negative or conflict-driven narratives.

Major international agencies such as *AP*, *Reuters*, *BBC*, and *AFP* also register high scores, largely driven by scale rather than intensity of negativity alone. Despite this, it should not be overlooked that a distinct nexus of right-wing publications including *The Telegraph*, *GB News*, and the *Jewish Chronicle* record over 80 per cent of their articles include negative aspects or behaviours.

The Spectator stands alone in reaching an exceptionally high level of 93 per cent. These figures suggest that the impact associated with these outlets cannot be explained by volume alone, but instead reflects a persistently negative editorial framing, indicating that such publications are not merely reporting events but displaying a pattern of hostility towards Muslim belief, identity, action, and the religion of Islam itself.





Selected Examples

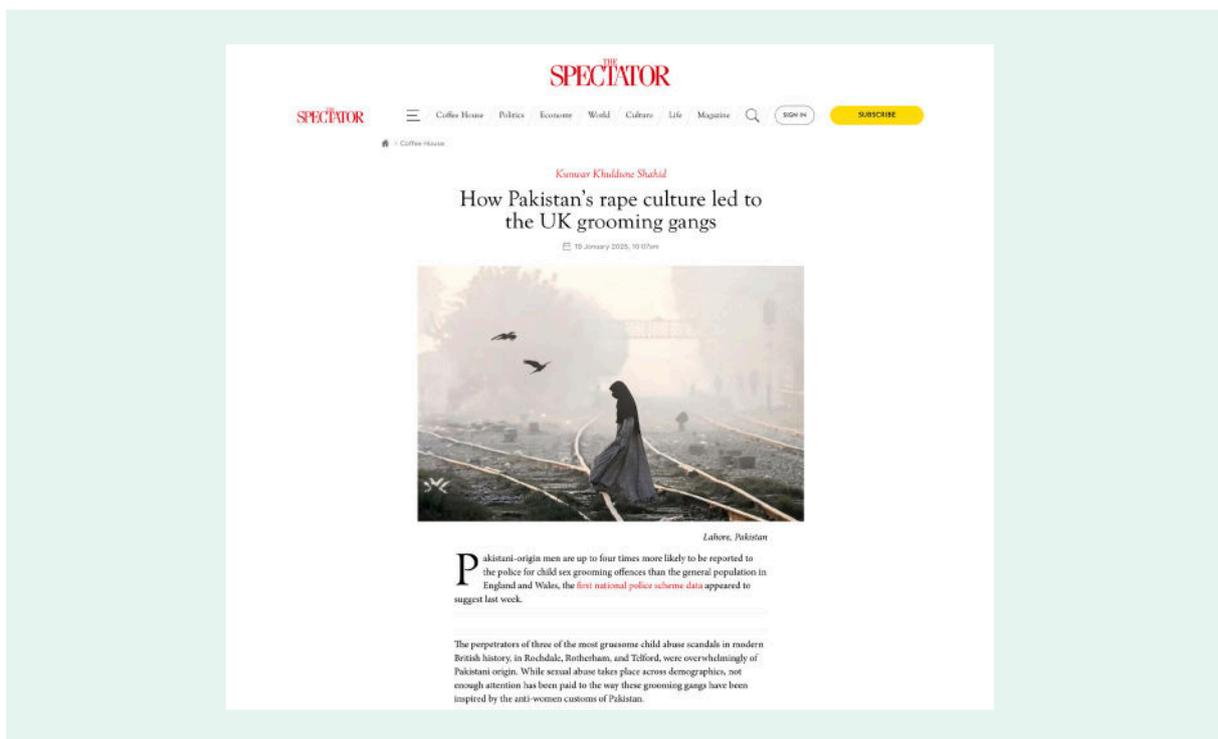
The articles highlighted below engage with serious and legitimate social issues, including criminality, public disorder, and community relations. The concern raised here is not that such topics are reported at all, but that in these instances the reporting is shaped by broader patterns of 'Bias' - including sweeping generalisations, cultural or religious determinism, selective sourcing, emotive language, and a lack of contextual balance. These examples have therefore been selected to illustrate how negative media practices can emerge not simply from the subject matter being covered, but from the framing, assumptions, and editorial choices that underpin the coverage. It should be noted that these articles are not exclusively negative but their 'Bias' is also due to other factors which are not considered in this particular section.

01 | Taj Hargey, “We’ll never be rid of grooming gangs until – like Germany and France – we ban foreign imams who fill young Muslim minds with poison,” *Daily Mail*.²⁴

This opinion piece illustrates negative media practices through sweeping generalisations, emotive language, and reductive framing of complex social issues. While addressing the serious issue of child sexual exploitation and grooming gangs, it broadly attributes criminality and misogyny to “foreign-born imams,” mosques, madrassas, and men of Pakistani heritage, collapsing diverse individuals and institutions into a single, homogenised narrative of blame.

Islamic concepts such as Sharia are portrayed as inherently “medieval,” and religious education is described as “poison,” prioritising provocation over accuracy. Charged descriptors like “chauvinistic cancer” and “Neanderthal views” contribute to sensationalism and risk inflaming prejudice rather than fostering informed debate. By framing religion itself as the primary driver of criminal behaviour without sufficient nuance or evidence, the article demonstrates poor journalistic standards and reinforces harmful stereotypes, exemplifying negative practices in media reporting.

02 | How Pakistan’s rape culture led to the UK grooming gangs,” *The Spectator*.²⁵



24. Taj Hargey, “We’ll never be rid of grooming gangs until – like Germany and France – we ban foreign imams who fill young Muslim minds with poison,” *Daily Mail*, 22 June 2025, <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-14834913/Well-never-rid-grooming-gangs-like-Germany-France-ban-foreign-imams-young-Muslim-minds-poison-TAJ-HARGEY.html>.

25. “How Pakistan’s rape culture led to the UK grooming gangs,” *The Spectator*, 19 January 2025, <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/how-pakistans-rape-culture-led-to-the-uk-grooming-gangs/>.

This *Spectator* article exemplifies negative media practices through cultural determinism, prejudicial framing, and selective use of evidence. While referencing serious criminal cases and police data, it repeatedly attributes child sexual exploitation in the UK to a supposed, monolithic “rape culture” in Pakistan and to Islamic beliefs more broadly. Describing Pakistani society as a “gory mix of Islamic supremacism, primitive tribalism and violent misogyny,” the piece essentialises an entire nation, religion, and diaspora community.

The article’s framing of a “conspiracy of silence” within the British-Pakistani community reinforces suspicion collective blame and echoes broader conspiratorial narratives rather than offering substantiated sociological analysis. It also omits key voices, such as Nazir Afzal OBE, the British Pakistani Muslim lawyer and former prosecutor who played a central role in condemning and prosecuting grooming gangs.

By excluding meaningful counter-perspectives, contextual nuance, and distinctions between individual offenders and the wider community, the piece constructs a one-sided narrative that risks legitimising xenophobic and Islamophobic assumptions. It therefore meets the criteria for or negative aspects and behaviours, prioritising sensationalism and generalisation over balanced, responsible journalism.

03 | “Four counter-protesters arrested at Ukip protest as demonstration moved nine miles after police ban,” GB News.²⁶

This *GB News* article demonstrates negative media practices through sensationalised framing, sweeping generalisations, and uncritical amplification of inflammatory political rhetoric. Repeated references to “masked Muslim men” and a “large Muslim population” in connection with concerns about “serious disorder” implicitly associate Muslim identity with threat, despite the protest involving a diverse range of participants. The headline’s focus on the chant “Allahu Akbar,” presented without translation or context, further sensationalises a common religious phrase and risks reinforcing prejudice.

Although the article accurately reports hostile statements from Ukip leaders, including terms like “crusade” and “Islamist invaders,” it fails to challenge or contextualise this language, giving it disproportionate weight. These editorial choices create an “us versus them” narrative, undermining balanced reporting and exemplifying negative media practices in coverage of protests involving minority communities.

26. “Four counter-protesters arrested at Ukip protest as demonstration moved nine miles after police ban,” GB News, 25 October 2025, <https://www.gbnews.com/news/ukip-protest-arrests-london-police-ban>.

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Columns of masked Muslim men chant 'Allahu Akbar' in London in 'protest' against Ukip demonstration



WATCH: Police granted new powers to crack down on disruption caused by protests | GB NEWS

By Jack Walters and James Saunders

Published: 25/10/2025 - 15:29 | Updated: 26/10/2025 - 03:51

Share Like 1.9K Comments

One protester accused Ukip of 'coming into our homes... to cause us problems'

09

Generalisations about Muslims: *A Telegraph* Favourite

This section assesses whether media articles generalise aspects of Muslim behaviour, beliefs, or actions, rather than attributing views or conduct to specific individuals or clearly defined groups. The aim is to identify instances where language or framing presents Muslims as a homogenous community, implicitly or explicitly suggesting shared values, intentions, or behaviours across the entire faith.

The Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM) recognises that such generalisations can be intentional or unintentional, particularly in opinion pieces or coverage of complex social issues. Their presence does not automatically indicate factual inaccuracy or malicious intent. Reporting on trends or cultural debates can be legitimate when properly contextualised; problems arise when diversity within Muslim communities is ignored, reinforcing stereotypes and misrepresenting public understanding.

Key Findings

- 01** | **Overall prevalence:** Out of 40,913 articles, 17.06% included generalisations, meaning fewer than one in five articles across the sample used generalised framing.

- 02** | **Right-wing dominance in generalisation patterns -** Proportionally speaking, the eight worst offending publications among outlets with over 100 articles are all right-wing newspapers, each with over 20% of articles containing generalisations: *The Spectator* (53%) *GB News* (39%), *The Telegraph* (32%), *Daily Express* (24%), *The Times* (22%), *The Sun* (21%), *Jewish News* (21%), *Daily Mail* (20%). This clustering suggests a systematic editorial approach rather than isolated incidents.

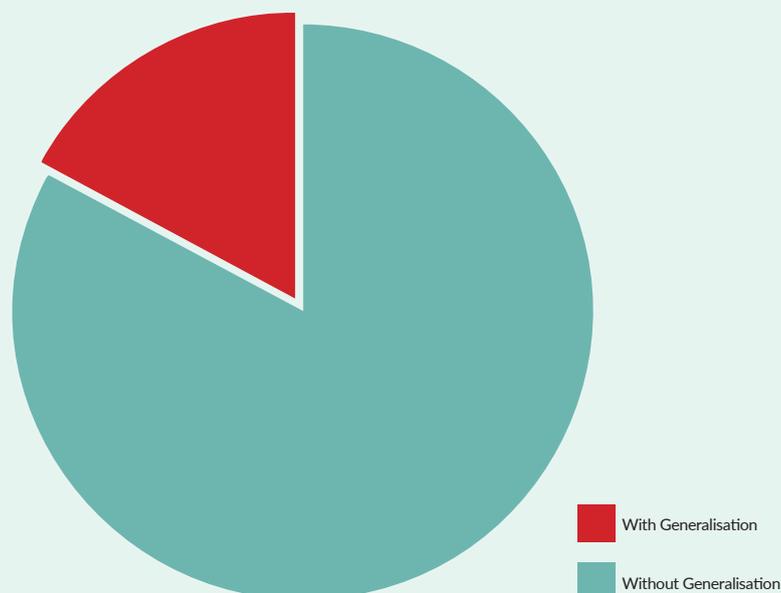
- 03** | ***The Spectator's* extreme proportionality matters despite lower volume -** At 52.96%, *The Spectator* generalises in over half its articles (340), showing that even with lower output, near-constant generalisation creates significant harmful impact through normalising sweeping characterisations of Muslim communities.

- 04** | ***GB News* demonstrates disproportionate generalisation -** With 40% of its 569 articles making generalisations about Muslims, *GB News* coverage shows that generalisation isn't incidental but represents a core element of their editorial approach to Muslim-related coverage.

- 05** | **Centre Left mainstream outlets show more restraint -** *The Guardian* (10.7%), *Independent* (11.3%), and *BBC* (6.3%) maintain significantly lower generalisation rates, demonstrating that high-volume coverage need not default to sweeping statements, and that editorial standards can effectively constrain harmful generalisation even when producing substantial output.²⁷

27. See Appendix D for full table of results for generalisations

Presence of Generalisation About Muslims

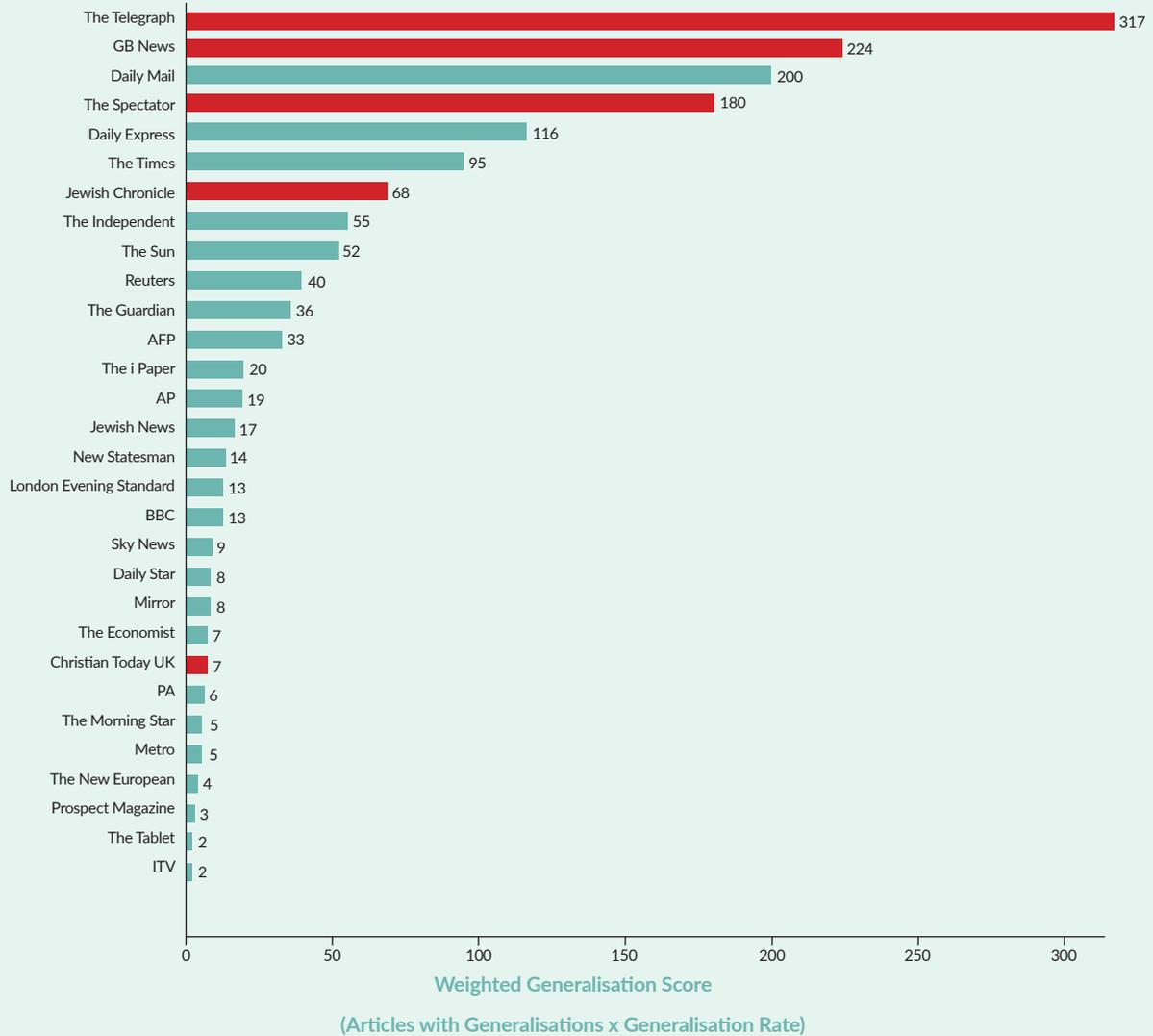


Generalisation Present	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total
Articles With Generalisation	6,980	17.06%
Articles Without Generalisation	33,933	82.94%
Grand Total	40,913	100.00%

An analysis of generalisations across publications reveals notable variation in both scale and proportion. High-output outlets such as *The Telegraph* (1,002 articles) and *The Daily Mail* (977 articles) contribute the largest absolute number of generalising articles, reflecting their volume of coverage. However, proportionally, opinion-driven platforms show the highest rates of generalisation, with *The Spectator* recording generalisations in 52.9% of its relevant articles and *GB News* in 39.3%.

In contrast, broadcasters and wire services such as the *BBC* (6.3%), *AP* (8.8%), *Reuters* (12.6%), and *PA* (9.9%) demonstrate considerably lower proportions, indicating a greater emphasis on attribution, neutrality, and specificity. CfMM does not treat these figures as an assessment of accuracy or editorial motive; rather, they highlight structural patterns in media coverage and identify where audiences are more likely to encounter simplified or collective portrayals of Muslims that risk reinforcing misleading narratives.

UK Media Outlet Combined Volume and Rate of Generalisations



■ Publications with >30% Generalisation rate
■ Other publications

Generalisation as Editorial Pattern: *The Telegraph's* Coverage of Islam and Muslims.²⁸

An examination of three opinion articles published by *The Telegraph* in 2025 reveals a consistent and recurring pattern of generalisation about Muslims and Islam, in which the faith, its adherents, and its most extreme manifestations are systematically conflated to present Muslim identity as a source of social threat, political manipulation, and cultural incompatibility with British life. Notably, all three articles are framed around the subject of Islamophobia itself, a pattern that is significant in its own right: rather than engaging with the question of anti-Muslim prejudice on its merits, each piece uses the Islamophobia debate as a vehicle through which generalisations about Muslims and Islam are introduced, normalised, and legitimised under the guise of defending free speech and legal consistency.

The most egregious example is Douglas Murray's March 2025 piece arguing against an Islamophobia definition, in which generalisation operates at every level of the argument. Murray presents violence as a defining characteristic of Islam itself, using the Charlie Hebdo murders as evidence of what happens when one criticises the religion generally, framing all Muslims collectively as a "hornet's nest", a dangerous, reactive mass defined by the actions of two individuals. He deploys survey statistics suggesting minority Muslim sympathy for jihadist motives without contextualising methodology or the overwhelming majority opposition, allowing a minority position to stand as representative of British Muslims as a whole.

Most revealingly, Murray describes Ramadan lights in central London as making tourists feel they are "in Islamabad, just with better lighting," generalising Muslim cultural visibility as a form of foreign encroachment incompatible with British identity. His conclusion that "Islam already has too many protections created by custom and fear" frames the entire community's standing in public life as the product of intimidation rather than legitimate democratic participation. That this argument is made in an article ostensibly about Islamophobia is particularly troubling: in arguing that Muslims do not need protection from prejudice, the article itself demonstrates precisely the kind of prejudicial generalisation that such protections are designed to address.

28. Douglas Murray, 'Islamophobia laws are just censorship. Britain's Muslims already have solid protection', *The Telegraph*, 17 March 2025, available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/03/17/islamophobia-law-censorship-muslims-already-have-protection/>; Claire Coutinho, 'What does Labour have to hide about its Islamophobia definition?', *The Telegraph*, 22 October 2025, available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/10/22/what-does-labour-have-to-hide-about-islamophobia/>; Fiyaz Mughal, 'The Government's draft definition of Islamophobia is not a good thing for Muslims', *The Telegraph*, 23 December 2025, available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/12/23/islamophobia-definition-government-draft-muslims/> [All accessed 01 February 2026].

Claire Coutinho's October 2025 piece employs subtler but no less consequential generalisations, again in the context of opposing an official Islamophobia definition. By repeatedly sliding between "radical Islam," "Islamist extremism," "grooming gangs," and the broader Muslim community without distinction, the article presents these as interconnected features of Muslim identity requiring collective discussion rather than distinct phenomena with specific causes. The qualifier "moderate and upstanding Muslim community" presented as a concession functions as a generalisation in itself, implying that moderation among Muslims is a notable exception rather than the overwhelming norm. That this framing appears in a piece arguing against anti-Muslim hate protections creates a troubling circularity: generalisations about Muslims are deployed as the justification for why Muslims should not receive stronger protections against generalisation.

Fiyaz Mughal's December 2025 piece is the most nuanced of the three, written from direct professional experience of anti-Muslim hatred, and it explicitly resists many of the generalisations found in the other articles. Nevertheless, writing in opposition to the Government's Islamophobia definition, it reproduces certain generalisations of its own: Islamist-influenced lobbying is presented as the primary driver of Muslim advocacy on the definition question, collective Muslim "community leaders" are dismissed as politically self-serving.

Across all three articles, the most consequential generalisation is structural rather than explicit: none distinguishes consistently between Islam as a theological system, Islamism as a political ideology, and Muslims as a diverse community of nearly four million British citizens. The fact that all three pieces are organised around opposition to Islamophobia protections compounds this pattern significantly. The Islamophobia debate becomes, in each case, the editorial context within which sweeping characterisations of Muslims and Islam are advanced, suggesting that *The Telegraph's* treatment of this subject in 2025 functioned not merely as commentary on a policy question but as a sustained platform for the normalisation of generalising narratives about Muslim identity in British public life.

Other Selected Examples

01 | Douglas Murray, "In the modern age, 'civilised' people can no longer hate Jews for their religion or race – so they now resort to hating them for having a state and daring to defend it," *Daily Mail*.²⁹

This *Daily Mail* opinion piece illustrates problematic generalisation by portraying Muslims and Islam as monolithic and uniformly hostile. The author makes sweeping claims about the

29. Douglas Murray, "In the modern age, 'civilised' people can no longer hate Jews for their religion or race – so they now resort to hating them for having a state and daring to defend it," *Daily Mail*, 1 April 2025, <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-14557031/DOUGLAS-MURRAY-people-no-longer-hate-Jews-religion-race-state.html>.

“Arab and Muslim worlds” and the “history of Islam,” depicting them as inherently violent, colonial, or antisemitic, without acknowledging historical, theological, or cultural diversity. This framing collapses vast and varied populations into a single negative caricature, attributing collective intent and behaviour to entire religious and cultural groups.

Highly inflammatory and dehumanising language, including references to “death cults” and comparisons to Nazism, amplifies this effect, presenting Muslims as a singular ideological threat rather than diverse communities. Complex religious concepts, such as martyrdom, are misrepresented, and broad terms like “Islamic extremism” are used imprecisely, conflating political ideology with faith. The absence of Muslim voices or counter-perspectives reinforces the one-sided narrative, demonstrating how generalisation in opinion journalism can distort public understanding and normalise prejudicial discourse.

02 | Dean Godson, “The lethality of ‘Islamophobia’ accusations,” *The Spectator*.³⁰

This *Spectator* article illustrates problematic generalisation through its broad and imprecise use of ideological labels, treating Islamophobia as a monolithic and inherently dangerous phenomenon. Terms such as “Islamist-inspired cancel culture,” “Islamisation of knowledge,” and “classic Islamist grievance culture” are used without definition, implicitly conflating the actions of isolated actors or organisations with broader Muslim beliefs or social dynamics.

The piece further generalises by portraying religious law as a direct threat to national legal systems, suggesting that Sharia could supplant French law without acknowledging its diverse interpretations or its role as personal religious guidance for many Muslims. By repeatedly linking “Islamophobia accusations” to violence, censorship, and institutional decay, the article frames advocacy against anti-Muslim discrimination as inherently malicious or “weaponised,” rather than recognising it as a legitimate civil rights concern.

The absence of mainstream Muslim perspectives and nuanced definitions of Islamophobia reinforces a one-sided narrative, reducing complex social debates to a singular, threatening ideology. In doing so, the article exemplifies how generalisation can blur distinctions between specific political movements and the wider Muslim community, contributing to distorted and potentially misleading public discourse.

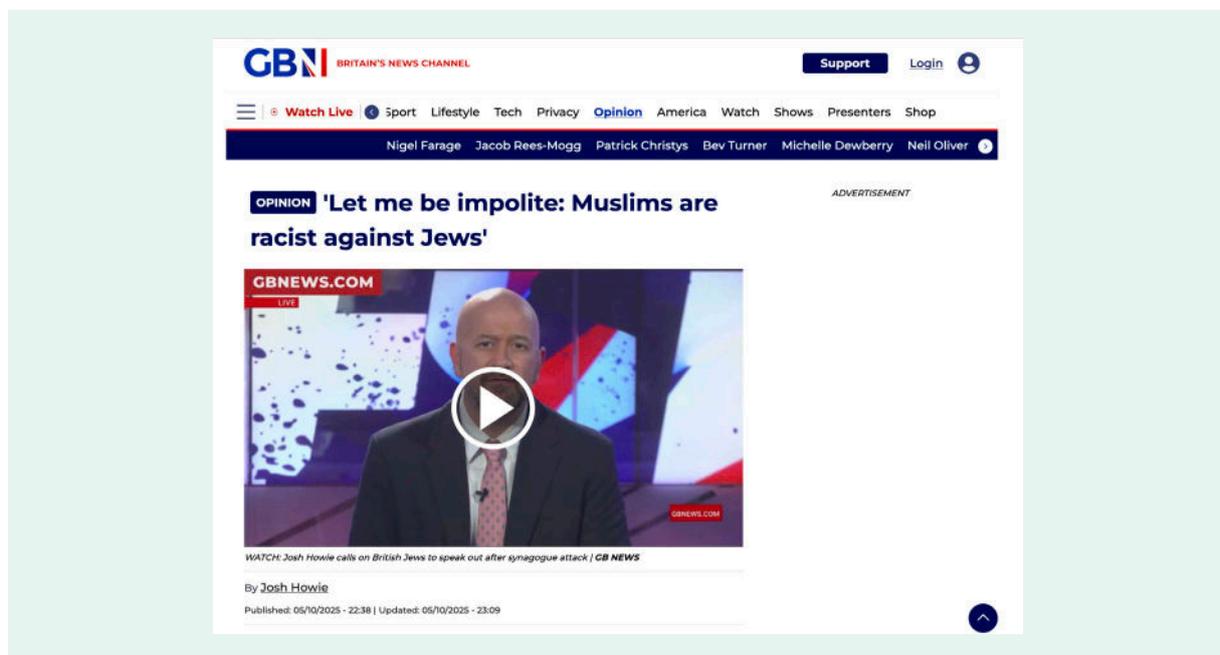
30. Dean Godson, “The lethality of ‘Islamophobia’ accusations,” *The Spectator*, 22 October 2025, <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/the-lethality-of-islamophobia-accusations/>

03 | “Let me be impolite: Muslims are racist against Jews,” Josh Howie, GB News.³¹

This GB News opinion piece exemplifies problematic generalisation by attributing antisemitism and violence to Muslims as a whole and to Islam as a religion. The headline’s claim that “Muslims are racist towards Jews,” even with brief caveats, presents a sweeping statement that imputes collective prejudice to an entire and diverse faith community.

Throughout the article, individual acts of violence and the actions of extremists are repeatedly framed as products of “the ideology of Islam,” with selective references to Qur’anic verses and hadith presented without theological context or acknowledgement of interpretive diversity. This conflation of Islamism, jihadist violence, and mainstream Muslim identity erases distinctions between extremists and the broader Muslim population, reinforcing the notion of inherent hostility within Islam.

The absence of Muslim voices condemning antisemitism, combined with the unchallenged portrayal of Islam as “obsessed with Jews,” produces a one-sided narrative that essentialises Muslim belief and behaviour. The article therefore strongly meets the generalisation criterion, collapsing complex religious, political, and social realities into a singular, negative portrayal of Muslims.



31. Josh Howie, “Let me be impolite: Muslims are racist against Jews,” GB News, 5 October 2025, <https://www.gbnews.com/opinion/jews-muslim-racist-opinion-josh-howie>.

10

Lack of Context: A Prevalent Phenomenon

This section examines whether media outlets omit information, perspectives, or voices that would clarify or provide greater context to the issue being discussed. We assessed both the frequency of omissions within each outlet, measured by weighted percentage, and their real-world impact on public understanding, proportional weighted score, which accounts for audience reach and prominence.

Key Findings

- 01** | A significant 44.44% of articles (18,183 out of 40,913) failed to provide due prominence by omitting information, perspectives, or voices that would clarify or provide greater context to the issues being discussed.

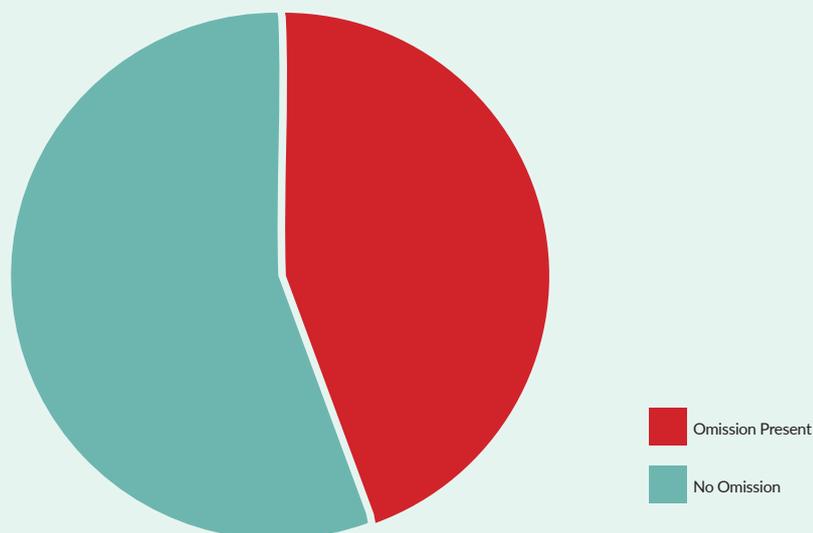
- 02** | *Daily Mail and Telegraph* dominate decontextualised coverage - *The Daily Mail* and *The Telegraph* accounted for the largest volume of coverage that systematically strips away contextualising information, ensuring decontextualised narratives about Muslims reach massive audiences.

- 03** | Right-wing outlets combine extreme rates with substantial volume - *GB News*, *The Telegraph*, *Jewish Chronicle*, and *The Spectator* all exceed 60% omission rates while also producing significant article volumes. This reveals that context removal is not an oversight but a deliberate editorial feature of right-wing Muslim coverage.

- 04** | Mainstream newspapers show widespread context failure - *The Independent* (859), *Guardian* (800), *Times* (481), and *Daily Express* (438) all rank in the top seven, with omission rates between 44-51%. This demonstrates that contextual omission extends beyond explicitly right-wing outlets, reflecting broader structural failures in UK journalism when reporting on Islam and Muslims.

- 05** | *The Telegraph's* rate intensifies its impact - While *The Daily Mail* produces more omitted articles in absolute terms, *The Telegraph's* 65.3% omission rate means nearly two-thirds of its coverage lacks adequate context the, highest among major outlets with substantial volume. This combination makes it particularly effective at normalising decontextualised, simplistic narratives.

Due Prominence: Contextual Omission in Coverage

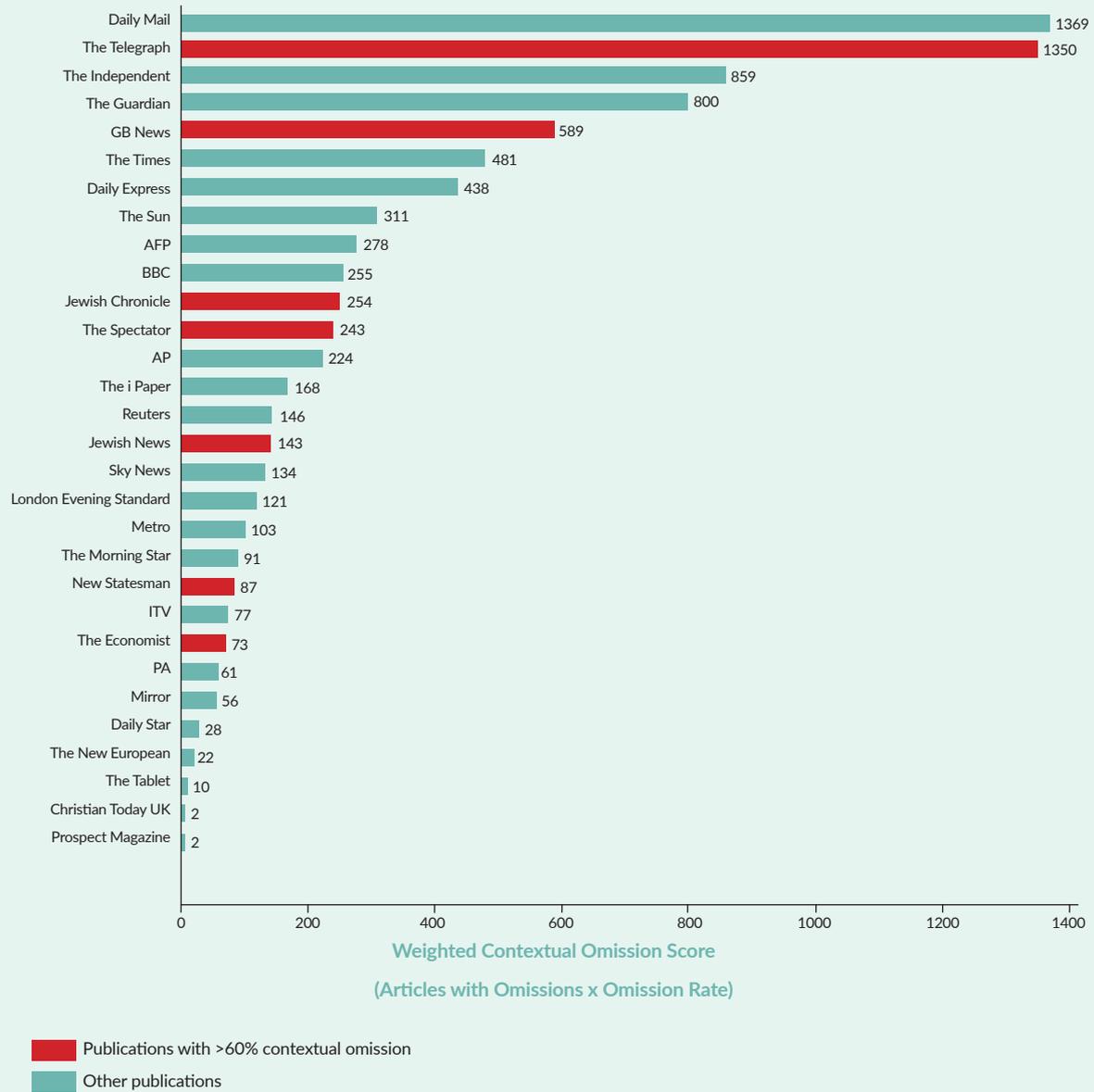


Due Prominence	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total
Contextual Omission Present	18,183	44.44%
Adequate Context Provided	22,730	55.56%
Grand Total	40,913	100.00%

Our analysis reveals that major national newspapers drive the greatest influence in decontextualised coverage: *The Daily Mail* and *The Telegraph* lead with weighted scores of 1,369 and 1,350 respectively, combining omission rates of 53% and 65% with extensive article volumes (2,567 and 2,069 articles). *The Independent* (859) and *The Guardian* (800) follow, demonstrating that even outlets with relatively lower omission rates (44-51%) exert substantial influence through sheer volume of output. These four outlets shape public perception most significantly, as their omissions reach the widest audiences and occur at scale.

In contrast, smaller outlets such as *The Spectator* (395 articles, 61.5% rate), *Jewish Chronicle* (406 articles, 62.5% rate), and *New Statesman* (147 articles, 59.3% rate) exhibit very high omission tendencies but produce fewer articles, reducing their overall societal impact despite their consistently poor contextual standards. Their influence remains concentrated within specific readerships rather than shaping broader public discourse.

UK Media Outlet Combined Volume and Rate of Contextual Omissions



Broadcast and international agencies display varied patterns: the *BBC* produces 910 omitted articles but maintains a relatively moderate 28.1% rate, while *AP* (750 articles, 29.9%) and *AFP* (720 articles, 38.6%) show similar patterns. Despite their lower proportional rates, their broad syndication across multiple platforms means these omissions still exert significant influence on public understanding, as their content is republished and amplified throughout the media ecosystem.

GB News (923 articles, 63.8%) represents a distinct category combining a high omission rate with substantial volume to achieve a weighted score of 589, making it the fifth most impactful outlet for decontextualised coverage. This demonstrates that newer right-wing broadcasters are rapidly establishing themselves as major contributors to context-stripped narratives about Muslims.

This combined approach of measuring both editorial tendency and societal impact provides a clear picture of how omissions in media coverage shape public discourse, highlighting that *The Telegraph* and *Daily Mail*'s dominance stems not merely from poor editorial standards but from their ability to systematically deploy decontextualised coverage at industrial scale, fundamentally distorting public understanding of Islam and Muslims in the UK.

Selected Examples

01 | Man Arrested for Burning Qur'an in Manchester (Various Outlets excluding ITV and Metro).³²

In February 2025, a man in Manchester burned a Qur'an while holding an Israeli flag. Media coverage of the incident demonstrates several patterns of sensationalism, framing, and omission. Headlines and article structures frequently linked the arrest to the violent death of an "anti-Islam activist" in Sweden and the Manchester Arena memorial, creating a narrative that associates religious acts with violence, terrorism, and international intrigue.

The incident was framed using legal terminology, such as a "racially aggravated public order offence," alongside police statements expressing "deep concern" within "diverse communities," which reinforced negative stereotypes and implied the act reflected broader societal issues connected to Islam. Critically, Muslim voices were almost entirely absent, presenting the community as passive recipients rather than active stakeholders and undermining balanced

32. The observation about limited reporting on the perpetrator's Israeli flag was highlighted publicly on social media for example, in a tweet by CFMM UK noting that most outlets omitted this detail while only ITV and Metro mentioned it. See: Tweet noting omission of Israeli flag in coverage (X/CFMM UK)

Most outlets also omitted the fact that the perpetrator was carrying an Israeli flag - mentioned only by *ITV* and *Metro*. This omission is significant given documented links between some pro-Israel advocacy and anti-Muslim sentiment, and the visibility of Israeli flags at far-right demonstrations in the UK. Additionally, no publication explicitly described the act as “Islamophobic” or “anti-Muslim hate,” limiting recognition of the incident as a hate crime and obscuring its wider social and political context.

02 | “One by one, my family were driven out of Bradford. Racism is a two-way street,” *GB News*.³³

This *GB News* opinion piece by Colin Brazier reflects on his family’s departure from Bradford and argues that immigration and changing community dynamics have fuelled social and racial tensions. The article, by a former *Sky News* presenter, demonstrates significant omissions that produce a one-sided portrayal of Pakistani-heritage communities and their alleged racism. Local residents and Muslim voices are almost entirely absent from this embittered diatribe, leaving the narrative unbalanced and lacking nuance.

By excluding firsthand accounts, counterpoints, or explanations, the piece reinforces stereotypes and frames demographic and social change as inherently problematic. Even when asserting that “racism is a two-way street,” it neglects structural inequalities and the experiences of those facing discrimination, focusing solely on perceived aggression from Pakistani-heritage individuals. As a result, readers are presented only with the author’s perspective, which attributes urban decline, social fragmentation, and “white flight” to these communities, without acknowledging broader socioeconomic factors or alternative interpretations.

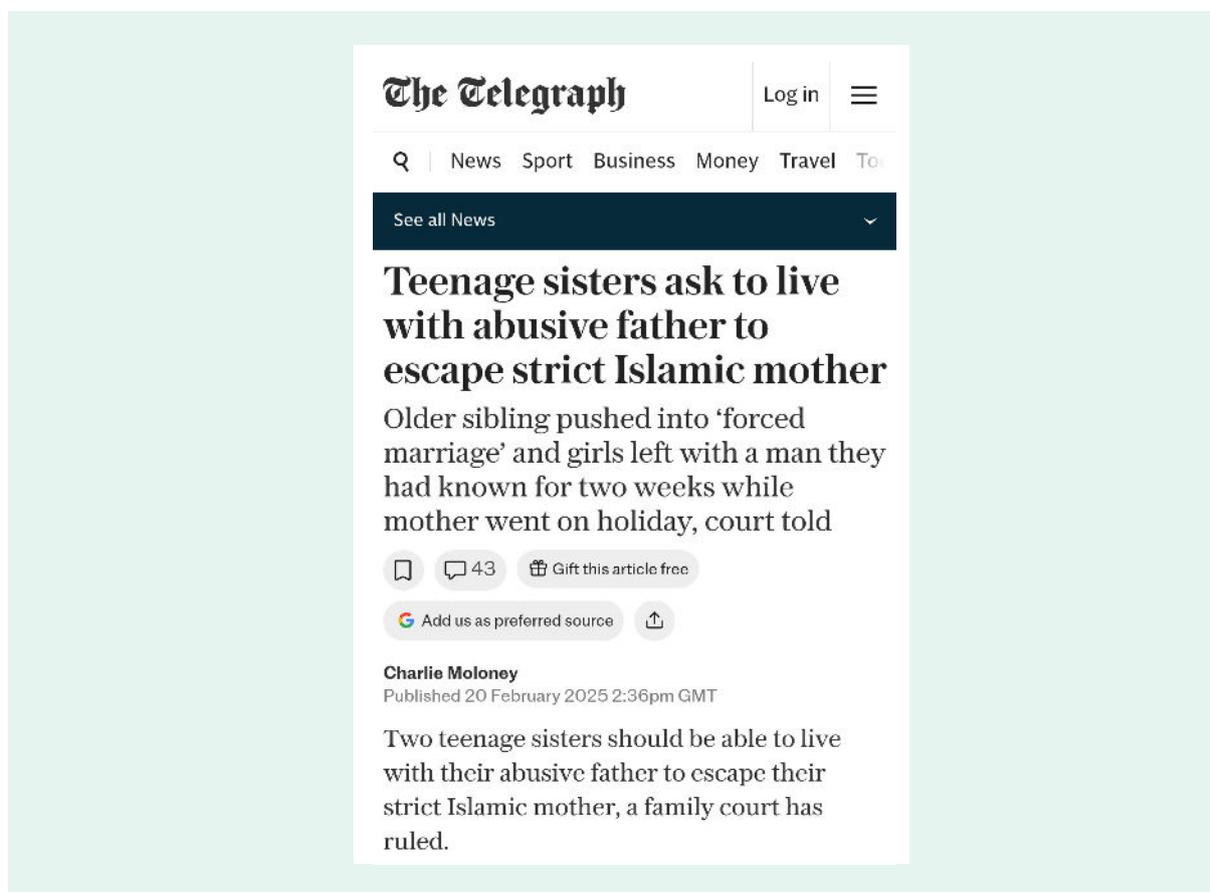
Note: *It can be argued that opinion pieces, by their nature, present a singular perspective and are not held to the same contextual standards as news reporting; however, the inclusion of opinion content in this analysis remains valid given that such pieces, particularly when published repeatedly and at scale by outlets such as *The Spectator* and *GB News*, function not as isolated individual views but as part of a sustained editorial pattern that shapes audience perception of Muslims and Islam in ways that extend well beyond the conventions of personal commentary.*

33. Colin Brazier, “One by one, my family were driven out of Bradford. Racism is a two-way street,” *GB News*, 2 August 2025. <https://www.gbnews.com/opinion/bradford-uk-immigration-crisis-racism>

03 | “Teenage sisters ask to live with abusive father to escape strict Islamic mother,” *The Telegraph*.³⁴

The Telegraph’s coverage of two teenage sisters caught between abusive parents demonstrates significant omissions that create a misleading narrative. The article frames the mother as a “strict Islamic mother” and links her alleged actions, including a hastily arranged marriage, to her religion, while omitting critical context. It does not clarify that the court made no finding of a forced marriage, merely noting that the arrangement was rushed, nor does it explain that forced marriage is incompatible with Islamic principles, which emphasise consent and individual autonomy.

The reporting also ignores that the mother left the girls in the care of an unrelated man she barely knew while on holiday (a factor unrelated to her faith). By omitting these details, the article reduces a complex family dispute to a story that implicitly associates abusive or controlling behaviour with Islam, reinforcing negative stereotypes and failing to provide readers with a balanced, accurate account.



34. “Teenage sisters ask to live with abusive father to escape strict Islamic mother,” *The Telegraph*, 20 February 2025. Available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/02/20/teenage-sisters-abusive-father-escape-strict-islamic-mother/> and the related observation on social media noting reporting omissions by CfMM UK on X (formerly Twitter): <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1893982025209516360>.

11

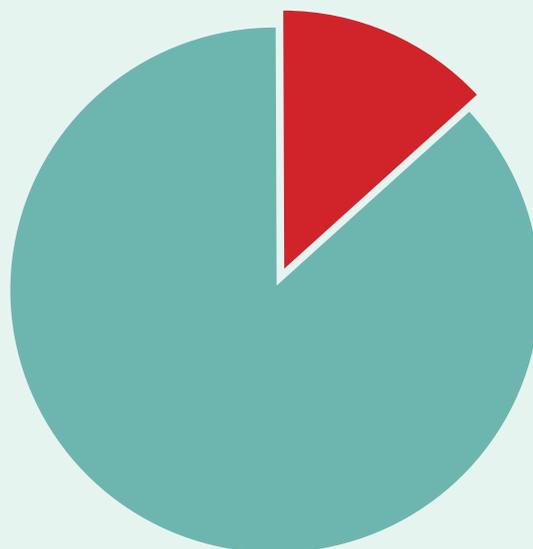
How Right Wing Publications Misrepresent Muslims and their Beliefs

This section assesses whether media coverage misrepresents or misleads regarding Muslim behaviour, beliefs, or actions, or whether it distorts or downplays Islamic texts, principles, or concepts. Across numerous publications, reporting often simplifies complex issues, attributes individual or criminal acts to Islam, or presents cultural and religious practices in ways that reinforce stereotypes. Many articles omit essential context or explanations of Islamic teachings, leaving readers with incomplete or distorted narratives. This includes selective emphasis on negative behaviour and loaded language, all of which contribute to a one-sided portrayal of Islam.

Key Findings

- 01** | **The Spectator leads in misrepresentation (proportionally speaking)** - 36.3% of *The Spectator's* 233 articles misrepresents Islam and Muslims – the highest rate among major outlets. Combined with *GB News* (23.4%) and *The Telegraph* (20.2%), this reveals a clear cluster of right-wing publications where misrepresentation is standard editorial practice rather than exception.
- 02** | **The Telegraph dominates in combined impact** - Despite not having the highest rate, *The Telegraph* leads the weighted score at 129 (640 articles at 20.2%), making it the single most impactful outlet for misrepresentation when volume and proportionality are considered together. One in five of its articles contains misrepresentation across a substantial body of coverage.
- 03** | **Right-wing outlets cluster above the 20% threshold** - Among publications with over 100 biased articles, those exceeding the 20% misrepresentation threshold are exclusively right-wing: *The Spectator* (36.3%), *GB News* (23.4%), *The Telegraph* (20.2%), and the *Jewish Chronicle* (20.6%), demonstrating a systematic pattern that distinguishes ideologically driven misrepresentation from broader media failings.
- 04** | **The Daily Mail misrepresents at scale** - With 15% of its 714 articles containing misrepresentation, *The Daily Mail* produces the highest raw volume of misrepresenting articles of any outlet, meaning that (despite this relatively moderate rate of bias), its reach ensures distorted portrayals of Muslims penetrate mainstream public discourse more than any other single publication.
- 05** | **Wire services and broadcasters show relative restraint** - *Reuters* (15.4%), *AP* (12.8%), *AFP* (12.4%), and the *BBC* (6.4%) all sit at or below the overall average of 13.1%, suggesting that editorial standards within international agencies and broadcasters provide some constraint on misrepresentation, even if they do not eliminate it entirely.

Presence of Misrepresentation of Islam/Muslims

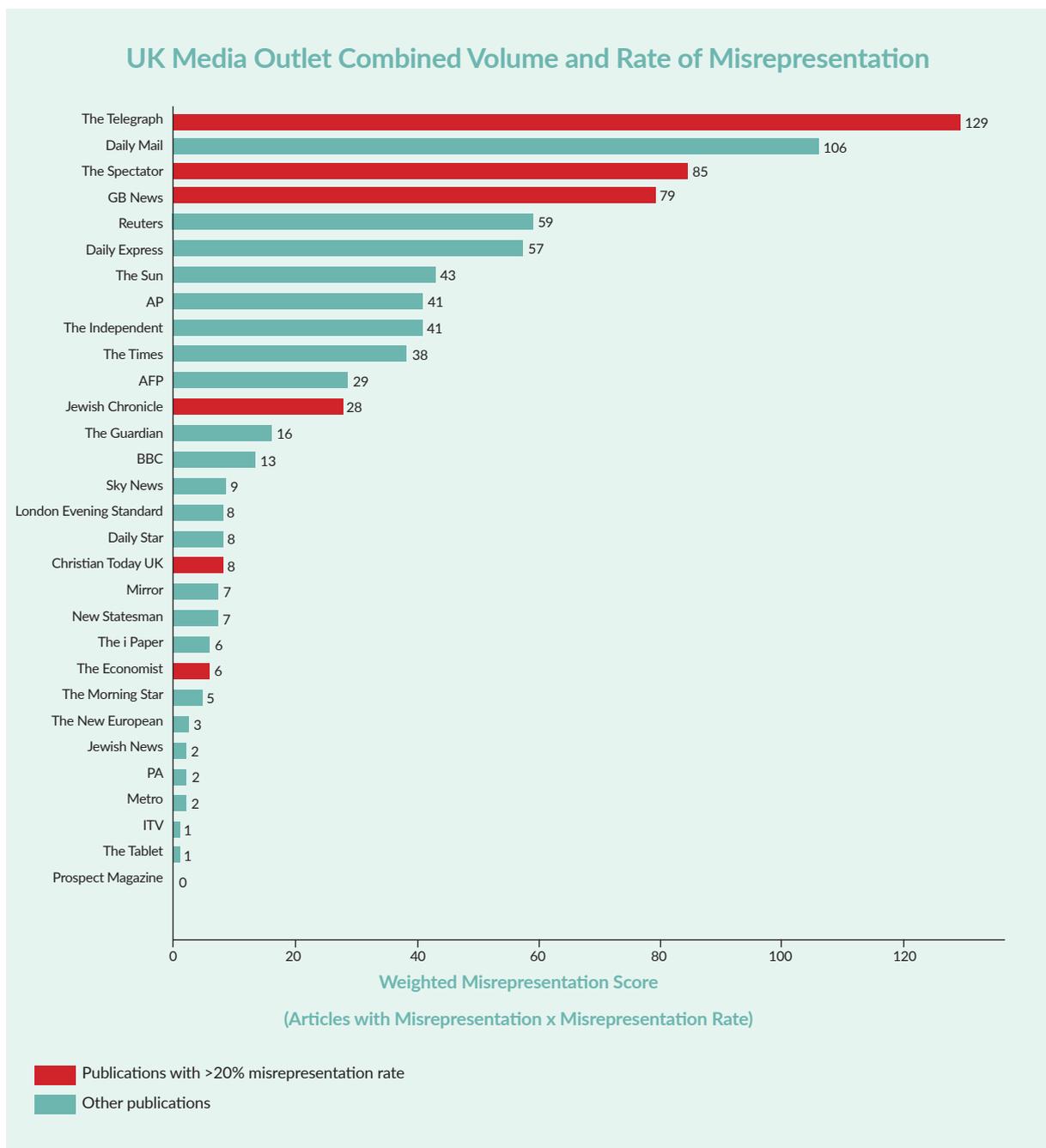


Misrepresentation Present	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total
Articles With Misrepresentation	5,371	13.13%
Articles Without Misrepresentation	35,542	86.87%
Grand Total	40,913	100.00%

Misrepresentation in media coverage refers to the distortion, exaggeration, or inaccurate portrayal of Muslim beliefs, identity, and actions in ways that diverge from factual reporting. Our analysis examined the proportion and volume of articles across 30 UK publications that contained identifiable misrepresentations, producing a weighted score that accounts for both editorial tendency and reach. The overall misrepresentation rate across all outlets stands at 13.1%, but this aggregate figure conceals significant variation.

A distinct cluster of right-wing publications led by *The Spectator*, *GB News*, *The Telegraph*, and the *Jewish Chronicle* consistently exceed the 20% threshold, revealing misrepresentation as a defining editorial characteristic rather than an occasional lapse. Meanwhile, *The Daily Mail*'s sheer volume ensures that even a moderate rate of 14.8% translates into the largest raw count of misrepresenting articles of any single outlet. Together, these findings demonstrate that misrepresentation is neither random nor evenly distributed across UK media, but concentrated in identifiable outlets where it functions as a systematic feature

of coverage. *Reuters*, *AP*, *AFP*, and the *BBC* all perform relatively better than their peers, with misrepresentation rates at or below the overall average of 13.1%. Notably, the *BBC* records the lowest rate among major outlets at just 6.4%, suggesting that public service broadcasting obligations and international editorial standards provide some meaningful constraint on misrepresentation, even if they do not eliminate it entirely.



Selected Examples

01 | Misrepresentation of French Muslim Survey. *GB News* and *The Telegraph*.³⁵

GB News and *The Telegraph* misrepresented a French survey on Muslim attitudes conducted by the Ifop Group (Institut français d'opinion publique). The outlets claimed that a majority of young French Muslims believe Islamic law should take precedence over French law. In fact, the survey referred only to family matters, with crucial qualifiers removed: the 15-page report noted in a single sentence that "specifically in family matters, a majority of those under 35 prioritise respecting religious rules (57%) over French law." A narrow, specific finding was amplified into an alarmist narrative implying widespread rejection of civil society by Muslims. This misrepresentation stoked fears of Muslim separatism and influenced broader public debates about integration.

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of news articles. The left screenshot is from GB News, featuring a headline that reads "Most young Muslims in France put sharia law ABOVE their own country's rules - damning poll". Below the headline is a video player showing a news anchor. The right screenshot is from The Telegraph, with a headline "Majority of young French Muslims put sharia above national laws" and a sub-headline "Poll also finds that more than a third have sympathy for Islamism". Below the text is a photograph of people wearing white prayer caps (kufis) with gold trim.

35. Centre for Media Monitoring documentation of GB News and The Telegraph misrepresentation of IFOP survey on French Muslims, November 19, 2025. CfMM characterized this as "brazen misrepresentation," "cynical and craven spin," and "blatant attempt to hit-job Muslims," concluding "This isn't journalism." Accessible at: <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1991183196734505285>

02 | France Car Attack Labeled “Islamist”. *The Spectator* and Right-Wing Press.³⁶

Several outlets, including *The Spectator* and other right-wing media, described a car attack in France as “Islamist” terrorism, despite police explicitly stating that the incident was not terrorism and citing mental health issues and substance abuse as key factors. The labeling relied solely on the attacker’s use of “Allahu Akbar,” applying a double standard not used for perpetrators of other backgrounds. This coverage reinforced a false association between Islam and violence, disregarding the available evidence.

The image displays four news article screenshots. The top-left screenshot is from The Guardian, titled "France car attack as driver hits pedestrians, shouts Allahu Akbar" leaving 10 injured. The top-right screenshot is also from The Guardian, titled "At least ten injured after driver shouts Allahu Akbar" rams into crowds in tourist hotspot. The bottom-left screenshot is from GB News, titled "Car ploughs into crowd in France, driver shouts Allahu Akbar and leaves a people injured". The bottom-right screenshot is from The Express, titled "Terror in France as driver shouts Allahu Akbar before ramming car into crowd".

36. Police said the car attack in France was not terrorism, but sections of Britain’s right-wing press portrayed it as “Islamist” after the driver shouted “Allahu Akbar” when detained, despite reports that he had mental health and alcohol-related problems. Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM), post on X (formerly Twitter), @cfmmuk, 2024. Available at: <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1986110970822074490>

12

Headlines

This section examines whether headlines depict Muslims or Islam in an unfair or inaccurate manner relative to the story being reported. Headlines are often the first, and sometimes the only, element readers engage with, making them a powerful tool for framing public understanding. When misleading, sensationalist, or context-free, headlines can distort narratives, exaggerate risks, or attribute the actions of individuals to Islam as a whole, while omitting important nuance.



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Global wars draw Britons to Islam, report finds

Researchers say findings could explain increase in conversions amid Israel's war in Gaza

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Social and Religious Affairs Editor
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Published 02 December 2025 9:18pm GMT

Global wars are drawing Britons to convert to Islam, a report has found.

Researchers at the Institute for the Impact of Faith in Life (IIFL) found that global conflict was the most common motivation cited for adopting the Muslim faith.



GB News Support

Live News Membership Politics

'Burn their houses!' Australian imam delivers passionate sermon in aftermath Bondi terror attack and issues rallying cry to Muslim population

GOOD AFTERNOON BRITAIN

SYDNEY TERROR ATTACK
Suspect in Bondi Beach shooting charged with murder and terrorism

Bondi Beach shooting survivor recalls horror of shielding her baby from the gunshots | GB NEWS

Key Findings

- 01** | **The Daily Mail leads in combined impact.** Based on the weighted score, the *Daily Mail* ranked as the worst offender, thereby ensuring that distorted or inflammatory headline framings about Muslims reach the widest possible mainstream audience.

- 02** | **GB News carries the highest proportion.** Despite producing fewer biased headlines than the *Daily Mail*, *GB News* records the highest rate of problematic headlines at 3.73% (54 articles), meaning nearly 1 in 25 of its headlines about Muslims and Islam is problematic, revealing a deeply embedded editorial culture of sensationalism.

- 03** | **Right-wing tabloids cluster at the top.** *The Daily Mail*, *GB News*, *The Telegraph*, and *Daily Express* together account for the overwhelming majority of the weighted impact score, demonstrating that problematic headline use is concentrated almost exclusively within right-wing outlets rather than being evenly distributed across UK media.

- 04** | **Broadsheets and broadcasters show relative restraint.** *The Guardian* (0.35%), *The Times* (0.41%), *BBC* (0.49%), and *Reuters* (0.12%) all record very low rates of problematic headlines, suggesting that editorial standards in established broadsheets and public broadcasters provide meaningful constraints, even if they do not eliminate the problem entirely.

- 05** | **Many outlets record zero problematic headlines.** Five publications – *New Statesman*, *Prospect Magazine*, *The Economist*, *The New European*, and *Christian Today UK* – recorded zero problematic headlines across their entire output, demonstrating that responsible headline writing is entirely achievable and that problematic framing represents active editorial choices rather than inevitable media tendencies.³⁷

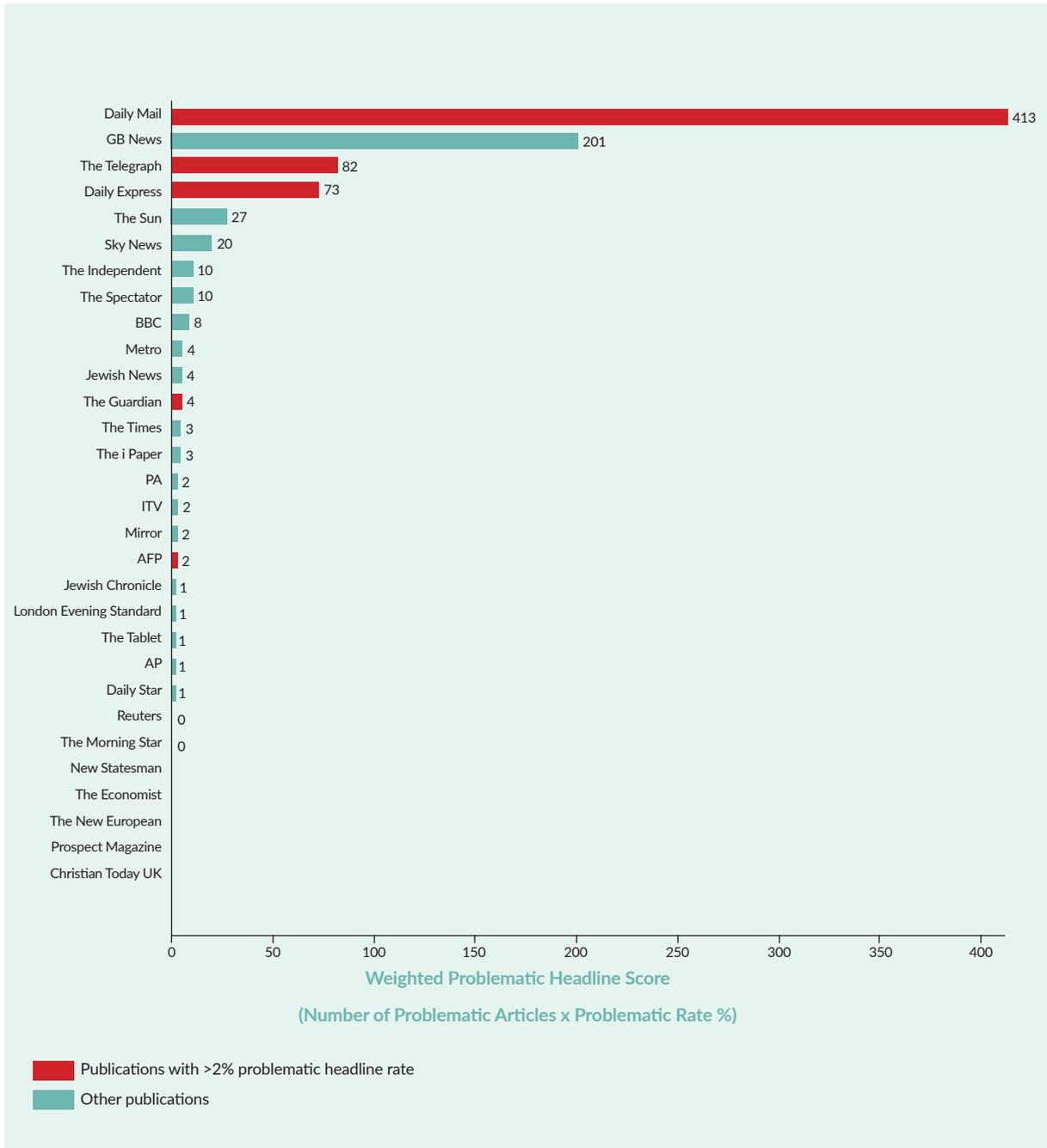
37. See Appendix H for full table of Problematic Headlines stats

Problematic headlines represent one of the most direct and impactful forms of media bias, as headlines shape audience perception before an article is even read, and are frequently shared and consumed in isolation. Our analysis examined the proportion and volume of problematic headlines across 30 UK publications, producing a weighted score that accounts for both editorial tendency and reach. Across the dataset as a whole, most headlines are generally measured, with an overall problematic rate of just 1.05%, suggesting that openly sensationalist framing remains the exception rather than the rule across UK media.

However, this aggregate figure masks significant concentration among a small number of outlets. *GB News* (3.73%) and the *Daily Mail* (2.93%) lead in both proportion and combined impact, frequently employing sensationalist language or presenting individual actions as indicative of broader religious behaviour. *The Telegraph*, *Daily Express*, and *The Sun* also display a notable tendency to use headlines that risk reinforcing stereotypes, albeit at lower proportional rates. Together, these right-wing outlets account for the overwhelming majority of the weighted impact score, revealing that problematic headline use is not a widespread media failing but a characteristic feature of specific editorial cultures.

By contrast, broadcasters such as the *BBC* (0.49%) and *ITV* (0.73%), and international agencies including *Reuters* (0.12%) and *AP* (0.20%), produce comparatively few problematic headlines, reflecting more careful editorial control. Smaller and niche publications generally show very low incidence, and five outlets - *The New Statesman*, *Prospect Magazine*, *The Economist*, *The New European*, and *Christian Today UK* - record zero problematic headlines across their entire output, demonstrating that responsible headline writing is entirely achievable and that problematic framing represents active editorial choices rather than inevitable media tendencies.

While the overall frequency of problematic headlines is lower than misrepresentation within article text, their impact can be disproportionately large, as headlines shape initial perceptions and influence whether readers engage critically with the full story. This analysis highlights which outlets are most prone to using misleading or sensationalist headlines about Islam, the patterns of editorial framing they employ, and the potential effect on public understanding.



Selected Examples

01 | “Burn their houses!’ Australian imam delivers passionate sermon in aftermath Bondi terror attack and issues rallying cry to Muslim population.” *GB News*.³⁸

GB News’ coverage of the Bondi Beach imam following the terror attack was deeply problematic. The headline and article deliberately misrepresented the imam’s message: rather than inciting violence, he was explicitly condemning extremism and calling for peace. This was not a simple error but a clear misrepresentation. By stripping his words of context and reversing their meaning, the coverage exploited public fear in the immediate aftermath of the attack, inflamed suspicion toward Muslims, falsely linked Muslim religious leadership with extremism, and overshadowed authentic Muslim voices condemning terrorism. The article itself states that the Imam called on the Muslim community to root out extremism in its midst and the burning of houses comment was an observation of what happens in some countries against those who commit crimes such as that carried out on Bondi Beach.

02 | “Global Wars Draw British People to Islam.” *The Telegraph*.³⁹

The Telegraph ran an article suggesting that wars attract British people to Islam, based on a report from the Institute for the Impact of Faith in Life, which studied patterns of religious conversion. While the article claimed that war was a key factor, the study itself identified spiritual motivations as the primary drivers, with respondents not citing war as a reason for converting. The headline misleadingly suggested a causal link, sensationalised religious conversion, and misrepresented the research. For readers exposed only to the headline, this created a distorted narrative associating Islam with conflict.

03 | Former MSNBC star Mehdi Hasan sparks fury by calling for more plane crashes... then plays the victim.” *Daily Mail*.⁴⁰

This article is highly problematic due to its disingenuous headline and misleading framing. The headline presents Mehdi Hasan as “calling for more plane crashes,” stripping his

38. Australian imam issues rallying cry to Muslim population in aftermath of Bondi terror attack: ‘Burn their houses!’ *GB News* (27 Dec 2025), reporting on a sermon given in the wake of the Bondi Beach terror attack in Sydney where 15 people were killed and at least 40 wounded. Accessible at <https://www.gbnews.com/news/world/australian-imam-sajid-akram-bondi-terror-attack>

39. Global wars draw Britons to Islam, report finds, *The Daily Telegraph* (2 Dec 2025) reporting on a new study by the Institute for the Impact of Faith in Life (IIFL) that finds global conflicts, particularly perceptions of injustice related to wars such as in Gaza, are cited as a factor drawing some Britons to convert to Islam. Accessible at <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/12/02/global-wars-draw-britons-islam-report/>

40. “Former MSNBC star Mehdi Hasan sparks fury by calling for more plane crashes... then plays the victim,” *Daily Mail*, 19 February 2025. Available at: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/media/article-14409819/MSNBC-Medhi-Hasan-plane-crash-tweet.html>

comment of its clearly satirical intent and portraying it as a literal incitement to violence. In context, the remark was unmistakably ironic and intended as critique, not endorsement of harm. Representing it otherwise constitutes deliberate misrepresentation aimed at provoking outrage rather than informing readers.

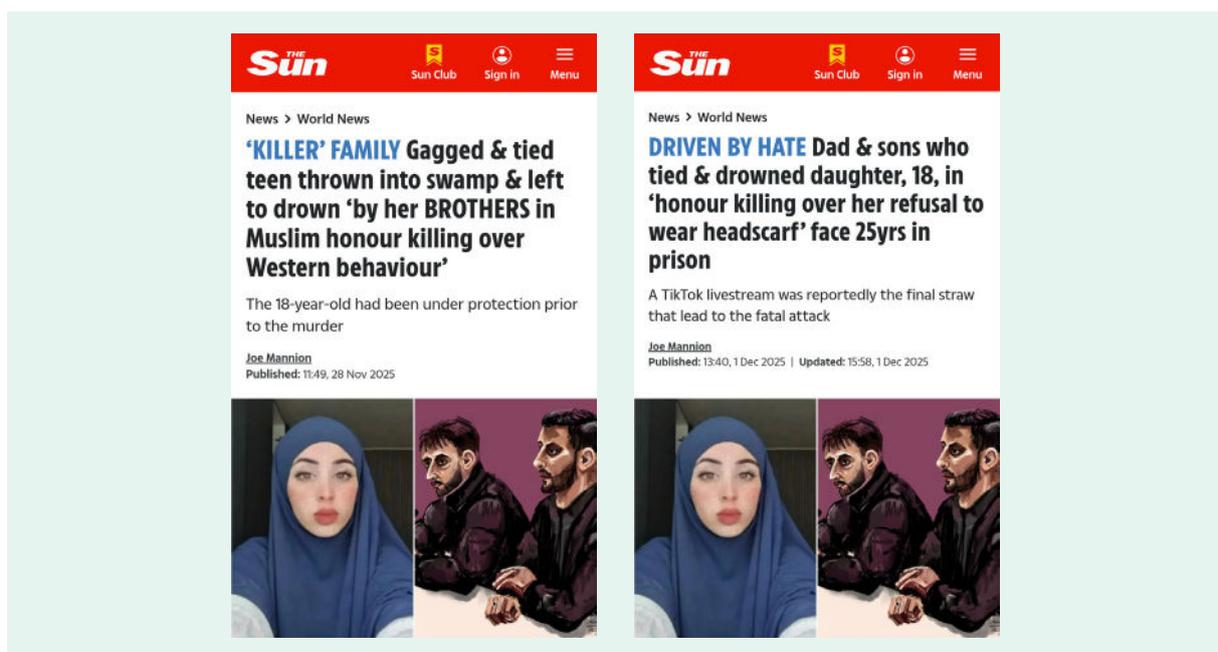
The framing becomes particularly concerning given Hasan's prominence as a Muslim journalist. The article exploits his Muslim identity to cast his comment as especially sinister, reinforcing implicit associations between Muslims and violence. Rather than interrogating the obvious sarcasm or offering balance, the piece dismisses Hasan's reference to Islamophobia and instead portrays him as manipulative and disingenuous. By foregrounding sensationalism and culture-war framing over factual context, the article contributes to anti-Muslim prejudice, undermines journalistic standards, and fuels a toxic public discourse in which Muslim public figures are uniquely vulnerable to distortion and bad-faith interpretation.



The screenshot shows the top of a Daily Mail article. The page features the 'Daily Mail' logo on the left and 'Media' on the right. A navigation bar includes links for Home, News, Royals, U.S., Sport, TV, Showbiz, Lifestyle, Health, Science, Money, Travel, Podcasts, Buyline, and a menu icon. Below this is a blue bar with 'Latest Headlines | Podcasts' and a 'Login' button. The main headline reads: 'Former MSNBC star Medhi Hasan sparks fury by calling for more plane crashes...then plays the victim'. The byline is 'By ALEX HAMMER, US MEDIA CORRESPONDENT'. It also shows the publication date 'PUBLISHED: 19:27, 18 February 2025' and the update date 'UPDATED: 12:52, 19 February 2025'. A social sharing bar includes icons for Facebook, WhatsApp, X, Snapchat, Email, and a share icon, with '74 shares' and '156 View comments'. A short summary follows: 'Former MSNBC host Medhi Hasan called for more plane crashes in America... then claimed he was a victim of Islamophobia after being condemned.' Below that, it says 'The British-American journalist took to X Sunday night and wrote: **'Make American Planes Crash Again.'**

04 | 'KILLER' FAMILY Gagged and tied teen thrown into swamp & left to drown 'by her BROTHERS' in Muslim sick 'honour killing over Western behaviour.' *The Sun*.⁴¹

The Centre for Media Monitoring (CfMM) complained to *The Sun* for labeling this crime as a “Muslim honour killing,” noting that the framing was misleading. CfMM emphasised that Islam strictly forbids the killing of innocents and that such acts cannot be justified by the faith. Of five tabloids covering the story, *The Sun* was the only outlet to explicitly link the crime to Islam; the others reported the incident without associating it with a religion. CfMM argued that tying criminal violence to an entire faith community fuels stigma and misrepresents Islamic teachings. *The Sun* later amended its headline to remove the reference to Muslims.

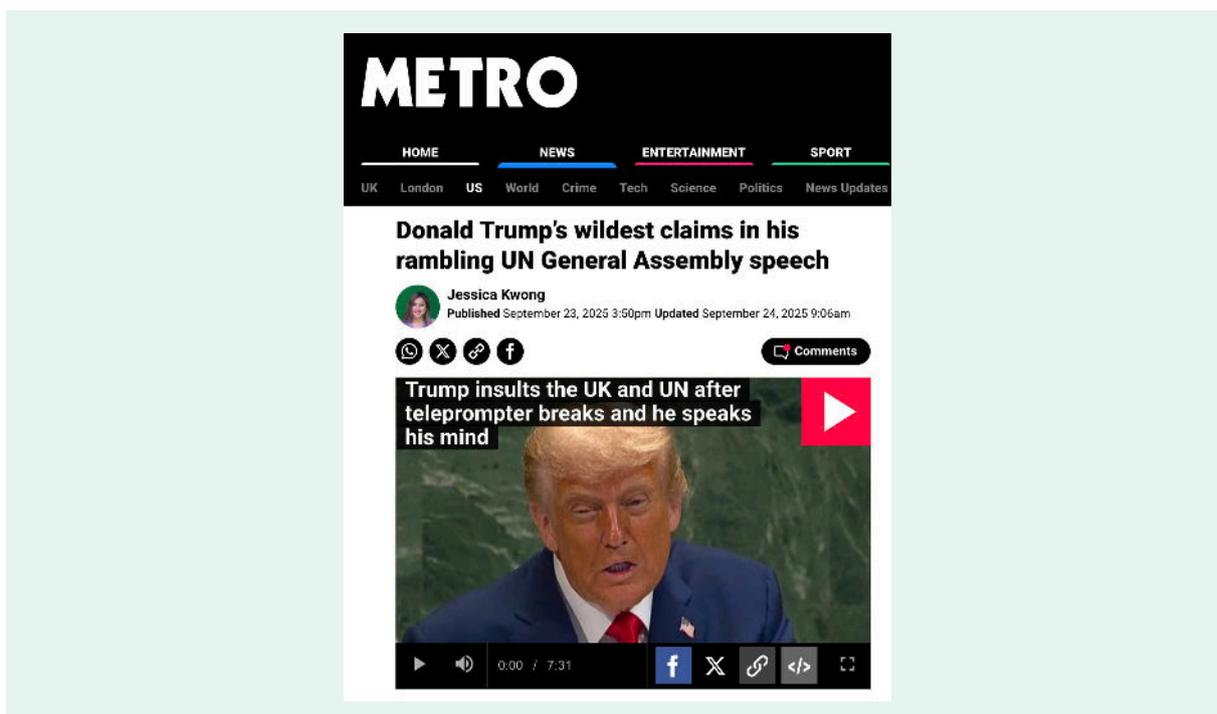


41. *The Sun*, “Gagged and tied teen thrown into swamp & left to drown ‘by her BROTHERS’ in sick ‘honour killing over Western behaviour,’” *The Sun* (28 Nov 2025), reporting that Dutch prosecutors allege 18-year-old Ryan Al Najjar was murdered by her family in an “honour killing” found gagged, bound and dumped in a swamp after her family disapproved of her boyfriend and “Western behaviour.” CfMM analysis available at <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1994451003706323295>

13

Good Practice

This section highlights examples of reporting that demonstrate fairness, accuracy, and contextual responsibility in coverage of Muslims and Islam within the UK media. The following examples demonstrate that high-quality, fair, and responsible reporting is both possible and already present within the UK media landscape. Each case highlights specific aspects of best practice and shows that balanced and nuanced journalism is not only achievable but already in evidence across a range of outlets. By identifying specific strengths in language, framing, and sourcing, the examples that follow offer practical lessons for journalists and editors seeking to improve standards and avoid harmful generalisations.



Selected Examples

01 | Clear Debunking of the “Sharia in London” Claim.

Metro - Clear and unambiguous in stating Donald Trump’s claim to be false.⁴²
Responsible Fact-Checking

Metro UK provided a strong example of responsible journalism in covering Donald Trump’s false claim that Sharia law operates in London. Rather than presenting the allegation as debatable, *Metro* clearly and unambiguously identified it as false. The headline itself framed the claim as misinformation, ensuring that readers encountering only the headline were not misled.

The article prioritised factual accuracy over sensationalism, explaining that no parallel legal system exists in the UK and that British law applies equally to all citizens. *Metro* avoided repeating conspiracy framing or giving a platform to voices seeking to legitimise the falsehood, preventing the normalisation of an anti-Muslim conspiracy theory while demonstrating how controversial claims can be responsibly reported.

Best Practice Demonstrated: Clear fact-checking, unambiguous debunking of misinformation, prioritisation of accuracy over sensationalism, avoidance of amplifying conspiracy theories, and responsible reporting that prevents the normalisation of anti-Muslim falsehoods.

Evening Standard.⁴³

Accurate Contextualisation of Sharia Councils.

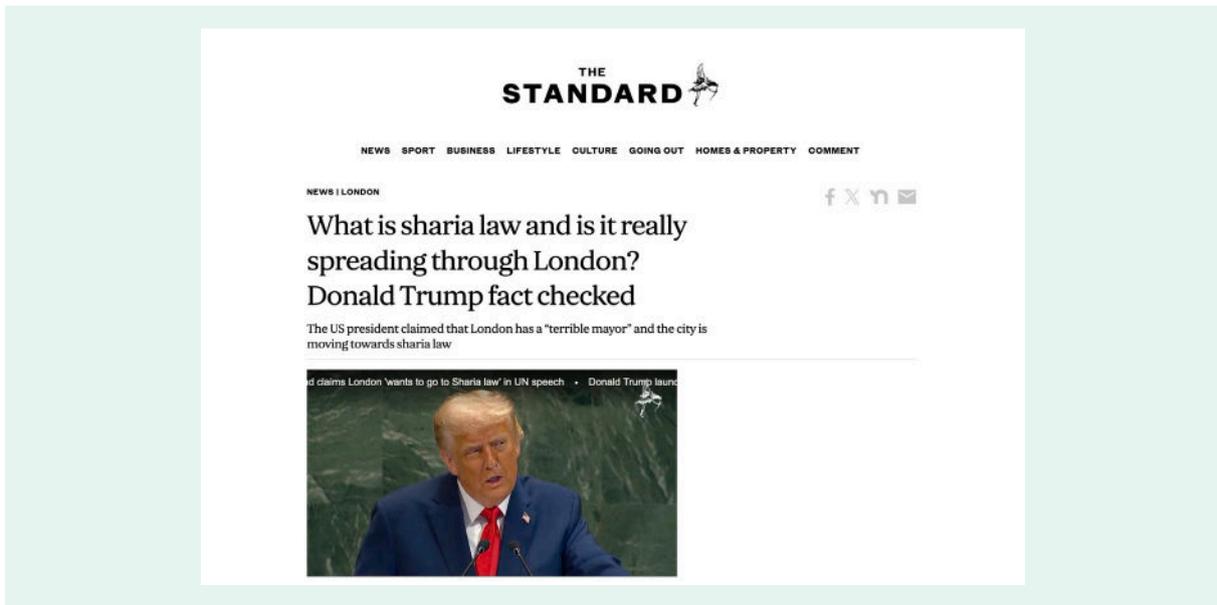
The Evening Standard demonstrated good journalistic practice by providing clear and accurate context about Sharia councils in the UK. Rather than treating them as evidence of a parallel legal system, the article explained their limited and voluntary role, noting that they provide non-binding religious advice primarily advising on marriage and divorce.

By situating these councils within the UK legal framework and emphasising that civil law takes precedence, the article corrected common misconceptions and avoided alarmist framing. Muslim religious practices were treated with the same explanatory tone typically applied to other faith-based practices.

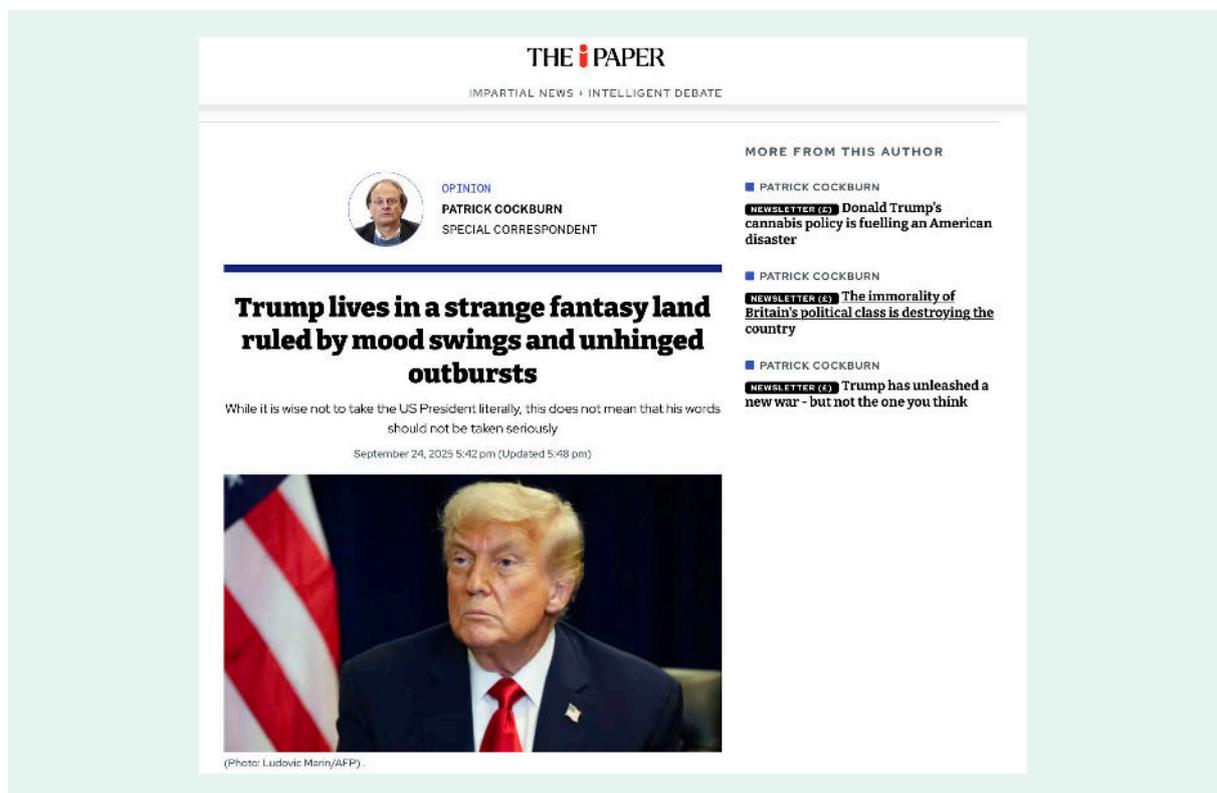
42. Metro, “Donald Trump falsely claims Sadiq Khan wants to bring in Sharia law in rambling UN speech”, 23 September 2025, available at: <https://metro.co.uk/2025/09/23/donald-trump-falsely-claims-sadiq-khan-wants-bring-sharia-law-rambling-un-speech-24242136/>

43. Evening Standard, “What is sharia law and is it really spreading through London? Donald Trump fact checked”, 24 September 2025, available at: <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/sharia-law-what-spreading-london-donald-trump-un-fact-checked-b1249405.html>

Best Practice Demonstrated: Contextualisation, proportionality, educational framing, equal treatment of faith practices



The i Paper (Patrick Cockburn) - Critical Scrutiny of Inflammatory Political Rhetoric.⁴⁴



44. Patrick Cockburn, Donald Trump: Strange fantasy land, mood swings and outbursts, iNews, January 29, 2026, <https://inews.co.uk/opinion/trump-strange-fantasy-land-mood-swings-outbursts-3936692>

Patrick Cockburn's analysis in *The i Paper* provides a model for reporting on inflammatory political claims without amplifying them. In addressing Donald Trump's comments on Islam and Sharia law, the article framed the remarks as detached from reality and placed them within a broader pattern of exaggeration and ideological distortion.

Rather than repeating the claims at length, the piece focused on their lack of factual basis and political function, preventing them from being treated as credible or worthy of debate, while still informing readers of their wider implications.

Best Practice Demonstrated: Critical evaluation over repetition, contextualising political rhetoric, and avoiding amplification of false or inflammatory claims.⁴⁵

02 | *The Sun* – Bondi Beach Hero Ahmed al Ahmed.⁴⁶

This example shows how a single editorial decision can challenge harmful patterns of representation. In covering the Bondi Beach attack, *The Sun* identified Ahmed al Ahmed the man who helped subdue the gunman as Muslim, framing his identity positively in the context of courage and heroism.

This approach is significant because Muslim identity is often highlighted when Muslims are portrayed as perpetrators but omitted when they are victims or heroes. By naming Ahmed al Ahmed's faith in a positive story, the article disrupted this double standard, allowing readers to associate Muslim identity with bravery and public service.

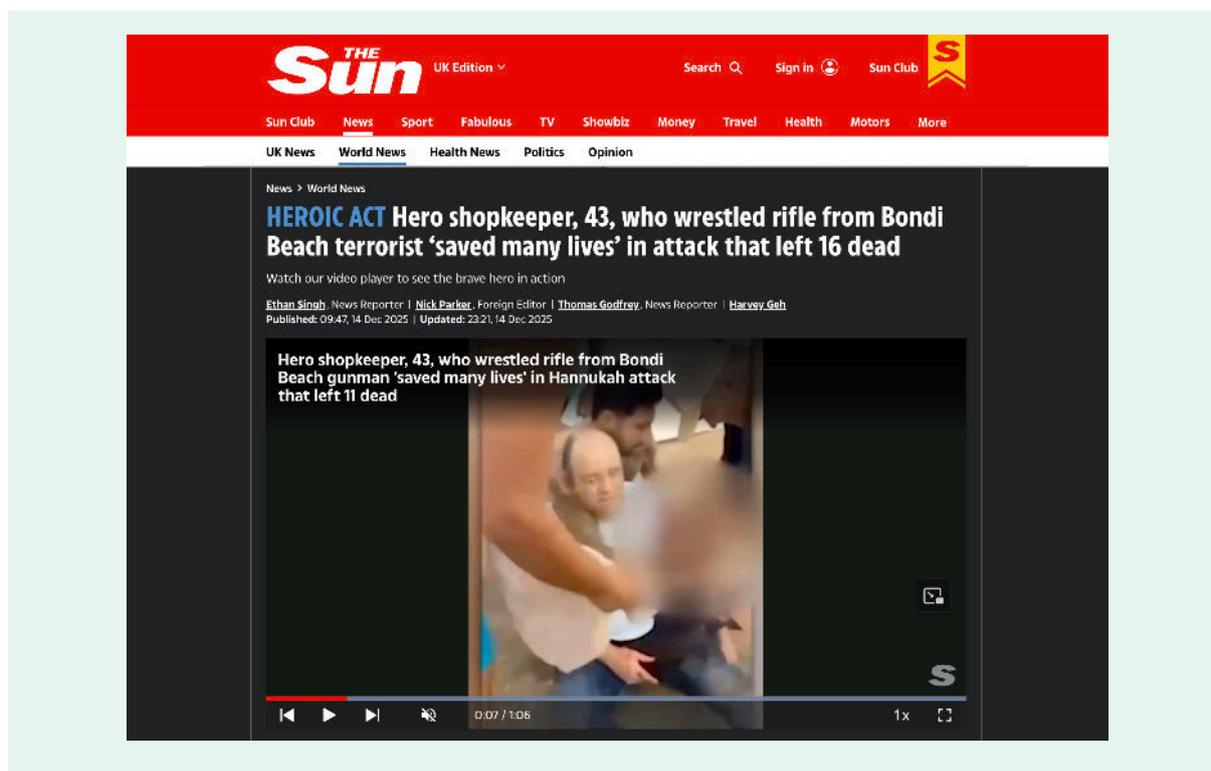
The coverage remained focused on the heroic act, mentioning religious identity without sensationalism or implying that heroism was unusual for Muslims. The result was a rare counter-narrative to predominantly negative portrayals, offering positive visibility for Muslim audiences and a more balanced perspective for non-Muslim readers.

While this example does not erase *The Sun*'s broader patterns of problematic coverage documented elsewhere in this report, it demonstrates that fairer representation is achievable with consistent editorial judgment.

45. Centre for Media Monitoring commentary on responsible coverage of Trump's false "Sharia in London" claims, September 25, 2025. CfMM commended Metro UK for fact-checking and headlining claim as "false," Evening Standard for clarifying that "Sharia councils in the UK only cover marriage and divorce advice and are voluntary, not legally binding" - "an important point conveniently ignored by much of the right-wing press," and Patrick Cockburn/*i* paper for describing Trump as in "fantasy-land." Can be accessed here <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/1986067612824916364>

46. Hero shopkeeper, 43, who wrestled rifle from Bondi Beach terrorist 'saved many lives' in attack that left 16 dead, *The Sun*, 14 Dec 2025. <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/37629546/hero-bystander-tackles-bondi-beach-gunman/> Note the headline has now been changed with the word Muslim removed. The original example can be found at <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/2000221850421366872>

Best Practice Demonstrated: Consistent application of standards, positive representation of minority communities, and avoidance of sensationalism.



03 | *The Guardian* – Amplifying Authentic Muslim Women’s Voices in Charity Run Row.⁴⁷

In covering the controversy over an East London charity fun run that excluded women of a certain age, *The Guardian* provided an example of responsible reporting by foregrounding an authentic Muslim woman’s perspective. Amid a media firestorm and heated public debate, the opinion article allowed Sufia Alam, a senior female leader at the East London Mosque, to explain the community’s perspective directly: Muslim women did not “need saving” from critics who misunderstood their values and choices.

Rather than echoing simplistic narratives framing the situation solely as gender discrimination, the coverage contextualised the controversy within broader factors of community preferences, including low female participation in that particular event and existing women-only activities organised by the mosque. Alam emphasised that the

47. Osuh, Chris. “Muslim women do not need saving, says female leader of mosque at centre of charity run row.” *The Guardian*, 20 Oct. 2025 available at <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2025/oct/20/muslim-women-do-not-need-saving-says-female-leader-of-mosque-over-charity-run-row>

format reflected local women's preferences, and that dismissing their agency reinforced stereotypes rather than supported independence.

By centering a woman with lived experience and leadership within the mosque, the article avoided portraying Muslim women as passive subjects. It also acknowledged the wider environment of hostility, including hate mail directed at the mosque, and presented the equalities context without alarmism. By quoting Muslim women directly and giving space to both community leaders and advocates like Baroness Shaista Gohir who highlighted the disproportionate attention and hate targeting Muslims, the article helped readers understand a complicated story with nuance and balance.

Best Practice Demonstrated: Centering authentic affected voices, recognising Muslim women's agency, providing full context, avoiding simplistic narratives, and acknowledging the broader environment of hostility.



The image shows a screenshot of a news article from The Guardian. At the top, the Guardian logo is visible with 'UK' and a dropdown arrow. Below the logo are navigation links for 'News', 'Opinion', 'Sport', 'Culture', and 'Lifestyle', along with a yellow menu icon. The main image is a photograph of a woman in a dark blue hijab and patterned dress standing in front of the 'EAST LONDON MOSQUE'. A 'WELCOME' sign is visible in the background. Below the photo, the word 'Islamophobia' is written in red. A yellow banner states 'This article is more than 4 months old'. The headline reads 'Muslim women do not need saving, says female leader of mosque at centre of charity run row'. A sub-headline below it says 'East London Mosque received hateful emails after event for men, boys, and under-12 girls only - but organisers say women's race was undersubscribed'. At the bottom, the author is identified as 'Chris Osuh Community affairs correspondent'.

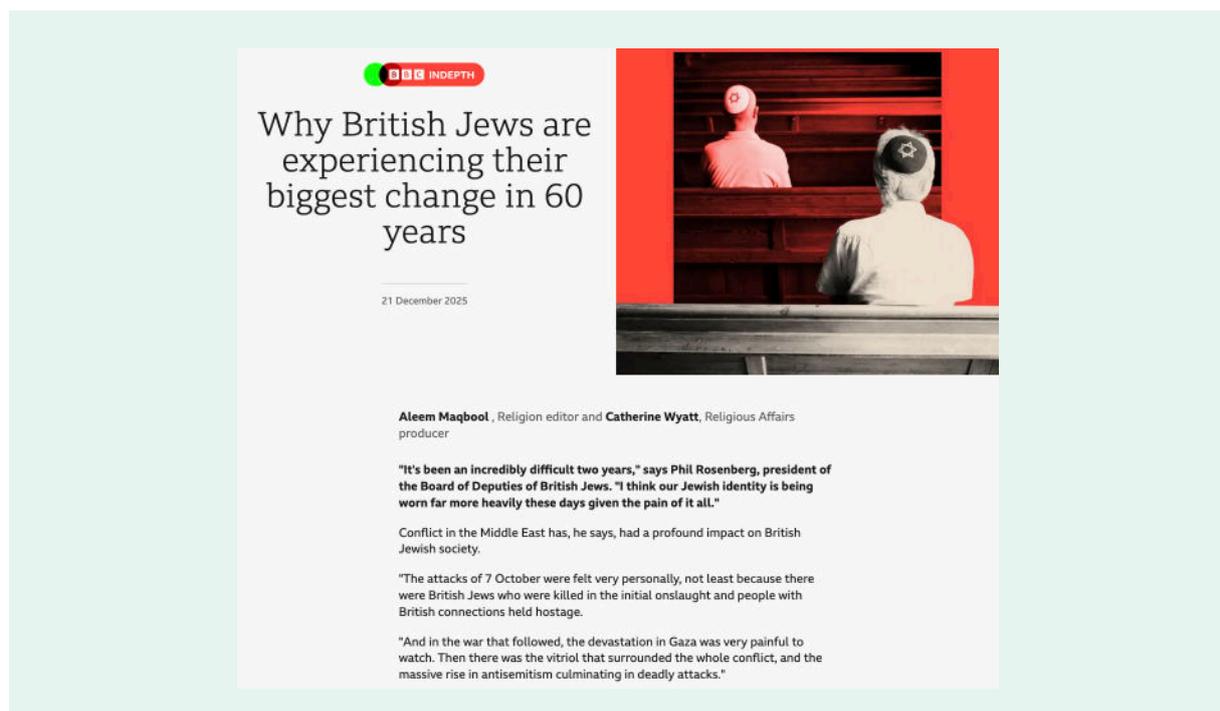
04 | BBC News – Jewish Community Perspectives on Gaza and Antisemitism.⁴⁸

Although this article was not a part of the analysis we believe it demonstrated excellent reporting. *BBC News* reported on a deeply sensitive and polarising issue by embracing complexity rather than reducing events to simplistic narratives. The article showed that Jewish communities are diverse in their views on Gaza, Israel, and antisemitism, resisting pressure to present opinion as monolithic or to create “simple villains.”

Crucially, the article refused to weaponise antisemitism to attack Muslim communities. While taking antisemitism seriously, it clearly distinguished between antisemitism, criticism of Israeli government policy, and empathy for Palestinian suffering. It did not suggest collective Muslim responsibility for antisemitism, nor did it conflate solidarity with Gaza with hatred of Jewish people.

The reporting centred Jewish voices, including those expressing both solidarity with Palestinians and concern about antisemitism. Careful language avoided inflammatory framing or zero-sum narratives, treating all communities with dignity and recognising the humanity of all involved.

Best Practice Demonstrated: Embracing complexity, refusing weaponisation, centering affected voices, precise language, and equal dignity for all communities.



The screenshot shows a BBC News article page. At the top left, there is a red 'INDEPTH' badge. The main headline reads 'Why British Jews are experiencing their biggest change in 60 years'. Below the headline is the date '21 December 2025'. To the right of the text is a photograph showing two people from behind, sitting on a wooden bench in a synagogue. One person is wearing a white kippah with a Star of David, and the other is wearing a white kippah with a Star of David. The background is a warm, reddish-brown color. Below the photo, the authors are listed as 'Aleem Maqbool, Religion editor and Catherine Wyatt, Religious Affairs producer'. There are three quotes from Phil Rosenberg, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, discussing the impact of the Middle East conflict and the attacks of 7 October.

48. Why British Jews are experiencing their biggest change in 60 years, BBC News, 21 Dec 2025. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5ye91zxqv5o>, CfMM’s commentary available at: <https://x.com/cfmmuk/status/2003223566167285805>

14

Conclusion

The data presented in this report paints an unambiguous picture. British media coverage of Muslims and Islam is characterised by systematic bias, pervasive negative framing, routine omission of context, and a troubling reliance on generalisations that treat millions of diverse individuals as a monolithic bloc. With 70% of all articles highlighting negative aspects, 44% failing to provide adequate contextual information, and 17% containing generalisations, the evidence points not to isolated failures of individual journalists but to structural problems embedded within British journalism's approach to covering Muslim communities.

Perhaps most revealing is the stark contrast in coverage quality across different topics. When British media covers Muslims in the contexts of sports, entertainment, health, the economy, or everyday aspects of life, bias rates plummet significantly, generalisation nearly disappears, and problematic headlines become virtually non-existent. Yet when the same outlets cover Muslims in relation to politics, terrorism, or immigration, bias rates soar, generalisations become commonplace, and nuanced context evaporates. This disparity proves that fair, accurate coverage of Muslims is entirely achievable when journalists and editors choose to pursue it. The failure lies not in the complexity of the subject matter but in deliberate editorial decisions about framing, sourcing, and emphasis.

The publication-level analysis reveals clear and concentrated patterns of responsibility. A distinct nexus of right-wing outlets, led by *The Spectator*, *GB News*, *The Telegraph*, and *The Daily Mail*, consistently demonstrates the worst performance across every metric examined. *The Spectator*'s 93% negative coverage rate, 53% generalisation rate, and 26% 'Very Biased' rate represent a near-total editorial commitment to

portraying Muslims as objects of criticism or concern rather than as ordinary members of British society. *The Telegraph* combines a 65% contextual omission rate with 391 'Very Biased' articles, while *GB News*, despite its relatively recent launch, has rapidly embedded systematic hostility towards Islam and Muslims as a defining feature of its editorial identity across every category measured. The *Daily Mail's* sheer volume ensures that even where its rates are comparatively moderate, its reach means distorted portrayals penetrate mainstream public discourse more than any other single outlet.

Yet this report also identifies outlets demonstrating better practices. The *BBC*, despite its substantial output, maintained the lowest negative coverage rate among major outlets at 49%, the only major title where balanced coverage approached parity with negative framing. *Reuters*, *AP*, and *AFP* showed significantly lower rates of generalisation and misrepresentation, suggesting that distance from domestic political pressures enables more measured coverage. *The Mirror* demonstrated that high-volume output need not equate to high bias, achieving among the lowest problematic rates of any major British title. Crucially, five publications recorded zero problematic headlines across their entire output, and several maintained generalisation rates below 10%, proving that responsible reporting is not an aspiration but an achievable standard.

The implications of these findings extend far beyond media criticism. In a democracy, public discourse shapes policy, and policy shapes lives. When media coverage systematically associates Muslims with threat and conflict while stripping away context and substituting generalisation for nuance, it creates the conditions for discriminatory policies to gain public support, for hate crimes to be rationalised, and for millions of British Muslims to be regarded with suspicion in their own country. The editors, proprietors, and commissioners of British media outlets bear a profound responsibility for the climate of understanding or misunderstanding they create, and the data in this report makes clear that responsibility is not being met equally across the industry.

This report should serve as both evidence and impetus. For researchers and civil society organisations, it provides quantitative documentation of patterns long observed anecdotally. For media regulators and press councils, it identifies specific outlets and practices requiring scrutiny and intervention. For journalism educators, it offers concrete evidence of how bias operates not at the level of individual articles but as a systemic pattern sustained across tens of thousands of pieces of coverage. For readers, it provides the tools to evaluate coverage critically and to recognise distortion when it is presented as information.

Most importantly, this report must serve as a call to action for British journalism itself. The media can choose differently. It can include Muslim voices in stories about Muslims. It can replace sweeping generalisations with specific attribution. It can provide context rather

than sensationalism. It can cover Muslims as full human beings with diverse interests, opinions, and contributions rather than as a problem to be managed or a threat to be contained. The data demonstrates unequivocally that this is possible. The challenge is to extend these better practices universally across all coverage. British Muslims, and British society as a whole, deserve journalism that informs rather than inflames, that contextualises rather than caricatures, and that recognises the full humanity of all its subjects. The statistics in this report measure how far British media currently falls short of that standard. They also illuminate the path forward.

Faisal Hanif, March 2026.

15

Recommendations

- 01** **Include More Diverse Muslim Perspectives**
Include more orthodox Muslim voices in all stories involving Muslim communities where possible, particularly in opinion, politics, and crime reporting.
- 02** **Implement Strict Guidelines Against Generalisation**
Avoid collective attribution of beliefs or behaviour to entire communities without clear evidence.
- 03** **Expand Coverage Beyond Politics, Conflict, and Crime**
Set benchmarks for everyday life, culture, and community coverage of Muslims to provide balanced representation.
- 04** **Establish Headline Review Protocols**
Enhanced editorial oversight for all high-profile headlines referencing religion or ethnicity, with review panels to prevent sensationalism or misrepresentation.
- 05** **Increase Newsroom Diversity and Cultural Competency**
Recruit more Muslim journalists and implement mandatory religious and cultural literacy training for all staff covering religious or ethnic communities.
- 06** **Create Topic-Specific Reporting Standards**
Develop protocols for sensitive topics such as terrorism, immigration, or Sharia-related coverage, with fact-checking and source verification requirements.
- 07** **Establish Regulatory Consequences for Systematic Bias**
Introduce mechanisms to address persistent patterns of biased reporting, beyond individual complaints through stricter regulations.

16

Methodology

Overview

This study applies the CfMM Media Bias Methodology at scale through the use of Large Language Models (LLMs). The CfMM methodology provides the underlying analytical framework, defining the 'Bias' categories scoring logic, and classification thresholds used throughout the analysis. LLMs are employed as the execution mechanism, enabling this framework to be applied consistently and systematically across a large corpus of online media content.

By implementing the CfMM methodology computationally, the study achieves a level of consistency, scalability and reproducibility that would not be feasible through manual analysis alone, while retaining clearly defined, rule-based criteria and rigorous human validation.

Analytical Framework: CfMM Media Bias Methodology

The analytical framework used in this study is derived directly from the CfMM Media Bias Methodology. Each article is assessed against five predefined metrics designed to capture distinct dimensions of bias in reporting relating to Muslims and Islam.

Each article is evaluated against the following five metrics:

1. Association with negative aspects or behaviour
2. Misrepresentation of Muslim belief, behaviour, or identity
3. Generalisations about Muslim belief or behaviour
4. Lack of due prominence to a Muslim voice, identity, or perspective
5. Misleading or problematic headlines

Articles are assessed as a whole, with headlines treated as a distinct analytical category where relevant. Images and videos are not assessed in this study.

For each metric, the LLM assigns a binary outcome:

- ▶ Yes: The metric is breached
- ▶ No: The metric is not breached

Overall bias classifications are derived deterministically from the metric-level scores according to the established CfMM rules:

- ▶ Very Biased: 4 or 5 “Yes” outcomes across the five metrics
- ▶ Biased: 2 or 3 “Yes” outcomes
- ▶ Inconclusive: 1 “Yes” outcome
- ▶ Not Biased: 0 “Yes” outcomes across all five metrics

Dataset and Scope

The dataset consists exclusively of online articles from UK media outlets, collected via keyword-based searches using the Meltwater media intelligence platform.

- ▶ Time period: 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025
- ▶ Number of UK media outlets monitored: 30

A full list of publishers and keywords used in the data collection process is provided in the Appendix.

The dataset excludes the following categories of content:

- ▶ Articles with duplicate URLs pointing to the same content
- ▶ URLs included in the Meltwater extract that are no longer available

Computational Implementation

The CfMM Media Bias Methodology was implemented using Gemini 2.5 models, a state-of-the-art family of LLMs that have demonstrated exceptional performance across benchmark evaluations of reasoning and classification tasks across diverse subjects. This capability was enhanced through:

- ▶ **Chain-of-thought reasoning:** A methodology that requires the model to articulate its reasoning process step-by-step, significantly improving accuracy and enabling transparent verification of analytical decisions
- ▶ **An agentic analytical framework:** rather than performing single-pass classification, the model operates through a structured, multi-stage process in which content is analysed in sequential and, where appropriate, parallel stages. Intermediate findings are generated and subjected to verification and adjudication before a final Yes or No outcome is assigned for each metric
- ▶ **Identical prompts** applied across all content for consistency. These prompts operationalised each CfMM metric into concrete, testable criteria that the model was required to assess.

Statistical Validation and Human Oversight

All LLM-generated classifications were evaluated using a statistically rigorous validation framework designed to ensure that observed outcomes reflect genuine model performance rather than chance.

The following protocol, commonly used for evaluating machine learning classifiers, was applied:

- ▶ **Target benchmark:** The reference was the proportion-chance criterion (PCC) the expected accuracy of a model randomly assigning labels based on observed category proportions. Success required the model's accuracy to exceed $1.25 \times \text{PCC}$,
- ▶ **Power analysis:** A one-sample proportion test determined the minimum sample size required to achieve 80% statistical power for exceeding the benchmark.
- ▶ **Human assessment:** Subject matter experts manually evaluated a random selection of items (e.g. articles, headlines, or transcripts) according to the calculated minimum sample size (from the 'Power Analysis'). The model's performance was then measured by comparing its ratings against these expert ratings. This was done separately for each analysis performed by the LLM.
- ▶ **Outcome:** All tests published in this report surpassed the $1.25 \times \text{PCC}$ threshold, and across all analyses, agreement between model and human ratings ranged from 90% to 100%, and averaging 95%.

In addition to the formal statistical validation conducted, spot-checking was carried out on a subset of the 2025 results. While this additional testing is indicative rather than statistically exhaustive, it suggests an overall margin for error in the range of 5 to 10%, which is consistent with the accuracy levels observed in the statistically validated analyses.

Positioning and Methodological Contribution

This methodology preserves the conceptual integrity of the CfMM Media Bias Methodology while enabling its application at scale through computational means. The use of LLMs allows for:

- ▶ Consistent application of clearly defined bias criteria
- ▶ Scalable analysis across large media corpora
- ▶ Transparent, rule-based classification supported by statistical validation

The findings produced through this approach are grounded in explicit, measurable criteria rather than interpretive judgement, while remaining subject to robust human oversight.

Combined Volume and Rate Score

The combined volume and rate score is calculated by multiplying the total number of articles containing a given characteristic (such as negative framing, generalisation, contextual omission, or problematic headlines) by the percentage rate at which that characteristic appears within a publication's total output. This produces a weighted score that reflects both the intensity of an editorial tendency and the scale at which it is applied.

For example, a publication producing 1,000 articles with a 50% negative rate scores 500, while a publication producing 500 articles with a 90% rate scores 450. Although the second outlet displays greater editorial intensity, the first exerts broader real-world impact through volume. This approach ensures that neither scale nor proportion alone determines a publication's ranking, preventing large outlets from being penalised purely for their output and smaller outlets from escaping scrutiny simply because their reach is limited.

The resulting scores are not percentages but relative indices, intended to be read comparatively across publications rather than as absolute measures. They provide a more complete picture of media influence than either metric in isolation, capturing the difference between outlets that occasionally exhibit problematic tendencies and those that deploy them systematically and at scale.

Limitations

Several methodological limitations should be acknowledged:

01 | Considerations Regarding LLM-Based Analysis:

The application of Large Language Models (LLMs) in content analysis is a rapidly developing area. While LLMs provide scalability and can systematically apply predefined analytical criteria across large datasets, there are risks that without careful mitigation, they may not always fully capture complex context or subtle nuances in language, or be able to classify data perfectly.

Whilst these risks cannot be fully mitigated, the likelihood and impact of these risks can be managed. Our approach has done this by relying on specifically designed, precisely worded chain-of-thought prompts to guide the model's reasoning and ensure consistency across analyses. Additionally, all key findings have undergone rigorous human assessment and statistical validation to ensure the robustness and reliability of the results.

02 | Dataset Scope and Content Types:

The dataset analysed in this study is limited to online articles from UK media outlets. Live pages, video / broadcast content, and non-English language articles are excluded from the analysis. As a result, the findings should be interpreted as reflecting patterns within online written coverage rather than the full spectrum of media output.

03 | Limitations in Keyword-Based Data Collection

The dataset was constructed using keyword-based searches conducted through the Meltwater media intelligence platform. While this approach enables systematic and replicable data collection, it is dependent on the presence of predefined keywords within article text. As a result, relevant articles that discuss Muslims or Islam indirectly, or through imagery, implication or alternative terminology, may not be captured within the dataset.

Conversely, some articles may be included where the presence of a keyword is incidental to the main focus of the piece and does not materially relate to the analytical criteria under examination. Although this approach may introduce a degree of noise into the dataset, it was adopted to minimise subjective selection decisions and ensure consistency and transparency in article inclusion.

04 | Equal Analytical Weighting:

The analytical framework treats all included articles equally, irrespective of length, prominence or depth of coverage. As a result, shorter articles carry the same analytical weight as longer, more detailed pieces. This approach supports consistency and avoids subjective weighting decisions, but it may understate the influence or complexity of extended investigative reporting relative to brief news items.

Accordingly, the findings should be interpreted as reflecting patterns in the presence or absence of specific analytical criteria across articles, rather than the cumulative impact or editorial significance of individual pieces.

05 | Bias Rating Caveat

The figures contained in this report are subject to change in future iterations as the methodology is scrutinised and further refined. Additionally, this report does not assess the severity of 'Bias' within individual articles. As such, articles rated as biased may contain varying degrees of 'Bias', and two articles sharing the same rating such as Omission of a Due Prominence (ODP) may differ significantly in the materiality of that omission, with one representing a minor gap and the other a more fundamental oversight in the reporting.

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Appendix

Appendix A: List of Media Outlets Monitored

This study analysed online articles published by 30 UK media outlets over the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. The outlets were selected to reflect a broad cross-section of national and regional UK news publishers.

A full list of online media outlets included in the analysis is provided below:

Daily Mail	Mirror
The Telegraph	The i Paper
The Independent	<i>(inews.co.uk)</i>
The Guardian	Jewish News
Daily Express	Metro
GB News	PA
AP	The Morning Star
BBC	New Statesman
AFP	ITV
Reuters	Daily Star
The Times	The Economist
The Sun	The New European
The Spectator	<i>(Now called New World)</i>
Jewish Chronicle	The Tablet
London Evening Standard	Christian Today UK
Sky News	Prospect Magazine

Appendix B: Keyword List Used for Data Collection

Articles were identified for inclusion using a predefined set of keywords applied through the Meltwater media intelligence platform. These keywords were selected to capture relevant coverage relating to Muslims and Islam while enabling systematic and replicable data collection.

The keyword list included, but was not limited to, the following terms:

Islam	Headscarf	Allah hu Akbar
Islamic	Niqab	Eid Ramadan
Islamophobic	Burka	Ramadhan
Islamophobia	Burkas	Mecca
Islamist	Burqa	Makkah
Islamists	Hijab	Medina
Islamism	Shia	Madina
Muslim	Shia's	Mullah
Muslims	Shite	Imam
Moslem	Shi'ite	Imams
Jihad	Sunni	Mufti
Jihadist	Sunni's	Caliphate
Jihadists	Hadith	Hajj
Jihadi	Hadiths	Umrah
Jihadis	Prophet Muhammad	Umra
Jihadism	Prophet Mohammed	Ayatollah
Mujaheddin	Mosque	Shaykh
Mujahedin	Mosques	Fatwa
Koran	Masjid	Mohammedan
Quran	Madrasa	Wahabi
Qur'an	Madrassa	Wahhabi
Sharia	Madrassas	Salafi
Shariah	Halal	Salafist
Shari'a	Allah	

Appendix C: Total Bias Ratings by Publication

Publication	Biased	Inconclusive	Not Biased	Very Biased	Total	% Biased	% Very Biased
The Telegraph	1,737	728	314	391	3,170	54.80%	12.33%
Daily Mail	2,228	1,293	951	340	4,812	46.30%	7.07%
The Independent	1,736	1,536	1,002	77	4,351	39.90%	1.77%
The Guardian	1,340	1,079	653	38	3,110	43.09%	1.22%
The Times	875	513	433	132	1,953	44.80%	6.76%
Daily Express	834	580	497	188	2,099	39.73%	8.96%
AP	845	996	636	34	2,511	33.65%	1.35%
BBC	843	956	1,417	28	3,244	25.99%	0.86%
AFP	793	768	267	36	1,864	42.54%	1.93%
GB News	764	309	148	225	1,446	52.83%	15.56%
Reuters	753	986	707	50	2,496	30.17%	2.00%
The Sun	492	279	314	101	1,186	41.48%	8.52%
London Evening Standard	393	511	379	19	1,302	30.18%	1.46%
Jewish Chronicle	356	151	67	76	650	54.77%	11.69%
Sky News	313	273	138	12	736	42.53%	1.63%
The Spectator	312	123	38	169	642	48.60%	26.32%
Mirror	287	474	458	21	1,240	23.15%	1.69%
The i Paper	272	196	84	20	572	47.55%	3.50%
Jewish News	215	111	52	15	393	54.71%	3.82%
Metro	199	223	168	5	595	33.45%	0.84%
PA	191	299	161	6	657	29.07%	0.91%
The Morning Star	175	142	95	8	420	41.67%	1.90%
ITV	152	185	70	2	409	37.16%	0.49%
New Statesman	145	59	33	11	248	58.47%	4.44%
Daily Star	121	138	137	16	412	29.37%	3.88%
The Economist	81	27	5	10	123	65.85%	8.13%
The New European	49	23	9	5	86	56.98%	5.81%
The Tablet	34	39	22	1	96	35.42%	1.04%
Prospect Magazine	18	25	9	0	52	34.62%	0.00%
Christian Today UK	17	6	7	8	38	44.74%	21.05%
Grand Total	16,570	13,028	9,271	2,044	40,913	40.50%	5.00%

Appendix D: Biased & 'Very Biased' Statistics

Publication	Biased + 'Very Biased'	Total Articles	% Problematic	Rank (Worst to Best)
The Spectator	481	642	74.92%	1
The Economist	91	123	73.98%	2
GB News	989	1,446	68.39%	3
The Telegraph	2,128	3,170	67.13%	4
Jewish Chronicle	432	650	66.46%	5
Christian Today UK	25	38	65.79%	6
New Statesman	156	248	62.90%	7
The New European	54	86	62.79%	8
Jewish News	230	393	58.52%	9
Daily Mail	2,568	4,812	53.37%	10
The Times	1,007	1,953	51.56%	11
The i Paper	292	572	51.05%	12
The Sun	593	1,186	50.00%	13
Daily Express	1,022	2,099	48.69%	14
AFP	829	1,864	44.47%	15
The Guardian	1,378	3,110	44.31%	16
Sky News	325	736	44.16%	17
The Morning Star	183	420	43.57%	18
The Independent	1,813	4,351	41.66%	19
ITV	154	409	37.65%	20
The Tablet	35	96	36.46%	21
AP	879	2,511	35.00%	22
Prospect Magazine	18	52	34.62%	23
Metro	204	595	34.29%	24
Daily Star	137	412	33.25%	25
Reuters	803	2,496	32.17%	26
London Evening Standard	412	1,302	31.64%	27
PA	197	657	29.98%	28
BBC	871	3,244	26.85%	29
Mirror	308	1,240	24.84%	30
Grand Total	18,614	40,913	45.50%	

Appendix E: Articles by Topic

Master Topic	Original Topics Included	Number of Articles	Percentage of Total	Rank
Politics & Governance	(Politics)	12,594	30.78%	1
Conflict & Terrorism	(Conflict, Terrorism, Extremism)	7,672	18.75%	2
Islamophobia & Anti-Muslim Prejudice	(Anti-Muslim hostility, Islamophobia)	5,272	12.88%	3
Society & Lifestyle	(Entertainment, Sports, Health, Economy)	5,110	12.49%	4
Crime & Exploitation	(Crime, Child Sexual Exploitation, Grooming)	2,740	6.70%	5
Religion	(Religion)	2,447	5.98%	6
Rights & Freedoms	(Human Rights, Women's Rights, Free Speech)	1,289	3.15%	7
Israel-Palestine	(Israel-Palestine)	1,257	3.07%	8
Immigration	(Immigration)	977	2.39%	9
Antisemitism	(Antisemitism)	830	2.03%	10
Culture Wars	(Culture Wars)	430	1.05%	11
Other	(Other)	295	0.72%	12
Grand Total		40,913	100.00%	

Appendix F: Topic Distribution - Complete Analysis, All 30 Publications

Publication	Total	Politics	%	Conflict & Terrorism	%	Islamophobia	%	Society	%	Crime	%	Religion	%
AFP	1,864	718	38.5%	591	31.7%	126	6.8%	103	5.5%	82	4.4%	100	5.4%
AP	2,511	871	34.7%	611	24.3%	143	5.7%	196	7.8%	112	4.5%	220	8.8%
BBC	3,244	771	23.8%	598	18.4%	343	10.6%	311	9.6%	263	8.1%	318	9.8%
Christian Today UK	38	2	5.3%	51	134.2%	28	73.7%	0	0.0%	3	7.9%	26	68.4%
Daily Express	2,099	586	27.9%	377	18.0%	347	16.5%	89	4.2%	212	10.1%	141	6.7%
Daily Mail	4,812	1,238	25.7%	739	15.4%	791	16.4%	484	10.1%	505	10.5%	193	4.0%
Daily Star	412	70	17.0%	93	22.6%	57	13.8%	53	12.9%	69	16.7%	25	6.1%
GB News	1,446	418	28.9%	578	40.0%	410	28.4%	37	2.6%	78	5.4%	89	6.2%
ITV	409	71	17.4%	69	16.9%	62	15.2%	15	3.7%	74	18.1%	21	5.1%
Jewish Chronicle	650	214	32.9%	122	18.8%	38	5.8%	17	2.6%	10	1.5%	46	7.1%

Publication	Total	Rights	%	Israel-Palestine	%	Immigration	%	Anti-Semitism	%	Culture Wars	%	Other	%
AFP	1,864	62	3.3%	115	6.2%	33	1.8%	12	0.6%	6	0.3%	2	0.1%
AP	2,511	59	2.4%	84	3.3%	71	2.8%	20	0.8%	10	0.4%	114	4.5%
BBC	3,244	137	4.2%	75	2.3%	49	1.5%	34	1.0%	21	0.6%	324	10.0%
Christian Today UK	38	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%
Daily Express	2,099	63	3.0%	31	1.5%	64	3.0%	48	2.3%	39	1.9%	102	4.9%
Daily Mail	4,812	125	2.6%	89	1.8%	131	2.7%	99	2.1%	50	1.0%	168	3.5%
Daily Star	412	7	1.7%	1	0.2%	5	1.2%	3	0.7%	2	0.5%	27	6.6%
GB News	1,446	19	1.3%	27	1.9%	52	3.6%	29	2.0%	26	1.8%	3	>1%
ITV	409	13	3.2%	16	3.9%	9	2.2%	9	2.2%	2	0.5%	48	11.7%
Jewish Chronicle	650	22	3.4%	64	9.8%	1	0.2%	107	16.5%	0	0.0%	9	1.4%

Publication	Total	Politics	%	Conflict & Terrorism	%	Islamophobia	%	Society	%	Crime	%	Religion	%
The Economist	123	65	52.8%	54	43.9%	13	10.6%	5	4.1%	0	0.0%	7	5.7%
Jewish News	393	120	30.5%	80	20.4%	38	9.7%	13	3.3%	10	2.5%	57	14.5%
London Evening Standard	1,302	302	23.2%	257	19.7%	168	12.9%	206	15.8%	125	9.6%	58	4.5%
Metro	595	94	15.8%	115	19.3%	104	17.5%	108	18.2%	67	11.3%	37	6.2%
Mirror	1,240	203	16.4%	217	17.5%	120	9.7%	222	17.9%	148	11.9%	67	5.4%
New Statesman	248	152	61.3%	32	12.9%	17	6.9%	5	2.0%	7	2.8%	9	3.6%
PA	657	169	25.7%	159	24.2%	82	12.5%	45	6.8%	81	12.3%	35	5.3%
Prospect Magazine	52	27	51.9%	16	30.8%	6	11.5%	5	9.6%	0	0.0%	4	7.7%
Reuters	2,496	934	37.4%	698	28.0%	134	5.4%	138	5.5%	87	3.5%	64	2.6%
Sky News	736	217	29.5%	199	27.0%	89	12.1%	43	5.8%	55	7.5%	27	3.7%

Publication	Total	Rights	%	Israel-Palestine	%	Immigration	%	Anti-Semitism	%	Culture Wars	%	Other	%
The Economist	123	6	4.9%	4	3.3%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%	2	1.6%	0	0.0%
Jewish News	393	18	4.6%	30	7.6%	1	0.3%	54	13.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
London Evening Standard	1,302	39	3.0%	40	3.1%	31	2.4%	20	1.5%	17	1.3%	39	3.0%
Metro	595	28	4.7%	14	2.4%	4	0.7%	9	1.5%	9	1.5%	6	1.0%
Mirror	1,240	40	3.2%	20	1.6%	16	1.3%	12	1.0%	6	0.5%	169	13.6%
New Statesman	248	15	6.0%	14	5.6%	5	2.0%	5	2.0%	6	2.4%	0	0%
PA	657	23	3.5%	18	2.7%	14	2.1%	16	2.4%	2	0.3%	13	2.0%
Prospect Magazine	52	7	13.5%	1	1.9%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	2	3.8%	0	0.0%
Reuters	2,496	74	3.0%	85	3.4%	48	1.9%	17	0.7%	2	0.1%	215	8.6%
Sky News	736	26	3.5%	32	4.3%	17	2.3%	14	1.9%	1	0.1%	16	2.2%

Publication	Total	Politics	%	Conflict & Terrorism	%	Islamophobia	%	Society	%	Crime	%	Religion	%
The Guardian	3,110	1,196	38.5%	506	16.3%	349	11.2%	307	9.9%	190	6.1%	155	5.0%
The i Paper (inews.co.uk)	572	231	40.4%	97	17.0%	50	8.7%	56	9.8%	22	3.8%	14	2.4%
The Independent	4,351	1,318	30.3%	898	20.6%	503	11.6%	418	9.6%	296	6.8%	329	7.6%
The Morning Star	420	180	42.9%	80	19.0%	52	12.4%	25	6.0%	16	3.8%	6	1.4%
The New European	86	50	58.1%	29	33.7%	13	15.1%	6	7.0%	2	2.3%	5	5.8%
The Spectator	642	247	38.5%	134	20.9%	243	37.9%	26	4.0%	13	2.0%	32	5.0%
The Sun	1,186	195	16.4%	285	24.0%	185	15.6%	181	15.3%	136	11.5%	37	3.1%
The Tablet	96	8	8.3%	48	50.0%	13	13.5%	2	2.1%	1	1.0%	58	60.4%
The Telegraph	3,170	1,216	38.4%	446	14.1%	427	13.5%	279	8.8%	130	4.1%	155	4.9%
The Times	1,953	711	36.4%	219	11.2%	240	12.3%	199	10.2%	93	4.8%	112	5.7%

Publication	Total	Rights	%	Israel-Palestine	%	Immigration	%	Anti-Semitism	%	Culture Wars	%	Other	%
The Guardian	3,110	125	4.0%	121	3.9%	89	2.9%	34	1.1%	38	1.2%	0	0.0%
The i Paper (inews.co.uk)	572	18	3.1%	23	4.0%	21	3.7%	7	1.2%	10	1.7%	23	4.0%
The Independent	4,351	194	4.5%	141	3.2%	103	2.4%	72	1.7%	38	0.9%	41	0.9%
The Morning Star	420	14	3.3%	36	8.6%	7	1.7%	4	1.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
The New European	86	10	11.6%	2	2.3%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%
The Spectator	642	9	1.4%	16	2.5%	16	2.5%	20	3.1%	67	10.4%	0	0.0%
The Sun	1,186	24	2.0%	8	0.7%	32	2.7%	18	1.5%	12	1.0%	73	6.2%
The Tablet	96	5	5.2%	4	4.2%	0	0.0%	3	3.1%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%
The Telegraph	3,170	102	3.2%	104	3.3%	84	2.7%	107	3.4%	67	2.1%	53	1.7%
The Times	1,953	86	4.4%	42	2.2%	48	2.5%	57	2.9%	35	1.8%	111	5.7%

Appendix G: Total Negative Aspects & Behaviours Stats by Publication

Publication	Negative Aspects Highlighted	No Negative Aspects	Total Articles	% Negative	Rank (Worst to Best)
Daily Mail	3,490	1,322	4,812	72.53%	1
The Telegraph	2,659	511	3,170	83.88%	2
The Independent	2,853	1,498	4,351	65.57%	3
The Guardian	2,046	1,064	3,110	65.79%	4
AP	1,750	761	2,511	69.69%	5
AFP	1,489	375	1,864	79.88%	6
Reuters	1,611	885	2,496	64.54%	7
BBC	1,598	1,646	3,244	49.26%	8
Daily Express	1,481	618	2,099	70.56%	9
The Times	1,378	575	1,953	70.56%	10
GB News	1,223	223	1,446	84.58%	11
London Evening Standard	835	467	1,302	64.13%	12
The Sun	774	412	1,186	65.26%	13
Mirror	729	511	1,240	58.79%	14
The Spectator	597	45	642	92.99%	15
Jewish Chronicle	542	108	650	83.38%	16
Sky News	522	214	736	70.92%	17
PA	440	217	657	66.97%	18
The i Paper	424	148	572	74.13%	19
Metro	353	242	595	59.33%	20
Jewish News	308	85	393	78.37%	21
ITV	290	119	409	70.90%	22
The Morning Star	277	143	420	65.95%	23
Daily Star	263	149	412	63.83%	24
New Statesman	198	50	248	79.84%	25
The Economist	111	12	123	90.24%	26
The New European	76	10	86	88.37%	27
The Tablet	67	29	96	69.79%	28
Prospect Magazine	41	11	52	78.85%	29
Christian Today UK	30	8	38	78.95%	30
Grand Total	28,455	12,458	40,913	69.54%	

Appendix H: Total Generalisation Stats by Publication

Publication	With Generalisation	Without Generalisation	Total Articles	% Generalisation	Rank (Worst to Best)
The Telegraph	1,002	2,168	3,170	31.61%	1
Daily Mail	980	3,832	4,812	20.37%	2
GB News	569	877	1,446	39.35%	3
Daily Express	494	1,605	2,099	23.53%	4
The Independent	490	3,861	4,351	11.26%	5
The Times	430	1,523	1,953	22.02%	6
The Spectator	340	302	642	52.96%	7
The Guardian	334	2,776	3,110	10.74%	8
Reuters	315	2,181	2,496	12.62%	9
AFP	247	1,617	1,864	13.25%	10
The Sun	249	937	1,186	21.00%	11
AP	220	2,291	2,511	8.76%	12
Jewish Chronicle	211	439	650	32.46%	13
BBC	203	3,041	3,244	6.26%	14
London Evening Standard	129	1,173	1,302	9.91%	15
The i Paper	106	466	572	18.53%	16
Mirror	102	1,138	1,240	8.23%	17
Jewish News	81	312	393	20.61%	18
Sky News	80	656	736	10.87%	19
PA	65	592	657	9.89%	20
Daily Star	59	353	412	14.32%	21
New Statesman	58	190	248	23.39%	22
Metro	52	543	595	8.74%	23
The Morning Star	46	374	420	10.95%	24
The Economist	29	94	123	23.58%	25
ITV	26	383	409	6.36%	26
The New European	19	67	86	22.09%	27
Christian Today UK	16	22	38	42.11%	28
The Tablet	15	81	96	15.63%	29
Prospect Magazine	13	39	52	25.00%	30
Grand Total	6,980	33,933	40,913	17.06%	

Appendix I: Total Due Prominence Stats by Publication

Publication	Contextual Omission	Adequate Context	Total Articles	% Omission	Rank (Worst to Best)
Daily Mail	2,567	2,245	4,812	53.35%	1
The Telegraph	2,069	1,101	3,170	65.26%	2
The Independent	1,933	2,418	4,351	44.43%	3
The Guardian	1,577	1,533	3,110	50.71%	4
The Times	969	984	1,953	49.62%	5
Daily Express	959	1,140	2,099	45.69%	6
GB News	923	523	1,446	63.83%	7
BBC	910	2,334	3,244	28.05%	8
AP	750	1,761	2,511	29.87%	9
AFP	720	1,144	1,864	38.63%	10
The Sun	607	579	1,186	51.18%	11
Reuters	604	1,892	2,496	24.20%	12
Jewish Chronicle	406	244	650	62.46%	13
London Evening Standard	397	905	1,302	30.49%	14
The Spectator	395	247	642	61.53%	15
Sky News	314	422	736	42.66%	16
The i Paper	310	262	572	54.20%	17
Mirror	264	976	1,240	21.29%	18
Metro	248	347	595	41.68%	19
Jewish News	237	156	393	60.31%	20
PA	200	457	657	30.44%	21
The Morning Star	195	225	420	46.43%	22
ITV	177	232	409	43.28%	23
New Statesman	147	101	248	59.27%	24
Daily Star	108	304	412	26.21%	25
The Economist	95	28	123	77.24%	26
The New European	43	43	86	50.00%	27
The Tablet	31	65	96	32.29%	28
Christian Today UK	17	21	38	44.74%	29
Prospect Magazine	11	41	52	21.15%	30
Grand Total	18,183	22,730	40,913	44.44%	

Appendix J: Misrepresentation Stats by Publication

Publication	With Misrepresentation	Without Misrepresentation	Total Articles	% Misrepresentation	Rank (Worst to Best)
Daily Mail	714	4,098	4,812	14.84%	1
The Telegraph	640	2,530	3,170	20.19%	2
The Independent	420	3,931	4,351	9.65%	3
Reuters	384	2,112	2,496	15.38%	4
Daily Express	347	1,752	2,099	16.53%	5
GB News	338	1,108	1,446	23.37%	6
AP	321	2,190	2,511	12.78%	7
The Times	273	1,680	1,953	13.98%	8
The Spectator	233	409	642	36.29%	9
AFP	231	1,633	1,864	12.39%	10
The Sun	226	960	1,186	19.05%	11
The Guardian	225	2,885	3,110	7.23%	12
BBC	209	3,035	3,244	6.44%	13
Jewish Chronicle	134	516	650	20.62%	14
London Evening Standard	104	1,198	1,302	7.99%	15
Mirror	95	1,145	1,240	7.66%	16
Sky News	80	656	736	10.87%	17
The i Paper	60	512	572	10.49%	18
Daily Star	58	354	412	14.08%	19
The Morning Star	44	376	420	10.48%	20
New Statesman	41	207	248	16.53%	21
PA	38	619	657	5.78%	22
Metro	30	565	595	5.04%	23
Jewish News	30	363	393	7.63%	24
The Economist	27	96	123	21.95%	25
ITV	24	385	409	5.87%	26
Christian Today UK	17	21	38	44.74%	27
The New European	15	71	86	17.44%	28
The Tablet	9	87	96	9.38%	29
Prospect Magazine	4	48	52	7.69%	30
Grand Total	5,371	35,542	40,913	13.13%	

Appendix K: Problematic Headlines Stats by Publication

Publication	Problematic Headlines	Non-Problematic Headlines	Total Articles	% Problematic	Rank (Worst to Best)
Daily Mail	141	4,671	4,812	2.93%	1
The Telegraph	51	3,119	3,170	1.61%	2
GB News	54	1,392	1,446	3.73%	3
Daily Express	39	2,060	2,099	1.86%	4
The Independent	21	4,330	4,351	0.48%	5
The Sun	18	1,168	1,186	1.52%	6
BBC	16	3,228	3,244	0.49%	7
Sky News	12	724	736	1.63%	8
The Guardian	11	3,099	3,110	0.35%	9
The Spectator	8	634	642	1.25%	10
The Times	8	1,945	1,953	0.41%	11
AFP	6	1,858	1,864	0.32%	12
AP	5	2,506	2,511	0.20%	13
Mirror	5	1,235	1,240	0.40%	14
Metro	5	590	595	0.84%	15
PA	4	653	657	0.61%	16
Jewish News	4	389	393	1.02%	17
The i Paper	4	568	572	0.70%	18
London Evening Standard	4	1,298	1,302	0.31%	19
Reuters	3	2,493	2,496	0.12%	20
Jewish Chronicle	3	647	650	0.46%	21
ITV	3	406	409	0.73%	22
Daily Star	2	410	412	0.49%	23
The Morning Star	1	419	420	0.24%	24
The Tablet	1	95	96	1.04%	25
Christian Today UK	0	38	38	0.00%	26
New Statesman	0	248	248	0.00%	27
Prospect Magazine	0	52	52	0.00%	28
The Economist	0	123	123	0.00%	29
The New European	0	86	86	0.00%	30
Grand Total	429	40,484	40,913	1.05%	