 Resource 16

Perspective

**Episode 10 – The Best Defence is a Good Defence**

Koenig examines the religious profiling that could have formed part of Syed’s trial.

In pairs or groups

1. Listen to the beginning of Episode 10 where she discusses this aspect of the case.
2. As you listen, take notes under two columns.

**Column A:** Reasons that support religious profiling

**Column A:** Reasons that oppose religious profiling

1. compare your reasons and create a class list
2. review the reasons in each column and colour code those you do/don’t agree with
3. Compare the range of perspectives within your class/small groups.

After hearing from multiple subjects, Koenig states:

‘You can hear me not believing her, right? The notion that the cops and prosecutors in this case were driven by anti-Muslim feeling, by racism, and by racism alone. That I found very hard to believe. And I still don’t believe that by the way. But I didn’t wanna write off what Shamim was saying either, because maybe anti-Muslimness crept in, contributed in some way to how the investigation and the prosecution operated. Advertently or inadvertently.’

Questions

1. Consider the quotation from Koenig above? How does her tone in this piece influence the listener? What effect does the ambiguity have?
Click or tap here to enter text.
2. This is only one example where Adnan’s religious beliefs are discussed. Identify other moments where this is a focus of the podcast.
Click or tap here to enter text.
3. How do Adnan’s perceptions of himself as a Muslim, and the version presented by the prosecution, differ?
Click or tap here to enter text.