

Method: Additional information

Focus groups rationale

We conducted focus groups discussions with headscarf-wearing Muslim French and Dutch women students. In order to provide us with a range of diverse experiences and also to identify which of these are the most common throughout the different groups, we ran ten and five focus groups in France and in the Netherlands, respectively. These were composed by a minimum of three and a maximum of eight participants, in line with Barbour's recommendations (2008).

Participant's recruitment

The focus group moderators in France and in the Netherlands approached potential participants in educational settings and proceeded through snowball sampling. We informed them that, in the context of a scientific project, we were organising two-hour group discussion sessions (with a maximum of 8 participants each) among headscarf-wearing women focusing on the different negative experiences they face. This may have skewed our sample to those who experience more, because people who face more negative experiences can be more vocal against it and thus more likely to participate in such discussions. However, we also encouraged people who stressed never having faced such negative situations to take part in the discussions and stress their point of view. Participants were also informed of a compensation of 30Eur for their participation. Those who expressed interest were contacted by phone or e-mail a few days later with a proposition for an appointment. During the recruitment process, participants did not stress any reservation against the fact that the moderators were non-Muslim. However, this might have been an obstacle for those who did not show up for the discussion or those who refused participation from the beginning.

Ethics

Participants signed informed consent forms and were anonymised throughout the research process. They were informed that the study would involve discussions about sensitive topics like disrespect. We received parental consent from the few participants who were under 18 years old.