WAYS OF SEEING MALAYSIAN WOMEN: SKETCHES OF WOMEN IN MAGAZINES IN THE GLOBAL AGE
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Abstract

It has been argued that popular women’s magazines can help to advance the cause of progressive movements by providing feminist views in mainstream magazines. It is with this in mind that an analysis of local magazines is done to see what sketches local magazines produce of women, women’s issues and the women’s movement struggles for greater equality and emancipation. Would feminist issues be visible in magazines here just as has been argued for magazines in the west? From the analysis of four top magazines in Malaysia namely Jelita, Wanita, Feminin & Famili and Remaja, it was found that these magazines are generally not known for their radical thoughts nor are they repository for feminist thinking. There is no denying that some articles may have picked up feminist issues whether deliberately or accidentally, but the focus is on how self can be transformed rather than on social transformation. This article suggests that existing mainstream media need continuous monitoring of biases to push the boundaries of coverage of women’s concerns and perspectives. If a feminist perspective is to be realized, a greater voice is needed not only in the political process but also in the media.

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Refbacks

- There are currently no refbacks.

women, Allah has revealed the verse that mention how women should preserve their aurah and how they should be dressed to reflect their ethical... women of various age groups, (3) the extent of TV and magazine influence on urban Malaysian women’s fashion and dressing and the use and influence of TV and magazine of various age groups various age groups. The study was conducted among 639 urban Malaysian women using a survey design. Women in Malaysia receive support from the Malaysian government concerning their rights to advance, to make decisions, to health, education and social welfare, and to the removal of legal obstacles. The Malaysian government has ensured these factors through the establishment of Ministry of National Unity and Social Development in 1997 (formerly known in 1993 as Women's Affairs Secretariat or HAWA). This was followed by the formation of the Women's Affairs Ministry in 2001 to recognise the roles and The Muslim women, aged 22 and 32, were each caned six times in the Sharia High Court in the state of Terengganu. According to an official, this is the state's first conviction for same-sex relations and its first public caning. Human rights activists reacted with outrage. Malaysian rights group Women's Aid Organisation told Reuters news agency it was "appalled by this grave violation of human rights". A member of the Terengganu state executive council, Satiful Bahri Mamat, defended the punishment, telling the agency it had not been intended to "torture or injure" and had been carried out in public to "serve as a lesson to society". ‘Not meant to cause pain’. Malaysia is known to be a moderate Muslim-majority country but has seen rising religious sentiment in recent years.