

Symposium on fighting Islamophobia comes to Montclair

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Workshop will teach residents how to intervene in acts of discrimination



(Photo: Viorel Florescu/NorthJersey.com)

In light of growing acts of hatred against the Muslim community, the Northern New Jersey Chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace will host an event in Montclair this Sunday aimed at reducing and challenging Islamophobia statewide.

“Standing Up to Islamophobia: What to Do When You See It” will take place from “Standing Up to Islamophobia: What to do when you see it” will take place from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the Montclair Fire Department headquarters at 1 Pine St.

Jewish Voice for Peace member Jon Moscow, a Teaneck resident, cited incidents such as the alleged discrimination against Sireen Hashem, a Palestinian high school teacher terminated from Hunterdon Central

Regional High School, as well as movements to resist the development of mosques in both Bayonne and Bridgewater, as signposts of the increasing prevalence of hatred toward Muslim citizens in New Jersey.

“Everything with the Trump administration has really ramped up these incidents,” Moscow said.

During the event, Omar Mohammedi, an attorney who once represented the estate of police-violence victim Amadou Diallo and served as the New York City commissioner on human rights for more than a decade, will serve as a guest speaker.

Mohammedi’s presentation will be followed by an interactive workshop developed by Jewish Voice for Peace, which will educate attendees on how they can safely confront acts of hatred they may witness.

“It’s called being an ‘upstander’ rather than a bystander,” Moscow said.

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