Local American-Muslim communities are mobilizing and organizing into networks to ensure their security and mobility, in the face of discrimination and the continued institutionalization of Islamophobia. The Research Triangle Park (Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill) area in North Carolina is a great example of a community where there is an increasingly active network of Muslim-led organizations and institutions that are linking local Muslims with resources, services, and support.

Using social network analysis, the objectives of this project aims to examine (1) whether or not a network exists among Muslim-led groups in RTP, (2) the characteristics and attributes of this network, and (3) the cohesiveness and strength of the network’s ties by particularly evaluating the network’s density and centrality measures. These objectives will be examined through a social network analysis.

This study is essential for mapping out and understanding the network. The objectives will be examined through a social network analysis using statistical and qualitative data. The network will be analyzed through social network analysis (Gephi) tools and the results will be presented in a report to community leaders and stakeholders.

Conclusion:

- A network does exist in RTP.
- The network has a density of 2.93%, indicating a generally low level of ties among the Muslim-led organizations.
- There are 3 cohesive, homophilous subgroups with strong ties that dominantly link actors/nodes.
- Nodes/actors participate in the same coalition groups in regular intervals.
- Whether or not actors/nodes are advisors or sponsors of one another.
- The network has a low clustering coefficient of 0.347, indicating that the network is more spread out and less clustered.

An open space will be organized for the Muslim community leaders of the 46 different Muslim-led organizations and institutions in the Triangle. This meeting will serve as a community space for revealing this research and data to community leaders and an opportunity for leaders to collectively start thinking about approaches towards better coalition and capacity building within their network.

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