JEAN-PAIL CARVALHO

Veiling

Social identity is modeled as a means of overcoming temptation to violate social norms. Our model suggests that veiling among Muslim women is a strategy for integration, enabling women to take up outside economic opportunities while preserving their reputation within the community. This accounts for puzzling features of the new veiling movement since the 1970s. Veiling also has surprising dynamic effects on the formation of religious values. Regulations mandating a high degree of veiling can lead to a *decline* in religiosity. Bans on veiling can inhibit social integration and *increase* religiosity.