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Press Complaints Commission
Halton House
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Wednesday 3rd February 2010

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to complain of a gross inaccuracy contained in the article 'Ban the burkha' published in the Daily Express (Monday 1st February, 2010, <http://dailyexpress.co.uk/posts/view/155411/-Ban-the-burkha->).

The article is based on the results of a ComRes survey commissioned by The Independent on British attitudes towards the burqa (attire worn by some Muslim women). I have attached a copy of those survey results along with this letter.

The Daily Express article is headlined 'Ban the burkha' and states in its opening paragraph:

'Two out of three people believe burkhas should be banned in public, it was revealed last night.'

The ComRes survey results actually show that two thirds of Britons *oppose* the banning of the burqa in 'all public places'

The results show that two thirds of Britons support restrictions on the wearing of the burqa at 'airports and banks' and since the survey clearly distinguishes between these places and 'all public places' in its questionnaire, the Daily Express news story violates Article 1 of the PCC Code of Practice, through inaccuracy and distortion of the facts.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts on this matter in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Sufyan Ismail
Chair of Trustees,
ENGAGE