



## ARAB STEREOTYPES

### General

**Epithets:** A-rabs, camel jockeys, towel-heads, sand-niggers

“All Arabs are Muslims” or “All Muslims are Arabs”

“Moslems” or “Mohammedans” (rather than Muslims)

“Sheik,” harem, desert, camels, oasis, nomads, Bedouin, warriors, tribal; Arab world as an exotic arena where Western heroes have romantic adventures.

Arabian Nights, genie, magic carpet, princess, evil vizier

**Muslims:** fundamentalists, extremists, militants, fanatics, terrorists, cut off hands, oppress women, jihad as “holy war”

**Palestinians:** terrorists, blow up airlines, try to “destroy Israel” and “drive the Jews into the sea”

**Good Arabs:** minor characters, passive, culturally Western, dramatically insignificant, subordinate to Western heroes, rarely the main character or action hero

### Arab Men

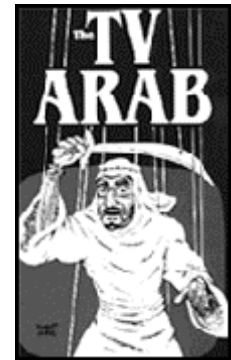
Oil Sheiks, fabulously wealthy, lavish and wasteful spending, “buying up America”

Greasy merchants, swarthy, dirty, greedy, unshaven, uneducated, dishonest, manipulative, incompetent

Mad dictators, ruthless, violent, treacherous, barbaric, hate Jews & America, secret plots to destroy America

Cruel, deceitful, hot-tempered, irrational

Abduction of blond western women



### Arab Women

Oppressed by Arab men/Islam

Luxurious harem, scantily clad belly dancers; sensuous, beautiful woman in love with Western hero who rescues her from evil Arab man

Confined to home, veils, head coverings, long robes; passive, uneducated, voiceless, faceless, characterless

Older women: hysterical, artificial grief in mourning rituals