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**Propositions relating to the dissertation *Choosing Sharia? Multiculturalism, Islamic Fundamentalism and Sharia Councils* by Machteld Zee**

1. The ideologies of both multiculturalists and Islamic fundamentalists are reactionary movements with religious (identity) politics at their core.
2. Multiculturalists promote the ideology that members of minorities should not be harmed by non-recognition, that the focus should be on either respect or toleration, and that minority cultures must not be criticized by the dominant majority which has the obligation to preserve minority cultures.
3. If in the future large shares of individuals have voluntarily chosen for Islamic fundamentalism, we will see that free choice will increasingly cease to exist.
4. Society itself may be diverse and *multi*-cultural, the legal order that regulates it should be *mono*-cultural.
5. The well-meant mitigation that it is merely Islamic *family* law that requires recognition is, other than multiculturalists – also in academic circles – believe, not a modest demand.
6. Instead of supporting Sharia councils, secular legal alternatives for exiting a religious marriage should be emphasized and accomplished.
7. Political agnosticism is the ideology that the state does not take a position regarding religious claims: the state simply “does not know” and is insensitive to arguments that are detrimental for or made on behalf of any religious community.
8. If one does not disagree with a practice, we have to label this non-interference as approval or indifference, which tolerance is certainly not.

9. Those committing the criminal offense of conducting informal religious marriages that are not registered under the Marriage Act 1949 (UK) or not preceded by a civil marriage (The Netherlands) should be actively prosecuted.
  
10. Under Article 435a of the Dutch Criminal Code (“He who wears clothing or ostentatious insignia which express a specific political aim, shall be punished with imprisonment not exceeding twelve days or a fine of the second category”), the Netherlands has had a burka ban since 1933.
  
11. When it comes to judging an act, the assertion that it is born out of free will is superfluous.
  
12. There are some ideas so absurd that only an intellectual could believe them.