Silence. How Apostasy and Blasphemy Codes Are Choking Freedom Worldwide


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Tackling an issue so sensitive and complex as blasphemy or apostasy is
Tackling an issue so sensitive and complex as blasphemy or apostasy is quite a challenge. Paul Marshall and Nina Shea make a laudable effort by providing an elaborate survey of cases by country, but, for several reasons, they fail to map out the density of the topic. First, they do not discuss apostasy and blasphemy as such, as the title suggests, but instead discuss its accusations and threats as practiced in Muslim majority countries and by Muslims in the West. The book, therefore, is about Muslims and how they are “choking freedom,” in particular freedom of religion.

This is a recurring theme in Marshall's writing. Granted, it is indeed a serious problem, because many, if not most, Muslim societies are experiencing a...
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