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Contemporary forms of literary censorship in Egypt

Literary censorship. Egypt. .H    isba. Lawsuit.

This essay aims to analyze various forms of literary censorship in present-day Egypt. Since the abolishment

of institutional censorship of literature and the press in the 1970s, the main instruments of silencing speech that

is perceived as offensive or dangerous have been the Egyptian Penal Code and blasphemy lawsuits, based

on the Islamic principle called *ḥisba.* The paper explores the relationship between censorship and the perception

of literature among the reading public. It also discusses some of the famous blasphemy trials

such as the one with the academic Naṣr Abū Zayd or the writer Aḥmad Nājī.