

Statement from Hana Assafiri, author:

I think philosophically, this was inevitable. When we conflate journalism and entertainment this is what's going to happen.

When we want people and ratings, that ends up competing with nuance and complexity.

There was at one point a question on violence and men - from a personal experience I would have had a contrary view.

As a Muslim woman everything we do and say is scrutinised.

This was an important opportunity for women to vent their fury at the epidemic of violence against them.

Here was an opportunity from a public platform that enabled the frustration of women to be expressed and the failings of government to ensure their safety.

Of course, it was going to be colourful.

Mona comes from a country where the 2nd amendment is a right to arms. Her context is very different.

Her perspective is important but out of context to Australia.

I find it disappointing that the ABC didn't stand by women on the show and didn't stand by the diversity of opinion and allow that to be expressed.

The episode was never going to be the same old episode of Q&A.

It was in the context of the Broadside festival.

These comments were an expression of the frustration of women globally.

I was never going to become the adversary of another panellist for the sake of entertainment.

As a Muslim feminist I was mindful that our default position does not succumb to the caricature of violence and barbarism, because that's how we're so often represented.

There were many ways that I had to be measured.

Unfortunately, the take home message, because of the soundbite nature of the media, was that the show was promoting violence.

It was never promoting violence.

It was a show of ideas around we circuit break the epidemic of violence towards women, and there are a range of ideas on how to do that.

The idea about burning shit down - that was a frustration around the lived reality and experience of first nations people.

I agreed with many aspects of the panel, and there were some I had a different opinion on.

The ABC should have defended the ideas of women and their right to speak.

Elevate the view to a global understanding of what's unravelling around us.

This was in no way a call to violence - it was people speaking from different contexts and backgrounds about how to counter the epidemic of violence against women in a way that was intersectional.

The ABC has to stay true to the values of democratic Australia. It has to stand firm.

The ABC is going down a slippery slope with this.

It was not a call to violence - it was a nuanced conversation that's been reduced to a sound bite.

I added my video, not because [Mona's comment] was a call to violence but because I have an alternative view on how to deal with male violence. Nobody was advocating violence.

It's not about Fran not doing her job.

The ABC cops a raw deal but is going down a slippery slope of trying to make complex ideas into entertainment.

All of us have a role to play no matter our platform - we have a role to play in contributing to a safer world.

Our capacity to be human, to be measured, to be reasoned, has become sacrificed in this 24 hour news world.

The public broadcaster should be a safe space - a place that can safeguard facts and truth and preserve them.