

## Culture vs. Islam

Many Muslims when they come from overseas they leave Islam back in their home country

I mean they bring their traditions, they bring their culture

But their traditions have nothing to do with Islam!

For example the idea of a forced marriage where a woman gets married without her consent

Islam doesn't allow that!

Plus it's totally messed up man!

Islam liberated people from this ignorant way of thinking

But some Muslims they love their culture more than they love Islam

And that's why they're willing to compromise their religion for the sake of their culture

Joke!

Joooooke!

Joke!!

Now I m not saying that all culture's bad

There's a lot of great things we can learn from different cultures

There's tasty food

Beautiful artwork

Rich languages

And so much more!

But I am referring to the parts of the culture that conflict with Islam

You know one of the things that confuses a non-Muslim

Its when they see a Muslim take part of Islam and part of their culture, put

It all together and label the whole thing Islam

Not only are you giving Islam a bad name, but you're confusing everybody

You see if you add or subtract anything from Islam, its not Islam anymore!

And there's so many Muslims who try customize Islam just so it meets their  
desires

Desires!

Alhamdulillah i found Islam before i met these type of Muslims

Alhamdulillah!

As a convert i can tell you that Islam is a very beautiful religion

This is why i feel bad for a child who grows up in a family where Islam is  
not given to them properly

You know who I am talking about, the parents who purposely teach only parts of  
Islam, the parts that benefit them

The child grows up misunderstanding Islam because he sees his parents  
compromising it

You know what I am talking about man!

How about the father who occasionally closes up his liquor store so he can  
go to Jum'ah prayers

"Oh brother it's not halal to have business open during Jum'ah!"

Bro, it's a liquor store, your business isn't even halal!!!

How about the mother who tells her daughter to put on hijab on the masjid stairs but then tells her to take it off for the interview

What's up with that?!!!

This is why your kid grows up all confused

They can't tell the difference between what is culture and what is Islam

But you don't take it seriously you're like "aaaaaaaahhhhh"

Until the day you wake up

The day i wake up?

The day you wake up and you find out your kids are not kids anymore

They're teenagers!Hahahahahaha!They're teenagers!

ARRRRRGGGGGGGGGGHHHHHHHHH!!!!

You know that's when their hormones start going crazy and you start losing your hair

Your daughter starts asking you questions about having a boyfriend

And what type of plastic surgery are you "cool" with dad?

You freak out and tell her to go talk to her mom

But then your son wants to talk to you about tattoos

And what parts of his body he wants to get pierced

So you try to talk to him

But since you never talked to him

You lost the channels of communication a long time ago

Basically you have no idea what the boy is saying anymore

It goes something like this

"Yo, yo, yo, yo pops! Ims abouts go bounce and play some b-ball so if my

homies call me tell them to call me on my cell, i'll catch you later"

"What, what are you saying? Where are you going?"

"Loves to hang out and chill but i gotta go pops and the other 411 i told you to keep on the DL you gotta keep down the hush hush baby, anyways I m outtie like a Saudi, I gotsta go PEACE OUT! Later pops"

"411, outtie, Saudi, What, what are you saying? Where are you going? Where are you going?"

Now you're really worried and you don't know what to do

But it gets worse

You find out that your kids have those not-so-Islamic pictures on their

Myspace account,tsk tsk tsk tsk

Now your son has chosen the career of gangster rapper for himself

And your daughter wants to be a part time model, part time feminist

Actually her whole feminist movement is because of you

You see throughout of her life she's been watching they way you've been unjustly treating her mother

You brought your back home mentality where you thought you're the king and she's your slave

And since you didn't treat your wife properly the way Islam teaches you to do so

Your daughter's now rebelling against you and your backwards way of thinking

You see Islam teaches us "That the best of you is who's best to his wife"

But apparently you didn't take that part of Islam seriously

And now you're paying for it

And right when you think that the relationship between you and your daughter  
can't get any worse

You hear those four words that make you wanna cringe

"But I Love Him!"

At this point you start to panic

ARRRGGGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

You look at your wife and say

"What, what are we going to do? What are we going to do?"

You see you brought all this drama upon yourself because you didn't teach  
your kids Islam

Instead you raised them with customs that conflicted with the teachings of  
Islam

As little kids they followed those customs

But guess what they're young adults now and they're thinking on their own

Because they see the errors in the backwards customs that they were raised  
with

Here's a reality check for you

Many kids have no intention to practice the culture of their parents

So instead they picked up their own culture

Not that it's any better than your culture, sometimes it's actually worse

So instead of picking up your culture they decide to pick up their own

By the way don't you wish you tell them about Islam right about now

You see in this new culture that your kids have just picked up, its cool to  
be rebellious

So they don't listen to you

And since you never gave them role-models or you were never role-models for  
them, they decide to pick up their own role-models

People they can look up to, people they can imitate

Society teaches them what is cool and what is not

Everything from the way they dress

To the way they act

To even the slang they use

Didn't you see the signs?

Remember last Eid

"Boy what do you want for Eid?"

"Yo pops, how about some of that bling-bling?"

"Ok bling-bling, we get him bling-bling....wha-what is bling-bling?"

Now you tried everything you can- as a last resort you drop off your kids at  
the Sunday class

You know that's the weekly Sunday class for young kids at the masjid

The one you never took to?

So you drop them off at the masjid hoping the volunteer staff perform some  
type of miracle

But your kids don't even give the class a chance

Everything goes in one ear and out the other

Now your kids think you're a hypocrite because you tell them to do something that you don't do yourself

If you were praying and fasting and doing all the other things that you tell your children to do, maybe they would've done it

It's like someone telling you (inhales) cough cough "Don't be a smoker (inhales) they'll kill you" cough cough

How do you respect that?

So many kids go away from Islam, because Islam was not presented correctly to them

They get taught the modified version

Where parents mix the culture with Islam and package the whole thing under the label of Islam

And then they see the errors in the culture

Yes, parents have rights in Islam

But your children have rights too

If you know Islam, teach it to your kids

Don't just tell them how to be a good Muslim

Be a role-model

That means you have to do it too

If we practice Islam the way the Prophet (S.A.W) taught us to practice it

We wouldn't be in this mess

But as long as we love our customs more than we love ALLAH SWT

We will continue to suffer

You know what im saying?

This is Ali reminding you just in case you forgot

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END