

## Clip 5: 'Young British and Muslim'

*Transcription: Two groups discussing what it is like to be British and Muslim*

**Duration: 4 min 13 sec**

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### **[00.12] Man 1**

My father and my mother as well, both included, came to Britain for a better life. They saw it as a better country and I believe that this place is a better country. I've had a better upbringing than they did, I've had a better education and my father has a pride of being British, which I also share.

### **[00.32] Man 2**

I know they came here in the early 1980's and they had to come here and start working straight away. They were working from 9 o'clock till 9 o'clock at night. 20 years on I'm here now sitting in this room and I have a much more easier life than they have. But I do still believe that they got the same values as me, as you know, they are proud to be British, they are proud to be Muslims, they are proud to be part of the British culture and society.

### **[00.58] Man 3**

My parents also came here from a different country and they came here to get a better life but I think I have more of an understanding than them because I've been born here and I've been brought up so I have more of an understanding about the British culture and society.

### **[01.18] Woman 1**

By being a good Muslim doesn't affect whether you are a good British citizen or whether you are classed as British. It doesn't matter what religion you are, what race you are, at the end of the day we live in a multicultural society and if we all abide by the law and respect each other...whatever views you might have, whatever different religions you have, you're still British. It doesn't make you any less British by being a good Muslim.

### **[01.43] Man 4**

Of course you can be a good Muslim and British. Because you can follow the laws of Britain, you are British. Having a passport, a British passport, you are British. Following the British community and society does not affect you being a Muslim because English people at the end of the day are people just like us. Even though they might have

ideological differences, at the end of the day it doesn't ...there is just ideas that are different, but within practice we are all the same.

**[02.12] Woman 1**

By being a good British citizen it doesn't affect whether you are a good Muslim or not because they are two different things but at the same time they both do come together by... In Islam it teaches us to be good to others, our neighbours, everything. So, if we are good Muslims then obviously we are going to be good citizens respecting the people in this country.

**[02.34] Woman 1**

I've noticed after especially September 11<sup>th</sup> that people...before people never used to notice whether you was Muslim or not...Now if you have sort of Asian features, it doesn't even matter if you are wearing a scarf or if you are wearing Muslim symbols or anything, even if you look Asian, people instantly are going to notice that you are Muslim. They have this sense of fear. Its like if you are on a train and you a carrying a rucksack or something, it's like... after September the 11<sup>th</sup> they can instantly see that that person is Muslim so they must be a terrorist or... they're... scared of us like you'd be scared of a dog or something.

**[03.13] Man 5**

You know men, for example, with a Topee ,which is an Islamic hat wearing and a beard with a rucksack, again on a train, people would automatically think there is something wrong you know.. . he's extremist, he's going to you know... suicide bomber... which is... really bad because most... Islam is not about extremist or anything like that. It's about following your religion and submission to God and living a nice and peaceful life. But the way the media portrays Islam is really bad because after September 11<sup>th</sup> everybody sees Islam as a threat, danger.