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Excellent Draft!
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When this essay is finished, it will be in the range of 95.

The Misunderstanding of Islam

(5) In general, the term Islam is used when referring to a religion or a community, which are believers of the religion. It is primarily linked to the teachings of Prophet Mohammed based in Quran. On the other hand, the term Muslim refers to distinguish a person who is of Islamic faith. Most who are not aware of this would just think that Islam and Muslim are the same. In many Arabic literatures, Islam is explained as "submission to the will of God". Islam is the second largest religion in the world next to Christianity, with over a billion followers and was revealed over 1400 years ago in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, where it originated. The Quran is the holy book of the Muslims and also the say of prophet Muhammad. Muslims believe that Prophet Mohammad is the final prophet sent by Allah. There are 5 basic pillars in Islam, these are the declaration of faith, praying 5 times a day, giving charity to the poor and needy, fasting and lastly pilgrimage (BBC).

(5) The practice of polygamy or having more than one wife is a controversial issue in Islam. For many, the question still remains why Islam is allowing Muslim men to practice polygamy. Islam recognizes men have ^a stronger drive ^a to have multiple partners ^{than women}, ^{According to} ~~that women~~ ^{because based} ~~on many researches~~, up to 70% of men cheat on their partners. Islam wants every Muslim man to

Source?

① Are you distinguishing between the first and second wife?

practice his religion fully, regardless of status, and not to fall to sin. By allowing polygamy,

Islam is also protecting the rights of the ^{wives} ~~wife~~ if a Muslim man decides to get a second wife. This

means that the ^①wife would still continue to enjoy the presence of her husband her children's

father as well. In ^{the event} ~~any case~~ that the first wife cannot continue with the marriage, Islam allows her

the right to ask for divorce from her husband (Esposito 112).

People's awareness toward this issue just focus on the status of being a Muslim. They ^R

usually do not have deeper understanding of this practice. Instead, since is a very different

practice than other culture and religion, it is viewed negatively. However, the truth is, the Quran

allows Muslim men to have up to 4 wives but does not encourage it when all the wives are not

treated equally in all aspects. Allah urge in the Quran that a Muslim man should strike a perfect

balance between wives financially and physically. This means that all wives would be afforded

the same things as the other enjoys. If a Muslim man is unable to provide these then polygamy is

strongly discouraged (113).

② ^{Transition}

Islamic faith is misunderstood by many people from the West who do not believe or recognize Jesus Christ. This misconception led non-Muslim to believe that Muslims hate Jesus.

This is fully not true because Muslims also believe in Jesus Christ but not as a Son of God as

what Christianity depicted him. Muslims believe that he was one of the prophets that God has

sent. They value his teachings and are referred to as "Isa" in Arabic and Muslim sometimes

name their sons after him. His name was mentioned in Quran multiple times, and Muslim also

believes that will return again as the messiah.

Probably the worst misconception of Islami and Muslim people is the fact that they are always profiled and stereotyped as terrorists. After the September 11 violence and attack in the

US, Muslim ^{have} ~~people has~~ been experiencing unfair judgment, humiliation and discrimination all

② Another reason for the misunderstanding of Islam in the West is...

over the world. They were generally blamed for every succeeding attack that happened, including the most recent bombing and killings in Paris, France. Based on statistics, the terrorist attacks in Europe perpetrated by Muslims is less than two percent but people tend to generalize ³ ~~this just because a certain Muslim blew himself up~~. In truth, not all Muslims would do the same. Islam taught Muslims to practice their faith, live peacefully, avoid conflict or harming other people. Not all Muslims especially in western countries are there to cause trouble or to terrorize people, like any other citizen they are there to make something of themselves or for the betterment of their respective families (Obeidallah).

Some Muslims may have lost their way or do violent acts to other people and to fellow Muslims as well and hide it in the guise of Islam. These actions are not solely because of "jihad" or their struggle for their faith but merely to further a cause or get their point across. In the process, other peace-loving Muslims are stereotyped that they support or encourage terrorism (Esposito 134-136).

Explain
the real
meaning
of Jihad.
↓
Use a
Quote
to do
this.

In all societies there would always be a faction who would interpret a holy text or book differently from others. This is also the same for Islam. Some Muslim sects interpret the word from the Quran differently and in turn have restrictive laws regarding clothes and customs. "Jihad" which means struggle is the most misinterpreted word. Some Muslims who saw violence hide behind the veil of "jihad" to defend their actions that sometimes lead to deaths of innocent people including children at times. Jihad means a struggle for a Muslim to be good and believe in his faith. Others refer to jihad as a holy war to defend the faith and Islam, but to an ordinary Muslim it is an everyday struggle to better themselves and the people around them (Obeidallah).

Over the past years, there are significant circumstances and incidents that resulted in many misconceptions about Islam in general. Although, it cannot be denied that there were

indeed violence and terrorist attacks carried out by known Muslim extremists and rebels, it is unfortunate that in global perspective, millions of Muslim population and even those innocent ones who are believer of Islamic faith have been stereotyped and victimized by unfair treatment and discrimination. Media can be considered to have contributed hugely to the negative notions received by these people, particularly in countries such as UK and US. According to a magazine article entitled "Viewpoint: Islam phobia has a long history in the US" published by BBC News, the term "Islam phobia" has emerged as a concept that has developed out of fear, hate and discrimination towards Muslim who are often associated with threats, violence and terrorism. Even with the substantial efforts, awareness and education initiated by Islamic countries, the misconceptions and misunderstanding of Islam has not been reduced and continue to exist particularly in the Western region.

and Judaism

Like followers of these religions,

Islam is no different from Christianity, ~~the Jews and all other religions.~~ ~~Like all~~ ^{Muslims} ~~believers, they are free to~~ worship just one God, which they call Allah in Arabic. Muslim men and women are no different from people in the West or in any part of the world; their customs and practices may be different and unfamiliar, ⁴ ~~but they are~~ It might even be unacceptable to some but it also follows that there are other customs in other countries that Muslims would find different from what they believe and do. Islam, ^{and} including Muslim ^{men and women} ~~men and women~~ should not be judged or discriminated; ^{against} ~~instead to better understand it, religious and cultural context should be taken into consideration~~

People in the west should do a better job of trying to understand the religious and cultural contexts. They should do this simply to have a better understanding of the world. But they should also do this, so they will not be so easily manipulated by their own "leaders."

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