

## American Muslim Single

Is it easy to be a muslim single in America?

Statistics show that there are approximately 2 million muslims currently living in the United States of America, with more than 1500 mosques. They have come from many places in the world, like South-Asia, the Arabic countries, Africa, Europe, Turkey, even from latin countries like Argentina, Brazil and Chile . But more than 30% of the muslims are pure Americans that had been born and lived all their lives in America. The greatest concentration of muslims can be found in the state of California, where there are over 200 mosques. From these two million people, 26% are singles over the age of 20.

Modern muslims prosper in America, they study at universities, they work as managers, bankers, lawyers, engineers.

But how about their intimate lives? Many muslims dedicated to their faith are reluctant to the concept of dating, as Islamic courtship has some very important rules, like an unmarried man cannot stay alone with an unmarried woman in the same room.

In most Islamic countries young people are introduced to each other by their families, with the help of the local imam or through their work colleagues, and that's how it works even in America, on a smaller scale ofcourse. But as technology improves, more possibilities can be offered to single muslims who want to find love. Using the internet they can come to know well a person before even seeing her/him, and thus without breaking any of the rules.

As society is different in America, many young muslims are exposed to temptation, they are asked to go out and party, thus meeting very attractive girls/men who are willing to one-night stands. But if faith is important for them, they will refuse questionable invitations to "a cup of coffee" etc, even if sometimes they would feel very tempted to say yes. For a good muslim, dating poses no problem as long as it begins and ends in public, like in a fast-food, a restaurant or something like that. They will be abstinent until they are sure they found their soul-mate.

Muslim society has the family, faith and hard work at it's foundation, much as the American society, and that is why muslims very much prosper in America. Many say the city of New York is like a second Mekka, because there you can find more than 200,000 muslims from all over the world, imams unite Syrian men with Egyptian women, Indian women with Arabian men and so forth, and the 140 mosques there bring hope and council to everyone who approaches them.

Imams say that uniting a man and a woman in marriage is equal to a whole year of worship, so you can imagine why they are happy when they see a good strong relationship forming between two young followers.

But one setback in muslim dating in America could be the fact that, following the women's elevation in society of the last few decades, there are a lot of career oriented muslim women, who don't want to get married too soon but then they find out they are considered too old and not "marriage material" anymore. That is because men, even the ones that agree with the protests regarding women's rights, they wouldn't really like a wife that wouldn't easily let go of her career if her family demands it. A woman must be kind, smart and educated, but if something happens, she must sacrifice everything for her family. Ofcourse, this is not just a muslim matter.

However, being muslim and single in America is not having a hard life, they have every opportunity to find their soul-mate if they want, because from two million souls that live there they surely can find a special one. And if two million possibilities is not enough, let us not forget that by using the internet they can have the whole world at the tip of their fingers.

## About the Author

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