

# Fake Integration and Cultural Divide

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(In the small town of Pordenone (northern Italy) a Moroccan father killed his 18-years-old daughter, cutting her throat, because she went to live together with her italian non-muslim boyfriend).

What can an Anthropologist say in front of such a tragedy? The first reaction is anger. Anger against the politicians, against the leaders that keep talking about "*integration*", both in Italy and Europe. Anger against the blunt presumption of their ignorance, and the coldness of men who never tried to imagine the passions, the feelings and the reasons of those who are "*different*".

Men who are in power believe in the superiority of Politics over any Science, especially when Science cannot be used to support their goals. Never before did this '*superiority*' produce such contempt and stubbornness as it did in Europe in the past years. It is not difficult to understand why: when the politicians decided to accept the immigration of so many different Peoples, they had to cancel - as if it never existed - all previous knowledge produced by Human Sciences, starting from Cultural Anthropology and Religious Phenomenology down to Linguistics, Psychology and New History.

The more these Sciences pointed out towards the importance of cultural differences, the more the politicians decided that we are - *we must be* - all equal. "*If you are coming from another country and from a different culture, do not worry: we will teach you a few words of our language and that will be it*", they used to say.

The most tragic aspect of this behavior concerns Religions, and for this the politicians found the easiest solution: *never talk about them*. Soon they transformed this simple rule in a further command: Politically Correctness. Nobody *dare* to discuss, criticize or compare Religions. All religions are equal and must be respected in the same way. This meant throwing away two very intense centuries of studies about the *Sacred*, about the global cultural meaning of each religion: they were discarded with a shrug, as a useless burden.

Politicians do not want to think about the present time, neither about "our" past: the terrible centuries when the Church, pressed by the presence of the Muslims in Europe, applied the most rigid rules of the Old Testament, forgetting the Gospel.

We forgot the thousand of young girls who were condemned by their fathers to a lifetime of monastic jail, to reclusion, to the "monastic hell" of which Arcangela Tarabotti wrote. We forgot the innumerable duels of that time: men were killing each other to defend their honor, wounded by the behavior of a sister or a daughter. We forgot how many people were condemned to the stake for sodomy, even between spouses (in the civilized Republic of Venice the last one dates back to 1717).

Since the Italians for so many centuries had to obey the *biblical* rules instead of the *evangelic* rules, they should have warned all the other european States about the enormous difficulties that would be caused by muslim immigration, since their religion strictly coincides with their cultural model.

There is no need to say that women -wives, sisters and daughters- are the foredoomed victims of this situation. In the Koran, women are "*one degree below men*" (Sura of the Cow - 228); they have to obey and to conceal, especially as far as sexuality is concerned. This can be easily understood from their clothes, whose main purpose is to hide almost completely their body.

The function of women within marriage is to fulfill all the man's desires, giving birth to as many children as possible. It is self evident that today's western society is totally in contrast with the rules of the Koran, under many circumstances, but most of all as far as women's behavior and familiar relationships are concerned.

How can we help not only a Moroccan father but also a Moroccan 18-years-old daughter to face a lifestyle that is completely free, that has no religious rules, as it is today in Italy?

How can we say that this would be possible without terrible traumas?  
The tragedy of Pordenone is an exceptional case, but is not the only one;  
and surely there will be others, if politicians keep believing that it is  
enough to say that "People who live in Italy have to respect the Italian  
Laws enough".

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*traduzione di Marina Mascetti*