

# Why Are the EDL Going to Walthamstow Shortly?

by Esmerelda Weatherwax (August 2012)

The beginning is a good place but where and when did it begin? For me it was the summer of 1976 when the National Front held a demonstration against the plans to turn a former carpet and textile factory in Lea Bridge Road into a mosque. My mother joined the counter demonstration, believing that everybody has a right to worship God and that a mosque would be no different to the Catholic churches of the Irish and Italian immigrants, the Gospel churches of the West Indians and the Synagogues of the Jews. I was so proud of her. That became the Jamia Mosque. Little did I know that less than 10 years later that this mosque would hang a banner on its front wall saying 'God is only one, HE HAS NO SON' which I found so offensive, and was the beginning of a realisation that Islam was not a religion willing to live and let live. The mosque has not, so far as I know, been the centre of any terrorist plots. It has been the subject of a power struggle in recent years and produced a sadistic Imam and teacher, [made notes](#).

as long ago as 2007 when my husband and I spotted these (below) on a lamppost just outside the Active Change Foundation on the corner of Lea Bridge Road and Northumberland Road.



Rizwan Ahmad and Hassan Siddique both of Walthamstow were convicted of raping a young student in an alley off Lea Bridge Road in 2011. Sentencing, Judge Owen told the two rapists: 'What you did was despicable. Your story was simply ludicrous'. . . Jailing Ahmad for 10 years, and Siddique for eight-and-a-half years, Judge Owen added: 'If it is necessary I will recommend most strongly that you are deported at the conclusion of your sentence.'

In 2009 [here](#).

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