

We have failed the victims of 7/7

I don't know how long before [British Muslims have met with discrimination](#) – “subject to unprecedented scrutiny; tagged as a suspect community, the enemy within, a ‘fifth column’ (to quote Nigel Farage)”.

Well, yes. If substantial numbers of men from a certain group in society are presenting an unprecedented threat to a country, then scrutiny and suspicion do tend to be the result. As for discrimination, try lying on a beach in Tunisia and being shot dead for no reason other than not being Muslim.

I'm not sure that Hasan and commentators like him fully grasp the widespread dismay at the failure of many Muslims to accept the values of our society, equality for women being foremost among them.

they keep on coming, these awful stories. A [huge rise in sharia marriages is reported](#), many of them polygamous, all taking place in a parallel world within our liberal western one. What hope is there of Muslim children integrating into the wider culture, and coming to regard it proudly as their own?

You know, I really don't want to live in a country which needs something called a “forced marriage” course. Neither did Emma. She's in Australia now. On the tenth anniversary of the day Tanweer nearly killed her, she went to a liberal mosque to talk about her experiences of 7/7. The imam told Emma what an important symbol her visit was. One Muslim friend who was present said: “Muslims' lack of understanding of other religions is quite scary.” Education, he said, was key. “Only education can stop the cancer spreading.” *Education is a good preventative of the disease; but once you have cancer only*

chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery will do. Poison, burn, cut and destroy.

Emma texted me later: "I had to spend the day remembering that not all Muslims are out to kill us." A sad, sorrowful sentiment Muslims might like to reflect on. I know how Emma hates to be reminded of 7/7, but anyway I texted back: "Just to say how glad we are that you're still here and how much we love you."