



# **Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America**

*Zarinah Iman El-Amin Naeem*

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## **WHY IS BEING SINGLE AND MUSLIM IN AMERICA SO HARD**

### **Why a "Jihad?"**

Many Muslim communities are filled with beautiful, smart, talented, unmarried, single people. But don't believe the hype! Most of them want to get married. Unfortunately however, many find the road to marriage filled with unnecessary delays, social stigma and spiritual pain. But why? And how do young single American Muslims balance their faith with western culture? Is the Muslim and Islamic way of life so incompatible to the American "hook-up" culture that many young Muslims are bred in? What's happening and how can we fix it? This book is revealing for all religious minorities.

### **An Ethnographical Study**

The first book of its kind, *Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America*, by Zarinah El-Amin Naeem, blends first-hand accounts of the attitudes, experiences, and emotions of single Muslim adults with an anthropological exploration on issues of identity, religion and desire into an intimate, rare look at young Muslim singles' navigation of love and faith. Through interviews with single Muslims aged 18-32, Zarinah identifies nine key reasons singlehood is a "jihad." The book ends with key recommendations to the community as well as the leaders with ways the author feels we can improve the marriage process and build strong communities.

### **What do you ask a potential spouse**

Here Dr. Cheryl El-Amin, licensed social worker and pre-marital counselor, provides a sampling of questions to ask your potential mate. We know it can sometimes be hard to crack the ice and get to the real nitty-gritty. A sampling of "So You Wanna Know," Dr. Cheryl's questions for marriage are included to help you out!

### **A Letter to the Brothers by Dr. Halim Naeem**

Manhood, relationships, marriage - Dr. Halim Naeem, husband and psychologist pens a letter discussing some of the most important issues for men to consider prior to marriage. Brothers you don't want to miss this.

### **A Letter to the Sisters**

Not to leave the sisters out, this emotion and revealing letter from Zarinah to the sister readers is one of healing and growth.

### **Reviews**

"A bold look at a number of taboo subjects...original, highly engaging and extremely valuable" - Dr. Carolyn Rouse, Princeton University

"A wonderful and creative book that provides an opportunity for single American Muslims to share their stories regarding the challenges of developing a self-identity, finding a compatible mate, and maintaining a healthy relationship in a non-Muslim society." - Azizah Kahera, Azizah Magazine

"Lively and succinct... Zarinah El-Amin Naeem's own experiences as an American Muslim woman make for a compassionate, thoughtful, and useful study of the experiences and perspectives of Muslim singles seeking morally workable Islamic alternatives to mainstream American dating." - Dr. Kristina Wirtz, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Western Michigan University

"Reading this book was like talking to my daughter about everything she doesn't want to say." - Muhammad R. from New York

"...Groundbreaking, insightful and provocative...a useful departure point to a larger conversation" - Dr. Jimmy Jones, Manhattanville College, NY

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Zarinah El-Amin Naeem is a global presenter, publisher and author from Detroit, Michigan. She uses public anthropology to reveal and address contemporary issues facing the Muslim community. In addition, Zarinah works through her company Niyahpress.com, Beautifully Wrapped, and the Enliven Your Soul Foundation for Global Advancement to create events, products, and experiences that help people tap into their souls. Her ultimate goal is to create a global culture of love by building connections between peoples of various backgrounds. A mother wife and community member, Zarinah would love to connect (zarinah@niyah.net)

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### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Dan Williams:**

The book Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with your subject. If you can make examining a book Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America to be your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. It is possible to know everything if you like start and read a reserve Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this guide?

#### **Jennifer Wadsworth:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, small story and the biggest you are novel. Now, why not seeking Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America that give your fun preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky man but for all of you who wants to be success person. So , for all you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you could pick Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America become your starter.

#### **Alex Estep:**

Within this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to possess a look at some books. Among the books in the top list in your reading list is actually Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

#### **Bethany Zuniga:**

That book can make you to feel relax. This kind of book Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America was vibrant and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book Jihad of the Soul: Singlehood and the Search for Love in Muslim America has many kinds or style. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Detective Conan you can read and believe that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book are generally make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and relax. Try to choose the best book to suit your needs and try to like reading in which.

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