

# Embedded

with

# Sheik Hilaly

A **STUDY GUIDE** BY KATY MARRINER



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This study guide to accompany *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*, a documentary by Red Ithaka Productions, has been written for secondary students. It provides information and suggestions for learning activities in English, International Studies, Media, Religion, SOSE and curriculum projects exploring cultural identity.

**G**iven the need for curriculum to be culturally inclusive, *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* provides students with the opportunity to understand and value the Australian-Muslim community.

*Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* is one of three episodes from the *Embedded* series, where young Australians from a variety of backgrounds are placed into very different cultures in an attempt to bridge racial divides.

### Synopsis

'Is Islam really a threat to the Australian way of life? Dave is about to find out ...'

Dave Zwolenski is twenty-six years old and white. He likes girls, drinking beer and eating bacon. Raised a Catholic, these days Dave prefers to stay away from religion altogether. Sheik Taj el-din al Hilaly is sixty-six, Egyptian-born and very Muslim. He likes praying and drinking 'man tea' (his own special blend). Together, Dave and the Sheik form an odd couple, but for the next few weeks they are going to be inseparable.

Arriving at Sheik Hilaly's house in the Sydney suburb of Lakemba, Dave is a little apprehensive about what the next few weeks may have in store. Sheik Hilaly is, after all, the ex-Mufti of Australia who made national headlines for his comments compar-

ing scantily-dressed women to uncovered meat. But Dave is determined to uncover the man behind the controversy, and attempt to better understand Islam and Australian-Muslim culture in the process. To make Dave's experience more authentic, Sheik Hilaly insists that he observe all Muslim practices. This includes praying five times a day, attending mosque and not eating his usual breakfast of bacon and eggs. Dave is also expected to follow Sheik Hilaly's rules when it comes to hygiene. It doesn't take long for Dave to realize that his immersion experience is not going to be without some very personal challenges.

To gain a better understanding of the Islamic community in Australia, Dave speaks to Sheik Hilaly's good friend, boxer Anthony Mundine, about his conversion. He also speaks to a newly married couple about relationships and to a young woman about freedom of choice. In a bid to find out why some Australians are so afraid of Islam, Dave travels to Camden in south-west Sydney where earlier this year, locals rejected a plan to build a Muslim school. There, Dave meets with anti-Islamic activist Katie McCullough, a woman who caused a bit of a stir of her own when she voiced her strong opposition to Muslims living in her community.

Back in Lakemba, Dave and the Sheik's unconventional relationship blossoms and it seems the pair are becoming unlikely friends. But all this could end when, over a cup of 'man tea', Dave decides to confront Sheik Hilaly about the comments that made him infamous.

*Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* is an observational documentary that relies on the comical moments created by a clash of cultures to examine some of the bigger issues that have divided, and continue to divide, the Muslim community from the rest of Australia.

### Using *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* in the classroom

Teachers may select from the following activities to support students' viewing and close analysis of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*.

### Before viewing the documentary

- Spend time defining and discussing the students' understanding of the following key concepts and terms:
  - Islam
  - Muslim
  - Racism
  - Extremism
  - Tolerance
- Do you think public perceptions of Muslims are fair or are they discriminatory? Why?
- Muslims in Australia are an ethnically, linguisti-

Sheik Hilaly is the ex-Mufti of Australia who made national headlines for his comments comparing scantily-dressed women to uncovered meat.

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### Michaela Perske – Executive Producer

Michaela Perske is an award-winning journalist and producer. Perske produced radio features, weekly programs and daily radio before making the transition to film. Her credits include *Footy Chicks* (Rebecca Barry, 2006), *Inspiring Teachers* and *Making Babies*.

### Gary Doust – Writer / Director

Gary Doust began his career in the film and television industry working as assistant editor on the popular television show *Beyond 2000*. His credits as a filmmaker include *Parking Patrol Officer 808* (1999), *Murbah Swamp Beer* (2002), *Making Venus* (2002), *Battle of the Brains* and *Great White Hunters* (2008). Doust is also the Co-Founder and Director of Popcorn Taxi.

### Dave Zwolenski – Co-Writer / Presenter

In his early twenties, Dave Zwolenski spent much of his time travelling through Europe as a backpacker. This journey gave him an interest in global events. Upon his return to Australia he began pursuing this interest, as well as his passion for film and writing. With no professional training, Dave has somehow managed to work as an actor, director, camera operator, video editor, music journalist, graphic designer and scriptwriter for both theatre and film.

Prior to making *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*, Dave had no experience in documentary making whatsoever, but asked himself 'how hard could it be?'. It was this courageous statement that impelled him to submit his video application to SBS. The application included stories about his inability to bend his thumb until he was fourteen and the perfect way to end the movie of his life (in a giant balloon that crashes into the fake sky hanging above us all).



cally and culturally diverse group. At the time of the 2006 Census, there were more than 340,000 Muslims in Australia, of whom 128,904 were born in Australia. In addition to Lebanon and Turkey, the other major source countries are Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iraq and Indonesia. In the last three decades, many Muslims have migrated to Australia under refugee or humanitarian programs, and from African countries such as Somalia and Sudan. Australia's Muslim communities are now predominantly concentrated in Sydney and Melbourne. Since the 1970s, Muslim communities have built many mosques and Islamic schools and have made significant contributions to the multicultural fabric of Australian society.

Find out more at <[http://www.dfat.gov.au/facts/muslims\\_in\\_Australia.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/facts/muslims_in_Australia.html)> and <[http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/multicultural/pdf\\_doc/Muslims\\_in\\_Australia\\_snapshot.pdf](http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/multicultural/pdf_doc/Muslims_in_Australia_snapshot.pdf)>.

- Working as a class, write a list of the things that divide Muslim and non-Muslim communities in Australia.

## After viewing

- What were you thinking as you watched *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*?
- Make a list of questions you would like to ask Dave. Share your list with the class.
- What did you learn about the beliefs and practices that are part of Islamic life?
- Do you think *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* challenges prevailing prejudices about Islamic Australians?

- Did *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* challenge your views and values?
- Why is *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* a timely production?

## Director's statement

*It became apparent very early on that no matter what perspective or point of view this film took on the subject of Islam, it was going to create controversy. As early as pre-production, when we were researching the film, one reader of Sydney's inner western newspaper The Torch responded harshly to a press interview I did, questioning a quote I made stating that 'not all Muslims were terrorists'. While I think this reader would have a very hard time proving all Muslims were terrorists, the reader's main point was to criticize a film that they perceived had an agenda to paint a 'politically correct' picture of Muslims and Islam in Australia. I can honestly say that we never set out [to] either portray Muslims positively or negatively in the film. Our only preconceived objective was to attempt to understand Muslims and their religion from a non-Muslim perspective.*

– Gary Doust

- From your perspective, what agendas are served in *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*?

## Themes

- See list of themes on page 4 and add your own ideas.
- What does *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* tell us about each of these themes? Ask students to support their responses with specific evi-



- How does Dave try to fit in?
- *Performing my basic Muslim duties was getting harder by the day. I had to help out around the mosque, attend a man's Sufi session where praises to Allah were chanted in song ... And sit in on one of the Sheik's women's classes where I was even offered an incentive to convert.*

– Dave

Do you think Dave finds it difficult to leave his Australian lifestyle behind?

- Dave has to go without his usual breakfast of bacon and eggs. He learns the difference between the terms haram and halal. Write your own definition of each of these terms. What things are regarded as haram? What things are regarded as halal?

## Lakemba

*I'm not quite sure what to expect.*

– Dave

Dave decides to spend time in Lakemba, a suburb in Sydney's south-west. Lakemba has earned the nickname 'the Muslim capital of Australia' because it is home to more than a quarter of the country's Muslim population.

- Based on what the camera lets you see, write a description of Lakemba.

As Dave strolls down a busy Lakemba street, he discovers that bringing a camera crew wasn't a good idea. A cameraman is hit by one of the locals who objects to the crew's presence.

- Why do you think the locals are wary of the media?

*The Sheik showed me around his hometown where he was treated more like a rock star than a religious leader. I felt like a groupie.*

– Dave

- Dave and the crew return to the streets of Lakemba but this time with Sheik Hilaly. What happens?
- Sheik Hilaly has lived in Lakemba for twenty-eight years. He tells Dave that outside of Lakemba his 'feelings change'. Were you surprised by this admission? Is this admission evidence that the divide between Islamic and non-Islamic communities in Australia must be addressed?

## Sheik Taj el-din al Hilaly

*He's the guy who made national headlines when he compared scantily clad women to uncovered meat.*

– Dave

Born in Egypt, Sheik Hilaly stepped down as Australia's Grand Mufti in 2007 but continues as an imam and spiritual advisor of Lakemba Mosque.

dence from the documentary.

- Select one of the themes explored by *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* and work with other students to develop a multimedia presentation offering your group's stories about this theme.

## Close Analysis

### Dave

*I'm Dave, I'm twenty-six, I live in Brisbane and I'm pretty white. I went to a Catholic school but these days God's not really my thing. That's my banjo – I suck at it. This is me and my mates playing extreme golf. I like girls. My great-grand-uncle died of an excitement-induced heart attack the day before we met so I kind of killed the guy. I don't have any photos of that; that'd be weird. I have this talent – I can count the letters in words really fast. Muslim, six. That's pretty much all I know about Muslims, apart from what I've seen on the tele.*

- How would you introduce Dave? Begin your description with the words, 'This is Dave ...'

As part of Dave's Muslim experience, Sheik Hilaly insists that Dave must observe all Muslim practices.

- Do you think Dave's judgements of Islamic customs and practices show him to be culturally egocentric?

### THEMES:

CULTURE

FAITH

IDENTITY

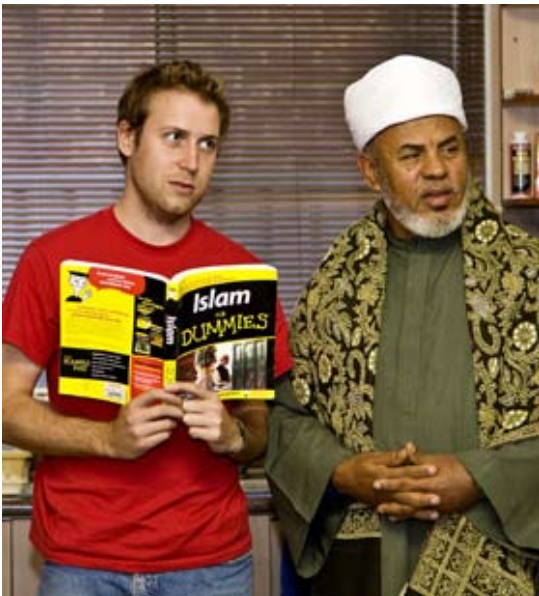
SELF-RESPECT

RACISM

TOLERANCE

*I'm Dave, I'm twenty-six, I live in Brisbane and I'm pretty white.'*

– Dave  
Zwolenski



- Who is Sheik Hilaly? Use the internet to find out more about Sheik Hilaly. Share your findings with the class.
- Find out the meaning of the terms: imam, mufti and grand mufti.
- How has Hilaly been portrayed by the media? In what ways does the documentary challenge this view? Do you think the documentary gives Sheik Hilaly's public image a makeover?
- What does Dave learn about Sheik Hilaly?
- To understand what being a Muslim is really like, Dave lives with Sheik Hilaly. What does Sheik Hilaly's home tell you about Sheik Hilaly and the way he lives his life?
- *It seemed like Taj and I were on the same page with some of the bigger issues.* – Dave  
Were you surprised by Sheik Hilaly's political views?
- *Next on the list of requirements to be a good Muslim is humility. Taj reckoned I was in need of some humbling ... and coincidentally the toilets at the mosque needed cleaning.* – Dave  
Sheik Hilaly disguises his appearance and heads to the mosque where he does some cleaning. Keysar explains, 'Most people in the community, if they see him they won't let him do it; they will do it themselves.'  
Were you surprised by Sheik Hilaly's show of humility?

## Keysar

Keysar Trad is the Sheik's part time translator and media advisor.

- What words would you use to describe Keysar?
- Writing as Keysar, prepare a press release to publicize Sheik Hilaly's participation in *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*.

## At the mosque

*Any mosque you go to on a Friday in Australia you'll find this problem. And yet we have such a terrible difficulty with councils to get a permit for a new place of worship. We can't cater for the existing Muslims at the moment.* – Keysar

Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world. Dave cannot dispute this given the number of men that arrive for the Friday congregational prayer.

- What do you notice as you watch the scenes at Lakemba mosque?
- What understanding of devotion do these scenes offer?

It is compulsory for Muslims to pray five times a day in the direction of Mecca. This proves challenging for Dave. Dave doesn't believe in God and he's not used to rising at 4.30am to prepare for 5am prayer.

- Drawing on the following statements, discuss what Dave learns about belief during his time in Lakemba.

*It was early, and I was having a tough enough time remembering my name, let alone the Koranic verses required for Islamic prayer.* – Dave

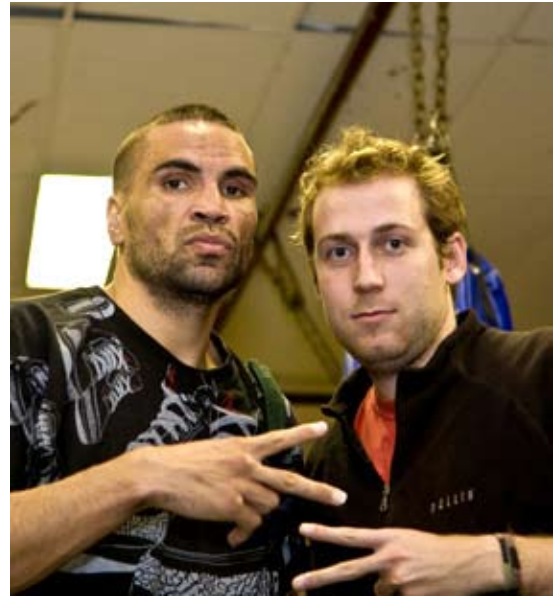
*It was time for the midday prayer. I explained that me and God weren't really on speaking terms, but the Sheik encouraged me to try to embrace my spiritual side.* – Dave

*I'd never had a problem with people believing in whatever they want, so I was a little disappointed that these guys weren't really accepting of my right not to believe.* – Dave



**'Any mosque you go to on a Friday in Australia you'll find this problem. And yet we have such a terrible difficulty with councils to get a permit for a new place of worship. We can't cater for the existing Muslims at the moment.'**

**– Keysar Trad**



*Amongst the good Muslims there are the radical ones, and that's the problem.*

*I don't hate them. I hate the ideology.*

*I feel very strongly because I am scared for my children.*

– Katie

Use these claims to initiate a discussion about why Katie objects to Muslims moving to Camden? Do you think she is well-informed?

- Read media reports from the time at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/12/20/2123498.htm>, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/12/20/2124578.htm>, <http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,23747026-29277,00.html> and <http://www.smh.com.au/news/national/backlash-over-new-islamic-school/2007/11/06/1194117995331.html>.
- What's wrong with wanting to educate children in accordance with their religious principles?
- Make a list of arguments for and against the building of an Islamic school. Divide the class into an affirmative and negative team and debate the topic: 'That Camden was not the place for an Islamic school.'
- *Okay, well, that'd be great if westernized people and Muslims could live together. I couldn't hope for more. But I'm a realist. Just by having their own school, they're not learning to mix. They don't want our culture. That's where deep down I can't change my mind because they're the racists. They're the ones who can't accept.*

– Katie

Katie asks Dave if he thinks that she is a racist. How does he reply? Do you think his response is valid?

- Dave tells Katie, 'fear and ignorance equals racism'. Do you agree?

## Adam and Shorouk

*What's the deal with men and women in Islam? I'd read that social contact between Muslims who are unmarried or unrelated is frowned upon, so I wondered how they even hook up in the first place.*

– Dave

Dave attends an Islamic wedding. Sheik Hilaly



## Dave and Anthony Mundine

*Dedicating your life to Islam is a huge commitment and I wondered why anyone would want to sign up.*

– Dave

To understand why somebody would want to convert to Islam, Sheik Hilaly arranges for Dave to meet up with his good friend and high profile convert, boxing champ Anthony 'The Man' Mundine. Against his better judgement Dave reluctantly accepts a challenge to spar with Mundine in the ring.

Mundine converted to Islam in 2000 after being inspired by the teachings of Malcolm X. An increasing number of young Aboriginals have followed in his footsteps, finding a connection with the religion.

- How does Anthony Mundine explain his conversion?

## Katie McCulloch

*Muslims do not fit in this town.*

– Katie

With Islam expanding so rapidly, Dave travels to Camden in an attempt to learn why some Australians are fearful of the religion. The Camden locals recently rejected a plan to build a Muslim school in the suburb. Dave meets up with anti-Muslim activist Katie McCulloch, who shares her concerns about Muslims moving to Camden.

- *They don't want to accept our culture.*

Mundine converted to Islam after being inspired by the teachings of Malcolm X. An increasing number of young Aboriginals are finding a connection with the religion.



marries Adam Dib and Shorouk Jodeh using the powers given to him under Sharia law. This is the first time that Adam and Shorouk will be permitted to spend time alone. Adam is eighteen and Shorouk is nineteen.

- The bride's father tells Dave, 'love is not everything'. What does Dave think?

After the wedding, Dave visits Adam and Shorouk to talk about their courtship and their marriage. Dave admits to being at odds with Islamic practices with regard to courtship.

*I'm probably one of those people who doesn't understand, cause in our culture there's a lot of – I guess you could say – kind of try before you buy.*  
– Dave

- What does Adam think of Dave's 'try before you buy' attitude to courtship?

One of the most enduring perceptions of Islamic countries is that Muslim women are oppressed, especially within marriage. The hijab, the head covering worn by Muslim women across the world, is perceived by many as a symbol of Muslim women's oppression.

- Dave is uncertain about Shorouk's decision to wear a hijab. Like Dave, are you confused? He discusses his uncertainty with Adam and Shorouk. What does this exchange reveal?
- What do Adam and Shorouk teach Dave about relationships? Did their comments cause you to question your attitudes?

**'It's good to know that Taj doesn't actually expect us to all live by their rules, but if explaining himself is always that difficult, what hope does an average Australian have of understanding where Muslims like Taj are coming from?'**

– Dave Zwolenski

## Nazeen

To find out more about life as a Muslim woman, Dave meets Nazeen Rheeman. Nazeen is single. Dave can't resist flirting.

Nazeen and Dave do not shake hands because they are not related by blood or by marriage. The physical distance that Nazeen keeps putting between them disconcerts Dave. She steps away when he steps toward her.

- Nazeen has been Muslim all her life but only chose to wear a headscarf four years ago. Nazeen tells Dave, 'See, I would want someone that likes me to like me for what I am, not how hot I look.' For Nazeen wearing a headscarf is an expression of both modesty and empowerment. Does Dave understand her decision?
- How does Nazeen's Islamic faith shape her identity and support her search for purpose in life?
- Why do you think the filmmakers decided that Dave and Nazeen would meet at a shopping centre?

## Making headlines

*It's good to know that Taj doesn't actually expect us to all live by their rules, but if explaining himself is always that difficult, what hope does an average Australian have of understanding where Muslims like Taj are coming from?*  
– Dave

Sheik Hilaly provoked criticism in 2006 for reportedly preaching that some women are attracting

sexual assault through the way they dress and their actions. He was reported as saying that women who do not wear the hijab, or headdress, are like 'uncovered meat'.

While Keysar Trad defended Sheik Hilaly, claiming the mufti's comments were taken out of context, a former member of the Federal Government's Muslim Advisory board, Iktimal Hage-Ali, said Sheik Hilaly should be stripped of his position. The Federal Treasurer of the time, Peter Costello, condemned the Sheik's reported comments. Pru Goward, who was the Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner, contributed to the controversy by claiming Sheik Hilaly was guilty of incitement to the crime of rape and should be deported. The Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Mick Keelty, claimed the furor over comments attributed to the Sheik might damage relations with the Islamic community.

Dave finds the courage to ask Sheik Hilaly and Keysar about Sheik Hilaly's notorious sermon. The conversation doesn't progress all that well. Sheik Hilaly and Keysar insist that the media release says it all and that there is no need for further comment. Dave is persistent, reminding Sheik Hilaly, 'you said to me once that it's part of a Muslim's obligation to clarify, you know, misunderstandings.'

- Read media reports from the time at <<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,20646437-601,00.html>>, <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200610/s1773857.htm>>, <<http://www.abc.net.au/lateline/content/2006/s1774667.htm>> and <<http://assistant.treasurer.gov.au/pcd/DisplayDocs.aspx?doc=transcripts/2006/159.htm&pageID=004&min=phc&Year=2006&DocType=2>>.
- *In the Arabic language, when you use a metaphor, you don't dissect. You take the moral lesson from the entire metaphor. ... it's highly offensive for anyone to suggest that a religion as great as Islam would condone rape. And for them to even think that, shows that they are not treating us with the benefit of the doubt.* – Keysar  
Is Keysar too defensive?
- *Now what's happened is that the media have come out and said, 'we don't want to accept that explanation'. Well*

*I'm sorry, that's the only explanation we have. Whether you accept it or not is up to you.*

– Keysar

- Do you think the media sensationalized the issue?
- Dave insists that all he wants is an explanation. What does Sheik Hilaly offer as an explanation?

## Goodbye

*My time living as a Muslim had almost come to an end. Despite our differences, I'd grown to like the Sheik. Maybe we were even becoming friends. The streets of Lakemba no longer felt so scary either and I wondered if my experience meeting Taj is a small crack in the wall that separates Muslims and the rest of us. Maybe if we take the time to know them a little bit better, they might not feel like such a threat.*

– Dave

- What words would you use to describe Dave and Sheik Hilaly's relationship?
- At the end of his stay with Sheik Hilaly does Dave have a better understanding of Islam and Australian-Muslim culture? Do you?
- Do you think Dave has changed?
- Dave asks Sheik Hilaly, 'So what do you see as a future for Muslims in Australia? Where are we going to be in twenty years time? What's the dream?' How does Sheik Hilaly respond? Do you think others share Sheik Hilaly's 'dream' of assimilation? Is it desirable? Is it a possibility?

*Sheik I never thought that I could be a Muslim,*

*Sheik I never thought that we'd be friends, Sheik I'd like to meet a few more men like you,*

*Sheik I'll write you whenever I can,*

*Sheik I'll miss you and everything I think you stand for,*

*Sheik I'd like to think you'll miss me too, Sheik we live down under but underneath we're both the same,*

*Sheik don't hate the player be sure to respect the game,*

*Sheik when they ask me what did I think of him,*

*Sheik I will tell them he put the us back into Muslim, for me.*

- What does Dave's song 'You Put the Us into Muslim' tell us about the impact of his immersion experience?

## Production Values

- Why do you think the filmmakers decided to name the documentary *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*?
- *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* begins with a photo slideshow introducing Dave to the documentary's audience and then cuts to news footage and sound bites highlighting the public's perception of Islam. Did you find the opening sequence engaging? What expectations does the opening sequence create? How are you positioned as a viewer?
- Dave is narrator, interviewer and participant. Make a comment about the way he manages his different roles in *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*.
- In what ways is *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* different to other documentaries that you have watched?
- Examine the narrative structure of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*. Discuss how the documentary tells the story of Dave's immersion experience.
- *Many will ask, did we capture the real Hilaly on tape, or was his performance a PR exercise? Throughout shooting and living with Hilaly, I never observed any hint of him altering his personality for the camera. When the cameras were off, he was equally as welcoming to us and others around him.*

– Gary Doust

Do you think the filmmakers have captured the real Sheik Hilaly?

- What moments of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* do you find humorous? Why do you think the filmmakers have relied on humour to explore such a serious issue?
- Do you think *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* lets entertainment get in the way of investigating what it is really like to live as a Muslim in Australia?
- Why do you think the filmmakers finish with Dave's song? Do you think this is an effective way to resolve the story told by *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*?
- Working as a class and by drawing on moments and aspects of the documentary, make a list of the challenges of filming *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*.

## Extended responses

The following topics could be discussed via written text responses, debates, panel discussions and online forums:



- *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* is an important social document. Do you agree?
- The priority of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* is to promote understanding and tolerance. Do you think the documentary achieves this priority?
- Do you think *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly* encourages a greater understanding of the challenges of being Muslim in Australia?

## Keeping the faith

Studying different religions and examining the relationship between religion and culture provides an increased awareness of the world you live in.

Working with a partner, identify the fundamental beliefs of the Islamic faith, then become an expert on how one of the beliefs shapes the culture of an Islamic community and the lives of individuals within the community.

Use PowerPoint to present the results of your investigation.

## Review

*As hard as Zwolenski engages with the participants, the investigation doesn't progress beyond the standard of a high school essay. And we're no wiser about the misogynist/racist/eccentric/comedian cleric or the differences between the Islamic and non-Islamic community than when we started ... In its own pithy and irreverent way, this culture-clash documentary winds up entrenching prejudices and ignorance, rather than furthering our understanding of an important topic.*

– Paul Kalina, 'The Mufti and Me', *The Age*, 18 September 2008

- Do you agree with Paul Kalina's review of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*? Use the internet to source other reviews. Discuss the reviews with others in the class.
- Write your own review of *Embedded with Sheik Hilaly*.

## In the news

- Collect a range of newspaper articles about the issues facing Islamic Australians. For each article, name the issue and state the views that

are presented. What do you notice about the language used to report the issue? Does the language of the articles stereotype Islamic Australians or does it challenge the community of suspicion that damns Islamic Australians? Draw conclusions about the role of the media in influencing community perceptions of Islamic Australians.

## Crossing the divide

- If you had the chance would you follow Dave's example?
- What divide would you cross? Why?
- Working with a group of peers, make your own short film about the decision to cross a divide.
- Write a treatment for your film and a screenplay. Delegate the various production roles and begin filming. When your film is finished, organize a screening and invite other members of the school community to attend.

## References

*Embedded with the Sheik* post-production script, 2008

*Embedded with the Sheik* press kit, 2008



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