

CONFIDENTIAL

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**IN THEIR
SHOES**

Every child has the
right to both parents

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Daddy
i want
to see
you but
mummy
said
i'm not
allowed

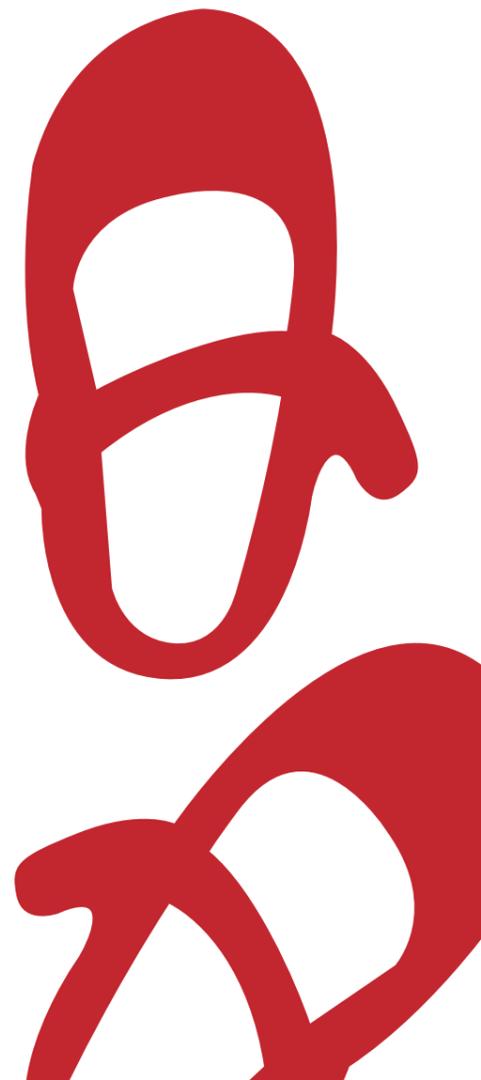


CAMPAIGN PROPOSAL

In recent times, the cases where the weaponisation of access to children by a parent against the other, in family disputations have been spiralling out of control.

The effects it is having on the children's well-being and their futures is concerning enough, but it will even have far reaching consequences on our Muslim communities' future as a whole. .

If we do not act now to bring sanity and reason to what is naturally an emotionally driven problem, we face a future of broken families and broken children and all the unwanted side effects that inevitably come with this.



70% of young offenders come from lone-parent families.

4 times at greater risk of poverty

Don't Let Your Child Be a Statistic



7 times more likely to become pregnant as a teen

Significantly greater risk of falling into drug and alcohol abuse to going to prison and obesity

Background



Advisors at the Islamic Council of Europe have alerted us to an increasing trend of disputing spouses or ex-spouses “weaponising” children-access to exact revenge. This leads to multiple oppressions.

This is a form dhulm against the other parent and family, and a major sin since there was a hereafter-punishment warned about this in the hadith *“Whoever separates a mother from her child, May Allah separate him from his beloved ones on the Day of Resurrection.”* It is also a cutting of the ties of the womb, another major sin with multiple warnings in the Sharia. *“I am Al-Rahman (the Most Merciful). I have created al-rahim (ties of kinship) and derived its name from My name. Whoever joins the ties of kinship, I shall join with them. And whoever cuts it off, I shall cut them off.”*

It is also dhulm against the child and society. Britain has the highest proportion of fatherless families of any major European country, with 1 in 3 children living without their father.

50% of children go through the trauma of seeing their parents divorce by the age of 16 and 70% of young offenders come from lone-parent families. In America, more than 1 in 4 children live without one parent, and research shows that children without one of the parents in their homes are 4 times at greater risk of poverty, 7 times more likely to become pregnant as a teen, and at greater risk of a host of social ills from infant mortality to drug and alcohol abuse to going to prison and even obesity.

It is also a transgression against Allah, the Most High, because it involves a lack of submission to His command, choosing instead to be motivated by a desire for vengeance or rule by the societal norms of another culture where it goes against divine legislation. The obligatory level of taqwa of Allah is hence breached.

OUR Objectives

1

A media awareness campaign seeking to make toxic the practice of denying child custody to parents without due Islamic process.

2

The empowerment of those directly involved in such disputes (perpetrators, parents, lawyers, children), to help victims get help and perpetrators wake up to the gravity of this transgression.

3

The third is empowering those indirectly involved in such disputes (families, friends, communities) with the tools to help reduce and not increase the problem.

What we hope to achieve together?

 The campaign will consist of a **one day of direct action (Khutbah) across the UK** with at least 5 partner organisations and 50 khateeb, within a **“themed week”** of media awareness online. The Khutbah day will then be repeated annually, with an increasing number of participants each year Insha’Allah.

 The action will **direct people to a campaign website** where they can find advice and links where they will be directed to Islamic mediation and counselling services.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US

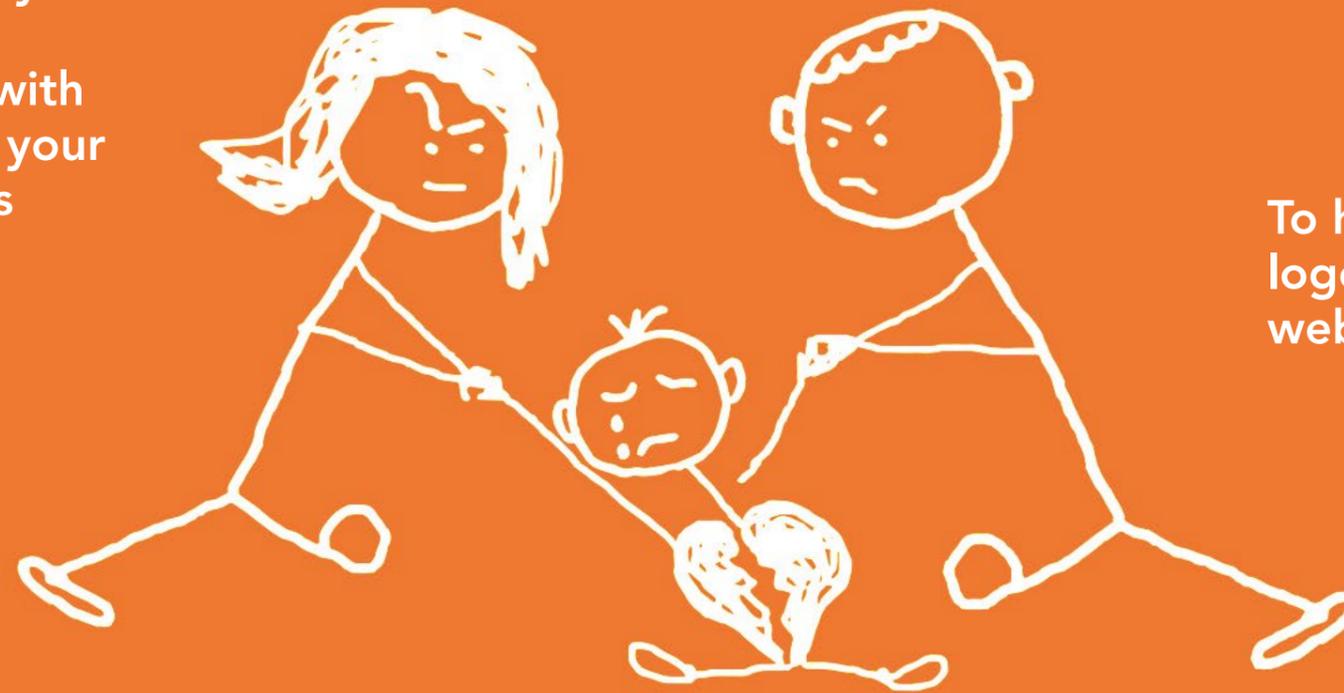
To join this campaign or for more information please email us at Campaigns@Islam21c.com

1

To support a media awareness campaign by sharing the campaign content and material with your audience and on your social media platforms

2

To have your organisation logo on the campaign website and material



3

To change your logos and banners on your social media platforms on the week of the campaign to the campaign logo

4

To encourage specific khutbah on the topic on Friday 6th November

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