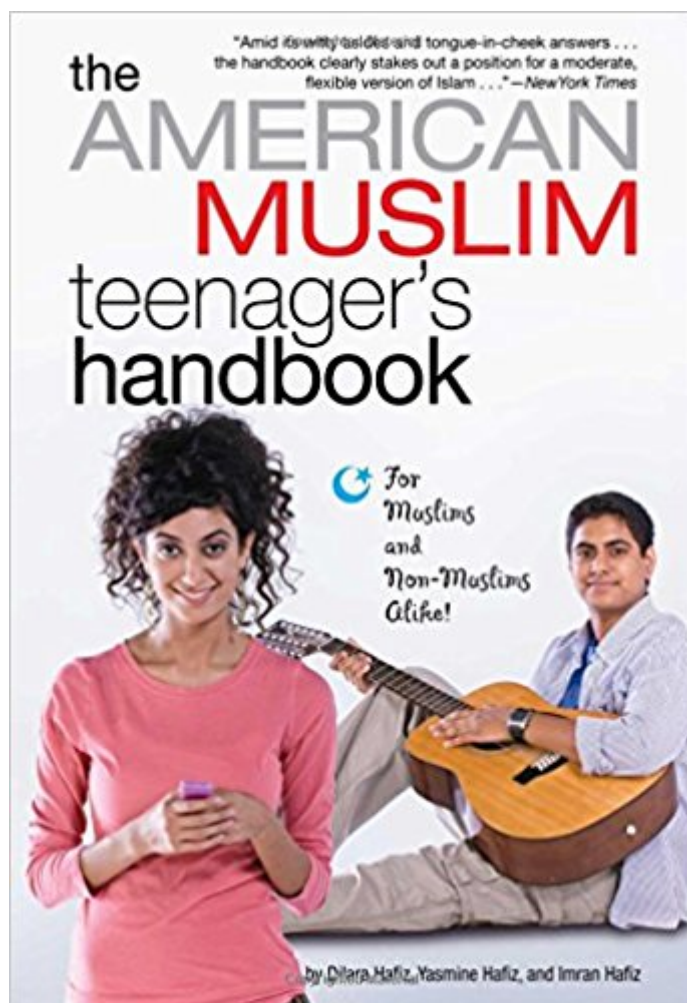


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# The American Muslim Teenager's Handbook



## Synopsis

How do you reconcile being a teenager in America with being a Muslim? It's not as difficult as you think! The American Muslim Teenager's Handbook is a positive, fun, informative guide to being a Muslim teenager in America today. Covering everything from basic Islamic history and reading the Quran to drinking and dating, and filled with thoughts and opinions from Muslim teenagers across the country, this is an indispensable primer, for Muslims and non-Muslims alike, to learning about and finding one's place in American Islamic culture.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; Original edition (February 10, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416985786

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,133,842 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Teens >

Religion & Spirituality > Islam #51 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Social

Science > Anthropology #96 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Islam

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Are all Muslims terrorists? Does Muslim culture clash with American culture? Can Muslim teens go to the prom? Casual, colloquial, joking, contemporary, and passionate, this interactive handbook by two Arizona teens and their mom talks about their faith, about what it is like to be both proud Americans and proud Muslims, and about misunderstandings and stereotypes. Originally self-published in 2007, this revised paperback edition has a new afterword, updated coverage of social issues, and new chapters on interfaith discussion and Muslim fundamentalism and extremism. The design, which encourages browsing, includes occasional photos and lots of colored screens with questions and answers, as well as survival tips for dealing with stereotypes in a post-9/11 world. There are also step-by-step guides on how to pray, how to read the Quran, and how to fast at Ramadan. Muslim and non-Muslim teens alike will be caught by

the candor, the humor, and the call for interfaith dialogue and tolerance. Great for group discussion.  
Grades 7-12. --Hazel Rochman

"This is a terrific, personable, and useful book for young Muslims and for people of all ages and faiths, including the secular, who are still trying to figure out the difference between a great majority of actual American Muslims...and the crazed stereotypes generated by war headlines thousands of miles away." -- Michael Wolfe, author of *The Hadj and Taking Back Islam*"The slender volume aspires to nothing less than bridging a cultural chasm.... Amid its witty asides and tongue-in-cheek answers to multiple-choice questions, the handbook clearly stakes out a position for a moderate, flexible version of Islam, one that places a higher premium on moral intent than reflexive observance of every rule." -- New York Times"The first book of its kind.... The handbook exudes an American perspective, upbeat and non-judgmental. It encourages teens...to make their own responsible choices about their faith practices." -- Christian Science Monitor"Accessible, pitch-perfect for teens, and even fun, this handbook debunks myths and demystifies facts about Islam, the second-largest religion in the world and the most misunderstood religion in America". This is an illuminating book that parents, teachers, faith leaders, mentors and youth workers will want to share with youth." -- *Youth Today*"An essential addition to all high school and public library YA shelves."--School Library Journal

**SUMMARY:**This is a basic introduction to Islam for teenagers. It describes some general tenets of the faith as well as some of the challenges faced by Muslim teenagers growing up in a country that is not predominantly Muslim.  
**THE GOOD:**Basic discussion of the tenets of islam with some verses from the quran that is straightforward, easy to understand and I'd like to think, showcases what most Muslims think about their religion.It includes general information about praying, fasting, hajj, the hijab etc. But the tone is very light and accessible to teens.  
**THE HMMMMMM:**The authors said that they sent out surveys to full-time and part-time islamic schools and discussed their findings in the book. I did find that the majority of respondents were unusually confident in their faith based on their answers, and did not seem to be too agonized or torn by living life as an American Muslim.  
**RECOMMENDED FOR:**This is a good book to give to your Muslim teen for general reading and would also be good to give to non-muslim friends to help them understand Islam a little better.If you are the parent of a teenager who is hoping to get some specific guidance on navigating difficult choices (about dating, sex, alcohol, etc.) I am not sure this book will suffice. It is a little "pie in the sky", perhaps because the respondents are so

committed to their faith to begin with and therefore are not facing any really internal conflicts.

Loved it so much I got another for a friend! Wonderful addition to our library as a Muslim family with two teenagers.

My family read a chapter a night each day this month and my teen girls were excited to learn that many other teen Muslim's feel a lot like them when it comes to fitting in and following the tenets of our religion. Excellent resource for family discussions-especially the verses from the Quoran at the opening of each chapter. Some of the "advice" was a bit controversial (like the chapter on befriending non-muslims versus the chapter where you must have muslim friends), otherwise would have been 5 stars.

I bought this when I was originally thinking of reverting to Islam. I thought it would be a good book, because I was new at researching Islam, and I figured it would give me the basic information I would need in laymen's terms. I did exactly that. Simple, concise information about Islam, the very basics. It also incorporated issues that young Muslims in America encounter, like dances and hot dogs, and how they should handle such situations.

Great easy read and informative as has a light and engaging writing style. Well structured and organised with relevant examples. Very advisory but not patronising.

I felt this book did not have enough sound Islamic content to back up its approach to dealing with some of the 'everyday struggles' that American Muslim teenagers face.

This is a wonderful book. I've loaned my copy so many times I've had to purchase additional copies. Format is unintimidating and very informative. I highly recommend this book.

Liked this so much I purchased a copy for each of the teens (non-Muslim) in an Introduction to Islam workshop. Relevant, and written with a well-tuned ear to its audience.

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