

The failure of multiculturalism, National Post, November 24, 2014

Farid Rohani's explanation of the failure of multiculturalism is both confused and confusing. One need only look at the word to understand its meaning: multi-cultural-ism which, in Canadian society means the acceptance of multiple cultures and—by definition—their values. Those values might include "Forced and arranged marriages, honour killings and teaching of hate towards other religions or toward homosexuals or death warrants against apostates..." all of which Rohani denounces. Yet, those are values that some cultures embrace. If Canadians don't accept them they don't accept multiculturalism.

Rohani says there is a "lack of...understanding...on the concept of unity in our diversity..." I'll say there is; the combination is an oxymoron. There is no unity in diversity. The statement and the hope attached to it are sheer nonsense. Rohani—and Canadians in general—desperately clings to the romantic notion of multiculturalism (ethnic food, music, and dancing in colorful native costumes) but seems to want none of the nasty bits that go along with it, like female genital mutilation.

Rohani, furthermore, says, "multiculturalism is...not about segregation and division." But that is exactly what it is about: there are your values; here are my values, separate, divided, equal.

Ted Scott