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Cameron announces 'funding' for English classes six months after £45 million cuts

PM accused of 'isolating' the group he wants to help

Jess Staufenberg | Monday 18 January 2016 |  90 comments



Young Muslim women speak to David Cameron at the Jamia Masjid mosque in Manchester in 2013. He has said Muslim women who cannot speak English will be 'susceptible' to Isis *Rex Features*

David Cameron has been condemned over his warning

that Muslim women must learn English or risk being deported - after having overseen £45 million cuts to English classes six months ago.

The Prime Minister's pledge of £20 million funding for English language classes to prevent radicalisation in Muslim communities is actually a "dressing up" of much larger cuts to the same programmes, opposition politicians claim.

He **told BBC Radio Four** that 22 per cent of Muslim women in the UK cannot speak English, and as such may be "more susceptible to the extremist message that comes from (Isis)."

Yet Dal Babu, former chief superintendant at the Metropolitan Police, claimed only six percent of Muslim women might not speak English.

Muslims gather in Makkah for the Hajj



"David Cameron has deliberately used the issues around English as a second language and extremism in the same speech," **he told the Evening Standard.**

The biggest challenge in preventing radicalisation was the internet and social media, not knowing English, said Mr Babu.

"I've worked with some of the families whose children have gone to Syria. Their families speak English," he said.

The Government's pledge of £20 million funding for English for speakers of other languages (Esol) classes has also been criticised - after £45 million was cut from those same classes less than a year ago.

In July last year, the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills announced all funding for Esol programmes would be cut.

In a document on changes to funding allocations, the chief executive of the government's Skills Funding Agency, Peter Lauener, wrote: "On participation budgets, I can confirm that with immediate effect we will implement the following: withdrawal of funding for ESOL Plus Mandation in full for the 2015 to 2016 funding year [...]"

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Cameron calls on Muslim women to learn English to fight radicalisation

Tim Farron, leader of the Liberal Democrats, **has said** his ministers blocked the cuts to these English classes when they were in coalition with the Conservatives.

He has now accused Mr Cameron of cynical political messaging.

"This announcement is dog-whistle politics at its best," he said.

"David Cameron cut the budget for English language classes in August last year by £45 million. Now the Prime Minister is dressing up a massive cut as a £20 million funding commitment."

Targeting Muslim women in the debate about terrorism "only serves to isolate the very people Cameron says he is trying to help," said Mr Farron.

Former Conservative party chair Baroness Warsi echoed the Liberal Democrat's concern about singling out Muslims.



Sayeeda Warsi
@SayeedaWarsi

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And why should it just be Muslim women who have the opportunity to learn English? Why not anyone who lives in the UK and can't speak English

1:04 AM - 18 Jan 2016

453 374

She added that her own mother spoke poor English, but had produced a lawyer, accountant, teacher, pharmacist and cabinet minister.

The Government's new rules mean that people arriving in the UK on a five-year spousal visa will have to take a test after two and a half years to show they are trying to improve their English.

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Derek Colman

108 days ago

As I understand it these women are identified by having to renew their visas. Why should we pay for it? Just make it clear to them that their visa will not be renewed if they can not speak English when they re-apply.

Reply Share

0 likes  



Liberationista

108 days ago

Dave's messed it up.

Blunklett said it better when he said Muslims should find UK-based wives.

Trouble is sexist men who can't get a woman normally quite like a third-world first cousin to manipulate, keep locked up - leaving them ignorant of the wider tongue is just another form of the total control. Islam is little more than divinely-mandated Fritzl-ism.

Reply Share 2 replies

+3 likes  



defender of women's rights

108 days ago

we should arrange speed dating events for militant 3rd wave feminists and devout ISIS members,they share a lot common,mix and match the misandrists with the misogynists

Reply Share

+2 likes  

**Cyril McCurry**

108 days ago

Correct. But, Camoron lives up to his nickname. On the horizon a complete goof- Corbynlid. Great, what an outlook for the UK.

Reply Share

0 likes  **jackplug**

108 days ago

Call me Dave and call me cynical. How about three kids in five years all born here. Are you honestly telling me Dave will throw out mothers of British born children? Bloody murderers, drug dealers and rapists get to stay. Utter utter nonsense!

Reply Share

+2 likes  **lonestar**

108 days ago

I am an immigrant myself. My question is if immigrant do not know English what are they here for - creating a ghetto where they can speak their own tongue.

How on earth will they ever integrate or even understand what this country stands for and why should tax payers pay for it.

Reply Share 1 reply

+9 likes  **defender of women's rights**

108 days ago

you are here to join us on our 'race to the bottom' . You will benefit from increased taxes, a deteriorating health care system, greater competition for jobs, houses and an unstable future thanks to our spiralling debt. Embrace it or you are a bigot.

Reply Share

+2 likes  **Womble**

108 days ago

Millions of Pounds for Foreigners to learn English but next to nothing for Steel Worker's and Families after Generations of work for the good of the Country, or for the People of the Flooded Areas, sounds about right for our Politicians.

If these People want to come to the Country they should be capable of speaking English before they arrive, it is not up to us to pay for or admit them. It is up to our Governments to support and help our own People and protect our own country

using the money that would go to Foreign Aid..

Reply Share 3 replies

+7 likes  



defender of women's rights

108 days ago

12 billion pounds and counting that is burned annually on foreign aid, very disturbing indeed.

Reply Share

+2 likes  



Mr Bed

108 days ago

But you've been here all your life and you can't write English! You really are at it.

workers

Fixed that for you, who can't write English.

And what are all those capitals doing splattered all over your comment?

Reply Share 1 reply

-2 likes  



defender of women's rights

108 days ago

Must get lonely being the sole militant sjw cuck on here

Reply Share

0 likes  



Me

108 days ago

Or do they miss out because they don't behead people?

Reply Share

0 likes  



Me

108 days ago

Will Hindus and Buddhists get lessons too?

Reply Share 1 reply

0 likes  



Mr Bed

108 days ago

Golden Showers Award.

Reply Share

-3 likes  

This comment has been deleted

1 reply

**Mr Bed**

108 days ago

 You'd know all about that, cretin.

Reply Share

-2 likes  **NationstateDemocracy**

109 days ago

A Gas plumber who used to do boiler checks for me died in 2012 when a loft ladder incorrectly installed by a Polish man collapsed on him & he fell back & smashed his head. RIP David →

http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/archive/2014/09/29/11500600.Incorrectly_assembled_ladder_causes_fatal_accident_that_killed_David_Wood_in_Winchester/

The man couldn't even speak English so how could he read the instructions on how to install it properly. If you want to come here you should have to pass an English test before you are allowed to reside & work here.

Reply Share

+6 likes  **NationstateDemocracy**

109 days ago

Someone was just telling me their friend's toddler started having what seemed like speech problems. Then after sometime they realised their child was using Lithuanian words. Then they realised there were lots of Lithuanian assistants at their child's nursery. When you get a lot of people from same country then naturally they speak in their own language This is quite damaging to a child that needs to have English as its mother tongue.

How good is their level of English learning going to be in their highly formative years, if the people they spend up to 40 hours a week with, speak poor English ?

Now Cameron's going to spend £20m of our money teaching Moslem women here how to speak English !

But they aren't interested. They have their own Muslim community & and don't need or want to speak English.

Go to many countries & you have to have a two hour language test if you want to reside there because of all the problems & even safety issues caused by people not speaking the local language or being able to read signs.

This country is a mess thanks to mass immigration
Vote to leave the EU

Reply Share 1 reply

+4 likes  



Mr Bed

108 days ago



Chump.

Reply Share

-2 likes  

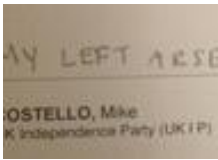
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