

## Lying About Islam . . . Yusuf Islam

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They're getting pretty slimy out there folks. Last night I couldn't resist watching ABC News' Elizabeth Vargas interview Yusuf Islam (a.k.a. Cat Stevens, née Stephen D. Georgiou) on ABC's [20/20](#). Even though Yusuf Islam repeatedly and unambiguously made it clear that he does not support, and has never supported, terrorism of any sort, it seems 20/20 didn't want to accept that as an answer.

In one of the segments they broke away from the on camera interview and claimed that during the interview, when asked about suicide bombings in Israel, Yusuf Islam refused to condemn these vicious attacks. **Well why didn't they show that on the interview?** That would certainly have brought down the house, exposed Yusuf Islam as a terrorist sympathizer and given 20/20, and the U.S. Government, the evidence that they're obviously desperately looking for. Well I can tell you why they didn't show it—it's because **he didn't say it**. If he had, with 20/20's camera sitting right there in front of him, they would have recorded it and we would have seen it. Needless to say, anyone who has followed what Yusuf Islam has been involved in since becoming a Muslim knows that he's regularly condemned all forms of terrorism, both verbally and in publicly released written statements, and has been a tireless advocate for peace. So now we're supposed to believe that in spite of all his claims to the contrary, Yusuf Islam supports suicide bombing because ABC's 20/20 claims he said something, but for some reason they don't want to show this most relevant statement to us? So how gullible do they think we are? I wish they'd at least explain why they don't want to show the one statement by Yusuf Islam that would make the case that they were obviously so desperately trying to make in the first place. Like a lot of things lately, this just doesn't make sense.

Another thing to keep in mind is that if the U.S. had hard and credible evidence that Yusuf Islam was supporting terrorism and posed a legitimate threat, they wouldn't have just put him back on another plane and sent him back to the U.K. Rather, they would have arrested him and held him, just like they do when they catch individuals who are *real* and credible terrorists. However, this particular alleged threat to U.S. air space was simply released and allowed to fly back into U.K. air space. If they had evidence that he's a terrorist, why'd they let him go? Again, it just doesn't make any sense. Keep in mind that it usually takes bureaucracies awhile to finally come out (or figure out) and admit that they've made a mistake. This recent incident with Yusuf Islam's flight being diverted and him being questioned is just another example of the [Department of Homeland Security](#) (DHS) bungling things up and tripping all over themselves. Even though the Bush Administration voices rhetoric that they want to engage "*moderate Muslims*" as allies in their "War on Terror", this seemingly has a tough time filtering down into the minds of the average agent working for the DHS, who are fed a steady diet of paranoid analysis and anti-Islamic propaganda. It's too bad that more people don't realize how detrimental this is to winning the "War on Terror" and discrediting

militant Islamic extremism. Sometimes it's almost enough to make me think that they really don't want to "win", at least not in the short term.

Do people really believe that the same man—an obviously deeply spiritual man—who so passionately sang songs like "Peace Train" and "Morning Has Broken" back in the 1970s has become a supporter of terrorism and an advocate of mass murder? I remember singing these songs in church as a young boy and I don't think I'd believe these lies about the former Cat Stevens even if I wasn't a convert to Islam—and I think, hope and pray that most people don't believe them either. However, when it comes to Islam, many people's brains are so full of misinformation and hateful propaganda that you can get them to believe just about anything. Believe me, there are certain elements out there that feel they have a vested interest in making this happen. If they can get people to believe that the former Cat Stevens is now some sort of "Islamic terrorist", then they're doing a successful job, albeit in a very sick and clumsy sort of way. If you want more information on the former Cat Stevens, please visit his [YusufIslam.org.uk](http://YusufIslam.org.uk) website as well as [Mountain of Light Productions](#).

Almighty God in His Noble Book tells us that the plots and deceptions of the disbelievers are weak, and it's amazing how this is made clearer and clearer everyday. Just when I thought they couldn't be more blundering, shallow and intellectually dishonest, they come up with something new. Based on what I saw last night, I think ABC News needs to rename their show from 20/20 to 20/200 (i.e. legally blind).

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