

DISGRACED Ayad Akhtar

Questionnaire for Schools February 2015

**Theater Drachengasse** 

www.viennatheatreproject.com www.facebook.com/viennatheatreproject www.youtube.com/viennatheatreproject www.flickr.com/viennatheatreproject

office@viennatheatreproject.at

## **Disgraced Questionnaire**

- 1. What nationality is Amir?
- 2. What religion is:
  - a. Amir?
  - b. Abe?
  - c. Emily?
  - d. Jory?
  - e. Isaac?
- 3. What job does Amir have?
- 4. What job does Emily have?
- 5. What job does Isaac have?
- 6. What job does Jory have?
- 7. What does Abe do?
- 8. Was Abe born in America or Pakistan?
- 9. Was Amir born in America of Pakistan?
- 10. What is Abe's relationship to Amir and Emily?
- 11. Where does the play take place?
- 12. Are Amir and Emily rich or poor? How do you know?
- 13. Where does the play take place?
- 14. What is a mergers and acquisitions lawyer?
- 15. Who owns the firm where Amir works?
- 16. Is Amir's surname really Kapoor? If not what is it? How and why did he change his name?
- 17. What does an art curator do?

# Questions related to the sequential occurrences in the play:

#### Scene 1

- 1. In the opening scene, what is Emily painting and why?
- 2. What does Amir think of this?
- 3. Why does Abe come? What does he want Amir to do?
- 4. What has happened to the Imam? Why do you think this is?
- 5. Explain to your class what happens with Amir, his mum and Rivkah.
- 6. Does Amir say he will visit the Imam?
- 7. Does Emily want him to visit the Imam?

#### Scene 2

- 1. What newspaper is Emily reading from?
- 2. She reads from an article? What has happened?
- 3. Does Amir see this as a problem?
- 4. How does Emily respond?
- 5. Is Amir happy or angry?
- 6. Why has Isaac come to the apartment?
- 7. What kind of artwork is Emily involved in?
- 8. What is his relationship to Amir and Emily?
- 9. Does he like Emily's paintings?
- 10. What do you notice about Emily? Does she like Islam or not?
- 11. What reference does Isaac make to Amir that is racist?
- 12. Can you tell anything that Emily says about Islamic art.
- 13. Do Isaac and Emily like each other?

### Scene 3

- 1. What has happened at the beginning of scene 3? Why is Amir so upset?
- 2. What are Emily and Amir preparing for? Who is visiting?
- 3. What is Emily going to cook?
- 4. What is served as the starter? Can you name some of the ingredients in the salad?
- 5. What does Isaac reveal is going to happen to Emily's art?
- 6. Can you tell us something about Amir's shirts?
- 7. What do we discover about Amir's experiences at airports?
- 8. Does Amir like Islam? Is he a practicing Muslim?
- 9. What is an apostate?
- 10. Amir mentions prophets that also exist in the Christian and Jewish faiths, who are they?
- 11. What are the three stages that Amir mentions in a marriage if a wife does not listen to you?
- 12. What does Jory think about the veil?
- 13. What do Isaac and Emily think about the veil?
- 14. What does Amir say about the Quran?
- 15. What does Jory reveal has happened at work?
- 16. What does Jory decide to tell Amir?
- 17. When Jory and Amir leave, what do we discover about Isaac and Emily?
- 18. What does Isaac call Amir?
- 19. How does Isaac feel about Emily? Does she return his feelings?

20. Describe what happens at the end of scene 3 once Jory and Isaac return? Why does it happen?

### Scene 4

- 1. How has Abe's appearance changed since in scene 1?
- 2. What has happened to Emily and Amir?
- 3. What happened to Abe at Starbucks?
- 4. How does Amir propose to fix it?
- 5. Is Emily happy being where she is?
- 6. Amir says something important to Abe about how the have to behave in the world what is it?
- 7. Do you think Abe has become radicalized? If so how did it happen?
- 8. Has Amir trying to contact Emily, what did he offer her?
- 9. What happens in the end?

### **General Questions:**

- 1. Islam and Muslim, are they the same or different. Describe?
- 2. Tell us something about Judaism.
- 3. How closely related do you think many religions are? If you believe they are closely related explain how.
- 4. Why do you believe Jews and Muslims have a tendency not to like each other in modern society?
- 5. What does the play say has happened to the Muslim community since 9/11?
- 6. Do you believe terrorism is just an issue with Islam?
- 7. Who do you think is at fault for the current problems in the Middle East and Africa?
- 8. Are you religious? Explain.
- 9. What religion are you? Is it important to you?

# Finally:

In 500 words explain what the play is about. Describe whether you liked it or not.