

# Interracial marriage in malaysia essay



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Interracial marriage occurs when two people of differing racial groups marry. Not like before, there is no law restriction for interracial marriage anymore. Thus, interracial marriage had become more and more common nowadays. Once in love, modern people do not think that skin color is a real matter for love. However, there are still conflicts which are the main concern for interracial marriage. But, love will be the best catalyst to dissolve those conflicts. In this article, we will only discuss interracial marriage of Malaysian since we are studied about ethnic relationship of Malaysian.

Interracial marriage is not a fresh or new phenomenon in Malaysia.

Theoretically, the probability of interracial marriage to be happened in Malaysia should be high since Malaysia is a multi-racial country. There are some benefits that can be brought from interracial marriage. Interracial marriage can enhance the integration of Malaysia. This is because it encourages and increases the possibility of interaction between ethnics. Moreover, interracial marriage also increases the exchange of religions, languages, customs and cultures among people in Malaysia internally.

Thus, this may stimulate some new element of culture in Malaysia. There are some conflicts that may exist in interracial marriage. First of all, conflict in religion adherence. For religion conflict, ethnic involved can be separated into Muslim and non-Muslim. In Malaysia, Malays are mandatory to adherence to Islamic. As for the Malays, who are predominantly Muslim, legal restrictions in Malaysia make it uncommon for them to intermarry with either the Indians, who are predominantly Hindu, or the Chinese, who are predominantly Buddhist.

This is because, laws had also restricted that whoever marry with Muslim is mandatory to change their religion or belief to Islamic regardless of gender. So, there are no tolerances in religion for those non-Muslims that marry with Muslim. Therefore, those non-Muslim Malaysia have to consider whether they can accept Islamic as their religion before they marry with Malays. Thus, this is case for interracial marriage between Muslim and non-Muslim. Another case will be religion conflict that happens in interracial marriage between non-Muslim and non-Muslim.

Because there is no laws restricts that both husband and wife have to adherence to same religion, therefore if two non-Muslims get married, they can choose to remain their own religion. However, before marriage, they have to ask themselves and another half whether they can accept religion of each other or it is necessary for them to believe to same religion so that there will be no conflict and thus fewer problems existed. Next conflict is language conflict. Basically there is no language conflict between husband and wife in interracial marriage.

Language conflict usually occurs between husband and wife's family and vice versa. Language conflict hinders communication and interaction between them. Thus, it will be very difficult for them to improve relationship. However, this conflict can be solved if there is a common language that both of them understand. Conflict in culture and custom also exist in interracial marriage. However, this is not a big problem. Cultures and customs can be easily accepted by another half if both are tolerant. They can even practice culture and custom of another half if there is no offend to their religion respectively.

That's why we can see mixed culture in some interracial family. Lastly, another slight conflict is conflict in food. Some religion adherent is not allowed to eat certain food. For example, pork is not allowed in Islamic and beef is not encouraged in Buddhism. Furthermore, there is also some Buddhist who is vegetarian. However, food conflict is really a small matter and should not be a problem in interracial marriage. Actually, conflict can be pros and cons. It is all about acceptance. In positive side, conflict can become exchange of knowledge between ethnics.

So much conflicts existed in interracial marriage has burst out a question. “ Does interracial marriage actually work? ” This is a question that could be put for any marriage or relationship. Yes, they do work. Provided both partners work at the marriage hard enough. This is a valid statement for all marriages or live-in relationships. Love between two consenting adults very rarely stops at racial and habit differences. The success or failure of the interracial marriage is not due to the differences of the persons who come together but the amount of love they share.

It so happens that in many cases the difference of a race is more attractive and the love is based on the necessity to do something different. Here the attraction is more physical than mental – and such relationships fail because the weak mental connection would not stand a chance when the differences between the habits, traditions and treatment by people at large surface. All interracial marriages which were based on mental compatibility and love are successful because when two people are in love, nothing else is important but one another's happiness.

Some of the failures are credited to the backhanded pressure from the parents of these people. This is because most people need the approval of their families even if they do not openly acknowledge this fact. When this approval is not forthcoming, people usually store it at the back of the mind and thereafter blame any or all difficulties on that non-acceptance. If I am asked, is that possible that I marry with a girl from other ethnic? I will answer it depends on my acceptance to those conflicts mentioned above.

Of course, on the other hand, it also depends on her acceptance to those conflicts. Let's discuss about it one by one. First and foremost, religion conflict. I think that it is impossible for me to leave my religion. This is because religion had become part of my life (can refer to previous article, kepercayaan sesuatu kaum, about my sincerity toward Buddhism). However, I will not force my another half to leave her religion too. I will respect her and leave the decision to her. I got no problem if she still adherence to her religion and practice her religion habit.

Next will be language conflict. Language will definitely do not matter me in interracial marriage. This is because language can be learnt. So, I will try my hard to learn language so that there is not breakdown in communication and interaction with my other half and family. Moreover, I will teach my wife my mother tongue so that she can communicate with my parents and family too. Next, custom and culture conflict. As mentioned before, I do not think this conflict brings problems to me. I will tolerance with custom and culture of other ethnic. And I will even practice them.

For example, it is totally no problem for me to celebrate and involve in festival from other ethnic. Lastly, food conflict. It is okay for me for stop eating pork, I do not eat beef and not a vegetarian anyway. So, food conflict is not a problem for me in interracial marriage. After all that, I still will ask opinion from my parents. I will ask for their point of view about interracial marriage and their agreement. If they disagree with me, I will convince them by promise to put hard effort on the marriage. I will show them how much I love my another half.

As I said before, love is the best catalyst to dissolve problem. So, those are the considerations and things that I will do before marry or before get in relationship with other ethnic's girl. If I do really marry interracially, then I will give out my best tolerant to succeed the marriage. In conclusion, interracial marriage needs efforts from both sides to maintain it. Thus, one should think and ask himself/herself whether he/she can accept interracial marriage before start it. Otherwise, this may lead to the worst case, that is, divorce.