

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful*

# Submitters Perspective

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## Silent Sins

We all enjoy sinning or we wouldn't do it, let's not lie about that. In much of our society, and often in our own lives, we have accepted certain behaviors as perhaps not exactly desirable, but not exactly sinful either. There are many sins that we recognize immediately as serious and destructive, such as murder, stealing, and adultery.

These are obvious sins and God willing we would never try to fool ourselves into thinking they were permissible. However, there are other undesirable behaviors that we sometimes get comfortable with, ignore, and tolerate in our own lives and the lives of others for as long as we possibly can. These are what I'm calling *silent sins*—the ones we can shrug off and make excuses for—pretend that we don't really need to give them up. We keep these behaviors because they make us feel good in some way—at least in the short term. But they will surely do us some serious damage in the long run.

[29:4] *Do those who commit sins think that they can ever fool us? Wrong indeed is their judgment.*

How many of these *silent sins* sneak into our lives and hang around making us weak and vulnerable to Satan's invitations? **Have I gossiped? Spoken critically of others? Become impatient? Acted selfishly? Failed to trust God during a difficult time? Succumbed to materialism?**

Here is a very short list of some common sins that easily make themselves at home in our lives and what God has to say about them.

### Gossip & other sins of the tongue

[33:70] *O you who believe, reverence GOD and utter only the correct utterances.*

[Proverbs 21:23] *He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from troubles.*

[49:12] *O you who believe, you shall avoid any suspicion, for even a little bit of suspicion is sinful. You shall not spy on one another, nor shall you backbite one another; this is as abominable as eating the flesh of your dead brother. You certainly*

*abhor this. You shall observe GOD. GOD is Redeemer, Most Merciful.*

### Greed, envy or covetousness

[11:86] *“Whatever GOD provides for you, no matter how small, is far better for you, if you are really believers. I am not a guardian over you.”*

[74:6-7] *Be content with your lot. Steadfastly commemorate your Lord.*

### Unappreciativeness

[2:152] *You shall remember Me, that I may remember you, and be thankful to Me; do not be unappreciative.*

[14:7] *Your Lord has decreed: “The more you thank Me, the more I give you.” But if you turn unappreciative, then My retribution is severe.*

### Impatience

[17:11] *The human being often prays for something that may hurt him, thinking that he is praying for*

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*something good. The human being is impatient.*

*[40:55] Therefore, be patient, for GOD's promise is true, and ask forgiveness for your sin, and glorify and praise your Lord night and day.*

### Anger

*[Proverbs 29:11] A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back.*

*[3:133-134] You should eagerly race towards forgiveness from your Lord and a Paradise whose width encompasses the heavens and the earth; it awaits the righteous, who give to charity during the good times, as well as the bad times. They are suppressors of anger, and pardoners of the people. GOD loves the charitable.*

### Pride & Arrogance

*[Proverbs 26:12] Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.*

*[57:23] Thus, you should not grieve over anything you miss, nor be proud of anything He has bestowed upon you. GOD does not love those who are boastful, proud.*

### Self-reliance

*[11:56] I have put my trust in GOD, my Lord and your Lord. There is not a creature that He does not control. My Lord is on the right path.*

*[22:76] He knows their past and their future. To GOD belongs the ultimate control of all matters.*

As I said before, the above list is but a few of the *silent sins* we sometimes tolerate and even protect. Others are even more subtle: *What programs do we watch on T.V.? Would the subject matter be pleasing to God? What kind of books and magazines do we read? Would the subject matter be pleasing*

*to God? What private thoughts come & go in our minds? Would the subject matter be pleasing to God? What kind of music are we listening to? Would the subject matter be pleasing to God?*

We are indeed fooling ourselves if we think that we can knowingly hang on to wrong behaviors without consequences.

*[41:22-23] There is no way you can hide from your own hearing, your eyes, or your skins. In fact, you thought that GOD was unaware of much of what you do. This kind of thinking about your Lord will cause you to fall, and then you become losers.*

In addition to wronging our souls with the illusions of this life, we cheat ourselves out of a great deal of happiness when we ignore God's guidance. I don't feel happy when I'm complaining. I feel stress and anxiety when I become impatient or angry. And failure is usually the outcome when I rely on my own ability without asking God. On the other hand, God fills us with happiness and joy when we strive to be an obedient submitter.

*[10:57-58] O people, enlightenment has come to you herein from your Lord, and healing for anything that troubles your hearts, and guidance, and mercy for the believers. Say, "With GOD's grace and with His mercy they shall rejoice." This is far better than any wealth they can accumulate.*

*[19:96] Surely, those who believe and lead a righteous life, the Most Gracious will shower them with love.*

*[16:97] Anyone who works righteousness, male or female, while believing, we will surely grant them a happy life in this world, and we will surely pay them their full recompense (on the Day of Judgment) for their righteous works.*

Dear brothers and sisters, let's each look at our own behavior closely as the days go by and see if we are clinging to any *silent sins* and wrong behaviors that might be keeping us from moving ahead

in our submission—from receiving the full joy of God's rewards for the righteous. Let's just give them up! Let us ask God to strengthen our resolve. *[Psalms 51:10] Create in me a clean heart, O GOD, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

Let's pray that we will remember to seek refuge in God when we are tempted. *[23:97-98] Say, "My Lord, I seek refuge in You from the whispers of the devils. And I seek refuge in You, my Lord, lest they come near me."*

And God willing may we always remember to be steadfast. *[3:8] "Our Lord, let not our hearts waver, now that You have guided us. Shower us with Your mercy; You are the Grantor.*

Beth H.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Comments From Submitters

Assalamualaikum

I wish to say that I find your website very enriching. I have read the whole text on it and I agree with all.

Islam is not a complicated religion, but in fact it's Muslims who complicate it. And it is really touching to find so many non Muslims converting for the sake of Allah...I want to do something for my *ummah* (community)...

I wish to have daily or weekly mails of your updated information...

May Allah, the most Compassionate and Merciful be pleased with us.

Regards

Soraya

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Dear brothers and sisters,

I'm very happy I found your site. My name is Serge... I live in Paris. I was very attracted to Islam, which I discovered through Sufism. But I really had a problem with glorifying the prophet Muhammad and saying *salawat*, and even pronounce "*Muhammadun rasulullah*." I felt it was very odd, like it was a sin, a great sin. I felt it in my heart and soul.

To tell you the whole truth, this prevented me from accomplishing Salat (Contact Prayers)... Because of the moment when you are supposed to praise Muhammad and his family, and Ibrahim... I just couldn't. It was stronger than me.

Not that I do not deeply and fondly respect the beloved prophet Muhammad, and all the prophets before him, but I thought it was contradictory to pure monotheism, and was a form of idolatry. I also found really suspicious all these "hadiths" and "sunna," with all these rules that do not come from the Quran...

Well, useless to say it's extremely hard to get along with the immense majority of Muslims. So I feel very, very, very, isolated here.

Today has been my very first salat, and I used the true Shahada—statement of faith (*Sobhanallah!* - Glory be to God) I found on your site.

I hope we can develop a true bond, and I would like to be added to your newsletter.

Salam

Your brother in God,

*Serge/France*

\* \* \* \* \*

Salam,

My name 's Houria, female ... from France. I became submitter 9 months ago, *alhamdulillah* (Praise be to God).

I'm alone here but God is always with me (my family doesn't accept submission to God alone; they follow hadiths and sunnah. I had problems with them but now I never deal with religion).

Please add me in your data base.

Thanks

God bless

*Houria /France*

\* \* \* \* \*

Assalamu alaikum Submitters,

I am a new convert to Islam. I made my public conversion at the local Islamic Center. I came across your web site a while back, and really to tell you the truth I am a follower of the Quran as you all expound in your material.

I was trying to learn to pray Salat the standard way and I found your way of praying Salat to make more sense. This has also simplified my learning process and made me able to pray Salat in Arabic with much less memorization without all the additional material I was trying to learn that had been added to it.

I really like the way of concentrating on the Quran and it's very clear teachings and while I have read the Quran a couple times I will now go through it very slowly taking notes.

Thank you so much for your presence.

Count me in — I am a Submitter.

*Arnold*

## TRUE SUBMITTERS

This story has been sent around on the internet. I'm sure the original sender has no idea how Quranic it is.

A ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker was dying of cancer. There was no more the vet could do for him, so he offered to perform euthanasia for the old dog in their home. The owners wanted their six-year-old son, Shane, to observe and learn from the experience. So, with the family gathered around, the vet gave the shot which allowed Belker to die peacefully.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. Everyone sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why." He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life—like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

We humans lost sight of the purpose of our existence—to worship God Alone, and God gives us a lifetime to find our way. On the other hand, dogs, all animals, are true submitters to God and they will go back to Him at the end of their life span.

*[6:38] All the creatures on earth, and all the birds that fly with wings, are communities like you. We did not leave anything out of this book. To their Lord, all these creatures will be summoned.*

*[42:29] Among His proofs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the creatures He spreads in them. He is able to summon them, when He wills.*

*Lydia*

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## A Submitter's Comments on the Conference

Salaam Alaykum to all my newly found Brothers and Sisters,

God willing this finds everyone in good health and spirits. I wanted to take this opportunity to personally thank each of you for making me feel so welcome at my first Submitters conference. Mashallah (It's God's gift), it was a wondrous experience for me and I truly feel blessed for having the opportunity to attend.

I honestly expected to find that the conference would have reiterated much of what I had already discovered from Rashad Khalifa's translation of the Quran and the various articles and websites I had happened upon over the past 8 years. But much to my surprise and joy, I found myself being introduced to new topics, new discoveries and new points of view which I am happy to say have increased my understanding of the Quran, strengthened my spirit and rejuvenated my sense of purpose in this life, Mashallah!

Everything from the informative, and in some cases awesome presentations, to the Quran study sessions into the early hours; all in all, it added up to my becoming even more enlightened, and

all the more dedicated to living the righteous life God expects of me.

After some very trying days of withdrawing from the company of so many good spirited people, I have settled back into my somewhat secluded submitter lifestyle here in the Charlotte area of North Carolina. One of my goals was to try to find other submitters from this part of the country and although the closest are about 140 miles away, they are close enough for us to, God willing spend the Night of Destiny together.

My instincts tell me that I will not be truly fulfilled in this life, until I am able to relocate closer to a community of fellow submitters and God willing, this will become a reality for me someday. If ever anyone is traveling close to this area, please let me know as I would truly appreciate the chance to visit with you again, inshallah! (God willing).

Peace, God's Blessings and Ramadan Mubarak to everyone!

*Michael*

*[Ed's note: These comments were made for the 2009 conference. God willing if those of you who attended the annual conference have any comments or suggestions, please let us know so that we can share them with other submitters. Thank you and God bless.]*

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