

TO: Parents of Students in Dr. Neufeld's History Classes
FROM: Dr. Neufeld
RE: "My Name Is Khan"
DATE: Friday, October 28, 2016



As we approach the end of unit about the start of the religion Islam, I would like to share the film "My Name Is Khan" for several reasons. This film shows the present day plight of stereotyping people who practice the religion Islam. Though filmed primarily in the U.S., the movie is an Indian film (such films are called "Bollywood"). It is about Rizwan Khan, a young boy whose religion is Islam who lives in India where most people are Hindus. His family moves him to San Francisco as a child where he lives a great life in the U.S. as a Muslim until 9/11. As he becomes an adult, he does marry a San Francisco Hindu woman who has a son. After 9/11, the entire family is mistreated for Rizwan's religion. His goal is to prove to the U.S. president that he is not a terrorist. Another intensifying aspect of the film is that Rizwan suffers from Asperger syndrome, a form of autism where his challenge is learning and applying social skills in society. This makes his understanding of his situation every more dramatic.

The film **does not** have any scenes of a sexual nature or any use of profanity. Released in 2010 in the U.S., it was rated PG-13 for one scene that I did cut. I have shown this film the last four years and have found it to be one of the most-liked films that my students get to view throughout the year. I show a foreign film about people and the practice of two different religions in the U.S. so my students can learn about diversity in the U.S. with regards to religion, music, customs and traditions. If you would like to see the preview of this film, please check my website at: <http://DrNeufeld.com> and click "C3-C4 Islam" and scroll down to "My Name Is Khan".

If you would like to see the film in advance, please let me know and I will loan it for you to see. On the back of this paper is more information on the film. I also listed two web sites you could use to learn more about the film. If you would like more information, or if you would like to see the film yourself, you can e-mail me at doug_neufeld@lawndale.k12.ca.us.

Thank You!

Please return this form by Friday, November 4!

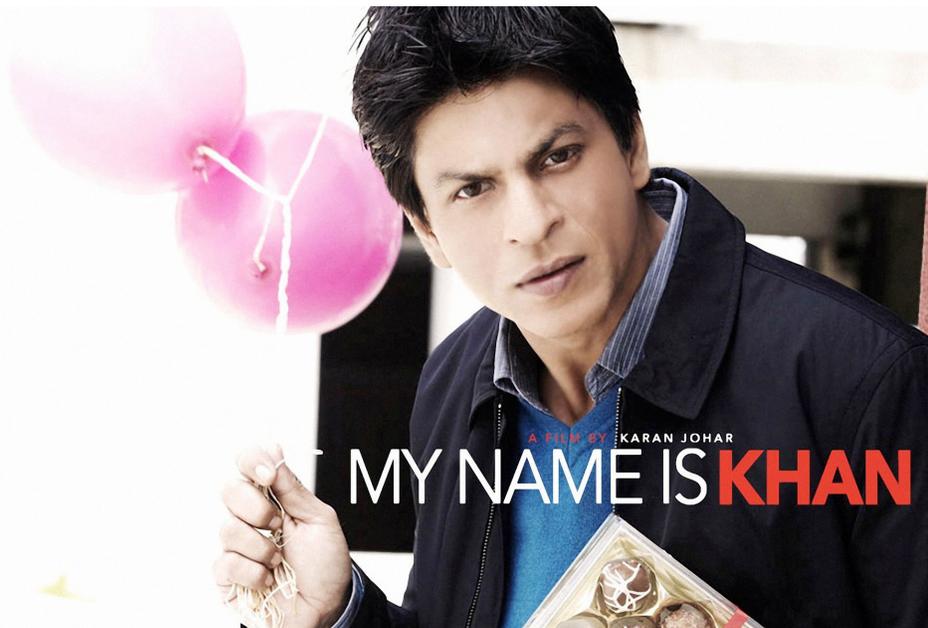
Name of Student

Period

Yes, my child can watch the 2010 film "My Name Is Khan".

No, I prefer that my child not watch the film and complete another project instead.

Parent Signature



One review of “My Name Is Khan”:

Mandira tells Rizwan she'll buy 6 hair products from him but he tells her he'll only sell her four because the remaining two will go to waste. He may be the world's worst salesman but he's the best human being. This is Rizwan, an innocent, clean hearted, simple guy who believes there are only two types of people in this world; those who are good and those who are bad. The reason for his innocence and candidness is due to the Asperger's Syndrome. You see he may be different but he definitely isn't stupid, in fact I believe we can all learn from him.

The plot of this film is well known so I won't bore you with too much detail. This film is essentially a love story between Rizwan Khan (Shahrukh Khan) and

Mandira (Kajol). However due to the events of the time their relationship is destroyed and Rizwan innocently sets out on a journey to clear his name.

When watching the film you'll see Karan has once again used flashbacks to portray his story but this is not your typical Karan Johar film. It is clearly more realistic than his previous films and I must say he has matured well.

In terms of cinematography, you've got to give it to Ravi K Chandran, the film was filmed beautifully. The locales were very pleasing to the eye, were not over-powering and used simply as a back-drop.

Coming onto the extras, I think this is possibly the only Bollywood film that has managed to correctly use English speaking actors and not turn them into caricatures or use fake dubbing. And for once, these extras can actually act! They have been used brilliantly and are totally believable.

The supporting cast is flawless, they are relatively unknown actors (apart from Jimmy Shergill) and this is effective in making the story believable. They give heart-felt performances that compliment the lead actors.

Coming to the lead actors... Rizwan Khan is without a doubt my most favourite character from any film. His sincerity and innocence is heart wrenching and there is only one man who could have done justice to this role and that is Shah Rukh Khan.

Is there any role this man cannot do? He's done it all and yet he can still leave us gob-smacked. While watching the film I was in awe. In the scenes where Rizwan is faced with some sort of confrontation or hard-ship, he goes back into his shell and finds comfort in his religion. SRK makes you feel Rizwan's loneliness and confusion of how the world can be the way it is. When Rizwan is happy, you feel happy; when he is sad, you feel sad; when he is hurt, you feel hurt; and when he is confused and lost, you feel like reaching out and protecting him. I could keep going on about Rizwan and SRK but I would not do them justice, you have to go see the film to realise what I mean.

I'm so glad to see Kajol back and especially with SRK. Their chemistry in previous films has created history and they do it once again in MNIK. She compliments SRK so well because she is a great actress herself. Look out for the outburst at Rizwan that has been mentioned so many times and her breakdown just before that. THE greatest actress Bollywood has ever had, period.

Go watch this film now and I promise you, you will not be disappointed. Shah Rukh Khan alone will make sure of that. I myself am going to go watch it a few more times and I can't wait! *Written by Umer Khan at <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1188996/>*

To see the trailer for this movie, go to “DrNeufeld.com” then click “C3-C4 Islam” page, then click “My Name is Khan”

[For more information about this film, check out this web site:](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1188996/)