

**Question:**

AsSalaamu Alaykum,

As summer is here, there are many bros and sisters wanting to enjoy themselves. pleaz could u answer this question a.s.a.p insha Allah.my question is: is it halaal to go to a theme park, ie Chessington, Alton Towers etc? pleaz could u answer my question, as a few brothers have asked me to go with them but i'm not sure if it is halaal.

ps. the answer is very important as, if it is haraam then i must command the good and forbid the evil and stop any brothers that want to go.

**Answer:**

Assalamu Aleikum,

'...One issue that has caused much misunderstanding among Muslims is the issue of free mixing. Nowadays, free mixing occurs in all sphere of life. As Muslims we need to understand the reality with respect to the following issues:

- 1 Private Life (Al-Hayaat ul-Khaassah) is the life of Man (i.e. men/women) in private places (Al-Amaaken Al-Khaassa) which requires permission (Izen) from its holder to enter e.g. private houses, private places in hospitals like private offices, private places in universities like private class rooms for specific students etc...
- 2 Public Life (Al-Hayaat ul-A'ammah) is the life of Man (i.e. men/women) in public places (Al-Amaaken Al-A'ammah) which does not require permission (Izen) to enter such as to work in Markets, worshipping in Mosques, walking in the Streets, visiting hospitals and studying in lecture rooms in universities or colleges which is not specified for particular people etc....

**The Reality of meetings between the opposite sex is:**

- 1 Segregated Mixing (Ijtimaa') is one in which we are able to distinguish between men and women with men in front and women behind as in the Mosque or with men in one side and women on the other side in a lecture room.

*The above type of meeting between non-Mahram men and women is permissible as long they are in permissible places with divine specific conditions and without involving themselves in any prohibited matters, socialising or entertainment.*

- 2 Free Mixing (Ikhtilaat) is one in which we are not able to distinguish between men and women such as the free-mixing in Markets or free-mixing in streets.

*The above type of meeting between non-Mahram men and women is prohibited until the divine text (Nass Shar'ie) states otherwise.*

- 3 Secluded Mixing (Khalwah) is a meeting between a (non-Mahram) man and a woman who are alone together where no body is able to see them.

*The above private meeting is prohibited (haram) except in life and death situations e.g. during fire, saving life, during emergency medical operations etc.*

## **The Divine Rule For Free Mixing**

The divine general principle on Free Mixing (Ikhtilaat) and Segregated Mixing (Ijtima') in public or private places is Prohibited (Haram) until the divine text (Nass Shar'ie) states otherwise.

Note that the Shari'ah has granted certain permits for free Mixing and segregated Mixing in particular places with certain conditions for certain permissible purposes. I have list below some of these situations:

- 1 For Ritual Purposes: e.g. Jihad, Hajj, Salaat, Dawah, Halaqah, Islamic meetings related to Dawah, commanding good and forbidding evil etc.
- 2 For Educational Purposes: e.g. studying or teaching Islam, seeking worldly knowledge from an Islamic perspective, lecturing, debating or educational training etc.
- 3 For Work Purposes: e.g. trading, selling, buying, hiring, borrowing, lending, cultivating, shopping, Business meetings, manufacturing, defending , legal representation, looking for work and Job interviews etc.
- 4 For Medical Purposes: e.g. visiting doctors, visiting patients, admitting to hospitals, entering clinics, analysing in laboratories, visiting pharmacies, treating people, helping suffering people etc.
- 5 For Travel Purposes: e.g. getting a Visa for travelling, transportation, buses, trains, aeroplanes etc.
- 6 For Social Purposes: e.g. to visit sick people, to visit relatives, meetings for engagement or marriage, divorce, reconciliation and arbitration between a husband and wife etc.
- 7 For Judicial Purposes: e.g. attending courts, giving testimony in courts, judging between people, meeting solicitors and other lawyers etc.
- 8 For Amusement Purposes: e.g. visiting children entertainment places, visiting restaurants, family picnics, walking in the park, taking children to the Zoo or fun-fairs etc.
- 9 For Ruling purposes: e.g. accounting Muslim rulers, arresting criminals, watching punishments of criminals, giving Baiy'ah to Khalifah etc.
- 10 For Welfare Purposes: e.g. visiting civic centres, visiting the home office, visiting the council, visiting job centres for signing on, visiting police stations etc.

NB: The above is not an exhaustive list. The short answer to the abstract question is that going on a family picnic, taking children to park, to the Zoo or to children fun-fairs is permissible provided there is no prohibited circumstances e.g. nudism, live Music, sunbathing in park or if it is an adult fun-fair etc...'

**Sheikh Omar**