

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0024
(916) 319-2024
FAX (916) 319-2124



Dec. 15, 2011

I urge Lowe's to reconsider its decision to withdraw advertising from the reality-based television program, "All-American Muslim," because of xenophobic complaints generated by the Florida Family Association.

Lowe's capitulation to this association's hollow allegations that the reality show's mere depiction of the daily lives of five American Muslim families is propaganda to advance Islamic fundamentalism and Sharia law is a tacit endorsement of an extreme right-wing, fear-mongering organization's agenda that pits Americans against Americans solely based on their religion.

I believe the overwhelming majority of men and women who work at Lowe's stores do not support the racist bilge being spouted by this so-called "family association."

I believe Lowe's employees understand American families may be white, Latino, Asian, African American, or Arabic, and that these families have a protected constitutional right to observe the faith of their choice whether it is Islamic, Christian, Buddhist, or Jewish. Lowe's workers understand this because they encounter these diverse families shopping at their stores every day.

I would hope Lowe's corporate leaders share these beliefs, too, and demonstrate it by reversing their position and repudiating the Florida Family Association's un-American message of fear and hate.

Jim Beall
Assembly District 24