

**Bradford Family Album**  
**Shaheen Hafeez: Patterns of Belonging**

**Transcript 4**

I think you felt as though you were an outsider. You didn't feel as though you'd mix in with anybody, if you did that. And I think a lot of people, and I think a lot of people did say, 'Oh, they're typical TPs, aren't they?' You know, they're like, 'Oh, why are they wearing shalwar kameez?' But I think what we tried our best to mix in with English people, because we didn't want to feel left out because we were only a minority.

It wasn't that we tried to be English or we wanted to be English or anything like that. It was just, we picked up their tradition a little bit. And I suppose it was one way of saying that we want to mix in with these people. And it's good, it's not, I mean, it's not a bad thing that we picked up, it's all right.

They used to look down sometimes, some would look down on you saying, 'Oh, what are you wearing?' but I think the traditional clothing, they thought that was because it labelled you as a Pakistani, didn't it? Or Indian, but Pakistanis mainly stuck to shalwar kameez. But I think there was no harm in mixing, because obviously, when trousers came in, then you'd think, like I said to you, there's no difference between a shalwar and trousers. So, you know, it's just, but to me, it didn't make, I didn't feel that having the two mixed together made any difference to me. But as to other people, it did.

But like you say, we mix and match, really, what suits us in a way. I think that's what fashion is, really. It's an individual thing, isn't it? And I think you adapt, like you say, you used to change your clothing, so you adapt your clothing to suit you and suit your heart, really.