

<p><b>“What do you think of moroccan people?”-host cousin</b></p> <p><b>“I don’t know anymore”-me</b></p> <p><b>“It’s ok I know we’re all ugly”-host cousin</b></p>	<p>I’ve conversations similar to this throughout the year. This quote was from the Henna day for wedding prep, with my host family. I was getting ready, putting on a Kaftan with my host cousin. She asked the question and 8 months into the year I was tired of giving the same response of “Nice, welcoming, good people”. I wanted to say “unoriginal and egotistical”, but that is and unkind generalization on my part. So I stuck with “I don’t know”.</p> <p>I’ve been asked on my opinion about Moroccan people since day one. Along with that question; I’ve heard scattered remarks of Moroccans calling each other ugly. When I started my capstone research on Moroccan beauty standards, I found some meaning behind these statement.</p> <p>There is a certain “Arab” look that</p>
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	<p>Moroccans generalize themselves with. That being; black and wavy hair, brown eyes, tan skin, angular faces, etc. With foreign influence in mainstream media, a majority of Moroccans idealize lighter; skin, eyes and hair. So when the rare Moroccan has those features, they get treated like foreigners (Asmae the Arabic teacher and girl we met in Tetouan). This sets up modern Moroccan beauty to... well... shoot itself in the foot.</p>
<p><b>“Oh well... it’s because I’m bi” -me</b></p> <p><b>“Ohhh so are you like into when two guys...you know...are together”- guy I tried dating</b></p>	<p>This was on the third and last date I’ll ever be on in Morocco. We were discussing androgynous art and he was wondering why I was so interested in the topic. I don’t have an exact reason why, but I thought it might be connected to my sexuality and who I tend to be attracted to.</p> <p>I felt decently comfortable around him, so I saw no reason to be dishonest. He was</p>

	<p>kind of surprised because he had never met a bi person before. But the question that followed almost immediately, is what made me uncomfortable. I had to remind myself that he has no sex education and was being open minded. But as other questions came on, (ones that should be googled) I had to leave. I wanted to be his opportunity for education and growth, but at that point as a friend.</p>
<p>“Moroccan weddings are such a fake production. They’re all the same.”</p>	