

MISUNDERSTANDING PAKISTAN

I am a regular reader of your magazine, however, ["The New Americans"] included a quote from Roya Dur Mohammad that portrayed a misleading image of Pakistan. She says, "The women, they don't drive in Pakistan." This is a false statement. Women are more than encouraged to drive in Pakistan—especially in cities like Islamabad, Karachi, and

Lahore, where a growing number of women commute to work.

Mohammad also says, "In Pakistan, after 5 o'clock, you cannot go outside because it's dangerous." This statement is also not grounded in truth, especially in the Pakistan of 10 years ago—pre-2001—when Mohammad left. Most shops stay open till after 10 p.m. and women and girls freely go about, usually

with their families.

These statements were disappointing in their false portrayal of a country, and I hope *Spirit* conducts better fact checking in the future before publishing such material.

—Mahvish Zehra
Austin, Texas

The portrayal of Pakistan was indeed inaccurate, and we apologize for our carelessness.

FOLLOW-UP

"The New Americans." Save the date: On September 17, Citizenship Day marks the 222nd anniversary of the ratification of the U.S. Constitution. For more information on how you can help educate and inspire patriotism in our youngest Americans, visit Citizenship Counts at citizenshipcounts.org.

CORRECTIONS

July, page 184. For those of you who were halfway through the crossword puzzle before realizing that 20 of the Down clues were missing, we sincerely apologize. This month, in addition to the regular puzzle, flip to page 150 for the correct version of July's crossword, so you can finally finish what you started. This time, we promise, they're all there.



July, page 180. The peacock dollar-bill origami ["Cocky Cash"] was incorrectly credited. It is the creation of origami artist Robert J. Lang. For more of Dr. Lang's original designs, visit langorigami.com.

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