Inside the reel

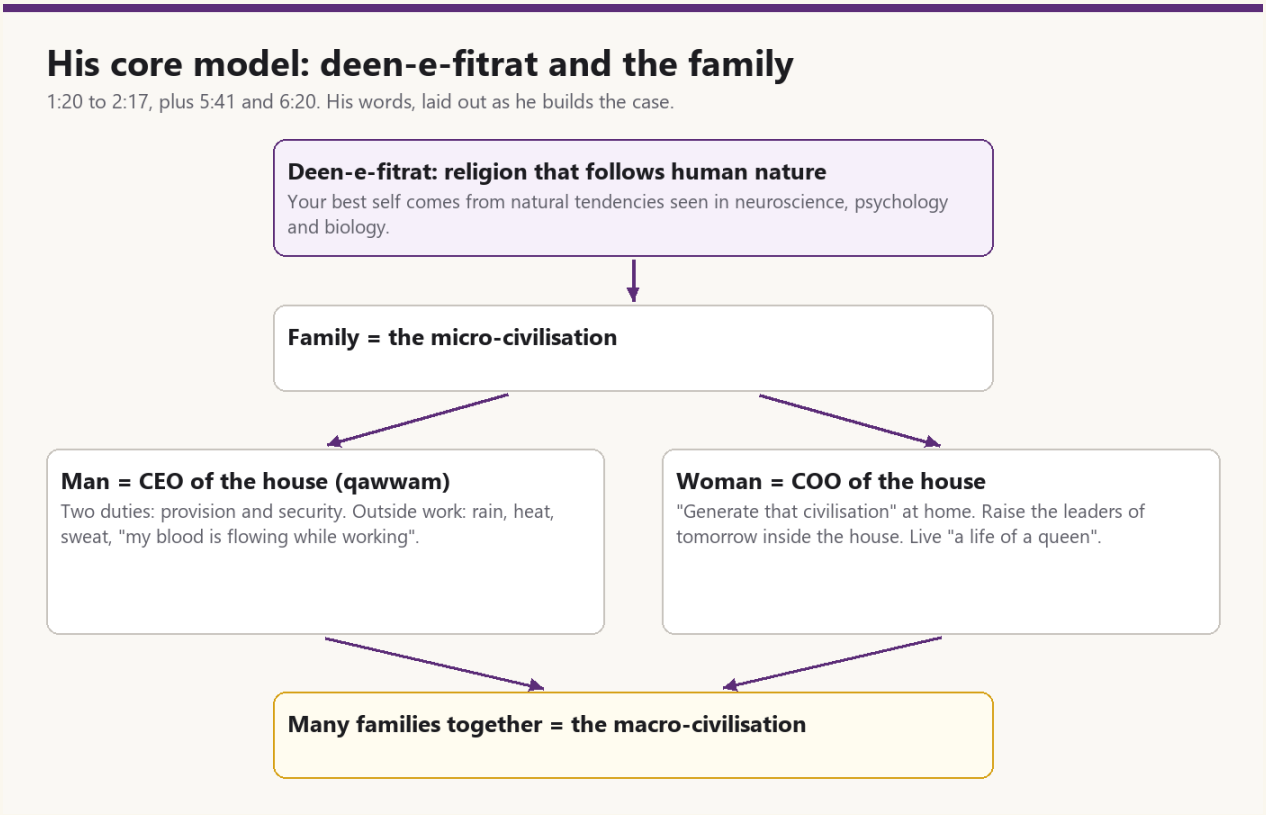
Qaiser Ahmed Raja at a university Q&A.

0:00	**The teaser** The edit pairs the kitchen question with Raja's answer on head of state.
0:29	**The student's question** She asks about democracy and women in politics, then brings up the hadith.
1:08	**Raja narrows the question** Can a woman be head of state in an Islamic civilisation? Raja says no. She asks why.
1:22	**The household analogy** He appeals to human nature and calls the man the household CEO and the woman its COO.
2:17	**The wartime argument** He links women's entry into more jobs to employers' need for workers.
3:52	**The collapse argument** He brings up Baghdad and Rome and names three things he associates with decline.
6:00	**The kitchen question returns** Raja says he goes to the kitchen and that it isn't solely a woman's job.
6:54	**The royalty comparison** He recalls a conversation in Britain and compares women in his community to royalty.

Raja's Facebook reel. Times mark the start of each segment.

Raja’s family analogy

From his answer at 1:22 to 2:17 and later parts of the reel.



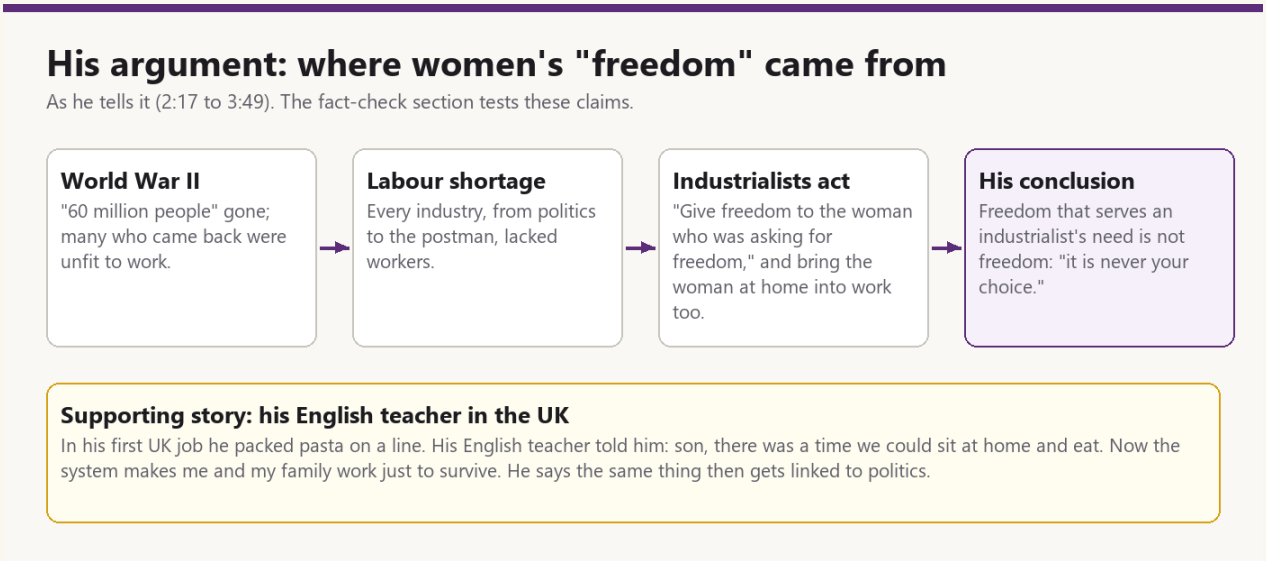
How he uses the analogy

He calls the husband the household’s CEO and the wife its COO. He links the roles to his view of who should lead in public life.

Raja’s Facebook reel

Raja’s wartime argument

His account of employment and political rights, 2:17 to 3:49.



About the “60 million” figure

It’s unclear from the recording whom Raja is counting. A wartime death toll counts deaths. A labour-shortage estimate measures something different.

Sources on page 5

The records for wartime jobs and voting rights cover different questions.

Raja’s Facebook reel

What Raja says brings down civilisations

His account in the reel, 3:52 to 5:39.

Sexual conduct

He argues that a civilisation collapses when promiscuity becomes common.

The status of entertainers

He says decline follows when forms of dance and singing once looked down on become fashionable.

Women in politics

He blames women’s political activity for Rome’s fall. The Roman family he refers to is unclear in the recording.

Raja’s Facebook reel

What the records show

Wartime work

During World War II, some American women entered paid work and others moved from existing jobs into defence work.

U.S. National Park Service

Voting rights before the war

New Zealand extended the vote to women in 1893. Britain extended the parliamentary vote to some women in 1918 and gave women equal voting terms in 1928.

Archives New Zealand and UK Parliament

The end of western Roman rule

The last western emperor to rule from Italy was deposed in 476 CE. Historian Peter Heather ties the collapse to the loss of provinces and the tax revenue that funded the army.

Peter Heather, Oxford University Press

The hadith’s scope

The Prophet’s remark followed news that Persia had appointed a woman to rule. Ali Gomaa reads it in that setting and distinguishes a civil presidency from the caliphate. The Fiqh Academy reserves the office of head of state for men.

Al-Bukhari 4425, fatwa 6072 and resolution 211