

## The father of the killer of San Bernardino: "Fascinated by ISIS, hated Israel."



La Stampa interview, machine translation:

It's seven o'clock in the evening and darkness fell on the residential community of Corona where he lives Raheel Farook, father of the killer of San Bernardino. I knock on the door of Forum Way, but no one answers, even if the lights are on inside. From the road he approaches an old man pushing a child on a tricycle, and he asks: "Can I help you?". Of course you can. Are you the father of Syed, right? "Yup". We can talk about his son? "No, look, the FBI I have already questioned for seven hours. There is opened a criminal inquiry, and if I speak risk prison. " But we speak only of his son, not investigation. He was, as a person? "An angel. Good, obedient, studious. Maybe a little 'too shy, conservative, and dead set against Israel."

When did you arrive from Pakistan?

"In 1973 I went to Chicago, I took bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, and then I started to work hard to build a family. I also drove trucks: weeks away from home, and a broken back, to ensure my children an education and a chance to succeed. "

Why did you call everyone Syed?

"Why? Illinois hospital where my children were born ignorant and confused the names. Actually they called and Rizwan Raheel. I'm Syed. "

Why does he say that his son was too conservative?

"Do you think a teenager is not going to parties of the classmates, because he said that a good Muslim can see dance only his wife. I come from the city, are a liberal, joking as they do throughout the Pakistanis and the suggested disbanding, but there was nothing to do. "

They say his wife Rafia divorced because she drank and beat her. So she went to live with Rizwan, while she came here with Raheel. It is true?

"They're all lies. Rizwan was the mama's boy, and she is very religious like him. They have joined forces against me. Once we had a dispute about the historical figure of Jesus, my son yelled that I was an unbeliever and decided that marriage with my wife had to end. I bought a beautiful house, in the garden where I had planted twenty fruit trees. They sold and destroyed my family. "

Rizwan why he did what he did?

"I do not know. I despair and I do not understand. He had everything: earning \$ 70,000 a year, more than 20,000 of overtime, a house, a daughter of six months, was the master to earn more. He was fond of mechanics, like me. He studied environmental engineering because there was no work, but his fun were the cars. In his spare time was a mechanic, in his garage. I do not know, I cannot give me peace. Maybe if I were at home I would have found out and stopped. "

She had not noticed that accumulated weapons?

"Once I saw he had a gun, and I was angry: in 45 years of the United States - I shouted - I never had a weapon. He shrugged and said, worse for you."

Never were speaking of terrorism, Isis?

"Sure. And who does not talk about today? He said he shared the ideology of Al Baghdadi to create an Islamic state, and he was fixated with Israel. "

What does it mean?

"I kept telling him always: stay calm, be patient, two years Israel will no longer exist. Geopolitics is changing: Russia, China, America too, nobody wants the Jews there. They will report in

Ukraine. What good fight? We have done that and we lost. Israel is not fighting with weapons, but with politics. He, however, nothing was fixed. "

Fixed on what?

"He was angry with Israel."

He had contacts with terrorists abroad?

"I do not know. But these days, who knows, with the internet and all that technology? "

Some say that to radicalize his son was his wife.

"Maybe, I do not know. But he knows that I have never seen? Not even all covered with burqas showed succeed. I only know that she was born in Pakistan and lived in Saudi Arabia, but I never spoke. She did not want to see her in-laws. I told my son that it destroyed our family, but he did not care. "

When did you separate?

"Last May he went with his wife, daughter and mother in Redlands, and in September I have come here to live with Raheel."

When did you last saw them?

"It's been to see us on a couple of occasions. I told him I had to finish the master to earn more, because now he had a responsibility to his daughter. "

Meanwhile, her granddaughter, cousin of this child was orphaned six months, fell asleep on the tricycle. The daughter called Syed for dinner. I greet him and I wish him to find peace: "No, it will not happen. You split your back to raise a child, and then you lose it like that. As you recover from such a tragedy? I'm 67 years old and my life is over here. "