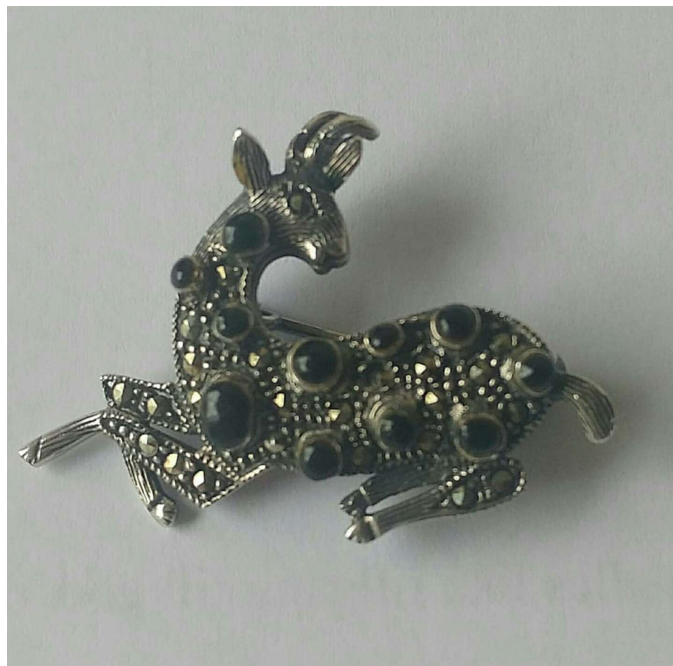


## **”That Is Being Different. Being Different Is Not Wrong.”**

**How come being different is often synonymous with being wrong? During a lecture a month ago, a scholar told a story about blacks visiting a capital outside the US and were greeted with peoples surprise – locals openly acknowledged that their looks were different. The scholar thought of that as discrimination. But, really, IMHO, that is just commenting on a difference.**

Being different is not wrong. Not as long as we do not consider the difference itself as being wrong. Be open to differences and variations, and life will become so much richer.



The deer is often used to describe a person who is a prey, or given as a bounty. It is considered accepted to harrass and hunt a person referred to as a deer. This brooch is a family brooch, now stolen like most of my belongings except for a suitcase.

## **”Oh, so you are a bit opposite, are you?!”**

The other day, a colorful woman cheered that coffee makes her calm and sleepy. This woman (of course she is not born in Sweden) is often cheerful and full of exclamation marks, so I laughed heartily straight out and remarked:

– Oh, so you are bit opposite, are you?! Coffee is known for keeping people awake!

She gave me a surprised smile, often used to hear people correcting her all the time. Not just acknowledging the fact that she sometimes acts contrary to the expected – and that it is perfectly fine.

## **Respect Space And Civil Rights – And People Will Be Humble**

I like people, I like cultures and I love personalities. Being different is not wrong, as long as we keep the healthy respect for other peoples space. Mutual respect deserves a humble attitude.

When that respect is lacking, people have to defend themselves and their space. That's when they become arrogant.

So, being different is not wrong in itself. Differences make us rich inside.

(Now return my children, give me the right to work so I can pay for a home. I have always been different in this country, Sweden, and that has always been considered wrong. I have been terribly discriminated in this country. My best friends from early childhood all came from southern cultures and we had a blast.)