**Making social worlds**
*The importance of language*

**Ram Gidoomal:**
Language is critical; to me it's a no-brainer.  English is the national language for survival for playing one's part as a citizen.  If you don't have the language you just don't survive, even my mother when she came, she didn't learn English, it came to a point where she had to open a bank account.  We went to the bank, she couldn't understand them and they couldn't understand her.  Now it so happens that for the sake of business they appointed a Hindi speaking clerk from Southall so she was able to survive but in one sense it would have been nice if she would really be driven to learn English for her own good and for her own – I suppose enjoying the benefits of the country she's a part of, because you miss so much if you don't speak the language. You're blinded to one whole aspect of society, and it's a major part of society.  If you take the English language there are many words in the English language that actually come from abroad, take the word bungalow, that's actually an Indian word and that's part of  the English language and people get surprised that that is actually part of what it means to be British, you've got these words and language and it's adopted and taken on, foreign  influences that have now become British and those people who are British forget.