

**Levantine Arabic transcript:**

**المرأة:** بتهيألي إنو هذا مشروع مش مشروع إنو مسؤولية شخص أو اثنين، انا بحكي مسؤولية دولة لازم يكون الإهتمام بهذول الطلاب الطالبات الأطفال. مسؤولية دولة. لأنو إذا ساعدناهم اكيد راح يكونوا ناس مش عال على المجتمع، ناس يعتمدوا على نفسهم، ما عندهن امراض نفسيه، بنقدر ساعيتها هوني نقيس قديش هذا المجتمع متقدم من خلال هذول الناس. انا من وجهة نظري بقول انو المجتمع إلي بهتم بهاي الفئة، وبدعمها، وبساعدها، لحتى تكون فئة منتجة في مجتمعنا هون بحكي انو هذا مجتمع متقدم ومجتمع متطور. ما بحكي عن كل المجتمعات العربية مجتمع ثالث، بتهيألي إذا منهم بهتم بهيك فئة هذول مجتمع متقدم، بتمنى انو توصل رسالتي وحابب انو برضوا من خلال هذا اللقاء إنو ما يكون مجرد انو لقاء، إنو من خلالوا نوصل رساله للعالم، إنو إحنا برضوا بنهتم بهذه الفئة. من خلال هذا اللقاء بتمنى إنها تكون رسالة إنو خلينا إيدينا بئدين بعض إنو نساعد هاي الفئة لأنو بقدروا يدخلوا الجامعات، ووصلوا الجامعات، صار منهم دكاتره وصار منهم اخصائيين. أوكي فيه قانون عنا للمعاقين انو تشغيل خمسه بالميه من المعاقين بالميادين المهنيه، لكن للاسف هذا مش مطبق بحذافيره. مش مطبق بشكل ميه بالميه، ممكن إذا بدي احكي ممكن اثنين بالميه منهم بتوظفوا. فالموضوع بتهيألي سلاح ذو حدين، حلو كثير، بس حلو حلو اللي بقدر يفهموا، بقدر يشتغل معاه، يتعامل معاه.

**English translation:**

Woman: I think that this project is not the responsibility of one person, but rather it's the responsibility of a country to take care of these students, males and females, and children; it's a country's responsibility ... ah ... because if ... ah ... we help them, surely they will not be a burden on the society; [they will be] individuals who are self-dependent ... ah ... they don't have physiological problems. Only then we can measure how developed a society is, via those people.

From my point of view, if a society takes care of, supports, and assists this group to become a productive group in our society, then it's a developed society. I don't mean to say that all societies in the Arab world are Third-World countries. I think if there are people who take care of this group of people, then they are a developed society. I wish that my message reaches out, hopefully through this interview, which I hope is not just a casual one, I wish to deliver a message to say that we also take care of this group. Via this interview, I hope to deliver a

message and say let's stand together to help this group, because they can go to colleges and they already have. Some became physicians, and specialists.

Okay, there is legislation that we have to employ 5% of disabled people in different professions, but unfortunately this law is not applied literally, it isn't applied 100%. I mean if I want to talk, I would say only 2% are hired.

So ... ah ... the issue, I think, is a double-edged weapon ... ah. It's very nice, but only to those who can work, communicate, and appreciate it.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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