

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

المرأة: عايزة أتكلم عن موضوع الحياة العائلية. أنا شايفة إن الحياة العائلية دلوقتي مش زي الأول خالص، الأسرة أصلا كل واحد فيها بحتة، مش متأثرين ببعض خالص. غالبا أصلا يعني دا معظم الأسر منتشرش بعض خالص، يعني فين وفيين نشوف بابا وماما واخواتي نقعد مع بعض، نتكلم، حتى لما بشوفهم، حتى لما أكون موجوده، بابا يكون بالشغل، ماما بتعمل حاجة، ماما بتجيب حاجة، مش لقياهم، مش لقياهم.
الرجل خلف الكاميرا: بتكونوا قاعدين كل واحد بيفكر بحاجة لوحده؟
المرأة: بابا همومه حيجيب الزاي حيعمل آيه في وسط الزحمة والدنيا إلي إحنا بقينا فيها. والغلا إلي حاصل، الفطيع، مبقاش أصلا مخلينا قادرين أثلا نقعد مع بعض ونفكر. بقى كل واحد مشغول بهم. حنعمل آيه بأيه طبعاً؟ يعني العيال دول حربيهم الزاي؟ بكره حنعمل آيه معاهم. فمبقيناش أصلا قادرين ولا نقعد مع بعض ولا نتكلم ولا نعيش مع بعض ولا... حتى حياتنا بقت كده. يعني لو شفنا بعض "أزيك يا بابا"، "أزيك عامله آيه؟"..."إزيك يا ماما عامله آيه؟" مش عارفة أنا رايحة لكذا. "يمكن يعدي علينا يوم بومين منشفش بعض. وداه شئ وحش.
الرجل خلف الكاميرا: وفي الأعياد مثلاً.
المرأة: برضوا، في الأعياد برضوا ممكن ظروف شغلهم حاجه تخدمهم.
الرجل خلف الكاميرا: يعني مجرد حاجات روتينية يعني...
المرأة: حتى مثلاً... آه يعني خلاص.. آه... دا ممكن مثلاً آيه، كل واحد ناكل كده على الطيار، وأحنا واقفين، وننزل، انا رايحه أنا جاييه، مش عارف آيه. ممكن بيحي هو بالليل أوي فأنا أكون نائمة، يصحى الصبح بدري فأنا أمون برضوا نائمة، ممكن بيحي في النص أنا أكون بره. فمبقيناش موجودين مع بعض. ميعرفش أنا حياتي آيه، وانا معرفش هو بيعمل آيه. آه أنا مقدره كويس أنو هو بيعمل كده علشاننا وتعبان وعايزنا ناكل حاجة حلوة. بس أنا عايزاك تسمعني، محتجالك.
الرجل: السبب، السبب آيه، السبب؟
المرأة: ظروف الحياة إلي إحنا فيها. الغلا إلي حصل دوت وكل حاجة، هي إلي خليتنا حالنا كده يعني.

English translation:

Woman: Today I will talk about the subject of family relations. I think that family relations now are not the same as they used to be at all. A family -- already, each of its members is somewhere [else]. We don't affect each other any more at all. At most times, we don't even see each other at all. I mean, some time passes before I see my father and mother and my siblings, or sit together to talk. Even when I see them, for instance ... even when my mother is present, she is doing this or bringing that. I don't see them; I don't see them.

Man behind camera: You sit alone -- each one of you is thinking separately.

Woman: Yes. My father is concerned about how to earn more and do things in the middle of the busy life that we live, and the terrible high prices have in the first place prevented us from sitting together to think. Each one is concerned about his issues: "What shall we do about this? How shall we raise our children? How should we deal with them tomorrow?" So we became unable to sit together to talk and listen to each other. Even our life has become like this. If I see my father, I would say, "Hi dad, how are you

doing?” or “Hi mom, how are you doing? I’m going out” -- one or two days might pass without seeing each other, I mean, and this is a bad thing.

Man behind camera: And during *Eids*, for example?

Woman: The same. Sometimes, they get busy at work.

Man behind camera: You do routine things, you mean.

Woman: Yes. Even, for example

Another woman (no image): ... [indistinct words] Even when you gather

Woman: Yes. I mean, it’s on, on

Another woman: [indistinct words].

Woman: And even this -- each one of us eats quickly, while we stand, as we have to leave. Sometimes, they [the parents] come home really late, while I’m asleep, and they wake up early, also while I’m asleep, or they return in between when I’m out, so we are not together. He [my father] doesn’t know my life, and I don’t know what he does. Yes, I do appreciate the fact that he’s doing this for us, and he wants us to eat well. However, I want him to listen to me. I need him.

Man behind camera: What do you think is the reason for this?

Woman: Circumstances and the life that we are in. High prices and everything -- these caused our life to become like this, I mean.

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 every day. 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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