

**Egyptian Arabic transcript:**

الرجل: سفر البننت للخارج دون محرم يعتبر حاجه أنا بعارضها. لكن لو معاها راجل محرم، داه يبقى شئ كويس.  
المرأة: يعني آيه محرم؟  
الرجل: محرم يعني حلال ليها يعني، بقدر يحميها، أخوها، جوزها، درجة قربتوا بيها عاليه، ابوها، بس كده. لكن سفر البننت من دون محرم أن يعتبروا غلط. أيوه هو كان في أخت من خواتي اسمها نجلاء هي إلي سافرت للولايات المتحدة الأمريكية في منحة دراسية من فلبرايت بس أنا كنت في الجيش لما وهي مسافره، وحاولت أقنعها بعدم السفر. لكن والدي هو الي وافق، ولما الوالد يوافق خلاص يبقى أنا لازم احترمه لانه هو صاحب الراي الأول والاخير في البيت.  
المرأة: أنتي ليه كنت عايز تقنعها إنها متسافرش.  
الرجل: لأن دي حاجة جديده. أنا معرفش هي حتبقى بأمان هناك ولا لأ، لأنني بخاف على خواتي. بس حنيتي هي إلي ممكن حتمنع حاجة زي كده يعني. وخايف (... مكنش بأمان، أنا لو كنت (... في الجيش، كنت في الجيش يعني هم الجيش ه...م وأوامر عسكرية... وأوامر عسكرية... وانضباط... وصعبة... الجيش صعب... رغم ذلك أنا كنت وأنا نايم بالليل بحلم إن أنا أشوف إخواني بأمان وكنت خايف عليهم وأنا بعيد عنهم، بحب الحنية لأنني بحن عليهم، بس يعني، كنت بخاف عليهم جدا، وقوم أفوق من النوم لأن أختي إلي بره ديه أنا مش حتلاقي حد يوم ما هي تتعب مش حتلاقي حد يحن عليها يشيلها يوديتها المستشفى، أنا مكننش معارض لأنني مابتقش فيها، أنا بئق فيها، أنا كنت معارض لأنني بخاف عليهم.

**English translation:**

**Man:** Traveling abroad for a woman is something I oppose, but ... ah ... but if she has a with her *mihrim*,<sup>1</sup> this would be fine.

**Woman behind camera:** What does *mihrim* mean?

**Man:** *Mihrim* means that it's allowed for him to protect her ... her brother ... ah ... her husband ... ah ... the next of kin relationship must be strong, I mean -- her father, that's it, but traveling by a woman abroad is something I oppose, I mean.

Yes, there is one of my siblings whose name is Naglaa, she was the one who traveled to the United States of America ... ah ... because of a student scholarship from the Fulbright [Foundation], but I was in the army when she traveled. I tried to convince her not to travel, but my father was the one who agreed that she would travel. And since my father agreed, then that's it, I have to respect his opinion, because he has the first and final decision in the house, I mean.

**Woman behind camera:** Why did you want to convince her not to travel?

<sup>1</sup> *Mihrim* is a man responsible for her.

**Man:** Because that life would be a new life. I would not know if she would be safe there or not. I worry about my siblings. But my kindness might prevent such a thing, I mean ... and I [my] worry is [that] she's not safe. I was ...ah ... I was in the army. Although the burden of the army is very huge, and the orders of military code and discipline and ... ah ... it was hard, the army is hard ... in spite of that, I was while sleeping at night, I dream of seeing my siblings safe, and I worry about them while I'm away from them.

Ah ... I love it because I miss them, but I was very worried about them, and I wake up suddenly because my sister, who's abroad, will not find [have] anyone when she gets sick; she will not find anyone kind to her who will take her to the hospital ... ah. It's not that I opposed it because I didn't trust her -- no, I trust her. But I opposed it because I was worried about her.

**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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