

**Indonesian transcript:**

Pewawancara: Saya pengen tahu sepengetahuan Teh Nenden tentang gadis-gadis di Sunda atau di lingkungan Teh Nenden sendiri di Cimahi, mereka menikah biasanya pada usia berapa?

Nenden: Wah.. macem-macem ya.. ada yang usia tujuh belas tahun udah menikah, ada juga yang ya dua puluh tahunan, ada juga sih yang dua puluh tujuh tahun baru menikah gitu..Biasanya yang sekolahnya hanya sampai SMP mereka menikahnya ya ee....masih muda gitu, sekitar tujuh belas tahunan, karena ya mungkin karena faktor ekonomi orangtuanya tidak bisa menyekolahkan anaknya ke jenjang yang lebih tinggi jadi biasanya mereka dinikahkan kalau ada pemuda yang menyunting anak gadisnya. Dan kalau anak-anak atau gadis yang eee.. bisa melanjutkan sekolah sampai ke.. eee.. SMA atau SMEA ya Sekolah Menengah Atas, biasanya mereka menikah sekitar usia ya dua puluhan lah.. Hmm kalau misalnya mereka bisa melanjutkan ke perguruan tinggi ya mungkin sekitar duapuluh tiga keatas mereka menikah.

Pewawancara: Menurut Teh Nenden usia ideal untuk menikah berapa?

Nenden: ( Berfikir ) untuk perempuan?

Pewawancara: Perempuan?

Nenden: Ya mungkin kalau untuk perempuan diatas dua puluh ya idealnya

Pewawancara: Kalau di daerah Sunda tersebut tidak ada larangan untuk menikah pada usia berapa kan ya?

Nenden: Enggak ada sih.. cuman ya diharuskan paling muda usia tujuh belas tahun untuk perempuan bisa menikah.

Pewawancara: Kalau pasangan untuk perempuan sendiri tidak ada keharusan bahwa laki-laki itu harus dari tempat yang sama misalnya dari Sunda atau dari manapun juga bisa?

Nenden: Enggak ada sih.. ya.. kalau kita sudah cocok sama pasangan kita dan kedua orang tua masing-masing calon peganten perempuan, calon peganten laki-laki udah setuju ya mereka bisa menikah dengan orang dari mana aja.

Pewawancara: Usia laki-laki harus lebih tua daripada perempuan atau sebaliknya atau tidak ada ketentuan seperti itu?

Nenden: Ya kalau ketentuan secara tertulis ga ada ya misalnya laki-lakinya harus usianya lebih tua berapa ngga ada sih cuman ya.. mungkin lebih baik kalau menikah seorang laki-

laki itu lebih tua dari perempuan. Tapi, tapi banyak juga sih yang usianya sama atau bahkan laki-lakinya lebih muda daripada perempuan. Itu sich tidak jadi masalah asal mereka cocok.

Pewawancara: Katanya di adat Sunda itu ada adat seperti bahwa kalau sudah menikah anak perempuan harus dekat dengan orang tuanya kalau anak laki-laki bebas bisa jauh dari orang tuanya kalau setelah menikah, betul enggak seperti itu?

Nenden: Kalau menurut saya enggak juga. Kalau misalnya sudah menikah terus suaminya pengen ngajak tinggal di suatu tempat ya calon istri biasanya mengikuti suaminya dan kedua orang tua si istrinya itu ya biasanya sih mereka mengizinkan karena kalau udah menikah ya istrinya udah menjadi milik suaminya gitu, orang tua hanya mendoakan aja.

### **English translation:**

Interviewer: I'd also like to know, as far as you know when it comes to Sundanese<sup>1</sup> girls or the girls from your neighborhood in Cimahi, what is the common age for them to marry?

Nenden: Well ... it varies. Some of them would marry at the age of seventeen, some of them would marry in the early twenties, but then there are some girls who'd marry at the age of twenty-seven. Usually, the girls who graduated from SMP<sup>2</sup> would marry at a young age, around seventeen, well, due to economic factors of their parents who are not able to send their child to higher education. So ... they would allow their daughter to get married when a man proposes to the family. If the children or girls are able to continue their education through SMA<sup>3</sup> or SMEA,<sup>4</sup> well, senior high school, they'd usually get married around the age of twenty. If they're able to continue their education up to college, maybe they would marry at the age of twenty-three or older.

Interviewer: What do you think is the ideal age for marriage?

Nenden: For women?

Interviewer: Yes, women.

Nenden: Well, maybe the ideal age for women to get married is above twenty years old.

Interviewer: There is no prohibition in Sundanese culture to get married at a certain age, right?

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<sup>1</sup> Sundanese is a term for Sunda people, one of the Indonesian ethnic groups who live in West Java.

<sup>2</sup> SMP (*Sekolah Menengah Pertama*) refers to Junior High School, 7th to 9<sup>th</sup> grades.

<sup>3</sup> SMA (*Sekolah Menengah Atas*) refers to Senior High School, 10th – 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

<sup>4</sup> SMEA (*Sekolah Menengah Ekonomi Atas*) is the same level as SMA, the difference is in SMEA students learn more about Economics such as Management and Accounting.

Nenden: Well, no ... there isn't ... but it is suggested for women to get married after seventeen.

Interviewer: What about the spouses for these women? Is it mandatory that the men must come from the same area as the women? For example, from the Sundanese area or they could be from somewhere else?

Nenden: Not really ... well ... if we feel like we match with our spouse and both parents from the bride and groom agree. They're able to marry anyone, wherever they come from.

Interviewer: Must the age of the man be older than the women or vice versa, or there are no such rules?

Nenden: There are no written rules about it. There is no rule that mentions that the man must be older than the woman, but ... maybe it's better for the man to be older than the woman. In some cases, many people marry someone who is of the same age, or even the man would be much younger than the woman. It's not a problem as long as they match one another.

Interviewer: People say, in Sundanese tradition, there is a tradition that getting married, it's mandatory for a daughter to live or stay close by her parents, but it's okay for the man to live faraway from his parents. Is that true?

Nenden: I don't think so. For example, after someone gets married, then if her husband wants to ask her to live in another place, a wife must follow her husband. Usually, the parents of the wife will agree and give them permission. It is that way because it is believed that when a woman gets married, she belongs to her husband and that the parents can only give them blessings.

**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.

