

Relationships Before Marriage

Persian transcript:

محسن: ما ارتباطِ بینِ دختر و پسر به این معنی که با هم باشند، با هم بیرون بزنند [پروند]، با هم مثلاً خیلی ارتباطِ نزدیک داشته باشند قبل از اون [آن] عقد نداریم. درست [درست است]؟ تو فرهنگ ما بده [بد است].

آزیتا: آره، اصولاً که بده [بد است]، ولی باز هم الآن [یه] یک کم بهتر شده؛ یعنی دو حالتِ داره: [1] یا این که دختر و پسر خودشون [خودشان] قبلاً همدیگه [همدیگر] رو [را] می شناختن [می شناخته اند] و به اون شناختِ کافی از همدیگه رسیدن [رسیده اند] که دیگه [دیگر] اون که مساله ای نیست؛ و حالا اگه [اگر] بخواند [بخواند] عقده [بخواند] عقده هم بکنند به خاطر خانواده ها، اون یه مساله ی دیگه است. [2] ولی اگه همین طور خواستگاری باشه [باشند] و همدیگر رو [را] نشناخته باشند از قبل، فکر می کنم باز هم تو اون مورد یه زمانی قبل از عقد دارند که بتونند [بتوانند] ... موقعی که با هم نامزدند [نامزد هستند] یا هنوز به قول معروف عروس "بله" رو نگفته، یه زمانی بهشون [به آن ها] داده می شه [می شود] که با هم دیگه ... تو بسته ترین خانواده ها [خانواده ها] هم من فکر می کنم این جور ی هست که یه چند جلسه آقا [دختر] پسر خودشون [خودشان] دو تایی با هم حرف بزنند.

English translation:

Mohsen: We don't have the relationship between boys and girls meaning going out. For example having a close relationship with one another before the wedding, right? It's considered bad in our culture.

Azita: Yeah, it's basically [considered] bad, but again nowadays it's a bit better. I mean it has two ways. It's either that the girl and the boy have already known each other and have reached the level (lit. enough familiarity) that it doesn't matter anymore. Now if they want to get engaged for their family's sake¹, that's another issue. But if there is a proposal just like that without getting to know one another, I still think in this case, they have some times before the wedding so they could...when they are engaged or as we say before the bride says "yes", they are given some time so they both...in most conservative families too I think it's like this when at least the girl and the boy can talk to each other.

¹ There are different ways that couples can get to know each other. The socially acceptable way is through an engagement and/or a parental supervised courtship. However, nowadays in Iran there are an increasing number of couples who start their relationship without involving their parents. If they do want to marry, they eventually will follow the official engagement process of "getting to know each other" just to please their families.

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