

Decision Making in Families in the Past

Persian transcript:

محسن: به طور کلی مثلاً تو اون جامعه ای که شما زندگی می کردید، تو همین تصمیمات مهم ایا، یعنی همه قبول دارند که مادرها خیلی زحمت می کشند در این شکی نیست، ولی چه قدر تو تصمیمات مهم تخیل بودند؟ به قول شما "کدام مدرسه بریم"، "خُب، مثلاً" "به کدام مهمونی بریم"، یا این که "به کدام محلّه بریم" و کدام ...
ناهید: بیشترش را پدرم بود و حتی به چیزی رو من یادم نمی ره [نمی رود]. من گفتم پسر عموی من و دختر عموی من با ما بزرگ شدند برای این که عموی من فوت شد. ولی یادمه این که آیا این بچه ها تو خانواده ی ما با ما بزرگ بشند [بشوند] تصمیم پدرم بود. مادر من نمی خواست دو تا بچه به پنج تا بچه اضافه بشه [بشود]. ولی پدر من می گفت باید ...

محسن: یعنی توی اون جامعه ی اون زمان ... علی رغم این که مثلاً خونه به جایی که خُب که مادر بیشتر توش هست و بیشتر زندگی رو اونجا می گذرونه و مثلاً حالا تو این موردی که شما می گید [می گوید] دو تا بچه اضافه شدند مادر بود که بیشتر باید اینها ...

ناهید: برای این که بیشتر زحمت مامان من بودش ولی تصمیم، تصمیم پدر من بود. مادر من را ایا نمی خواستش دو تا بچه به بچه هاش اضافه بشه، ولی پدر من گفت "یا این یا نمی... غیر از این نمی شه [نمی شود]". می دونی یعنی تصمیم، تصمیم پدر من بود.

محسن: و حالا اگه مثلاً به خونه هم می خواستن [می خواستند] بخرن [بخزند] همین جور بود، آره ما آن مثلاً باید بریم [برویم] اونجا و این خونه را بخریم. [پدرت] مشورت می کرد؟

ناهید: البته مشورت می کردن، با هم بودن. این طور هم نبودش که تصمیم مامان من نباشه [نباشد].

محسن: نه حالا می خواهم بگویم تو جامعه ی اون زمان این جوری بود که مشورت می کردن؟

ناهید: بله تصمیم نهایی با پدر بودش. یعنی مادر نظر می داد، مادر می گفت من چی دوست دارم، چی دوست ندارم. حالا یا پدر راه می اومد [می آمد] یا راه نمی اومد دیگه [دیگه]، این هم بودش. دقیقاً خیلی خیلی این تصمیم ها، تصمیم های مهم، این که کجا زندگی کنیم، چی رو بخریم، چی رو نخریم، چیزی بزرگ همه تصمیم پدرم بودش.

محسن: یعنی حتی اگه یعنی به مشورتی هم می شد، مشورت فقط ممکن بود نظر پدر را تغییر بده یا نه، ولی نظر نهایی با پدر بود.
ناهید: بله.

English translation:

Mohsen: In general, for example, the society in which you were living, in the case of these important decisions—I mean everyone agrees mothers are working hard and there is no doubt [about it]—but how much were they involved in [making] important decisions? As you said, which school should we attend?" for example, "Which party should we go to?" or, "Which neighborhood should we go [to live in]?" and which ...

Nahid: Most of them [decisions] were made by my father and I do not forget this one thing. As I said my uncle's son and daughter grew up with us, because my uncle passed away. But, I can remember [that even] the decision that those children should live with us was my father's decision. My mother did not want two kids to be added to her five kids. But my father was saying "Should" ...

Mohsen: I mean that era's society... despite the fact that home is a place where a mother spends most of her life [mother was not involved in making decisions related to it], and in

the case you are talking about, two more kids were added and it was the mother who should ...

Nahid: Because it was more, more work for my mother, but the decision was my father's. My mother did not want two kids to be added to her kids, but my father said, "Either this or ...no other way is possible." You know, the decision was my father's decision.

Mohsen: And if they wanted to buy a house, was it the same situation? [Your father would have the only say] "Yeah, now we should go there and buy this house." Would your father consult [others]?

Nahid: Of course they would consult each other; they were together. It was not like my mom's decision was not there [at all].

Mohsen: Now I want to say, did it occur in the society at that time that [couples] consult [each other]...

Nahid: Yeah, the final decision was my father's. I mean my mother would give her opinion; she would say "what I like," "what I do not like." Then [it was up to] my father whether he would agree with her or not. Exactly, most of these decisions, important decisions [like] the matter of where we should live, what we should buy, what we should not buy—big things—were my father's decisions.

Mohsen: It means even if there was a consultation, that would only possibly change the father's decision or not, but the final decision was father's.

Nahid: Yes.

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