

Levantine Arabic transcript:

المرأة خلف الكاميرا: طيب هل الأعمام يدخلوا بالولد والبنات؟
المرأة: مش مفروض. في زمان كان الأعمام إنو الولد مجبور يسمع كلام عمو وخالو وأهلوه إيش
بطلبوا منو إنو هو ينفذ. في هذه الأيام الحديثة احترام فقط، وممكن إنو إذا كان وجهة نظر العم كويسه
وإنها بتنتفع ممكن بسمعوا. بس عادة بالتربية ما بيتدخل إلى الإيم والأب فقط. ما بيدخلو، لا الأعمام
ولا الأخوال، بس لو حكوا وجهة نظر كل شخص بالنسبة لهذا الموضوع، وهذا كل شيء بيرجع لكل
أسرة بأسرتها.

المرأة خلف الكاميرا: طيب اذا الولد بعيش بعد سن الثمنطاش مع أهلوه بعد ما يخلص..
المرأة: عادة الولد عنا بدرس بتعلم.. إذا طلع.. إما أنو بعد ما يتعلم بطلع بيشتغل بالخارج.. ممكن يستقر
ويفتح بيت و يبدأ هوي يكون نفسه. أما إذا كان الشخص اشتغل في نفس البلد ممكن أنو في شباب
بحبو يستقرو ويفتحوا بيت ويبدووا يكونوا حياتهم ومستقبلهم وفي أطفال.. في شباب.. بصلوا مع أهلهم
حتى الزواج.

English translation:

Woman behind camera: Do uncles interfere with a man and a woman?¹

Woman: They are not supposed to. In the past, an uncle would interfere. A man was obliged to listen to his uncles and did whatever they ask him to do. Nowadays, there is respect only. Perhaps if the uncle's point of view is good and useful, he might listen to it. But usually regarding raising children, no one interferes except for the mother and mother only. Nobody interferes, neither uncles (father's side) nor uncles (mother's side).² But if each person presents his point of view on a given subject -- this is up to every family.

Woman behind camera: And if a boy lives, after the age of 18, with his parents after he finishes....

Woman: Usually a man studies and learns. If he... after he finishes his education, he either goes abroad to work, maybe he gets settled and buys a house and starts to build his life. If a man works in the same country, it's possible to...ah.... There are young men who would get settled and open a house and start building their lives and future, and there are young men who would stay with their families until they are married -- until they get married, then move to the new home.

¹ She means if uncles decide for their nephews.

² In Arabic, there are separate words to describe relatives from parents' side.

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.

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