

Changing Attitudes about Educating Girls

Yoruba transcript:

Òdòbìnrin: Kíni èrò òpòlopò èyàn sí èkó obìnrin?

Arákùnrin: Okay, ah ní... tẹlẹtẹlẹ a máa n ní problem pé àwon òbí wòn ò fẹ fí ọmo won obìnrin sí school because won believe pé tí obìnrin bá ti è ka gbogbo iwé inú kitchen ni... inú ibi tí wón ti n dána ló ma ì lo gbogbo è sí, nítorí pé àwon ma n believe pé àwon oko ò kí jé kí àwon ọmo lo sí emm sí ibi isé, won á fẹ kí o wà ní lé, kí o se kùlé and so on and so forth but aiyé àtíjọ ni yẹ, nísiyí tí ẹ bá wo even tí o bá wo population ní òdòmi níbí, wà fẹè ri pé àwon obìnrin ó ju àwon okùnrin lo. Population àwon obìnrin ó ju ti àwon okùnrin lo. Sé ó débè?

Òdòbìnrin: Eh ó débè.

Arákùnrin: Ah eh, population àwon obìnrin ó pòju ti okùnrin lo, so aiyé igbà kan ni a kì n ri but nísiyí àwon obìnrin ni ó pò tí wón ti è wá sí school dáadáa jù. So ó dàbí eni pé ó ti sink nínu ọkàn won pé àti okùnrin o, àti obìnrin o, ọmolomo, ọmolomo yẹ gbogbo won kí olórun sáà jé kí wón lè jé nkan in life ni, so kò sí wàhálà nípa iyẹn mó.

Òdòbìnrin: But àwon obìnrin tí àwon òbí won ò fẹ kí wón lo sí ilé-iwé, báwo ni ẹ se ma rà wón lówó?

Arákùnrin: Ah ah with pé mandatory school tí à n so like I told you pé basic nine years yẹ, it is compulsory ọmo tí wón bá rí, tí òbí è ò ra, wón lè fí olópàá gbe. So aiyé igbà kan tí kò sí any emm legislative emm law láti back è up ni. Àwon òbí gan án mò nísiyí pé tí ọmo bá pé school age tí ó bá wà ní lé, tí wón bá mò, tí wón bá report won, wón lè gbé won lo sí court. So kò sí wàhálà mó, gbogbo won ti mò pé wón gbódò, à fi tí won ò bá report irú ọmo béè. Tí ọmo bá ti tó school age ó gbódò wà ní school okùnrin ni o, obìnrin ni o, no matter who, they must be in school, so...

English translation:

Young Girl: What is the belief of people about female education?

Woman: Okay, ah, in... Before now, we used to have a problem of parents not wanting to send their female children to school because they believe that if a female goes to school, she will end up in the kitchen... she will end her education in the kitchen, because they believe that most husbands do not want their wives to, emm, work; they will want her to be at home, to take care of the home and so on and so forth. But that is in the past now; if you look deeply, even if you look at the population board here, you will notice that the

females are almost more than the males. The female population is more than the male population. Can you capture that?

Young Girl: Eh, I can.

Woman: Ah, eh, the female population is more compared to the male [population]. So in the past it wasn't like that, but now more female students are in schools. So it is as if it has registered in the minds of people that both male and female... a child is a child, let God make it possible for them to be someone in life; so there is no problem about that anymore.

Young Girl: But for those female children whose parents do not want them to go to school, how are you going to assist them?

Woman: Ah, ah, with the mandatory school we talked about – so like I told you, the basic nine years, it is compulsory; any child seen, whose parent did not send [the child to school], can be arrested, unlike before when we didn't have any, emm, legislative, emm, law to back it up. Parents also know now that if a child reaches school age and is still at home, and it was made public, if they are reported, they can be charged to court. So there is no problem; every parent knows that they must send their children to school unless that child is not reported. If a child is of school age, that child must be in school, whether a male or a female; no matter who, they must be in school, so...

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.

© 2013 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated