

Community Involvement

Nepali transcript:

सनिता: तपाईंलाई केही भन्नुपर्दा खेरी अब तपाईंले developing... यस्तो नेपाल जस्तो developing countryमा medicine पढीराख्नु भएको महिलाको लागि चाहि अब धेरै भन्नुभएको छ यसको लागि...तपाईंको involvement, तपाईंको confidence level चाहि... it's... it's... it's very comfortable होइन ...बाकी तपाईंको साथीहरु चाहि...medical fieldमा अथवा non -medical fieldमा, त्यस्तै छ कि मान्छेहरु...उनीहरुको status... are you ...तपाईं groupको majorityलाई represent गर्नुहुन्छ कि minorityलाई represent गर्नुहुन्छ?

मनिता: I don't think I represent the majority of the group because I think I am the one who's just different from my friends and...तर जब म यस्तो community उसमा involved हुन्छु, I try to educate everyone तर मेरो community involvementबाट चाहि I have been good enough to convince my friends to go and make a difference जुन चाहि मैले गर्न खोजिराखेको छु, अब, मैले...मैले धेरै गर्न सकिराखेको छैन तर म at least try गर्न चाहि पछाडि हटिदिन। अब awareness मात्रै फैलाउन सक्छु अहिले मैले होइन तर म त्यसबाट भए पनि खुशी छु र म मेरो साथीहरुलाई र मेरो कलेजमा मसंग चाहि मिल्ने juniorsहरुलाई चाहि गर्न खोज्छु। तर अब मैले जुन भने नि अब महिलाहरु आफू नै आफ्नो लागि उठ्नको लागि त्यति तयार छैनन् के । अब यो शिक्षित नभएको महिलाहरु plus शिक्षित भएको महिलाहरु पनि कति जना चाहि 'अब मैले पढे, मैले अब विवाह गर्ने अनि त्यसपछि काम गर्छु, मैले आफ्नो लागि गरे पुगिहाल्यो, मैले समाजको लागि केही गर्नुपर्छ भन्ने जस्तो लाग्दैन', त्यस्तो....त्यस्तो scenario छ। तर नेपालमा अहिले change भईराखेको छ किनभने यो एकदम धेरै नेपालबाट चाहि हाम्रो studentहरु नेपालबाट बाहिर जाने होइन, बाहिर गएपछि चाहि अब हुन्छ नि, आफ्नो देशबाट बाहिर गएपछि...पछि त देशको माया बुझ्छ नि। त्यो हिसाबले चाहि फर्केर आउने हाम्रो साथीहरुले जति जनाको मनमा त्यो भाव आएको छ, वहाहरुले चाहि धेरै गरिराख्नुभएको छ । अब महिलाको लागि मात्रै नभनौं, नेपालमा महिला मात्र

मौजित छैनन् नि, धेरै जसो बच्चाहरु, गाउमा त सबैजना नै उत्तिकै मौजित¹ छन् । त्यसैले अब मेरो साथीहरु छन्, मैले त, मलाई त मैले केही गरेको छ जस्तो नै लाग्दैन जनचेतना फैलाउन बाहेक होइन। मेरो साथीहरु, मेरो बाहिरबाट... बाहिर, एउटा बाहिर पढेको फाईदा के छ भने बाहिरतिर चाहिं यदी आफूलाई केहि गर्न इच्छा लाग्छ भने त्यसको लागि fundहरु दिईन्छ होइन, researchहरु गरिन्छ। त्यो कुरामा चाहि, मलाई त्यो कुरामा अलिकति खिन्न लाग्छ कि मैले यहा बसेर चाहि त्यस्तो गर्न सकिदैन। अब यदि मैले कुनै कार्यक्रमहरु गर्न खोजे भने मैले आफ्नो खल्तीबाट पैसा राख्नुपर्छ। मैले आफ्नो साथीहरूसंग पैसा मागेर अथवा घर परिवारसंग पैसा मागेर गर्नुपर्छ होइन। यस्तो नेपालमा चाहि त्यस्तो grant दिने चाहि त्यस्तो खासै छैन हजुर²।

English translation:

Sanita: If you had to say it, developing... like in a developing country like Nepal, you are studying... and as a woman, you have done a lot. Your involvement and your confidence level is... it's... it's... it's very comfortable. About your friends, whether in the medical field or non-medical field, are they the same way or... how is their status? Are you... do you represent the majority or the minority of the group?

Monita: I don't think I represent the majority of the group because I think I am the one who is just a bit different from my friends. But... when I am involved in the community, I try to educate everyone. But through my community involvement, I have been good enough to educate my friends to go and make a difference, which I have been trying to do. I... I haven't been able to do much but I never back out of trying. Right now, I can only spread awareness but I am happy with that. I try to [encourage] my friends and the juniors in my college that I get along with. But like I said, women themselves are not ready to stand up for themselves. The uneducated women and some of the educated ones think, "Now that I have studied, I should get married and then I will work. I have already done enough for myself. I don't think I should do anything for the community." This is the kind of scenario we have. But it's changing in Nepal because there are a lot of students who go to study abroad from Nepal. And once they are out of their country, they start to understand the love for their country. The ones who return and have that feeling [of giving back], they are doing a lot [of community service]. We cannot say that it is only for women, there aren't only women in Nepal... there are children... in villages, everyone is present. So, I have some friends... I... I feel like I haven't done anything besides spread awareness... but my friends who

¹ Not a proper Nepali word but used in Southern Nepal (Terai region). It means "to exist."

² Word used to denote the second person in a respected way

study abroad... one of the advantages of studying abroad is, if you want to do something, they can fund you and you can do research on it. When I think about that, I feel a little dejected because I can't do that by staying here. If I want to conduct any program, I need to provide money out of my own pockets; I'll need to ask my friends or I'll need to ask for money to my family. In Nepal, there is no grant provision.

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.

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