

CultureTalk Serbia Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
LGBT Rights in Serbian Society and Culture

Serbian transcript:

Ана: Да, „Парада“ је занимљив филм о тренутној ситуацији и положају, овај... Иако говори о положају хомосексуалаца у Србији и њиховим правима, порука филма је о правима људи која су угрожена у Србији, било да је реч о хомосексуалцима или другим мањинама, људима који су различити, с обзиром да је и даље већина људи... Непријатељски настројена према различитостима.

Александар: Постоје те неке радикалне групе?

Ана: Постоје, да. Постоји неколико. Ја мислим да они имају чак, овај, подршку власти, односно у неким партијама, овај, што није добро, посебно у овим партијама које су сад тренутно на власти. Неке организације су забрањене, али и даље постоје – постоје чак и верске, односно црквене организације, које, овај, не подржавају не само геј параду, већ и уопште право да будемо другачији.

Александар: Да ли мислиш да ће се то променити у неком наредном...?

Ана: Па мислим да хоће, али да ће требати јако пуно времена. Мислим да хоће. И филм „Парада“ управо говори о томе на један комичан начин, али истинит... Иако је филм цео преувеличан у неком екстремном смислу, али управо описује ту ситуацију.

English translation:

Ana: Yes, *Parada*¹ is an interesting film about the current situation and position of... Although it speaks about the position of homosexuals² in Serbia and their rights, the message of the film is concerned with the rights of people which are threatened in Serbia, whether they are homosexual or members of other minorities, people who are different, given how the majority of people is... hostile towards those who are different.

Aleksandar: Are there any radical groups?

¹ *Parada* is a 2011 Serbian comedy/drama directed by Srđan Dragojević, who is often labeled as one of the best young directors in the region. Although it is not the first film to discuss LGBT rights in Serbia and the former Yugoslavia, it is the first regional blockbuster that deals with this issue. It might be interesting to note that it has received favorable reviews despite its relatively controversial status. *Parada* has also won several awards, most notably the 2012 Berlinale Panorama Audience Award.

² The term *homoseksualci* (Trans. “homosexuals”) is commonly used as an umbrella term for the entire LGBT population throughout the former Yugoslavia. However, with the growth in awareness, the term *LGBTQ populacija* (“LGBTQ population”) is becoming more common.

Ana: Yes, there are. There are several. I think that they also have the support of the government, or at least of some [political] parties, which is not good; especially the parties which are currently in power³. Some groups were banned, but they still exist. There are also religious, church⁴ related groups which are not only against the [Pride] parade, but our right to be different in general.

Aleksandar: Do you think this will change in the future...?

Ana: Well, I think it will, but it will take awhile. I think it will. And the movie *Parada* talks exactly about that in a comical, yet truthful way... Although the whole film is exaggerated in an extreme way, it addresses exactly that.

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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³ The footage was filmed in August 2012. The speaker here refers to the Serbian Progressive Party (*Srpska napredna stranka*), a right-wing nationalist party which won the 2012 elections. The Serbian Progressive Party is the first openly right-wing party to win an election in Serbia since the Yugoslav parliamentary elections of 1938. The Serbian Progressive Party presidential nominee, Tomislav Nikolić, a nationalist known for his support of the Yugoslav Wars and war criminals, also won the presidential elections in 2012.

Sources:

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⁴ The speaker here refers to the Serbian Orthodox Church, the dominant church in Serbia, as well as Montenegro and parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a Bosnian Serb majority.