



འོ་སྐྱེལ་པ་ཡིན་ཟེར་ནས་བཤད་གུང་ཚོ་བོད་ནས་དེ་འདྲ་ཞིག་དང་བཤད་ནི་མ་རེད།  
མང་ཆེ་བ་དུས་པ་དང་ཨ་མ་ལ་སློན་པོ་འདྲ་བྱས་པོ་ཚོ་ནི་རེད། དེ་འདྲ་ཞིག་རེད།

**English translation:**

A: Please tell a little about [Tibetan] marriages and relationships.

B: Marriage... In the past, for my parents' generation, marriages were mostly arranged by families/elders. The families would tell a girl that there is a nice guy from some other family, and it is going to be nice if they get to spend their lives together, then the families from both sides start to discuss about the marriage. If both of the families come to an agreement, then the marriage plan is made. In foreign countries... in many Tibetan areas, as long as the families agree upon the marriage, it is fine for those two people to be together, things like current foreign marriage certification was not necessary. If the families have consensus, the couple's opinions were not as important. Sometimes the couple was asked for their opinions, and if any of the two is not willing, then the families would not insist. In the most of the cases, even if the two were not in a relationship in advance, they would still get married. That is what happens in general. Once the consensus is reached between the families, then they would send wedding invitations to people. In often times, invitations are sent to relatives and others. Invitations are sent to many different places, then when the relatives come to attend the wedding, they bring money and things like that to the wedding. [Good] food is offered to these guests. These days, being in relationships is a little... in the past, being in relationships... how to say this? Actually I am not quite sure how people got into relationships in the past.

Nowadays, many students do get into relationships [at school], people have various family members, some families would not interfere into kids' relationships, some families would say that the kids should focus on studying at schools, and they think being in relationships is a distraction [from their studies]. Therefore, most of the students do not tell family members about their relationship statuses, they do not say things like, "Oh, I am in relationship, we are going out for dinner tonight" to family members. Those things are not told. We Tibetans do not tell such things to our parents, foreigners are more open, they tell everything to their parents, they would even tell about kisses. In Tibet, we do not talk about such things; kids are mostly uncomfortable and shy to tell parents about those things. It is like 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.