

**Tunisian Arabic transcript:**

**سو:** كيما قلت لك لبنية ترناح آآ لبنية ما تفهمها كيم لبنية، اختها تيدا قريبة من نفس لعمر او صديققتها عاشت معها من الطفولة مي كبرو مع بعضهم. اما ما يعنيش انه العلاقة ما بين الطفل و الطفلة آآ... يعني... آآ فكريا ما عدش عندها نفس المفهوم ألي آآ كان موجود في الماضي، الطفل مع يعني يحشم حتى كيفاش مع طفلة و كيما طفلة تحشم منها باش تحكي لها سراير لطفل. موجودة الصداقة مع لوليد و الطفلة، موجودة. في تونس كيما قلت لك سار تطور فكري، سار آآ انفتاح على المجتمعات الغربية آآ الاوروبية اساسا بالنسبة لتونس آآ يعني ما هيش مشكلة ان الطفلة يكون عندها اصدقاء اولاد او بنات.

**سي:** و مثلا لو تجيبي لصديق للبيت...

**سو:** هذا ألي حبت نقول يعني اجتماعيا ما ما تشكلش حتى آآ ما تشكلش يعني مشكل آآ يعني بالطبيعة... مثلا كتمشي لعائلة تونسية محافظة... مدينة مش، ماكش تلقى نفس التفكير. اما نحكي لك على اغلبية المجتمع التونسي. يعني لولاد و لبنات يمشو في نفس الجامعة، ماكش تلقى جامعة للاولاد و جامعة لبنات، يفطرو على نفس الطاولة، يتناقشو آآ على نفس الطاولة، يمشو لنفس المكتبة يعني... منفتحة.

**English Transcript:**

**SO:** As I told you, the girl can only be understood by a girl – and especially if she [the girl] is her sister who is close to her in age or her childhood friend who grew up with her. But this does not mean that the relationship between the girl and the boy is... Ideally, it is no longer the same as it used to be in the past. Then, the boy was shy about talking to a girl and the girl was shy about telling her secrets to a boy. But today there is friendship between girls and boys in Tunisia. Also, as I told you, there is an intellectual development and openness to Western societies, especially the European society. In Tunisia, it is not a problem for a girl to have male and female friends.

**SE:** For instance, if you bring a male friend to the house...

**SO:** This is what I want to say: socially, it does not create any problem. But, of course, if you go to a conservative and religious Tunisian family, you won't find the same ideology. But what I told you is true for the majority of Tunisian society. Boys and girls go to the same university; you don't find a university for boys or a university of girls. They eat at the same table, they discuss the same issues, and they go to the same library. It is open.

**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.

© 2007-2010 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated