

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Living Independently for the First Time

Tunisian Arabic transcript:

سي: اول ما جيت هنا لاولايات المتحدة الامريكية، حسبت باختلاف او كان فيه صدة ثقافية...؟
سو: و الله من ناحية الصدمة كانت فيه صدمة... اما مش يعني... ما كنتش صدمة ثقافية بقدر ماهي صدمة آآ صدمة اجتماعية نشوفها انا. كنت متعوذة على نوع معين من الحياة الاجتماعية، جيت لأمریکا تقلب ل تقلت لحكاية كليا... يعني أنا من وحدة من الناس عمري ما سكنت بعيدة عن عائلتي... عمري ما كريت شي، كريت دار يعني مستقلة على بيت عائلتي، دائما عشت مع امي و خواتي آآمم كانت تجربة اولى و في بلاد... ألي يعني تجربة في بلاد يعني غريب حتى مش تونس... آآ مانيش نقول تجربة صعبة خاطر آآ حمد لله تجوزت الصعوبات و لقيت روجي تعوضت على آآ النمط هذه هي.

English Transcript:

SE: When you came here to the USA, did you see any difference? was there a culture shock?

SO: In reality, in terms of shocks, there was a shock for me but it wasn't so much culture shock as much as it was social shock. I was used to a certain type of social life and when I came to the USA, it completely turned upside-down. I am a person who never lived far from her family; I never rented a house independent from my family's house. I have always lived with my mother and sisters. It was a first experience and in a country very far from Tunisia. I wouldn't say that it was a difficult experience because, thank God, I managed to handle it and I became accustomed to this style of living.

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.