

Yemeni Arabic transcript:

ل: طيب أيش هي الحاجات الثانية اللي مثلا يقوموا به الحريم مثلا هنا. أيش يسووا؟ أيش يعملوا؟ مثلا يروحوا مثلا المركز الرياضي يتدربوا ولا يروحوا... أيش يسووا يعني؟
م: النساء ما يروحوش مركز رياضي يدربوا.
ل: أيش يسووا يعني غالبا في العصر؟ العصر لما يكون مافيش معاهم حاجة أيش يسووا؟
م: هو غالبا في العصر المرأة يا بتجلس في البيت تنفج التلفزيون، أو باتجلس تعمل حاجة في البيت شغل يعني معاهم تصبين معاهم مهرة... يعني شغل يعني داخل البيت. أو إنها باتخرج يعني معاهم ميعاد مع صديقاتها عشان يزوروا وحدة مريضة، أو يزوروا وحدة مثلا يعني وضعت، أو يزوروا وحدة أجت من السفر، أو يتجمعوا يوم الاثنين أو الخميس عند صديقات لهم يخزنوا.
ل: يخزنوا؟
م: يخزنوا أيوه. هكذا المرأة في اليمن ما تخرجش الى المراكز الرياضية ولا تخرج لنوادي. إلا في يوم الجمعة يمكن أو يوم الخميس مثلا ممكن تخرج مع عايلتها تروح البحر الكورنيش مثلا.
ل: يعني طيب ما تزورش اهله ولا أمه ولا...
م: ما أعتقدش لا. أغلب النساء لما يزوروا أهاليهم يزوروهم بنهاية الأسبوع عادة، مش كل يوم.
ل: طيب يعني لما هي تجلس كده في البيت طول اليوم، ما تضبحش؟
م: هو أصلا لما بتجلس في البيت بتجلس يابتنصين يابتجهز للاسمه ده، للعشاء أو للغداء أو بتعطف ملابس أو بتكوي ملابس أو بترتب أماكن يعني معاهم مش مرتبة داخل البيت.

English translation:

L: Okay, what are the other activities that women do here? I mean what do they do? I mean do they for example go to the gym or they go... I mean what do they do?

M: Women don't go to the gym to work out.

L: What do they do usually in the afternoon, when they have nothing to do on the afternoon?

M: Usually in the afternoon the woman stays in her house to watch TV, or stays to do something like housework, like doing laundry; I mean work in the house. Or she goes out with her friends to visit one of their friends who is sick, or has delivered a baby or come back from abroad. They [women] might also get together on a Monday or a Thursday to chew *qat*¹ at a friend's place.

L: Chew *qat*?

M: Yes, chew *qat*. That's the woman in Yemen, she doesn't go to gyms or clubs. Maybe on Fridays or Thursdays she would go with her family to the beach, to the promenades for example.

L: I mean she doesn't visit her parents or mother or...

M: No, I don't think so. Most women visit their parents during the weekend, not every day.

L: Okay so when she stays home all day like this she doesn't get bored?

M: When she stays home she does things like laundry, or preparing dinner or lunch, or folding or ironing clothes, or she will organize places she has in the house that are not organized.

¹ Qat: the leaves of a tree that are considered a drug in many places; Yemeni people chew it to pass their free time.

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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