

Yemeni Arabic transcript:

ل: طيب انتة برأيك في أماكن ترفيهية وأنشطة في المدينة تكفي يعني للشباب عشان يعني يضيعوا وقتهم فيها لو كان عندهم وقت فاضي؟
ي: مقدرش أحكم، في أماكن ترفيهية، بس برضو يعني، اذا الواحد يقدر يخلق لنفسه ترفيه. إذا تشتي تشغل وقت الفراغ، ممكن تخلق لنفسك رياضة، تركز فيها. ممكن تخلق لنفسك عمل خيري تركز فيه. ماعتقدش انه ضروري يكون في مكان عشان تقضي وقت فراغك أو تضيع وقتك. بس نحنا هذا اختيار، نحنا نختار أنه نخزن، الشباب طبعاً مش أنا. فالشباب يختاروا هم القات.

English translation:

L: Well, in your opinion, are there enough recreational places or activities in the city for young people to pass the time, if they have [time]?

Y: I can't judge if there are [enough] recreational places. But still, one can make his/her own recreational activity. If you want to fill your leisure time, you can take up a sport and focus on it. You can also take up charity work and focus in it. I don't think it's important to have a place for you to spend your leisure time. We choose, this is a choice; we choose to chew *qat*¹, I mean the youth, not me. Young people choose to chew *qat*.

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