

## Comments on Rural and Urban Marriages

### Shona transcript:

Ini yandinowanzo.. yandinofarira hangu ndeyekumusha nekuti ndinoona kuti vanhu vese kana zvichiitwa zvekumusha vanenge vakabatana pamwechete zvine chii, zvichingova nekuratidza kuti vose vari kuziva kuti mwana uyu akawanikwa newekwa nhingi arikugara zvakadai. Mutown handirambe asi kuti chinoitika mutown dzimwe nguva unogona kungoti chero uri a family inogonoita muchato kucheche yavanopinda handiti vana vongoita muchato. Kuda pamwe mbuya kana tete vari kure havambozvizivi handiti kuti ndozvakaitika. Saka, imwe nguva kuroorwa kwacho hama dzimwe hadzifari nekuti vamwe vanenge vachidawo kusvika vachiita zvibinge zvavo vachiisa zvimwe zvi..vachipihwawo zvimari zvimari. Zvese izvozvo unozoona kuti hazvizonyatsoitiwa zvakanaka saka unongoona kuti zvimwe vamwe vanozviita zvakanaka mutown asi vamwe manje unoona kuti hazvinyatsobuda zvakanaka. Nokuti ndiri kufunga imwe nyaya yakaitika, eeh, umwe mwana akangowana mukomana wake. Awana mukomana wake akaona kuti anoda kumuwana, akaona kuti vabereki vake vari far away, akangoita zvekuvazivisa kuti ndakuwanikwa kuno. Munhu anga ari mutown muno aiva kumba kwake mumwe mukomana anga ari muno vaingozivana ndobva akutoacter as if ndovabereki vake. Saka hazvina kumbozomira zvakanaka murume akazoti ozosangana nehama dzemukadzi akanzwa kunzi “Ko iwewe moroora rinhi?” akati “Ah, ndakapedza kare ini”. Zvikanzi, “Ah wakapedza kare isu hatina kana kumbokuona hatina kumbozvinzwa wani?”. Ndozvandakaona kuti ah, zvinhu zvemutown, zvekumusha zvakanaka kuti vanhu vese vanenge vachiona zvemutown vanogona kunyeperana.

### English translation:

I usually like the rural system [of marriage] because in the rural system all people will be united, showing that everyone will be aware that the two are getting married, and also of how they are staying together. I do not disapprove of the urban system, but in town sometimes a family only conducts a wedding at their church. The children just get married. Maybe the grandmother or the aunt who lives far away will never really know that that has happened. So sometimes relatives are not happy with the marriage because they have been deprived of their customary rights, they have lost out on the money that they normally get. All that will be done improperly, so you will see that other people do some things right in town, but others mess things up. Because I am thinking of something that happened before. A certain girl met her boyfriend. After she found him and decided to get married to him, she realized that her parents were far away. She just notified them that she was getting married. The only person who was at her home was this boy that she only knew (but was not related to), and he acted as if he was her parent. So things did not turn out well because when the husband eventually met the woman's relatives, they were asking him, “When are you coming to pay the bride price?” And he replied, “I am already done.” And they said “Oh, you are already done, how come we did not meet you?” That

happens in town, so the rural system is good because every one will be there to witness [the marriage]. In town, there is a possibility that people will lie to each other.

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