

CultureTalk Zimbabwe Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Current Relations between Shona and Ndebele

English translation:

Interviewer: Do the people of the Ndebele tribe have totems?

Interviewee: Yes, they do, the Ndebeles do have totems. It is not that different from the Shona culture. Yes, the Ndebeles have them [totems].

Interviewer: Do the Shona people and the Ndebele people live together in harmony or... Do they like each other?

Interviewee: What happens is that, these days they are beginning to like each other. In the past they did not get along well; they did not get along at all. They hated each other but because ...

Interviewer: Why?

Interviewee: It is because, in the past, there was that tribalism that was experienced a while ago. The Shona fought against the Ndebele. After they fought, they separated. There was a distinction between Matebeleland and Mashonaland. So the Shona people were beaten if found in Matebeleland. The Ndebeles were also beaten if found in Mashonaland. These days, because I think people are being united by their children—a child is very important—people have been united by their children.

Interviewer: Are there inter-marriages?

Interviewee: Yes, you see.

Interviewer: Is it allowed?

Interviewee: Yes, it is allowed. These days there are intermarriages between the Ndebele and the Shona people. They are uniting in marriage.

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.