

Gender Roles in Different Societies

Conversation Questions

1. What is the family structure in your last country of residence? How large are families, and what is the definition of family?
2. What about in the culture of your country of birth?
3. What role do the men play in the family? What role do the women play in the family?
4. What expectations are there for women in that culture/society? What expectations are there for men in that culture/society?
5. What do you feel are the differences in the family structures and its gender roles between your last country of residence and North American culture?
6. Do you feel that North American culture has similar expectations on men and women to your last residence?
7. Is each gender upheld to the same expectations, or do you see a difference?
8. How do you see immigrant families responding to the culture shock that they experience as they settle in their new home? Are immigrants, in your opinion, holding on harder to their traditions, or do they relax them?
9. What do you think the similarities and differences are between cultures around the world when it comes to gender roles and family structures? Are there countries, in your opinion, that have similar definitions and are generally similar types of cultures?
10. What impact do you think immigrating to a new country will have on the gender roles in a family? Do you think immigrating to a new country will redefine the roles and family structure?
11. How do you think gender roles have transformed over time? Do you think the definition of a parent is the same as what it used to be?
12. Intergenerational conflict is partly caused by children struggling to uphold their parents' and grandparents' traditions. What role does intergenerational conflict play in defining an immigrant family's gender roles?