

OWUSU - CHOP BAR QUEEN SIDE A

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(Please, what is your real name? ^{were} ~~Where~~ you born in Kumasi?) Yes (Please, now, what is your employment?) Please I work on foods (yes, what kind of food?) Fufu, ampesi, banku, rice anything you need and can eat. (Yes, but please, tell me, how did you start your cooking ^{on} the food?) The way I started, it was something, which - it was something that came into my mind that, I will work on food (yes) and if you are working on food, you should know that, you will work with people. (Yes) Maybe, if you are cooking the food, it is people who would come and buy, you will work with people, so, everyday, if you are doing it, you must know that you are working with people, so you must have patience, how you will pamper the people, how you will be nice to those who are coming to buy and serve him/her well, so that he/she will know that, he/she is coming to buy something, (yes) and you have also pamper him/her nicely. (What kind of work did you start in first as a young woman?) I was in the market, I was selling things, I was working in the market (yes) I was selling things in the market (Please, what types of goods were you selling?) I sold onions and pepper - tomatoes and everything in Kumasi market. (Did you sold it with your mother. . . .) My mother sold different items, and I also sold my goods (Yes, Please, why did you stop mm selling tomatoes and started working on food?) Yes, I stopped, the reasons is that, when I saw that I was growing up, I decided to get a

new job to do, so, it came into my mind that I will 'prepare' ^{COOK} a food (yes) so I cooked the food. (Please, what came into your mind that, you should cook food and it will be good for you?) What came into my mind was that, I saw that when I work on food, it would help me in my life, it is like ~~see~~, maybe you have a brother or sister, or if you have a mother, and if you cook the food, he/she can eat some, so that, even if you are doing something, you will feel fine. (Yes, I have understand. Please, when you start cooking the food, what difficulties or problems did you have?) The problems in the job is that if you cook the food, you have to cook it in a ~~hygen~~ hygienic way or anything you are doing about cooking, and the only problem is that, from the fifth to sixth month up to the seventh month, the cassava has spoiled, and the prices of pepper and other vegetables also has gone up, again, if you cooked the cassava, it is not good, so this bring some problems in this business to us. (Yes, please, were you married when you started cooking the food?) Yes, I was married. (Has your husband ever objected to your business activities or helped you ~~to~~ in business?) He helped me to do it (yes, what did he did to helped you?) He helped me in such a way that I ~~could~~ ^{with} try and to the work, in anyway, in cash, his strength on, advice and how I can do the work. He was the person who helped me. (Yes, what did he do again to helped you in the bussiness?) (What helped me was that, as we are staying

here at now, it is ^{through} this work, that helped
 my children to attend school, it is ^{through} this work
 that look after us in everything in our lives.
 (Yes. Please, what helped you to move forward
 in your business?) What helped me to move
 forward in my business is that, if you are
 doing this kind of work, you must know that
 you are working with human beings, so that
 they can help you in the business, because,
 if somebody return from the Doctor, he/she is
 coming ^{to} buy food to eat. So, if you do the
 work very good, and prepare it nicely, how the
 person who is selling the food would be
 neat, how you would keep your place very
 tidy, or how you would know that the work
 you are doing, you can win more customers
 and if you do it nicely, nothing can prevent
 you from winning customers, or you would not
 get improvement, (yes) it will improve, and it will
 become nice. (Ahaa, yes, Please have you been
 able to acquire any property because of your
 business?) Mm, about the property, some of it was
 what I was saying that, looking after the
 children and where we will sleep or something
 like that, it has helped me to do it (Yes. Please
 has the business enabled you to help family
 members or other business?) Yes, it has helped
 us a lot, because; that was why I said at
 first that, the work help the family, it help
 everybody in everything ^{that} the person is doing,
 it is because of this work. (Please, how many
 children have you? And have any of your
 children joined you in your business?) I have)

Six children (yes) and we have got some children also whom we have attached them to us, and we are training them how to cook (Yes, please, how many of your children has helped you in your business?) My children are six.

(Are they all (All of them are working with you?) About my children, it means that, the work is too much, so some of them can sell the food, some of them can prepare the soup, some of them can also do everything, and all of it can help, (yes) And if some of them also come from some places, you can teach them what I am saying, that, some of them are with my children, and I am training them. (So, how many of the children have you trained?) They are more, (so?) Because, it is a long time since I started the business, so I have trained many more people how to cook the food. (Ah?) Yes. About (Since when did you start the business? About how many years ago?) About the business, I take it like, about twenty five years now.

(Yes, ee, it is a very long time) Yes. (Would a young woman today be able to start this kind of work?) She can do it. (Can she do it?) Yes. (What kind of advice would you give her?) What I would give to her is that, the work she is doing, is she is working about people, so, how you would talk if the people come to you, or how you would prepare the food which the person is coming to buy nicely, so that you would see that, the person who is coming to buy the food, he is pleased, if you do this, the work would improve. (Yes, please, I am asking you about)

changes, How does your life differ from that of your mother and grandmother?) The changes is that at first, we worked for our mothers (yes) and if, even you are doing everything, you must do it for your mother, before you do something for yourself, but now, if you are doing something, you can use your own mind to do it, that, what I am going to do, I can do it properly and ~~#~~ would be ~~well~~ successful. So, now everything has changed, because our children can do their own business. (Yes, at first, ^{they} didn't do this?) At first, even if you are grown up, are you still with your mother?) Yes, at ~~at~~ first, if you are grown up, even like what, except you mother tell you to go and do this, before you can do it, go and do this for me, and you would do it, go and do this for me, and you do it, but now, it is not like that (yes) the children can go and do what they like by themselves (Yes, what brought this changes. Why the ~~changes~~ difference in this present society?) The changes that has come is that, now the children, about their living now, things that we did at first, you see? At first, the elder ask you to do something like that before you can do it, and about the living, how everything would go well with your mother before you get something from her, it is not like that now, (yes) So this has brought the changes (Yes, Please, in your speech, you said that, people should know that, Please, tell me, for I didn't understand you properly) (Why the change / difference in this present society?)

(yes) (She is trying to say that, eeh, when you work very hard well, (yes) you will gain from your profit (yes) (Please, tell her, if she can explain it to me?) (Please, she is saying that, in this present life, what changes has come, about the cooking what changes has taken place?) About the changes, some of them ~~was~~ what I said at first that, if you cook the food, you have to cook it in hygienic way, and keep your place tidy, and you must know that the person who is ~~cooking~~ ^{setting} the food, you should know that, ~~you are~~ the work you are doing is ~~for~~ people, you see? And if the person come and you pamper him/her (yes) Please how much are you buying? How much should I give you? and maybe everything will be well and you are neat, because, the work you are doing is, it is a work of people (yes) So if you prepare it very neat, ~~people~~ ^{everybody} will come and buy and the place where you sit, your water, your cup and if everything is neat, they will come and buy it. (Yes, please is there anything like, maybe if you knew it like at now, maybe you will do it in a different way, you would not do it like as you did at first) At where -- (There were something that she did in life and if she knew what she knew today, she would have done it different way) (Yes, she said maybe at first when you was a child, you did something, which if it were now, you have regret, but she also say ~~is~~ that, there is nothing, (you have regret) (There is nothing) (Yes, please tell me, what has been your happiest moment in life?) My happiest-

moment in life is that, the association ^{that} we have formed (yes) I am the Queen mother (yes) and when the time came for us to go and talk about the nation, we should go and plan the constitution, (yes) all my people vote for me to go (yes) so I became very happy on that day that they vote for me to go and do it. It was my happiest moment in life (yes) (And the constitution Assembly, were you very happy there?) Yes, I was ^{very} happy (What did you do at the Assembly?) What we did at the Assembly was that, we made laws which we are going to use in the country (yes) so, I became very happy that I am among them.

(Yes, yes,) The constitution was what we are going to use to rule this country, so was glad that I am among them (Yes) They vote for me to go so I was very happy. (I was glad (Mho-mho-ho. Yes, now, do you feel fulfilled in life?)) (Do you think you fulfilled in life?)

(Yes, do you feel fulfilled?) (She said that, in this world, do you feel that you are on your own? Do do live by your self?) Yes, (mm) yes

(Is there anything you want to do before you retire?) Your question again) (Ah, is something that she will like to accomplish before she retire) (Ah, she said that, do you have something in your mind now, that you want to finish before you retire?) Ah, about this, I cannot tell because, it is strength, and God give it to us and, maybe if I can do any business to it again It is God, (yes) who can help me to do that thing, (Yes, and, have you got something in

in your mind that you want to do?) Yes, because of God there is something in my mind that, if they are doing any kind of work in this country, which I can do, ^(Pages) I would do it. (Yes, please how has the current economic situation affected your life / business?) That was ~~what~~ why I said at first that, cassava and so on, if it spoiled, (yes) I have said this at first that, in the business, if it reach a ~~certain~~ point, it brings crisis, because if the cassava spoil, sometimes if you ~~cook~~ boil it, the cassava has gone bad, and you will it away, and you loose, so there are crisis at that time (Yes, but somebody has told me that, nowadays, the living has become too high than at first, because prices of good has gone up, and the VAT has come, and many changes has come, I am asking you, whether if ^{it} has affected your members of the chop bars or not?) About the food, we prepare it the same way that we use to cook already, and they buy it the same way they use to buy, because, maybe, somebody buy hundred cedis, we have not changed it to two hundred cedis, if you want to buy at any price, we will give it to you (Ahaa, yes--- Please, what has changed ~~most~~ the country for in the community and the general society / country for the past 10 years?) - - - - Discussion - - -

The changes that has taken place from the pass ten years is that, at first, the changes that I have seen with my own eyes is that, now there are many changes about association, groups, this and that, because of this, everything

has gone well, it means that, all the people have come together, if we are going to do something, ~~it~~ it involve all the people, this one will say, we are going to do this, another one will say, we are going to do that, this this the changes that I have seen (Mhoo-yes, Please, you said that, if you look back, if you look back at the past ten years, the associations, the associations were not one like now) ~~#~~ Today (Yes) Now, we are all one We have seen that, we the chop bar sellers have become one, those who sell medicine have become one, schools, have become one, those people have become one, hair dressers, all those, ~~to~~ everybody has become one (yes) and you feel that, everybody who do any kind of work, all of them have joined themselves together, so this has brought changes in the lives of all people, this is what I have seen (Yes, how does it came like this?)

How it came was that, we the chop bar sellers we must come together so that we can see that, the work we are doing, we must do it to become a work (yes) it must be a work and we must study it and know that it is a work that we are doing. Because if you cook food, you protect the whole nation, so if we come together, some of them, the way they use to cook their foods, they dont do it properly, we must let her understand that, she must cook it well (Yes) so that it can help people in their lives (yes) so that every thing will be well, and I know that, this is)

the same thing that the rest of the groups are or everybody who is working also, and want his/her work to improve and she is doing his/her own hand-work and it is good, this is what has come. (Yes, yes, but please, I think I didn't understand it properly) DISCUSSION

(Ah, please, could you remind her in two so she can explain to me in two, what she

. (Mama, she said, if you also meet and advice yourselves and so on, she want you to explain it, it is about

what? Maybe, it is about neatness or something else or) Yes, it is about our business.

(Is it custom business or you have add some custom to it?) It is about dirty work, how

you will keep yourself neat (yes) Or, you will keep your place very very tidy, or anything

you are doing, you do it nicely to help the business, this is what we do when we meet

(yes) If you cook the food, how you will do it nicely, the towels ^{they} you will use to clean ^{their} your

hands, how you will keep it neat, everything must be neat, so (yes) If we meet, this is what

we do, because many people use the towel to clean their hands, so you must get more and

keep it there, and toilet or perfume soap (yes) all of it. (Yes, I have understand. I have understand

this properly) Mho-ho-) (And champion of women affairs, what does she mean by that they atime

of what day actually do? Something of women affairs, because Eeh, you see at time Eeh,

they DISCUSSION

(Please, let's continue. Please, she want to ask)

that, what has changed most in the community and the general society/country for the past 10 years?) You have already asked me about it and I have answered it. (Yes, but she said she didn't understand it properly, aha-ha) I have explain it (If you say it again, you don't loose anything, speak louder) I have already explain it to her that, the changes I have seen is that, at first, there was no unity or something which they call it like, we must all become one, there was nothing like that, but what I have seen is that, now, we the chop-bar sellers (yes) we have become one, as at now, we have all become one, so now, if we are meeting about anything, we join our mouth/mind together, that we are going to this place or the work we are doing, we are discussing it, how it will be neat, in our the way we cook, our lives or the place where we sell it, how everything we would do, it will become neat. So myself, this is all I have seen that it is a change that has come into our lives (For the past ten years) Past years.) (Thank you. So it means that at first everybody does her own business individually, it is something like each-one for himself/individually) Yes, (now it has become something like unity, and you have unity than at first?) So. (Please, apart from you business also, if you look into the Nation/country also, what kind of changes has taken place for the past ten years? I think in Ghana there are changes, at first, for the past ten years, there were certain things)

maybe, it was not there, or it was there and maybe, it has changed now?) That was what I have already explain it to you that, things that were not there at first, which I didn't know, it has all come, because in our lives, about our business, at first, if your sister some business or cooking and you advice her that what she is doing is not good, she will not give you a chance, but now, all these things have changed and we have become one for if the person is not around, even if she is doing something and she is not around, you can take her place and look after the child to do it nicely; about our living, about our business. (Thank you very much - - - - -

DISCUSSION - - - - -

(Please, we shall continue, thank you very much Please, how have women's and men's views in Africa or Ghana context on marriage changed over the years? because there are many changes in our marriage, which changes have been positive? What changes still need to take place? She-he) How? (It is nothing, how you will explain it, it is good) Marriage, it is the only thing that women have, because if you are doing something and your husband tell you that, go on with what you are doing, I think you can do that thing and and get improvement, about the living, it means that about you do everything with the man. (At first if we are looking at the past, and today, which changes have taken place? You see that, at first let me take it like, few years back, how the marriage was, and now, what do you

think are the views in it? Which one is good?) This modern one is ^{very} good, as we are saying, how the living is going, everything you are doing, you are doing it with your husband, if your husband help you in everything you are doing, you can do it and you will be successful, so at first, the living and the living at now, I have seen that, changes has come, that if you are doing something and you do it with your husband, you get improvement in your lives (So now, is it good?) It is very good (now, can we add something to it to get more improvement than this? Can we add something to our marriage? Though it is good, but is there anything that we should add to it to get more improvement than this, do you think there is something like that?) What we must add to it to get more improvement is that, or what I know is that, at first, we ask/beg for a woman before they marry her, but now, we dont ask/beg for a woman before they marry her, so I think that if we add this thing to it and use it ~~it~~ I feel that it will help, and everything will go well. (Explain it a little, for that place is very important) Mho-ho (In which way did they ask/beg, and today also, in which way ~~do~~ they do not ask/beg and it because of this it is not good) At first, the reasons why they ask beg for the woman is that, at first, they took the girls into puberty rites "bragors" they took you through puberty rites, so that they can come and ask/beg you, so that ~~they~~ ^{they would} can know that.)

you have now entering into marriage, so they come and ask your hand in marriage and marry you (they ask/beg you from your parents?) So (before they take you away) It means that, if they have taken you through puberty rites, they know that, you have grown up, so they can come to your parents and ask/beg them to marry you (Yes) This thing was there, and it was like that (yes) but now, they don't take ^{them} you through this puberty rites, so in their marriage of the ~~gr~~ children, it is some changes which has come that, you would see it yourself that as he goes around, some of them go for their husbands, again you will see it before the man come into the house, so this changes that has come, it is ~~the~~ because of the puberty rites and so on, that was why they come home to ask/beg for the children, but now also, they don't ask/beg for women unless they see themselves and discuss it, before he come ~~home~~ home to beg/ask for her (Yes) That means, what we should add to it now and be successful is that, maybe we should go back to the past, so that they should come home and ask for the girls and marry them, then; they should go around and become pregnant and bring it home) Yes, this one, maybe ^{if} we are doing this again, it will help us, ~~as~~ the parents and all people, and even, the whole Nation, that in anything, we should go straight into the house and see the house and know or study how the life in that house is, or how the help from the house is, even)

if we enter the house, how the house is like; I suggest that, if we bring this thing to it, it will help us a lot. (Yes) (Thank you very much) (Yes, I have understand) (Please thank you. Lets continue, Please, is polygamy a necessary evil?) Polygamy, my mind tells me that, it is not good, it is not good because, Eeh, it pulls everything back, it means that, maybe I have some problems this morning, and I must, or it is a must to discuss it with the man so that everything will go well, you cannot ~~find~~ find him also and discuss it~~s~~ with him, and nobody can also give you advice like him, or even, if somebody can give you an advice, maybe, there would be some changes in it, so I think that Polygamy, my mind tells me that it is not good. (Thank you very much. Please, Nana, now they have brought something, they say Family Planning, what do you think about it? Now they have brought something, but it was not there at first, like Family Panning, We have Family Planning now, what do you think about it? Is it good or bad, yes) That was what I said at first that, at first we go through puberty rites (Please let me explain it a bit. The Family Planning, at first you see? Let me take like, at first, you said that, they brought brought forth quickly-quickly-quickly, they are also too much, today, we dont say that they should not bring forth, we must bring forth but we should ^{must} ~~should~~ space it, this is the Family Panning Planning, or we should go to the Hospital and we should be examined, so that they can

give us some medicine which can help us to space it, or would advise us how we should space it, or have more children or not, ah, this is the Family Planning. What do you think about it?

(Whether it is good or bad?) This one, it is very good, it is very good, because at first, even, our grand-parents, they didn't do the Family Planning, but some of them spaced their children (yes) because she says that if she gave birth to more children, she become sick or she gets some problems, so she can stay for a very long time, maybe two or three years before she go to her husband, so, some of my grand-mothers, some of them can go to his husband only once, and become pregnant (yes) she can sit down for a very long time, and she will not go to her husband for a very long time, the day she will decide to go to the husband that thing will come, so I think that, I support this thing very seriously that it would go on so that, there will be strength in our body.

(Thank you very much. Now, if the women go to the Family Planning, it gives them strength, we can look after our children) so. (Thank you very much. I think that I have already asked you a lot of questions about your children. Please, Nanee If you were ~~able~~ to be given another chance would you have the same number of children as you have now? Because, now, we have Family Planning, so how much would you have?) About this, what I will say now is that, maybe I would have four or three, maybe it is good. Because it will help the strength which I have already)

Said, because if you have that thing, you have strength to do everything to help the children (So, you have already answered it, I didn't ask you, but you have answered it. Why would you have few children?) The few I would have, is the same strength, as I have said earlier, it means that if you have strength, you can do everything, and you have brought forth these children, but you also have no strength, how can you look after them? (Please, Nana, now, they have pass out a law about Esh, intestate succession after death, if the man dies, about the intestate succession, after his death and the registration of marriages, what do you think about this, what are your views about this?") "What are your views on the current laws on intestate succession and the registration of marriages?" Yes, this is ^{very} good, about giving ~~it~~ birth to children, and the living and your husband, it is very good, because Esh, all these things, it help the woman and the man and all the children and it help them to get improvement in their lives, it is good for them, (Please, I want to explain it a little. You see that, at first, if somebody dies, they drive away the woman, as soon as the man dies, they would come and shuts the doors, even, if your belongings is there, you would not get the chance to take it, you and your children, you stay outside. There are new laws now, yes, I said, what do you think about this? This law which has come?) And I said that, it is very good: It is very good for us, we as the parents, and.)

the women and ^{all} the men, it is good for us. Because, if you are staying with your husband as we have said already that, maybe, you have some arrangements with your husband, and maybe, he has died instantly, and if something like that happen, you must sit down and do everything with them. But on the other hand, they can come and drive you out at once, and all that you have in your mind, you would forget, so it is very good, if these things has happen (Thank you very much. And now, what do you think of the registration of marriages? They say, we must register our marriages, is it good or not, what do you think about it?) It is very good. (Say your mind) It is good, it is good because, eeh, even, if you have a wedding, we register weddings, why not, if you are staying with your husband, or if there is something in your live, and they ask you to go and register and both of you ^{to} become one, ~~why~~ is what is wrong with this? So it is very good. (Thank you very much. Please, there are many women's groups in Kumasi and else where, Do you belong to any women's group in Kumasi or elsewhere?) Yes (It is only yours, please, now, please, stop this one, stop this one and talk about this, so that it will be good for us. Now there are more women's groups) N C W D (Is it ^{here} in Ghana?) Yes, (and in Kumasi, do you belong to any group?) N C W D (National Counsel and Development - - - - -) Yes, yes. (Yes) That is what I belong to (and) ah, now, (and chop bar keepers association) yes Ghana Traditional Catering)

Association, yes, it is included (Thank you very much) And see, --- ---) (Please, do you belong to any women's group in the church?) Yes, I am among them (Please, which one?) Holy Matrimony group (Which church?) Roman (Is it women's group?) Yes (Again, you have two or three women's group) Yes (Thank you very much. Please, Nana, what are some of the ways in which women's groups, like yours are helping to nurture, teach, support and train young females to help them face and be prepared for the 21st century?) About this, if we meet, we can sit down and think about it, every body, excuse me to say, who is a leader, you can use this thing to help of the work you are doing, so, if we meet and thinking about ourselves, we can say something like --- --- when we have finish our discussion, you also, if you meet with your people, everything that we will say, you also, if you meet with your people, you must use to help them so that your work also would improve. (And these modern young females, you see that, most of the groups can help the girls, different people. These three or two groups which you belong to, in ~~not~~ which ways do you help these modern females, how the living is moving now how it is moving forward, the girls cant cope with it properly, you see? Yes, what kind of advice, teaching or encouragement or leadership are you giving them, so that the can also do with this present life?) About this, if we meet, if we meet, they can advice us that, the living if you are living and you see that, if you

are doing some kind of work, you must try and know that, the work you are doing, it is a work that ~~is~~ helping you, so if you are doing something about the work, you must do it properly so that, everything you are doing, it can help you how you would get improve. (And what about the rest of ^{the} ~~children~~ ^{girls}.) What you are saying, you are saying it for (the rest of the ~~the~~ girls also) Ah, the rest of the girls also, in our business, we can advice them how you would do your business ~~and~~ to support your living, but we also, if we work, we work for our mothers, how much more ~~now~~ you, who are working for yourselves, if you continue to do the work, it will help you, them to give yourself free, at first we didn't roam about for nothing, even, we worked for our mothers, so now, if you the children, if you can work for your living, there is no need to walk around for nothing, and if you work hard, you also can live and have peace. (This means that, you can call upon the children and advice them?) We advice them ~~very~~ very serious (This is what I want to hear from you.) We advice them very seriously, especially in our business, the children whom we are training them, and those children whom we are working with them (yes) We, the elders, if we finish our meeting, we call again the children (yes) and have meeting with them again, and teach them ~~the~~ way, which we ~~went~~ ^{gone} through, that we have been able to do the business up till now, we can teach them all of these. (This is what I want to hear. Thank you-) Yes- (Thank you very much. What do you think)

women's groups should do to improve conditions of life for women and the family? These modern girls, ~~ask~~ as you was saying, I am asking you. You teach the girls, the way they should go live, their business and so forth, in which way do you help them in their lives, so that it can improve, ~~that~~ though you are teaching them, ~~the way~~ but in which ways do you help them to get improvement in their lives?) Yes, we are talking about the grown ups, about the children who are growing up, your lives and your marriage, we ~~advise~~ you about all these, that, married also can help you to go well in your marriage, because, if you stay with one man, and if you are doing something, he can help you and you would be successful, it can help you in your life, so we do advice them more that if they are doing anything, we must see to it and stay with one man, so that, if we are doing something, the men should also help us, so that, what we are doing would go well.

(Thank you very much. So, now, there is nothing like, or such a way, maybe you give ^{some} them money or maybe, you advice them to save ~~so~~ some money "susu" to help yourselves, or something like that so that they would get improvement in their lives?) Yes, about this, while they are doing the work, we help them, and ~~they~~ ^{we} also let them know that, they should know the profit in the work they are doing or your living also would be fine, so we teach them all of these, we teach them all the secrets in the business, and we let them know that, the children are doing a business that would help them. (Please, what

do you think are the most important current problems of women? What do you believe? if you study it properly, women, our most important current problems, ~~you~~ ~~at~~ please, put the book aside) I am coming, I want to remember something about it, and (Most of the women's has many problems) It means that, women, how our lives has become difficult for us, the reason is that, if you are doing something, and you know that, what I am doing, somebody is also there, who would not do it, while you are doing it, she is also pulling you down, while you are doing it, she is also pulling you down, maybe, if she also help you to do it, maybe, it will help all of us to get improvement in our ~~lives~~ lives, (So, women, most of the women, let us put aside the problems of the business ~~aside~~, about our marriage, in our business, in our families, in this country, what ~~are~~ ^{of the} the most important current problem of most women? What is the most important problems, you see that, women, we have some important problem, that worries us seriously, you see that, women, our most important problem, what is our most important current problem that we are facing now?) Our most important current problems (yes) in all our lives is, if a woman can stay and have peace, it is your marriage. The marriage is that, if you get married and you and your husband has the same ideas, and if you are lifting it up, he ~~said~~ ^{says}, yes we are lifting it up, if you are bringing it down, he says we are bringing it down, I think that, if you are going out side, you know where you are going, so.)

I think that, this thing also can help the living, to get improvement. (This means that, women, our most important problems is our marriage?) So, marriage is our most problems, because, Eeh, if you are doing anything, as I have said earlier, Eeh, if you are doing something and the man is standing behind you, and even, if the thing you are doing dont go well, befort he has given you some support at home, I think that, if you are doing it, you have some account in it, but maybe you are happy, and if you go home and something is worrying you, I think it is a very big ~~problem~~ Problem for us. (Thank you. Somebody have some and it is good,) So, (Somebody have none and she is looking for one, somebody have got some, but is has spoiled, so marriage is our most important problems, Please, this marriage problem you are talking about, that ~~g~~ brings Problems to women, what are the causes? Marriage is the most important problems, what are the causes, and what are the remedies, what is the medicine?) The remedies is that, (The causes first) Maybe, you are ~~staying~~ staying with your husband, when we got up this morning, maybe, he have none, you must also have patient and see that, ~~the~~ man have none but I have some, maybe, he has given it to you and ~~all~~ ^{both} of you must become one and everything would go well. But, maybe, when the man told you that, Adjoa, we should do this thing, you will not give way, and if you dont give way, and he goes to work, and that place also, he cannot have any conversation with his wife, if he have any conversation with his wife, it would

not go well, so this the thing that bring
 problems in marriage, because in every marriage,
 if you have peace, it is because, both of us have
 the same mind, and ~~everything~~ everything that we will say
 if we do it, ~~we~~ both of us become one, so, I
 think, this is the main thing. (I think you can
 add something little more to it for me, by your
 grace, Many things bring problems into marriage,
 difficulties, there are many problems in marriage
 what examples can you give again? Some of the
 examples is that, somebody has got one, but
 there are many problems) Some examples are,
 the little I will say is that, we must all ~~have~~
 get some advice and courage, that, if you are
 staying with your husband, and he is doing
 something which you don't like, you must have
 patience about it, and both of you; and you
 must ask him that, my lord, what shall we do
 today, so that we shall have the same mind? I
 think that, if we do such a thing, it will bring
 peace and harmony, and in our training
 of our children, maybe one of the children has done
 something wrong, and if you say something about it
 or if the man is coming to say something about
 it, and maybe it is not fair, at that time, it
 can bring problem, so if both of us have one
 mind, I ~~believe~~ believe that, if the child does
 something wrong, and both of us join together and
 discipline the child, or if both of us come together
 and look after the child, there is nothing ^{that} can
 bring problems to us in our marriage or in our
 lives (Thank you, it means that, ~~at~~ at now, we
 don't have the same mind, that is why we have)

all these difficulties and problems) Ah, because if you are staying with him, and you have the same mind, there is nothing which can bring quarell, there ~~would~~^{will} never be a quarell, if both of us have the same idea, it will never come, (It is left with my last question, Ehe-he. now, we have found ~~what~~ the Problem in marriage.) Yes (Both of the two, we want to know it all) Ehe-he- (We have found many things that brings separation of marriage, now, what are the remedies, what ~~must~~ we do to stop all these things?) The remedies is that, we must all have understanding, both the woman and the man must have understanding, that both of us has joined together that we have married, soⁱⁿ everything that we are doing, we must do it together and know that, both of us have joined together, so if anything at all, we must become one. I think that, if we do such a thing, ~~it~~ it will bring understanding (Thank you, this means that, if we become one; to become one) It would come (If we become one, that means we would have the remedies everyday, and everything will go well) Nothing will happen (Thank you. Please, Nana, now, it seems like, women do many jobs, must a woman choose between a family and a carrier? Can she be successful at both? Somebody may say, if I get married, I will not work, somebody is also there, she will get married and she will work, you see? yes, yes, in marriage ooh or in the family ooh, and how we join it with the work, can choose between both and be successful?) Yes, what we can do to become successful is that, ~~except~~ we all come together.)

and ^{we} all become one, we must become one, because, if we join the marriage and the family and the work together, ~~we shall~~ ^{it will} become one, because, if these thing is not in our lives, I think that, our lives shall not be prosperous. So if we join these things together, ~~we~~ ^{if} our lives go on well, you can do all of it and you will be successful. (And this thing, let me take it like, as I am staying here now, maybe, I do some business oh, and again, I have joined it with my marriage, maybe, I have children, I must get up early in the morning and do this, and do that, etc. before I go to work, if I return, I have to run and prepare the meals and so forth, if a women choose between marriage and the family and the business, what do you think about the tensions that she would go through?) There are no problems tensions in it, because if your husband have some understanding for you, that, this is my wife we ^{are} all one, and you are going to work, while he is staying with you, he knows that, the business help ^{us} ⁱⁿ our marriage, and you the woman also, you knows that, the business helps you in your lives, so if we are doing such a thing, and I have already said it, and if there is understanding, nothing ^{bad} will not happen to us in our lives (Thank you very much, And what do you believe, that, you the woman, what difficulties do you ~~of~~ face? Maybe if you would get up about six o'clock, you must get up about four o'clock, you see? Maybe, you understand? So, you, as the woman, what difficulties do you go through? You have to look after the house, as I am saying, maybe, your mother and

father are with you, you must look after them
Husband and children.

END OF SIDE A. - OMUSU

(You have seen that, women, Women of Ghana) Explain it first (It is nothing, it is working, it is all necessary, you see that, women do more work than men, or I lie? A woman who is doing very serious business or a trader, you have to leave home very early, you must care for the house, prepare something for your husband, before you leave, and your children maybe, your mother or somebody is with you, if you ~~return~~ go, you have to work very very hard, if you close from work, you must come home and do the very very hard work at home so, your body, what difficulties do you body face?) That was what I have said already that, these three things can help the man, if there is understanding between all of you as I have already said, if he see that, my wife has travelled, and there is something at home which he have to do, for if ~~it~~ is necessary, he would do it. And the family also, which is the third, he/she also knows that you have brought something home, and you are going, and you would return to prepare the meals, if you leave, she will also prepare it before you return home and eat some of it, so all these three^{it} can help) (Yes)

(Thank you very very much. Please, what do you imagine or know are the disadvantages of being the only woman in a profession or office eg. law, medicine, engineering and military which are dominated by men? Have you seen what I am saying? (Yes) Being the only woman let me take it like, you go to assembly or something like that, you are the only woman, you have)

meet with men, ~~at~~ what tension would you face or what problems would you have, you see that, if you meet with women and you are talking, you see that there is difference, and if you are with ~~the~~ most of the men and you are the only woman and you have a higher post, and if you meet and you are the only woman among them, what do you believe, (What would happen is that; I think that, if we are all saying our views, and if I have something in my mind, I will also say it, that this is my mind (yes) about that issue, or if we are doing something, I can say that, I have knowledge about it, ~~so that they~~ and I can also do it, and I will let them know that, I am a woman, but I am doing it with them (And the day you) (Let me take it like, you would have no fears and tensions?) No. (There are some people, if they meet (group of people) with men only, and you are alone.) No, ~~what~~ the reasons I went there, I can do anything about it with my knowledge (The day you went to Assembly, was there no problem?) No, anything that they were doing, if I have some knowledge about it, I could say it, or I can express my views. (Yes) Thank you. You see that even, in Akan, Eeh, maybe, if all the men gathered to discuss something, and if you are the only woman among them, and you say something about it, Oh! you are a woman, Shup up your mouth, if you do, ... you see? It seem like they are oppressing you, if something like that happens, what do you believe, or if you meet something like that, what will happen to you?) Today,)

Eeh, our grand parents and all our elders have understand that, as at now, a woman can also do something good, so there is no woman, who ^{will} would say something and they would tell to sit down, they will tell you to say your mind and they will listen. (Thank you. What examples in history can you think of where women's contribution have been overshadowed? . . . Can you remember remember something like that for us?) How?) (Maybe, in history) About this (Or even now, you see that women, most people have done something, which they must ~~also~~ announce it and record it or it must be a record for the unborn children you see? But you will see that, they never said it, rather they keep it secret and we never heard ^{any} something about it again) About this, I cannot tell - nhe-he-he- (Don't you remember something like that? You see that, somebody like Nana Yaa Asantewaa, she took a gun and fought, she lead the men, and did many thing with courage even, they said something little about it, you see? They have said this. But this one also, it has been once, they dont maybe, they should say it more, so that it can go further than this, you see, do you understand? Do you understand what I am saying? yes, but they say it very little, but if it was a man, ~~Dr~~ Dr. Kwame Nkrumah if you compare him to a woman Yaa Asantewaa and if you study Kwame Nkrumah, if you are looking at it properly, maybe you will say that, a woman Yaa Asantewaa, she has courage than Kwame Nkrumah, but you hear the name of Kwame Nkrumah in the whole world. But Yaa)

Asantewaa, maybe, it is only in Ghana, one-one, --- even, some of them don't know, maybe, it is only the Ashanti's -- you see? I want to hear something this this) Mho-wo- About this, it is only Yaa Asantewaa alone, that our grand-parents have told us and we have understood that, when something happened, how she had ^{the} courage and rose up and did such a thing, that is why her name is still there, and we still say it. So I know that, what Yaa Asantewaa did, and as you are saying, So, Yaa Asantewaa, her courage has ~~transf~~ ^{transf} erred to all of us now, and now, I think that ~~now~~ we have joined ourselves together, and if you are doing anything at all, it is all the same courage, because, if ^{even} you are a leader, it is courage, how you are ~~at~~ leading the people and have joined yourselves together, I think that, if you don't have courage, you cannot do something with many people, so I feel that, all of these, it is courage. (Thank you. So, let me take it like the Queen-mothers, even you as you are here now, maybe, you have done something ~~at~~ very good in this country, and they have to mention it, or something which they must announce it, but they have buried it, do you understand what I am saying.) Yes. (Yes, Yes) Something like that is what I want to say) Yes, that is why I have also explain to you that somebody like Nana Yaa Asantewaa, she led people, that was why they mention her name. So, how the groups, we have joined ourselves together, if you can lead them to do something, so so that they can know that, this person---- (It is)

like me. I have gone through the whole Ghana. I have been to the Northern Region, I have been to Mfanste, Angloga, as at now, our group is at every where (yes) about all these, as you are saying, if they honour me or if they say something good about me like Yaa Asantewaa, maybe- I feel that it is good, because at first, all the chop bar owners, we never knew ourselves (yes) We didn't joined ourselves together but now, all over the Ghana, we are here, and we have joined ourselves together, and as at now, our names ~~are~~ ~~at~~ ~~over~~ ~~is~~ everywhere are all over everywhere, so as you are saying I think that, if they do this to me, I would like it (Nana, even you, they have to honour you ooh, do you understand?) Yes. (I want to hear something like ~~this~~ from you) Ehe-he-he (Even, you, they must honour) Yes, about this, they have hurried it (If God didn't let it come out, and if you are not alive, nobody will remember you in future what you have done) Yes, it is exactly what you are doing, because it is a must, that they must honour me, because as as now, ~~how~~ as I said at first that, when they were going to prepare the Constitution, we the chop bar keepers also, we were invited to joined them; and as at now, they are using it to rule this country. We the chop bar keepers, we have our name in this country that, we are among those people ~~to~~ who planned this constitution. (Yes, but they don't allow people to hear it, it is only you, who knows it by yourself, if ~~I~~ I didn't ask you about it, I ~~to~~ would)

not have known it, you see?) Ehe-he-he (Because women usually do it, but maybe they brag it, they don't announce it) Yes (But if it was a man who did it, they would have said it several times, you see? yes, this is what we want to hear, Yes please, I think our ~~confession~~ conversation is coming to an end. What do you think are the oppressive structures that keep women in positions of powerlessness? they don't allow you to demonstrate your power and courage or ~~etc~~, your knowledge, you cannot demonstrate it, maybe about your business, or at home or anything, is there anything like that?) About this, the little I would ^{like to} say is that, if you are going to do the job, or if you are going to do something like the group I am talking about, if you say that you are going to do it, because your conscience tells you to do it, and your husband is around, maybe, he will tell you that he will not allow you to do it. (yes) something like this, it means that, your spirit goes down (It brings you down) It brings you down (your knowledge) come down. Again, secondly, somebody has the knowledge, but when you are doing it, somebody else is pulling you down as I have said already about what you are doing, maybe, your braveness about what you are doing, it will help you to be successful in what you are doing, but she/he will try to pull you down, I think these things can discourage you and what you are doing, your spirit would come down. (Thank you very much. Can you give us an example about this thing? about yourself or somebody else who is doing

Something like that? Maybe in the Church (oh, anywhere, but they are pulling you down) Yes, that is why I am saying that (Can you give somebody as an example?) Yes, I can give an example like; what I have said is that, if you are going, if your conscience tell you to go, ^{if} the man whom you are staying with him says that, I would not allow you to go, there is nothing else you can do (You have been discourage) So,

This thing, it is something, if you didn't get a person, who would allow you to do the thing or support you or would say go; it is like now, what I am doing, it is ~~man~~ I can say it truly that what I am doing now, it is my husband who have allow me to do it. It means that when I was doing it, and he didn't allow me to do it, I could not have done it, even, with all my courage, I ~~could~~ not have done it.

(Thank you very much. I think that we have had a lot of conversation, I have asked you a lot of questions, and you have also answered a lot for us? I have heard it ~~it~~ I feel that we want to come closer to you ~~the~~ who are elders) So that, we the youngsters, we can learn something from you now. About all these conversation we have had, maybe you have something that we didn't asked or is there any question you think we have left out or more to be added? or any advice?)

Mm, my advice, to ~~all~~ the women and men and our young men and our modern children is that now, we must know how; at first, the civilization and so forth, now, things have changed, so if we are doing anything ~~it~~ it is; we should take time, .)

and there is nothing which would disturb you in what you are doing, but if you say that you want to have everything now, or if you are doing everything in a hurry, it would not be well with you, except you take time and think about everything that you want to do, and I think everything would go well with you in everything you are doing. So, this is the little advice I ~~can~~ can give (Thank you very much; We thank you very much in the name God. We thank you that you have had patience, and we have wasted your time, and people are coming up and down to you.) I say (I was disturbed by this thing. Thank you very much. Please, I am asking you only one question) (Yes, ask: (You see that; Somebody has told me that, now, there is civilization then at first, and this civilization, is it good for you? or is it a good news or is there any bad bad thing in it or problems in it?) The civilization? Civilization? Eeh, civilization it not a bad thing (yes) because, something which is not bad, it is good, and something which is good, then it is not bad, and the civilization, it is good because, if you are civilized, that means it doesn't mean that, you must do something which you cannot do, civilization means that, in our lives; up and down and in everything, like ourselves or our age group, at first, we work for our mother, but now, it is not there, so these are some of the civilization. (yes) We; we never attended school, something they have introduced something; - we should learn something, and we can ^{use it to} protect our business, I feel that all these are some of

the civilization. (Yes) You see? Because as at now, somebody has never been to school, but she is a trader, but if you write an amount of money for her, and it is not correct, she can see it, this is some of the civilization. (Yes, I have understand) (We thank you very much) (Thank you) (Thank you very much) It is finish

END OF OWUSU