

Oral History Project Interview

Arab and Muslim Women's Research and Resource Institute (AMWRRRI)

Number of Interview: SD 1.00

Date:03/10/2013

Gender: Female

Name: Alma (name changed to protect interviewee confidentiality)

Country of Origin: Iran

Year of Immigration: 1979

Abstract: The subject came from Iran during the 1979 Islamic Revolution with her spouse. A background in nursing, the subject emphasized providing and helping others. She installed a strong sense of Persian culture in her children, and started a school to study the culture. Education, along with a modern approach to religion was high priorities in the subject's life.

Key Themes: Identity, modernity, education, family, culture

Note: In the transcript, I refers to Interviewer, and R refers to Respondent/Interviewee.

I: Ok, my name is Sam Dawson of the Arab and Muslim Women's Research and Resource Institute. Today I am conducting an interview at Alterra coffee with Alma. Ah, Mrs. Alma, let's start off, where are you from?

R: I am from Iran.

I: And where in Iran?

R: Ah, Kermansha.

I: Kermansha?

R: Yes.

I: And where about that, geographically is that in the nation?

R: Ah, it is in the west part of the town, the country, which is, um, mountainous, has four seasons. Like here, with shorter winters. (laughs)

I: Great. Growing up in Iran, tell me about your life?

R: Well I am one of the five children from my family, the fourth one. I have three brothers one sister, and they are all living, they're all there and nobody is in this country. I went to elementary school, middle school and high school there. For my college I went to Shiraz university, which is in Shiraz. I did my nursing there, practiced nursing and then came to the United States.

I: Ok, and what year did you come to the United States?

R: Ah, 1979

I: Wow, so, ah, you mentioned a lot about your education there, what desire, what motivated you to be a nurse?

R: Well, I was always interested in the field of medicine and it was very difficult to get into the medical school, so my next choice was nursing. And it was because the helping and healing people, that's why I entered nursing

I: Do you think the idea of helping and healing people what motivated by your family, your culture, your society, or was it individually motivated?

R: Ah, it was by independent choice. I could have done horticulture, that was an interesting choice, but nursing was my choice before that.

I: OK, and your mother, your father work? If so, what did they do?

R: Ah, my mother was a homemaker, she married very young and ah, my father had lambs that he lends to people and they produce and sell and that's how he worked.

I: Ok, when you say he sold lambs did you grow up in a rural village?

R: No.

I: Ok, so he owned lambs separate of your territory?

R: Right, right, it was just that he was the owner and there were people who worked for him and that was his job.

I: Describe the educational atmosphere for a woman in Iran during that time.

R: Ah, it was perfect, there were all kind of opportunities. We had people, women in medicine in all kinds of professions.

I: Cool. And your siblings, did they pursue a variety of fields like yourself?

R: Yes.

I: And what did they pursue?

R: Ok, ah, my oldest brother, is a eh, a principle at the schools, he's retired now. The next one is a lawyer, my brother and he practice in my hometown. And my sister who is older than me, she, ah, um, ah, is a high school teacher, teaching geography and geology. And my younger, um, brother is a vet, and veterinarian.

I: Wow, so quite the variety. Um, did they also pursue these careers independently, ro, I guess what I'm trying to say is: did your parents really encourage you to follow education past elementary school, to strive and find good careers like that?

R: Ah, my mother was the big element. She was always encouraging us for education, higher education better, you would have a better life. You would be independent, so I give a lot of credit to my mother for bringing me up the way I am.

I: For her, was is it a cultural idea t motivate you guys, or did she simply want you guys to do well for the sake of you doing well?

R: Well, ah, she got married very early, so she didn't get the chance to finish her high school and that bothered her for her life. She blamed her father for that, making her to marry another man sum, later on in her life, when my second brother was going to law school, she got her high school degree. So, she was that, you know, that confident and ah, that hard working person who wanted to do it.

I: That's very exciting. Growing up, what are some of the memories that define your childhood? What kind of traditions, celebrations, reoccurring, highlights of your childhood, I guess?

R: Ah, our new year is our biggest events. In march, at the end in spring equinox, we celebrate our new year, it's called Nowruz. Ah, that was more than a week of celebration, it was two weeks of celebration that started with the last Tuesday of, ah, March. Before our new year we would jump over fire, small fires, that we do on the street, we jump over it to get rid of all the evils, badness and sickness, through that. Then Nowruz we celebrate seven items that start with letter S, and they all have something to do with the earth, environment, and that and we exchange gifts, mainly money, older people give younger people money, as a gift, for our Nowruz. And on the 13th day, everybody, every family go out and have picnic. You cook your food or bring your food out though, you have to be outside, and you can't be inside.

I: That sounds lovely. Is that celebrated just in your hometown, or is that a nationwide celebration?

R: Nationwide.

I: Wow. Now does that, is that a religious celebration, or is that Iranian culture.

R: It is not religious; it is Iranian culture that celebrates Nowruz.

I: religious aspect, are you Shi'a, Sunni, how do you identify yourself?

R: Ah, I am a Shi'a Muslim.

I: Ok, just to clarify, ok. Si new year's is a big time for you guys, are there any other memories or incidents that define your childhood, changed your life, motivated your to pursue something else?

R: Ah, just going to the University out of my city was a good thing for me, because I wanted to go away be away from home and learn and grow up, you know. The university I was at was one of the top universities in our country, it was English and that's where I learned my English.

When I came here I thought I knew some, but (laughs)

I: Don't worry you are very competent there. When you were growing up did you just live with your mother and father and siblings, or did your have other family living with you or in your village, city?

R: I lived in the city, and I lived with my parents and my siblings, nobody else.

I: Was the rest of your family ever present?

R: They would come visit, go to gatherings, for like our new year we get to go visit each other.

Ah, all family members, both sides, but mainly mom's family, was bigger than my dad's family.

I: Ah, you said you came to America in 1979, obviously a critical year in Iran's history. Was that the main reason, the Islamic revolution, for you coming to America.

R: No. No, my husband and I planned to come here before that, with the revolution, everything got postponed, the ah, by the start of the revolution. And then we were able to get a flight here we came here, not for the purpose of staying and living here. We came for the education for my husband and then planned on going back. But things change, because of the war that Iran started with Iran, ten years.

I: That's a long time. Um, how old were you when you married your husband?

R: I was 23. I'm not going to tell you how old I am now (Laughs)

I: (Laughs) that's totally fine. Um, was an arranged marriage, or did you two choose each other independently, how did you?

R: We met in college, in Shiraz. Yes, so we met there and then informed our family that we were getting married.

I: Um, that's actually the first time I've heard that result.

R: (Laughs) is that right?

I: So, going through that process, did you feel, ah, more modern because you pursued that relationship Just as an independent woman?

R: Well, in some area of country, in the village it might be still arranged marriage, but our generation especially, those who are educated get married independently, it's not like your parents. They might like to tell you, but it was us.

I: Um, you said you wanted to come to America to pursue education, your husband was pursuing education, why didn't he pursue it in Iran?

R: Ah, it was because the university where we were going had a lot of exchange students, eh, from the US. A lot of his professors came here for their education and then go back home to teach, so that was his plan. Go there for his education, it's not that our country didn't have it, but being a n education institution, they preferred if you did your study abroad for further education, but he did his medical studies back home.

I: ok. Ah, going back to when you immigrated and what not, how did your feel in Iran at the time of the revolution? What were your feelings? How did your family feel?

R: We were excited (Laughs)

I: excited?

R: Yes

I: Were you guys not fans of the Shah?

R: We were not. Not many people were, that's why the revolution happened in Iran.

I: So then, what, what, how did you see your country change?

R: Ah, we were looking for something better. People were looking for freedom, you know, freedom of speech, freedom of writing, and, aw, it's, it didn't go the way people wanted it to, but it was so welcome at the time, the revolution.

I: SO when, you guys left to come to America, were you disappointed that you had to leave during this period?

R: Ah, not really, we were excited to come here, even though we didn't know a lot about here.

We adopted ourselves, because it's two different culture, it was not an easy event, we knew why we were here.

I: Where did you first come in America?

R: Ah, which city we landed? Is that what..?

I: Where were you guys going? Your husband studying?

R: We came here and we went to New York and then we came to Chicago.

I: OK, and is that where you guys were living?

R: for five years.

I: Ok, very interesting. And what was your husband studying?

R: Um, he was doing, he did his medical school back home, he did his surgery orientation here.

Not his orientation, he did his surgery as a post medicine pursuit.

I: And when did you come to Milwaukee? Or the Milwaukee area?

R: Um, that was in 1984? And ah, that's when my husband decided, ah, to do his specialty in cardiac surgery. He came here, and it was a two year program, and they offered him a position after he was done, so he's at medical college of Wisconsin.

I: Ah, at that point did you guys decide you were staying here?

R: Ah, it was earlier on, because, ah, the war between Iraq and Iran end, and that started in 1980, it was ate year war, and that was not happening, so we decided to have children in Chicago, so we had one here and one on the way, so we decided to stay. Once he got the job offer, we decided. I started nursing in Chicago, that's when I got my green card, so we both became resident after that.

I: Um, How was your family effected by the Iran Iraq war? You said you lived on the west side of the country, so that's close to Iraq.

R: Yes, both my husband's family and my family go very much effected. Moved a few times to different cities to stay away from bombardment. Um, homes were destroyed, but nobody got injured. And after the war ends, eventually the lives went to normal and rebuilt, some moved to another city, like my husbands family moved to a nearby city.

I: Was your family able to return to your hometown following the war?

R: Yes,yes.

I: You being in America at the time, did you worry for them a lot? Did you worry for them a lot? How were you able to communicate with them? What was that situation like?

R: It was a very difficult time. I was pregnant with my first child. There were times wher we didn't talk to them for days or weeks because the telephone line weren't working. Um, so it was a very difficult, nerve-racking period.

I: I cant even begin to imagine. But everybody from your family survived the conflict?

R: Yes.

I: That's great. How many children do you have?

R: I have four.

I: Four? Sons, daughters? Ages?

R: Two daughters two sons.

I: I don't need their precise ages, adults, kids?

R: Adults, they are all adults. My youngest is twenty. Ah, my oldest is in Chicago, ah, she is married, she studied at Perdue University undergrad, double majored in French and Biology, um, she did, um, master at University of Washington in Seattle, doing public affair and environmental science.

I: Wow, that's my fathers Alma Mater.

R: And my older son is at Cleveland clinic, he's a physician . My youngest son is doing his master in architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design.

I: Ok

R: And my youngest is in Madison, she is pursuing physiology.

I: So a couple in the medical field then, ah.

R: One in medical, the second one will be in medical field, doctor.

I: Yes. How did you and your husband raise your children? Did you continue to work?

R: Ah, for part of the time we were in Chicago I worked, but as my second child was born, ah, I stayed, ah, home taking care of the kids, and once everyone was older I started working as a volunteer, um, not a complete job. I am doing two volunteer jobs.

I: Um, what type of setting, did you try to teach your kids a lot about Iranian culture? Did you raise them Shi'a Muslim? How did you go about that?

R: We raised them as Iranian-American children, they were all born here, but mainly I would say Persian culture?

I: Therefore do you identify yourself more as an Iranian than a Muslim?

R: AH, I identify myself as an Iranian-American Muslim woman.(laughs)

I: That's perfect. And have your children adopted that? Iranian-

R: I think so, I think so. Religion might not be a big part of their lives, but I think Iranian culture, as well as American culture.

I: Have you been back to Iran?

R: Yes, many times.

I:Ok, Have your children been back to Iran?

R: And my son in law also. He is American, but he has been to Iran also.

I: Oh, congratulations. Um, when you take your children to Iran, having them grown up in America, what are their reactions?

R: Um, well, um, they have loved it. It's a long trip, they might not like that part, but they love of the family members, and they have enjoyed, um, the culture and, um, seeing, um, you know, um, geographically places, and um, knowing how old the culture is, um, um, it is you know, it is the best condition economically, but they have enjoyed . That's what I think, they might (laughs) view it as different.

I: When you go to Iran now, does it feel different than when you left?

R: Definitely.

I: For the better, for the worse? How do you guys feel when your there? Do you feel comfortable?

R: Um, I follow the rules when I am there. There are rules for woman to wear hijab, I do that.

And, um, if I, um, if I have to not bring certain things when I enter the country, not bring this or that, alcohol is not allowed in the country. We do not drink alcohol ourselves, but um, we observe the laws, like any other place we go, we observe the laws, you know.

I: Do you feel comfortable while you're there? Do you feel like yourself or do you feel out of place?

R: I feel like, ah, I may not. Ah, it's not the same country, it's definitely not the same country, things have changed a lot. I would say I would not be able to live there because I have lived in this country longer than there. Changes have happened in me like changes have happened there, so.

I: Do you feel while your there, that your family is the same?

R: No.

I: How do they feel about Iran in its current state?

R: They are not happy, you know, with the economic situation, jobs, freedom of speech is not there. Um, as it wasn't ther before this regime, but you know there is improvement, um, the city is improving, the roads might be better, um, we are sitting on a oil preserve, which we think we should have better roads, better economic situation, but things have changed because of what's been happening.

I: How do your parents feel about America? How do they feel about you living in America?

R: Um, well my parents are deceased.

I: Sorry.

R: It's ok, but they are happy for me, and, ah, and they regretted that they are that far away> Especially when you get older you need to be closer to your family, but, um, that is the main part that they may not be happy about.

I: So it's hard for you to be away from them?

R: Excuse me?

I: Would you say it's hard to be away from them?

R: Of course, yes.

I: Have they ever come over to America?

R: Um, my mom came a couple of times. My sister came one time. They couldn't all get visas, so, she was rejected next time she tried. She's only been here one time.

I: When you've gone back to Iran, have you felt, do people know that you are an American citizen? How do they feel about that/

R: Um, they do know that. Ah, there was no reaction either way. They understand that my children were born here, they are Iranian- American. It doesn't matter for them. It was difficult for myself at the beginning, but knowing that my children are here, this is a second home for me too.

I: Ah, kind of switching gears here, 9/11 was a significant moment in America, and then world. Although you're not an Arab, being a Muslim and often Muslims being categorized as Arabs, did you feel and backlash following 9/11, any change in how people treated you?

R: Um, I would say that knowledge in this country on the other world is low. So, the mixing of Muslims and Arabs, I have nothing against Arabs, the y mix, they don't know much about Iran. Now they might know more. It was a tragedy that happened everybody in Iran were feeling sick about it, so many people suffered. Personally I was not afflicted, except, my children were young

in those days and I was nervous for their safety. There were a few times when neighbors stopped and asked if our children were ok, because there was one time when people were getting shot in the streets because they were categorized as Muslims, and they were killed. Ah, some neighbors stopped by and asked how we were doing. I wouldn't say anybody bothered us , we were worried about the event, sad about it, and sickened about it like everybody else.

I: On a similar note, when you came here was the time of the Hostage Crisis. As an Iranian, did you feel any backlash? I know there was some violence towards Iranians following the incident.

R: Ah, personally I wasn't, because that was a time when I wasn't going anywhere. I was a mom at home with a child, because that was after we came here. And ah, but at work my husband was at work he was careful. There were times when you didn't want to be known as Iranian, but no nothing happened to us during that time.

I: Glad to hear that.

R: Thank you.

I: Um, so I've kinda gotten the sense, after how you talked about raising your children, you are not particularly religious? Do you attend a mosque on a regular basis?

R: I do not, but our religion offers you to do your praying anywhere you want, you don't have to go to a Mosque, you don't have to be at a certain place. If you are flying, you can do it as you sit.

For myself, I consider myself to be a modern religious person.

I: What does religion mean to you?

R: It means that there is somebody looking over us (laughs) and there is somebody doing good things for us.

I: Um, has that played a big role in how you've raised your children? That they can be a modern religious person like yourself? That they can take religion where ever they are?

R: Ah, right, ah, and they don't have to be, ah, I would they are not necessarily a religious person, but they have their beliefs, they know there is a God, they know to do good things and all the basics for all the religions. You do good deeds, you are nice to other people, ah, you nice to other human beings. We treat, we try to treat everybody the way we want to be treated.

I: That's cool. Ah, so, obviously, the way I was able to make contact with you was through the Persian school.

R: Yes

I: Tell me about the Persian School. Did you help start that? How did you get involved?

R: Well, um, when my children were a little older, they needed to learn the language and culture, and my mom was a big advocate of that, telling me that your children need to know their mother language. And ah, so, ah, my husband and I tried to have them sitting in the kitchen and, ah, have the board you know to teach them, and we didn't get anywhere. We decided it had to be in a school setting, so we, um, um, so I went after that. I looked for other people to participate in the school. Then I looked for a place to have it, since 1994 this school has been running. And the name is my mother's name, because she... Eftekhar Persian School. Eftekhar is my mother's name.

I: That's a great tribute to your mother. So when you started the school how many students did you have?

R: At the beginning it was big, we had 28. And we lost a few during the year, after that it was a little less, but it has been up and down. Right now we have 12 students, adult and children.

Adults are the ones who have either a spouse who is Persian, we also have some who are students like yourself, who study international law or international, ah, policy, or, ah, want to

learn the language. So we have a course during the summertime, um, pushed together for him, he wants to learn quickly.

I: That's very interesting, I might have to take you up on that some time.

R: Yeah.

I: What was your goal with the Eftekhar Persian School?

R: My goal was to teach the language and the culture to those who are interested in it. Iranians, non-Iranians, Americans, Arabs, anybody who wants to learn about the culture. Also the young generation of Iranians who want to know the language, they come to school once a week, ah, for an hour. We have teachers who are native speakers, and it is just like a regular school, so we are off during summer, but if one is interested I can arrange for private lessons.

I: When you refer to the culture are you referring to the Farsi language and the Persian culture?

R: Yes, like we have, we celebrate our Noruz. We have children come and read poetry, you know, in our culture poetry is big, many great poems, so kinda in almost any event that we have there is some poetry, but yeah.

I: That's very interesting, I don't think poetry gets enough attention in America. Ah, so when you talk about the poetry, is it mainly traditional Iranian poetry, is it modern Iranian poetry, where does it come from?

R: Mainly the traditional, um, the ah, newer poetry, ah, is included sometimes but not as big as traditional.

I: When you, you said you identify yourself as an Iranian-American first, how do you feel in the community? Do you find that you can identify with Arab or Sunni Muslim's? Or do you feel like the Iranian community is, ah, its own community?

R: I feel like Iranian community I belong to more, maybe, ah, this because our gatherings, because that's where I see my connections in a religious community.

I: So how about your children? Did you enroll them in Islamic School? Or just a regular school?

R: No, they went to regular public schools.

I: OK, and when you sent them to those regular public schools, I'm assuming they were minorities there, how did they feel in those environments? How did you feel sending them into those environments?

R: I was very confident with our school system. That's why we chose to live there because of the school system, we didn't want them to send them to a private school because it could have some type of religious affiliation, so a public was good, we have been happy with that.

I: Great. Ah, when you talk about your identity as an Iranian-American Muslim Woman, why do you think that?

R: Why do you?

I: Why do you use that order? Why is Iran your main identity?

R: Because that's where I came from.

I: Because that's your origin?

R: Yes, my origin. And then I came here, that's what I am. And of course I was born a Muslim in a religious family, ah, that did their praying on time. And I did that as a young person in my family, that was expected of me. But we had freedom of choosing, and I let my children have that opportunity too.

I: Ah, what does being Iranian mean to you? When you say that what comes to mind?

R: People with old culture, coming from many, many years of culture. Kind people. Very hospitable people, when you show up at the door of somebody you don't know they bring you

tea they offer you part of your dinner, if it is there they share part of their dinner with you, people are happy people. They like their poets, they like reading their poets. That's what comes to my mind as an Iranian. I don't want to say that it's all that, but that is the culture.

I: That's great. And how would you say that compares to your experience with American culture?

R: Um, American culture, people are very open. They say what they feel, we are more reserved, ah, ah, American culture, they are honest, they are very into themselves, the city they are in, um, the place, um, they are in. I feel like they don't want to know much about others around them. But Milwaukee has been great for me, that's why I've been here since '84. (Laughs)

I: Ah, do you feel the same sense, obviously you enjoyed your time in Iran, and you love your family and you love your culture, would you say you love American culture as much as your own? I won't be offended.

R: No, no, I would say they are two different culture, two different culture. I learned a lot here, like being punctual and being on time to the place. People are punctual, people are on time, people tell you absolutely how you feel.

I: I was going to compare it to Iran in its modern sense, a lot of free speech, free press is not existent, how does that make you feel as an American?

R: Um, that was highly valued before that, it was all here before. It has changed. I don't feel like there as much freedom as when I came to the country, it has got limited.

I: Really?

R: People have access to your telephone conversation, people might have access to your personal records. The freedom, you might be able to talk about things, I guess it's not the same as it was before, maybe 9/11 has changes a lot of things, that might be...

I: Did you ever see, we talked about this earlier, post 9/11, any profiling towards you or your family members?

R: Well I remember talking to family members in Iran and they said to be careful you know, watch out what you say, because on both sides you could get in trouble. You needed to watch to see if you said anything against the country or that country, we were careful. These days you got to be careful what you say in public now. It was not like that when we came into the country.

I: Ah, so because that, do you see some similarities between America and Iran, because of that, because you have to be cautious?

R: Ah, a little bit here, but back home you have to be cautious all the time. Um, it, during the previous regime it was the same thing, you had to be careful about reading about regimes in other countries. There were many things we didn't know about happening right now.

I: Tat's got to be very frustrating going through that. When you think about the current relations between the U.S. and Iran, obviously tense, how do you feel? Because you identify with both nations, how does that make you feel?

R: Sad. Sad, because people at home are suffering, because of all the sanctions against them. I hope one day we can have good relations without a war, it can be peacefully handled.

I: I hope so too. Ah, would you say that in this, in these tensions, when your pitted against each other, do you hold onto your Iranian identity a little more?

R: Not more, but I hold on, I am Iranian, I cannot change that.

I: Does your husband feel the same way? Does he identify himself as an Iranian first?

R: Yes

I: And do you think then, that you have had a very similar experience?

R: I think so.

I: Ah, culturally, have you adopted any traditional American, any American culture?

R: Ah, yes, definitely. Thanksgiving is the best, a good celebration. Yes, thanksgiving is the one.

Of course we enjoy Christmas time.

I: Do you celebrate Christmas?

R: NO we don't, but we really enjoy that time of year which is all happiness, friends getting together, seeing the children.

I: Obviously Iran is a heterogeneous society, there are different groups, but America has prided itself on being a melting pot. How does it feel to be a part of that culture?

R: It's great. It is wonderful, you learn about, you know, about different culture, different food, what they celebrate, it is beautiful.

I: Ah, when you immigrated, what was that process like for you? Coming to America, applying for citizenship, getting your green card, what was that like for you? Did you feel welcomed, was it difficult? Emotionally?

R: It was a long process, it was not an easy process, but , ah, we, are happy we were able to do it. Because of the war going on, we didn't see ourselves going back and putting our children in danger. It was nice to have that opportunity, of course it was not easy, but we did it.

I: Do you ever regret it?

R: Um, not really, like I said, my children are American, they are Iranian-American, I've got to be proud of this country as well, it has been a good thing that has happened to us.

I: Have you ever thought "What if I stayed in Iran"?

R: Yes I have.

I: And what are your thoughts on it?

R: Well, um, I may not have had four children, I might have had two instead of four, but here away from family, my children need to have more siblings, and ah, life would have been easier during my pregnancy time, especially with my first two children, being away from family members. That was the most difficult part ah, knowing that my country was under attack for ten years, that was nerve-racking.

I: I can't even imagine going through that. Ah, when you were raising your children, was it from a very early age that you wanted to install the identity of Iranian American in them?

R: We, ah, we spoke our language at home, the first one is always easier, because you are one on one, my husband was not always around, one on one, so you speak the language and the child speaks back to you, so , ah, we did everything, ah, in Iranian culture and then, she started going to school and she learned the things you learn at school, so it gets mixed very early on.

I: So is your children's first language Farsi?

R: Yes, but when you have the second one coming along, the first one has someone else to speak English to, so it would be hard to tell them to only speak one language. So that makes, as it goes on, with the last child, maybe English was the first language for her, maybe my third child.

I: So would you say your oldest child is a little more involved in Iranian culture than your younger?

R: Yes, yes. The two older one are more fluent in the language and the culture.

I: And as second generation immigrants, what do you think is the most important part of Iranian culture that your children have adapted, or adopted?

R: Um, ah, the love for music, and , ah, celebration of our new year is a big thing in our family, like everyone is home, you have to be home that day, so that's a big thing, um, that they observe.

And of course we speak the language as we get together, and there are other holidays we celebrate, but the new year is our main one.

I: In conclusion, is there anything else you'd like to say or you'd like me to know or include in this interview?

R: Um, I cannot think of , you asked all your questions, I hope I answered them all.

I: You did perfect.

R: In hope there will be peace in the world, and young people like yourself will be in charge of making the world peaceful for everybody (Laughs)

I: Thank you, thank you so much.

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