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Sunrise Session 4

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Dora Osal

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Castillo, Monica and Osal, Dora, "Sunrise Session 4" (2022). *Heritage Conversation Partners*. 20.
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ZOOM RECORDING LINK:

Start Time: Feb 23, 2022 06:00 PM

Meeting Recording:

<https://unco.zoom.us/rec/share/2rsUSGzWOMiFOJ-nvjsAt4XF8DQZ9CbsDVfSj2CNVq7N4Kg2u2c-zyd6EZ3Ph65M.z9Yckw8pOrVhWYr->

Present: Liz Graf, Arianna Staiano, Nicole Crim, Amanda Wessels, Sara Larson, Dora Osal, Monica Castillo

Medium: Zoom- Online Conversation

Date of Interview: 2/23/2022

Language(s): English

Transcribed: Auto-Transcribed by Zoom

Edited and Formatted by: Sara Larson

Brief Description of Contents: Anthropology Students enrolled in ANT 300 at the University of Northern Colorado discuss types of houses, family and housing in their countries. Participants shared their house styles, what types of houses are common in their countries, what family dynamics are and what the housing-financial situation is like in their home countries. The discussions also asked the participants to talk about how their families operate, what the culture is like for married couples and life with children in the house. Questions were provided by Dr. Michael Kimball.

Reference Key:

LG = Liz Graf

AS = Arianna Staiano

AW = Amanda Wessels

NC = Nicole Crim

SL = Sara Larson

MC = Monica Castillo

DO = Dora Osal

RECORDING TRANSCRIPTION

[00:01]

LG: Okay. Can everybody see my screen? Cool

LG: Who would like to go first? Start it off

DO: Yes. I can see.

LG: You can see?

DC: Yes, I can see, thank you.

LG: Okay.

LG: [clears throat] I'll go first then. What kind of homes are common where you are from. Are they similar to or different from the homes, sorry, different than homes in the US and how I've always lived in a house, my first home was a [pause] Oh, like a duplex so it was like, had a, had another house attached to it. But other than that I've always had a house. I've got a big family, so lots of rooms were needed. And my boyfriend's apartment is the first experience I've had with, like, consistently living at an apartment. And it is definitely a smaller space.

DO: In my family, always a live in a house. Big house, with a... I think, is, I was looking for houses in, in Colorado and there are many beautiful house there but it's different from here, from Venezuela. I think the style maybe the styles that are here, there are many beautiful houses too and apartment condos. I think the difference is a material that made the houses or the apartment. And I think it is because the weather, the weather in the city or in the country. For example, we here only have two seasons and summer it's another, the other is rainy. And I think, for that reason the houses are different for the material. In USA that the difference is because you in USA have four seasons and of course it different in the houses and the condos and the apartment it has it has different materials and it needs to be for the four seasons. For example, I think here in these days is very is is still cold know in Colorado. is cold in Colorado weather the weather is.

AW: Yes

DO: winter. The winter.

AW: Today was the coldest day we've had this winter. It's been I think like nine degrees Fahrenheit today.

DO: Okay. And winter is largest in in Colorado.

LG: Yes

DO: So you say more largest in the in the year, no?

SL: Yeah, winter goes up until April and the largest amount of snow happens in March. Not fun my high school graduation had to be inside because there was still snow everywhere.

DO: Oh, my God ice.

SL: yeah.

DO: I can't imagine. yeah I see in the pictures about Colorado its very, very beautiful it's very cold days. It's very cold no.

SL: Yes, very I grew up in the mountains of Colorado which gets even more snow and gets even colder.

DO: Yes

SL: So our houses majority of the time you either have like a gas fireplace or a wood burning fireplace. My family has a wood burning fireplace and that was the worst chore was having to do firewood during the summer to cut up all the wood, so that we'd have it for heat.

DO: Yes. And that's, that's the difference, a big weather is essential to to have the material, the things that I was describing in a house is very, very important.

LG: Amanda it gets cold where you're from too is there are differences in the houses compared to Colorado?

AW: not really um.

AW: I guess I don't think that I'd know what like different, okay so it's really weird because, like where I grew up it gets super super super cold in the winter is like we'd have like negative 20 degrees with wind chills but the house I grew up in my dad like fully redid like one of the floors and like took off the like sheet rock and everything and behind it was actually no installation, so we had like the old time like heating system like the radiators that we'd have to like let air out of or like water. I don't know it was some weird key thing that we had to put on a hole and it was

weird so like I think that's the only difference because I've never seen that in any other house I've been in, but I think it may have been because the house I grew up in was like 100 years old, so.

SL: Monica I know you live in Burlington correct?

MC: Yes

SL: What's your house like in Burlington?

MC: Is some model home it's a trailer. I live in Mexico, like I don't know what, I say. That we're It's like less than that. I don't know what is plenty [unintelligible]. People make the squares with [unintelligible] and then they have to dry, then they make the houses. It's totally different and than here is like wood and everything is different and I don't have any heaters and there is cold but it's only like little cold not too compared to Colorado. I need to. I don't know what is that stove but I need to put wood in it like fire and then the house is warm.

AS: Like a fireplace?

MC: is like a fireplace but is not is Like a square like a store but it's a little door and you open and put the wood in it.

SL: Okay okay.

MC: I don't know what it is. Yeah.

LG: Where in Mexico are you from?

MC: I'm from Chihuahua.

LG: Okay

MC: I live in a little town Benito Juarez Namiquipa Chihuahua. In these day I have water, but when I lived there is no water. I need to go to buy the water and, like here. But these day is they have water in the town and electricity, everything these days yeah.

SL: Ari, Nicole what's common for you guys?

AS: Well, I grew up here in Greeley born and raised so you know what you see around really that's that's pretty common for me. I grew up in, it's called a town home it's like a, it's like an apartment with multiple levels.

SL: Okay yeah

AS: So I grew up over by the mall, which is a sketchy area and those those townhomes over there, we were there for seventeen or eighteen years, the majority of my life, and then we moved into a house in Evans and I lived there for two or three years and then me and my fiance got an apartment in West Greeley. So yeah.

MC: I find translation, it's Adobe house, I think, is.

AS: Adobe yes. Absolutely. sure. yeah. That's what i was thinking but I wasn't sure

DO: Maybe it's because in Chihuahua it's the driest weather or not.

DO: It's dry

MC: yeah.

SL: My parents house tries to imitate adobe but it's stucco which is like foam, which if there was a forest fire not great, the house would probably just melt. But you know that the builders tried. Not very well. But it's yeah, I've also lived in a duplex and then now I live in a really old house that nothing works and that is so much fun.

AS: Welcome to houses in Greeley!

SL: Yeah.

DO: Okay.

LG: But you brought up a good point about houses in Colorado. It's like we, the mountains definitely do have fire for sure, like wildfires. And, of course, like my hometown just burned down, and it was not in the mountains. So Colorado houses can withstand cold for sure, but they cannot withstand fire.

[talking over each other]

SL: Really common right now up where my parents live is people using like steel siding because the rusted look is really popular right now. The inside, it'll basically be an oven if a fire starts. Just all the steel will melt and then. it's good insulation, but.

AS: Where are you from again Sara?

SL: I'm from Evergreen.

AS: Evergreen okay.

DO: Evergreen

AS: Wait we're the sunrise group though haha.

SL: Yeah...

LG: Oh I'm going to answer the second question.

AS: Go for it.

LG: I am only 20 years old, so I'm going to say that it is very difficult to buy a house where i'm from and I don't think it has to do anything with age either I think it's difficult all around because so much depends on it and even renting is like hard or difficult it's it's not the best system, in, in my opinion.

AS: I agree my fiance and I, we're trying to buy a house for a little while, and he has the VA home loan and even with that it's still just a mess of "Oh, but you can only have like this, many dollars, but the VA won't pay for that kind of house" and it's insane so we're going to try again after we get married. Hopefully we'll get a little bit more of alone what we got the first time um, but it is it's ridiculous and you have to save for like a down payment and then you have to pay property tax and you have to look at like what kind of area its in, and if you really want to live there and stressful.

LG: What's a VA loan for everybody.

AS: Oh so the the VA home loan is when you get discharged from the military, with full like honors and benefits and everything, then they will help you buy a house and it's pretty much you're guaranteed to be pre approved for a home loan, the amount is what is what's varied between place to place but are pretty much guaranteed for a home loan oh some amount.

AS: Sorry.

AW: I know, right now, like in the Black Hills it's kind of difficult to buy a house, because a lot of people are trying to move out there. Like my mom works at Harley Davidson motorcycle place and she said, this summer, she had a lot of people from like California and Oregon who

wanted to move out to the Black Hills and she tries to like tell them to not because she doesn't want to overrun with people who I mean Oregon would be okay, but like people who don't know how to drive in the snow or don't know how to like do anything in the inclement weather but um yeah so right now there's not like a lot of I think that's in a lot of places right now there's just not a lot of houses for sale.

SL: Everything's getting so much more expensive like my rent at my last house just for like my bedroom and utilities and for my own bathroom was \$700 which is really great. The house I live in now because it's a campus ministry house it's \$325 a month, which is some of the lowest you can get in Greeley but there's like all these requirements, you have to meet to be able to live in the house.

AS: yeah.

LG: What kind of requirements?

SL: So this is the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry house. So I have two roommates that are part of a non denominational church. They had open rooms, and so they were able to move in. But they try to have really only like Lutherans. Work it like live here, so I worked at a Lutheran camp this last summer and I'll be working there again this coming summer. So they really try to have like Lutherans or Episcopalians living in the house. So I met, I worked at Lutheran camp and I grew up Lutheran so that's why I'm able to live here. I know, like the Catholic campus ministry house the nuns have to approve you and all that.

MC: [Amazon Alexa speaking in background] You already have severe weather alerts turned on okay.

SL: Yeah so it's it's really interesting and for my Grad Program that I'll be applying for there's only three schools in Colorado that have it and one of them is UNC so I'm now debating just with prices do I move back in with my parents for a bit and just work, or do I stay in Greeley and immediately go into my Grad program while staying in this house.

AS: What about buying a house in Chihuahua Monica what was that, like?

MC: My town, I think, is cheap you don't buy with work that's why people move to another city. And they immigrate to US. or more. or good word works. But in Colorado here in Burlington it's expensive a little house that's like one bedroom, one bathroom and a little kitchen is like 100. Expensive or \$95. When I pay less space where I live, I pay like 200 to 245. I think it's expensive, but I have a cousin in Denver and he pay like 650, I think, a month for the space. Yeah.

AS: Yeah Colorado in general is just kind of an expensive place to live in.

MC: Yes.

SL: Dora...[interrupted]

AS: But it's beautiful!

MC: Yes.

SL: Dora, what about you? What's it like to buy a house in Venezuela?

DO: Okay here in Venezuela it's very expensive top because well, is the. The problem in Venezuela is that we don't have work. We don't have a job. Because, we have a financials problem in all the country. Many immigration of Venezuelans outside to the, to the other countries like Ecuador, Colombia even a USA too. Because here the conditions to live are very, very bad and nowadays, for rent or to buy a house or an apartment is very expensive, you have to do some some job in dollars. For example, a stay in Colombia I try to save money. With this money try to, to, to buy a, to buy a house, a house, a little house or it's very expensive And it's because a here is very bad, is very bad to leave, we don't have a job, and with this with this problem I think nobody nobody can buy. It depend, if you have money if you're rich, of course, you can buy anything, but if you don't have money it's very bad.

[Talking over each other]

NC: Is there anything is..

LG: Nicole, go ahead and ask your question again.

NC: Sorry, I like it wasn't letting me unmute for a second, but I was just going to ask is it hard to get a job there?

DO: Now now I'm not a, I'm not working, because all day enterprise are closed because how can I say this. Everything is in dollar and the salary are very slow and then I think the problem is, we don't have enterprises who can work here in Venezuela, for the prison is very, very bad is a we don't have how to live very well you don't have to buy, just only the food. You don't you can't buy a cloth know you can't buy cars or apartment just food just for leaving just med medicine or pay pay the doctor, but just for that the money here in Venezuela right now.

LG: What do you mean by enterprises?

DO: Okay.

SL: Do you mean like businesses?

DO: A business.

DO: For example, I was working three years ago in a factory

SL: Okay

DO: made a ceramic tiles factory. And I was the manager of logistic, logistics manager. And then they close the the factory and I couldn't, I couldn't do nothing before er after that. The the very the very week the factory was closed and nowadays only only five, but they are working with a little people. A low of people, an amount the amount of workers are less than three years ago okay.

SL: Yeah that's really interesting they like. Not by choice, right now, but what's really happening in the US and Colorado in general. There's a lot of open jobs because it's jobs people don't want and it's jobs that people are just tired of because they're not being paid well. So its kind of the opposite problem of where we have too many jobs and not enough people where's sounds like Venezuela there's not too many jobs but there's too many people.

DO: Yes, I think, in Canada, too, is that same problem. I was reading about that, they are looking for mi migrants to to do the job by Canadian don't like to do. Nowadays, it's very difficult in construction construction area.

SL: Yeah

DO: Because they they don't want to do the Canadian don't want to do this job, and I think that's a The most prevalent that maybe, USA and Canada half in these days yeah.

SL: Anyone else in your family's work?

LG: Well, currently both my parents are out of a job, right now, my mom got her job got repositioned she had the job for 18 years and then they decided that you had to have a nursing degree in order to have the job and so she she got laid off for that and then my father got fed up and was mistreated and he just he quit so it's interesting, but I am the oldest one currently in my family working.

Oh.

LG: But I don't have to support them.

Okay.

LG: I bought [interrupted] oh go ahead.

DO: What does it differ, leaving.

I.

LG: I go to school, full time so in The Times that i'm not working or sorry not going to school I work at the Tutoring Center on campus and I specifically help anthropology people and then I work for another business for a psychic and we run a business together it's life coaching it's bit yeah.

that's cool.

NC: that's cool is.

LG: yeah.

DO: i'm now I am surprised, I made a jelly i'm a two by two to sail were in. I made jelly of strawberry beaches of fruits jelly of fruits to sell in In the supermarket or something like that. I just the to do that my job.

AS: So awesome Dora.

DO: yeah this very Very good job. I like to cook.

SL: Monica, does anyone else in your family work and what did they do?

MC: I said.

Okay.

MC: He went got Midwest are like okay yeah he worked with biggest He has a like 20 years and then. When they get in burlington when they come from Mexico he hit get our. Work work grabbing the. Here so When the two years.

SL: I am the only one of my family that is not working right now, I'm a full time student. My sister just finished her associate's degree and she works, the whole time my dad actually no i'm not the only one not working right now. My dad had a nonprofit that he started that worked with veterans with ptsd and other visible injuries and they'd go on week long motorcycle rides and then at night do workshops on how to deal with ptsd and his ptsd and anxiety were getting in the way. So he just recently stepped down from that and then my mom runs her own business. She's a software consultant and she's one of the top people in her field so she's the breadwinner, my dad is just kind of a sugar baby at that point that is yeah he's useless.

SL: Amanda, what does your family do?

AW: um so my dad's in the military he's actually retiring this year it'll be like 35 years wow. And then yeah um but we so we moved to the black hills like eight years ago, and my mom hadn't like worked since then, but now she is she says she works at Harley Davidson and then she is also. Like a lab ta at the technical school up there's a biology lab to because that's what her degree is in originally.

SL: So do you live with your parents right now Amanda? Are you in Colorado?

AW: No i'm in Colorado I live down here and yeah um I wish I still lived with my parents I love to that yeah like now, I have to do everything myself and just you know, have a home cooked meal. For my mom like I think that's What I miss the most about being in school is not having my mom's cooking.

AW: yeah.

SL: Dora who lives with you at your House?

DO: With me live in my mom. But she my mom is cheese at seven years old. Of course, she she doesn't work. um she she's she's a little sick now she's going out of poverty lighting. i'm just. Only I I I work in the preparing the jelly i'm some sweet. um i'm a sucker see you, but all in in USA I think flung flow, no, no. Let me see him. And I have my house rent I rent my house I. And I I receive dollar for that painting. And with that it just later, but I can buy put put up medicine medicine.

AW: For my camera when you when you said you rent your House, do you like have rooms in your House that you rent out and you still live there.

DO: No, I my house is in another city. That calls but kismet isn't is. It from my mom house is on our in my car and I rent that house to to have the money, and to pay the for to maintain myself and my mom.

AW: So, are you living at your mom's house right now.

DO: Yes, I live in my mother House because chick she's very old and I taking care of her.

SL: Is it just the two of you that live there.

DO: I have my other, no, no, I had a for for two brothers and two sisters more, but they are in in their in their houses. From time to time they come to today my mom's house babysit her bring some food or something for her or for me to help us.

NC: Is your mom's feeling better.

DO: Yes, she's better I got because The last week.

NC: The last week.

DO: She was very bad um I was afraid but. I I grew a paid. The doctor, to come back to home, and to they put the the medicine, the treatment and now she's very, very fine.

NC: Glad hear that.

DO: Yes thanks for the help.

SL: Monica who do you live with.

MC: My husband and I and my daughter.

SL:Okay.

MC: She graduated this year. I think it may 15.yeah I guess.

LG: leader do your oldest children live by.

MC: I have a daughter my oldest daughter. She is already married but she's living in the same place me and another trailer.Okay Senate and the same I want to say that.

AS: Space over there i'm like neighborhood.

SL: yeah okay.

MC: And I have Because I Am marsh sport into this 34 years called In my stand Is 28. He born and may eight In my youngest. Is April night. She is almost 18,004.

uh huh.

MC: yeah but she cheated on where she's only go to school. And when she is out for the school to me to clean the House or She kept the my grandkids one is 11 and My granddaughter's seven. But every day, they say, I can spend the night with your grandma Oh, my goodness, I can't. Because i'm burlington they don't have school on Fridays.

SL: Okay yeah yeah.

MC: And they decide to spend a night Thursday, Friday Saturday.

yeah.

LG: well.

MC: My husband, He to decide to go to Mexico. him and I buy I say oh you grab when the my grandkids know come one day and you went to move to Mexico. Oh yeah and One day she don't they have come to visit. He asked for that children's day they don't call do something that has. No um he say I don't want to move to Mexico, maybe later I don't know.

LG: What do you guys do that, like gets them to keep wanting to come back.

LG: it's just is from oh.

yeah.

LG: I can.

NC: As I spoil them.

MC: yeah they say i'm I am angry sometimes that are they come in every time I say clean the House pick up your toys, I have toys for them in here and they have toys in their house and for

heaven's sake ways, you have A shift in here this yes Okay, they grow up and they don't have nothing to house.

AS: He there you go.

MC: Yes, yes, and I makes them mess.yeah one day.

NC: But they love it there.

SL: Do you guys have like a head of the House like a person who's most important in the family.

SL: My mom's, the most important person she makes the money that's what happens.

AW: I think my mom is to like I really think that our House could just go downhill if she wasn't there. But then again will like she likes to take over things when we're doing like if you're in the kitchen cooking she'll come and take over. But we were talking the other night, she was so proud of herself she told me that she let my dad make they get like these pizza kids from sam's club, she said that she let my dad make the pizza himself and then take over. But I think that's because she also has admitted that he makes better pizza and her.

LG: I feel like my parents are very good about. Well, I take that back I envisioned my dad being more of the head of the household. But my mom she was the one that did more like the cooking and the cleaning and like making sure the House was organized while he's taking care of like the bills and All of my sisters and I played sports, like every evening we were at some sporting event, so he helped kind of facilitate that.

AS: I grew up in a single parent household so my mom was obviously out of the House i'm. My parents got divorced, when I was four years old, and it was not a good divorce, it was very messy and I haven't seen or talked to my father, since then, so it was just me my mom my older sisters and then I had these two specific aunt my aunt my aunt my aunt megan and they were also single moms who's for lack of a better term baby daddies were just out of the picture, so the three of them just kind of teamed up and raised, like, I think it was like 12 kids together, so that was pretty cool because you know, looking back on it it's nice to see all about woman power growing up.

SL: Monica what's who's the person in charge.

All your families.

MC: And my family. yeah. I think my husband is my head Okay, when I say the.

SL: head of the House.

MC: The House yes I met, I met with him when I.

SL: extend okay what.

MC: Am I my birthday is in April, a very with him to in March 2 almost 35 years.

NC: Good standing anybody that long.

MC: yeah people in my town, they say I don't they'd say maybe I get together one year because I don't know him But I I him I know him to December January, February and I Marion marsh is only two months. When I met with him and I and the people say and Mexico, I didn't fully with guys to get along, but I almost 35 years One month, no one month. One week.

SL: yeah when we.

MC: When we go, my goodness.

MC: Yes.

LG: Well, I am.

LG: We have three minutes left in our time and I just wanted to check in And um specifically to Monica and Dora And just ask how are you how are you guys feeling about the learning process with English like is there any improvements that y'all are noticing just wanting to hear what what's happening for you as we're doing these sessions.

MC: I like. I don't find them a big oh that's why i'm sorry but i'm trying to display as I don't have I don't understand some words but I try to. find it. I have that less than a say what is a cancer, as always, and then she told me how to say that adult house. And my husband left because I don't know how to say it. I like it, I like it. Is. More speak because My family speak English, but they don't speak to me they speak Spanish my granddaughter say to speak to me is English and her father say first big to grandma's English because they don't know my friend, that she needs to learn English is why I speaking with her.

NC: practicing with your family.

yeah.

DO: I feel very well with you um I can understand everything with what you say and I try in in the rest of the week to see movies in English or try trying to to get vocabulary to do better in the next session. I think he I had to practice more. yeah I think. Seeing the TV news or not TV news because Internet, of course, the news or movies on only in English and try to think in English, just to do a better divest the next time. I tried.

?: You guys are doing.

DO: i'm going to describe more I think I had to to to to work in describe more things To get the vocabulary I think I will be better next time.

LG: Thank you, both for sharing.

DO: I want to know, because I was I had I was seen the map of Colorado I want to know where where do you live In what county just to to to see in the map, where do you live.

AS: So I live in We live in a town called greeley um so Colorado is like a big Square and if you're looking at it on the map, then greeley is and weld county and there's going to be the top right hand corner of the square.

DO: Okay, I saw the square in.

AS: Colorado yeah yeah because Colorado is just a big Square.

DO: it's a very beautiful state.

LG: Very beautiful.

DO: It, I would like to see i'd like to travel a bit uh huh um. who live seeing in them.

SL: So Evergreen's where my parents live is just kind of right outside Denver. Like if you're looking at the map Denver's kind of like right here, and so, then my parents live like right there in towards the mountains and then green these kind of up right here.

DO: What's the name?

DO: Evergreen

SL: Like the tree..

I spoke, I saw yep.

DO: Monica.

MC: say something.

DO: Monica what's the name, where do you live. I burlington out okay.

MC: Thank you there's two hours two hours from Denver and three four really.

Okay.

DO: I mean.

Listen.

LG: I live in boulder county. So yes, well, it's where they call it, like the foothills so it's where the planes meet the mountains or the hills meet the mountains.

DO: Yes, I saw very beautiful houses there.

LG: Yes, they have a famous like They call it a flat irons.

DO: Yes, very beautiful. Amanda?

AW: I'm from South Dakota actually not Colorado I grew up I grew up in brookings which is really close to the border between South Dakota and Minnesota. Okay, and then i'm like nine years ago we moved to rapid city, so do you know mount rushmore. The mountain with our presidents faces yeah so I live like 30 minutes away from there. Oh that's where my parents live that's right.

DO: Oh, thank you very much, just to look in the map, where the the places where you are.

LG: well.

DO: The margin there.

LG: Does anybody else want to add anything.

MC: No oh.

LG: Well, thank you for joining us and we'll see you next week.

SL: Thank you guys.

AS: Thanks Monica.

DO: Nice.The rest of week.bye.

[00:53:32 Recording Ends]