

Oral History Kosovo

INTERVIEW EXTRACT

[The in-depth oral history interview with the narrator was conducted on May 16, 2021 in Pristina. Due to the narrator's request for anonymity, we have concealed the identity.]

Narrator: My uncle's daughter deals with it more but sometimes I tell her, "Did you ask him what kind of person he is?" Or, "Will he stay there?" Or something, because going to the house of someone you don't know, he could be any kind of a person. And we're both women, you know, we maybe don't have the strength to protect ourselves if someone attacks us or something. The other one always comes too or sometimes she makes her husband speak for us. Or he comes, when he had the time he would take us there, he would talk to them, you know, so that they knew another man was with us, because it is a little problematic for us as women on our own. Usually we go alone or something when women call us, as women, you know, there are many that come from abroad and mostly women deal with these things.

Of course, it's scary because you don't know whose apartment you're going into or what it could be or what could happen to you there. And it's not easy, on the other hand, safety wise, because for example, you have to clean the windows on the eighth floor, you have to reach outside as well, if you are tired or get dizzy, you can fall down. We don't have any kind of safety, you know, even though we don't take on very risky tasks. When we see sometimes that something is rather hard we say, "Let's not do it, 20 euros are not worth losing our life for."