

Diana Kouri

## I

Diana— 23, Female, born in the USA

Natali— 19, Female, born in Egypt

Corrine— 48, Female

Laurence— 49, Male

Corrine— works as a physician's assistant, did medical missions in Egypt until second daughter was born

Laurence— works as a professor at a community college

Diana— a full time student

Natali— full time student

The family spent a few years in Egypt where Diana's mother did medical missions up until the birth of Natali. They moved back to the States where her mother began working in a private clinic and her father began teaching at Spokane community college. They live in Washington State.

Diana left the family in order to pursue her education at the University of Washington.

George and Leeann Bissel— Diana's grandparents on her mother's side. They took care of the girls when they were babies, even going as far as flying to Egypt to see the birth of Natali. They live in Wisconsin.

Grandma Kouri— Diana's grandmother on her father's side. She lives in California and visits during the holidays

Leila Bahar— Long-time friend of the Kouri's. She was another medical missionary from the United States, she was a dentist and remained in Egypt for another three years after the Kouri's left.

Riley Keep— Associate pastor at the church they attend

## III

Diana— She tends to argue more with her parents than Natali; it's not uncommon for Diana not to come home on long weekends due to the tension in the family

Natali— More compliant than her older sister

Parents were authoritative with a slight bend to authoritarianism

Corrine and Laurence used operant conditioning when raising their daughters. In order to drive a point home, the parents would have a vacation set at the end of each grading quarter for

elementary school, then semester once they reached high school. The vacation would be taken only if the girls made no C's and performed at their respective music recitals. Smaller rewards were given when the girls would help around the house. In order to ensure the girls behaved properly, Diana's parents would spank or ignore the child until the undesirable behavior was stopped.

Power rested more with the mother than the father. Vacations were planned around the father's college breaks, but the mother would do a majority of the planning/itinerary making. The family would visit Portland, Oregon often and the mother would take them on historical tours while her father planned lunch and the recreational activities.

#### IV

Parents relationship was strong; Diana felt that it was held together by their duty to their daughters the older they got. They spent time going out on 'dates' when the girls were younger, but they discontinued that after Diana went into high school.

Parents express love by planning activities they know the other would like. It doesn't always go as planned, but they can tell the other put effort into planning the event. Laurence bought tickets to see a performer that Corrine liked, but parking was a disaster and they ended up spending the rest of the night together in the city. Now that they're a little older they spend little vacations going to National museums in the mid-west.

Diana cannot recall any instances of abuse. Parents are still together.

Parents tend to argue over Natali's degree (fine arts) and the declining health of Corrine's parents. They're not sure whether to move out to Wisconsin or bring the parents to Washington. They haven't really gotten 'over it'. They revisit the decision of her grandparents every time they have a minor health setback.

Father believes women should be strong, but quiet. They need to be educated and represented in prominent positions, but they're opinions and input are not always necessary. Mother believes men and women are equal and that women should be encouraged to speak out against injustice. She was brought up to be outspoken and challenge the idea that women are separate but equal.

Diana learned the importance of compromise. She sees her mother as dominant and that you don't need to be male to be assertive. Natali takes after her father and she's learned that patience is a practiced skill but one that's well worth it.

#### V

Diana speaks candidly with her mother because she knows she'll get a blunt response. She takes more after her mother than her father. Mother does most of the talking, she has more of a

commanding presence. Father tends to provide the soft backing to the girls and mother the strong backbone.

Feelings are almost clinically looked at in the family. Emotions are discussed usually after a conflict has arisen in the family. The LGBT community is a taboo topic. The Kouri family avoids the topic of dropping out of school (Natali) and choosing a career from a technical school.

Anger is overlooked. Sadness is dealt with by the father. The mother isn't as expressive as her father, but she deals with emotions one on one with each family member.

## VI

Parents earn their income through their jobs: Physician's Assistant and Teacher

Parents think people outside the family are not as motivated or invested in their child's life. Outside the church they think everyone is leading godless lives. Outside their racial group they believe that people are losing their traditions in order to conform to society. They try to keep traditions alive in their home.

They don't hold a position in the community. In church they are in the choir.

Diana's grandfather on the dad's side died when she was ten

The family is sponsoring a family friend to come over to the US and attend college. They're paying his way to come, but he will take on the rest of his tuition.

## VII

The family thrives because they like to go on vacations together, even though the girls don't need to make the grade or perform. They rotate the planning of trips.

Diana thinks that by living on the coast they family is able to take more cruises and travel. She's pursuing a degree in marine biology, so it helps that she lives on the coast.

Family is strong cognitively because they're able to identify when the family is not working smoothly, so they sit down and try to work out what the issue is when it arises.