

Migmar Tsering - Being Tibetan in Vermont
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Interviewer: What is it to be Tibetan in Vermont?

Migmar: “It's more responsibility. Yeah. More challenging. Normally we don't think much about it, because we are surrounded by Tibetans and we never have to remind ourselves that we are Tibetans.

But over here, it's totally different. When you have your kids speaking to you in English and then when they speak Tibetan, when it sounds like a non-Tibetan has learned how to speak Tibetan and he's trying hard, or she's trying hard to speak to me, that's a threat. That makes me feel like we are on the cliff—at the edge. And then it wakes you up and gives you the feeling that 'hey, you have more responsibilities.' It doesn't discourage, but it really alarms you. You need to do it, you need to do it because. Being a human being, you know, feeding yourself is not the only responsibility we have.”