

to live in a more rural part of Egypt and/or when advisors had to establish commuting arrangements. Spouses who adapted best reported feeling connected with and supported by other spouses on the Project Team. But it falls to the spouse to deal with a variety of Egyptians from different social classes, care for the children, manage the home, and create an overall "happy" environment for the family. Given these demands, it is perhaps not surprising that spouses are the group who emphasize most the need to learn Arabic. Spouses also report experiencing more culture shock in adapting to Egypt but most reported gaining great personal satisfaction and growth from their experience in Egypt. In a word, they came to enjoy living in and experiencing Egypt, a fascinating country for most of them.

With respect to marital relationships, several spouses who were accustomed to working outside the home in Canada described the negative impact of the posting on the marriage. The advisor adapts readily because he leaves early each day to do his job, a job which is often more demanding than in Canada. The non-working spouse is left "to manage the home-front", something which was often co-managed in Canada, and thus missing her own opportunity for a professional outlet. She often becomes bored and stressed, her need to connect with her husband escalates but, unfortunately, her advisor-husband is rarely available because of the demands of the development assignment. This dynamic can quickly lead to severe marital problems and spouses urged that it was important to take this into account in screening and preparing couples for assignment to Egypt.