

Mwangi: Hello and welcome... So this is Mwangi and I thought I would interview my baby sisters. I'm the first born, so I am talking to my two younger sisters, **Wangui** (10) and **Wangari** (14). So,

Both sisters: Hi

Mwangi: Hello, I wanted to get your opinions on Melbourne so tell people as a very young person, what is Melbourne like for you. Let's start with **Wangui**

Wangui: Hello...

Wangari: Hello.

Mwangi: Okay, so **Wangui**, how old are you?

Wangui: Ten, I 'm going to be 11 on the 16th of June.

Mwangi: How has Melbourne been for you?

Wangui: Its fun. I've made some friends.

Mwangi: Was it easy to make friends?

Wangui: No

Mwangi: It was hard?

Wangui: Yeah, because I was scared of school and stuff.

Mwangi: Well, did you used to be scared back in Kenya?

Wangui: Yeah

Mwangi: But now are you still scared of making friends?

Wangui: Yeah, if I go to a new school or something.

Mwangi: And how many times have you changed schools?

Wangui: I think 3 or 5 times, 3 times...

Mwangi: And every time it is still scary, huh?

Wangui: Yep.

Mwangi: And, **Wangari**, (14 year old sister), what about yourself?

Wangari: Yeah, yeah ask me questions.

Mwangi: How old are you?

Wangari: I'm 14.

Mwangi: And how has Melbourne been to you?

Wangari: Well, It's been... Okay, Primary School was fun and lots of friends. Then comes the High School. The first year of high school I was a loner, which means I was by myself. So, what I used to do is go to the library and study, after that I come home, cry a little, and then go back to school and do the exact same thing, okay?

Mwangi: HM-MM...

Wangari: The second year I made a lot of friends. That's when it became fun, you know? I wasn't a loner. I did stuff that kids did and yeah.

Mwangi: And how did you go from someone being alone to someone who made lots of friends?

Wangari: Okay, the story is: we have a camp and in that camp I did make friends, but the friends I made didn't want to hang out with the other friend I knew.

Mwangi: What do you mean?

Wangari: Okay, I came from primary school to high school with a one of my best friends from primary school. It was me and a girl. We were really close. Then at camp I met four other girls, who right now are my best friends, but ... but I met four other girls who didn't like my best friend from primary school. So, that left us like being loners and them excluding us from everything they did. Eventually, they started hating us and we started to hate them-so we did not hang out with them. Then after that, (**couldn't make out the name**) got new friends, that's my best friend, and then I was really close to them.

Mwangi: And what are the races of your friends?

Wangari: What are the wha...huh?

Mwangi: The races of your friends...

Wangari: Ah-hh... Yeah, they're all Curries and one's Chinese.

Mwangi: What's a curry?

Wangari: Curry is an Indian or a *Sri Lankan* one of them... the other one is Chinese, but like "white Chinese", not "Ching-Chong Chinese".

Mwangi: What you mean, "white Chinese"?

Wangari: As in they've been brought up here...

Mwangi: And, **Wangui**, what are the races of your friends?

Wangui: Hm? Well, mostly Chinese and Asian people.

Mwangi: Ok and

Wangui: One Mauritian, half Mauritian and half Australian ... and one Australian friend.

Mwangi: Okay, so none of you have like white Australian friends?

Wangui: Oh no, I have white friends

Wangari: I have, I have

Mwangi: Okay, so like they're not your best friends, they're just like your very good friends?

Girls: Oh, they are...

Mwangi: Okay, so you have one good Australian friend?

Wangari: Um, yeah-I have a couple of good white friends.

Mwangi: And okay, so Wangui, have you experienced any racism or anything like that?

Wangui: Well....ah-hh well, like once this boy insulted me and my friend (**couldn't hear the name**) was really, but oh well.

Mwangi: So it's not never happened to you in a really...

Wangui: no

Mwangi: And Wangari?

Wangari: Nope, no one ever tries.

Mwangi: Why don't they try?

Wangari: Because they know I'll earn them back so they don't bother good people.

Mwangi: Okay, (laughs) and how is the culture of this place compared to where you came from, Kenya?

Wangari: I don't know, I really... Back home, I don't know, I guess it's more diverse here. You're free to do whatever you want, free to do whatever religion you want, I couldn't really know because I left when I was 8 so I was still a kid.

Mwangi: But from what you remember...

Wangari: From what I remember, what do you mean? In terms of what?

Mwangi: Like even on your visit, like what are the major differences you see, like when you go-like the way people act in Kenya to the way they act here.

Wangari: Ooh, you better give me example

Mwangi: Okay, like for example, how do they treat—how do people treat each other here that's different from the way people treat each other in Kenya. Are they nicer to each other, are they meaner?

Wangari: They all tease, they're all more... It's all the same, they all tease and they all make fun. It's the same thing, but here there's probably more racism because back home they're like all the same culture, like all the same. Yeah, well—way more (**couldn't hear**), so there's probably more teasing here.

Mwangi: Oh probably more teasing like on the race things.

Wangari: Yeah there is probably more teasing here.

Mwangi: And Wangui, do you even remember at home, Wangui?

Wangui: Well, I think people here cry more.

Mwangi: They do cry, they do cry...(laughs)

Wangui: and they they get annoyed and then they are like sorry and you hear them say sorry over

and over again.

Wangari: And I have a complaint on the way people here treat their parents is so not cool. Very not cool.

Mwangi: What do you mean?

Wangari: As in, I have this boy, he says it's okay to swear at his mom, I don't really want to swear on this story, but he says it's okay to swear to his mom. He says his mom doesn't mind. His swearing to her is just how they argue. I find that like, you know, sometimes I find that like-hmmph-like it's not cool and you can't really do that to your parents.

Mwangi: Yeah, it's disrespectful.

Wangari: Very disrespectful, and that's a bad thing about the white people here.

Mwangi: Okay, and Wangui, do you see the same thing?

Wangui: Well, um-mm, not really because my friends are not rude to their parents and stuff, they 're normal. Oh yeah, one of my friends in their house they swear, but they don't really like swear to their parents.

Mwangi: Okay, and is it easy to be healthy here in Australia?

Wangui: NO!

Wangari: McDonalds, KFC, cake, biscuits. You can lose a lot of weight if you go back home and then, yeah, I know, the first thing you see when you exit the airport is McDonalds, come on now.

Mwangi: Yeah, it is the first thing you see.

Wangui: Yeah, McDonalds, come on!

Mwangi: So, you think it's very hard to be healthy here?

Wangui: Yeah, back in Kenya, it's easier to be healthy.

Mwangi: Is there anything-if a kid is about to come over here or if anyone is about to bring their kids over here, what would you tell them?

Wangari: Don't become obese! It's hard, oh God, it's so hard! Lock yourself in a room full of fruits and vegetables, become vegetarian, don't eat meat, that's all.

Mwangi: You see, I've trained my sister well, she's a vegetarian too.

Wangui: I try hard not to eat meat, Mwangi...

Mwangi: I know, you're both my sisters. I have trained you both well.

Wangari: Exactly and, my Gosh, there's this girl, she sits opposite me in class and the only healthy thing she has is her water, and guess what she does?—she puts sugar in it-she puts all this stuff in it and why doesn't she just bring coca cola?-such a show off!!

Mwangi: So, that's all she has the whole day?

Wangari: Yeah, and I'm sitting there looking at my bottle and it's just water and I'm thinking "gees, person, you're going to be obese someday".

Mwangi: WOW.

Wangari: Some people in this world. And then she buys in like two days, she buys like four packages of big chips. Like 100 lollies

Mwangi: Oh my, she's on her way to "The Biggest Loser", huh?

Wangari: and then she's like, she's not really fat, but she's really unhealthy...not thin, but (in races she comes last)

Mwangi: No, no, okay, okay, okay wait-is there anything I should say to other people as a final word? Anything? Wangui, Wangari?

Wangari: Well, I would say there's a lot more stuff to do in Australia. Come to Australia and at least, don't waste your time. Do things because there are so many things to do here, it's amazing. Do a lot of things before you die.

Wangui: If you like modern places, come to Melbourne, if you like rural places, come to Kenya.

Mwangi: Okay, cool, well, with that I think I will end it there. Those are my two sisters, so thank you Wangui Thank you Wangari...

Both girls: It's okay, Mwangi...bye.

