

## My Father Only Acts Tough with My Mother

Although it may seem insensitive these days, this is a very old Kuwaiti saying used to describe someone who is seen as impotent and weak in the face of life's hardships. To make himself feel powerful and important, he picks on those who are helpless and vulnerable. Sometimes this weakness can take on a dark character, such as by bringing harm to his own wife and children in his own house. Today, I am going to talk about the municipality, so let us see how this saying can be applied to it.

A friend of mine called me saying that his daughter decided to open her own business instead of just settling for a job. He encouraged her and gave her a hand with the finances while she also arranged a loan from the Industrial Bank. She rented a shop for a café, but the Capital Municipality informed her that there isn't a specific license for a cafeteria. She would need to license it as a restaurant instead. She was okay with that, but then they said the license required her to install an oven with a chimney for exhaust. She explained that her business didn't require an oven, but they insisted: "Just install it to get the license, and after we check the place, remove it." For three months the girl faced trouble with them, so the father intervened and asked me my opinion. I simply answered: "Either the employee is lying and wants a sum of money, or he doesn't understand the law himself." I asked a friend of mine to look into her situation and within a week, but after much suffering, the cafeteria was licensed.

Another related topic is the fact that some of the most important tourist attractions around the world are unlicensed markets. The Sunday markets in Hong Kong, for instance, or the Night Market in Bangkok. Those markets all started illegally, but because they began to attract tourists, they became extremely valuable for the country and citizens. These markets started to become organized and highlighted as one of the country's sights. Currently, we are becoming familiar with this same type of trend where Kuwaiti youth will