

This contention by the government is simply false because Petitioner certainly did connect her brothers' experiences to her own claim of persecution and did allege in her briefs, as well as the oral arguments, that her experiences are similar to those of her brothers thereby entitling her to the same relief. See Petitioner's Brief at page 28, wherein she states as follows: **"It is not insignificant that all of Ms. Francois' brothers were granted asylum on the same or substantially similar facts. After all, a nuclear family has long been recognized as a particular social group for purposes of asylum and withholding of deportation. *Gbremichael v. INS*, 10 F.2d 28 (1st Cir. 1993)".** In fact, the argument that she should be granted relief like her brothers pervades her opening brief. On page 45 of Petitioner's opening brief, she argues that she **"has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of the religious and political opinion of her visible and outspoken family"**. And on page 48 of Petitioner's opening brief, she argues that she is deserving of asylum on past persecution grounds because **"she witnessed the Ethiopian authorities breaking down the door to her home, searching it for her brothers and threatening her mother at gunpoint when she was only 15 years old."** Petitioner also argues that T22."

