

**LJH12 20.4.89**

17,2; lives with grandparents and 2 aunts; no mention ma's work, no pa, ma had her too young; caribbean; religion is World Wide Assembly (Pentecostal); has 6 GCSEs and taking 3 more plus computer studies cert.; heterosexual but not sexually active.

Has her hair in little plaits. Quite attractive. Rather self contained, self controlled. Clear views on sex, drugs, homosexuality. Studies a lot.

Lives with her grandparents, gran has [SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION] so cannot look after her so her 2 aunts do. Ma had her when she was 18, couldn't look after her so sent her to gran. Now has 2 younger sibs (bro and sis 12, 14) sees ma occasionally, gets on so so, pulled a bit of a face at that. Aunts who have most responsibility for her are Pentecostal. She goes to church but she does not go along with it, does not even like it, does it to please her gran. The aunts' views clearly affect her (no sex before marriage, no drugs, etc.) but she says she hears what everyone has to say and makes her own decisions. She thinks a double standard exists, but agrees with it "girls who sleep around are slags" she just doesn't think about boys who do.

Spends most of her time alone, but has a boyfriend who lives in [THE CARIBBEAN], known 2 years, has visited for 5 week periods several times, he is coming over here for a visit soon. No sex, they are friends tho they have discussed it. She does not want that yet (v. involved in school work, getting her education together, she thinks that is very important). Also he is very far away, she does not want a long distance relationship with sex in it. Her aunts are v keen for her to go to university, she says it depends on her exam results, if she does OK she will (she is improving her marks on English Language this year she hopes) if not she won't feel like coming back and will get a job.

From what she says her image of self and what she sees as others' image of her coincide to a fair extent. She is involved with her studies, others think she studies too much.

We had a discussion at the end re homosexuality. She said "ugh" about homosexuality, pulled a face. She could not understand it, cannot imagine men doing it together. But she did meet some lesbians. She was very put off at first but soon realised that they were 'just ordinary'. Once she realised that what they did was amongst themselves, and they knew for sure she was not involved/interested, then she was OK with the lesbians.

She is not too worried re AIDS bcs she does not see herself at risk, and her own views on sex indicate that she would not put herself at risk. She thinks the way to avoid, to protect yourself is to know and trust the other person. She does not seem to see condoms as necessary, but she is prepared to ask someone to use one if she wanted it. Not essential however, with someone you know and trust. (She was just the category of 'these young people' who the next yw was saying didn't know what they were doing in not recognising the dangers!)

She is quite well informed on AIDS, has watched QED and other tv progs re it bcs she was interested, and discussed it with friends. With teachers too, in form/class sessions (part of the pastoral curriculum perhaps, short times with the form groups in the morning) which is where at school she learned most of what she knows re sex, not in the formal sex ed lessons. You could fill in forms anonymously and the teacher would answer what you wanted to know, so people were not embarrassed to ask.

Has a couple of friends (at school the yw who I saw next) and outside, but did not like the idea of being seen as in a group. I'm not in a group, just have some friends.

Interested in reinterview next year. Probably diary too. I think I asked each of these three. Mostly they said they kept diaries of that type, about their personal feelings etc. anyway.