

LJH21 16.6.89

19.9; lives with parents (ma, step-pa) and bro. Pa left when she was 4, ma brought up alone till remarried. Ma – [ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE]([CARIBBEAN]). Pa - ESW)Step-pa self employed; LJH21 works 3 and a half hours pw [ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE] in [HEALTHCARE]. Carib/ESW; Christian but no church. Has boyfriend but no sex. "Timid" in relationships and wary re sex

Attractive, black, wearing summer dress (v. hot weather). Had made it in to meet despite tube strike and was being interviewed by [PSYCHOLOGIST/ACADEMIC] ([SOCIAL RESEARCH DEPARTMENT]) after me! Lots of clear ideas about things which she put down to her family (spec. ma) influence. She accepted this control that her ma has, but feels she has been affected by the fact that ma brought her up alone for some years. She does not want to marry or have kids until 30, and would only contemplate having a child with a father present. Did see her own pa occasionally but has had row with him so not at present. Another family of half brothers and sisters across town with whom she has little to do.

Some interesting stuff came out re her last school and peer group pressure from a group of black girls. They objected to black girls being "goody, goody...white" doing school work or being friendly with the teachers. In fact she went along with this at the very end, to avoid trouble and failed her exams. Had to sit them again. It had a bad effect on her work. Then came to this school for sixth form.

She is a bit ambivalent about her relationship with her mum, recognises that she has 'made her what she is' so to speak, given her strong values and a moral code, but feels this constraint, feels that she will only be able to do what she wants when she leaves home. But she also says that ma and step-pa need to live their lives, to be free of worrying about her and her brother. She is very curious about things, questioning, and got interviewed bcs she came to ask me what it was all about, and objected to us asking for parental occupation, i.e. class location. We are all the same, people. I said we had to do that as sociologists for the research (or some such) but of course we valued everyone as people. She is also on a pupils committee of some sort at school.

She has a boyfriend (21) who is a very good friend, but no sex bcs she is not ready, and accepts her mother's values. She thinks she is timid re relationships and wary re sex. She suspects that it is a big deal and does not want to get involved before she is ready and can handle it. Does not want to be left, and as it is she is not too involved. I think she endorses the double standard. She heard about AIDS years from an American magazine and accepted that it was a gays' disease. Tho now she knows better. And is certainly not prejudiced against gays in her view, their sexuality is their own business. She objects to ethnic and sexuality monitoring on the part of [NORTH LONDON COUNCIL] on those grounds, people should all be judged the same, get jobs bcs they can do them. Bit doubtful about what she is going to do in the future.

Will do diary, and be reinterviewed.