

LSFS32 INTERVIEWED 30.12.89

Aged 19. Collected from house in [LONDON BOROUGH] and interviewed in Dalmeny Road. Lives in rather run-down community housing in [LONDON BOROUGH]. Part of [HOUSING ASSOCIATION], who own house next door and several others. Two other people in house, both men. One is NICK, who is having a nervous breakdown, for which reason SFS32 thinks she may soon get an emergency transfer to another house. The other is RICHARD her boyfriend. She is black, parents from Caribbean. RICHARD is white Irish, aged 27. She refers to him as a 'traveller' meaning that he's spent time living all over the place, in this country and abroad, and she doesn't expect him to stick around for long.

She is quite forthright and very talkative, no-nonsense attitude. She takes some risks in the sense of wanting to have fun and try things etc. Her parents kicked her out about 18 months ago because she follows bands around the country and she was using the place like a hotel. So she went to live with friends and other places before coming here, where has been for about 4 months. Started a course at [NAME OF COLLEGE] in Sept, doing 3 A-levels, plus a foundation course for youth and community work. Hopes to eventually work with emotionally disturbed kids.

Although parents chucked her out, seems to have good relationship with them now, and has always been able to talk very easily about sex and contraception etc, with both parents. Had first intercourse when she was 10, with a 14 year old senior boy from school. Didn't think much of it, regrets it a bit as too early. Didn't do it again until she was about 14. Had some casual relationships. Says RICHARD is her first more serious relationship, even though she doesn't expect it to last. They've been together for about 3 months although she's known him for about 4 months. Has had unprotected sex a few times previously, but got pregnant in early summer, through using the sponge. She'd thought it was more reliable than it is. Had abortion and didn't want to see that boyfriend anymore. Definitely doesn't want to get pregnant again. On pill now, although, doesn't like pill because gets fat and moody. On new combined pill which is better. Sometimes comes off it and uses condoms which RICHARD hates. Has period problems (Dysmenorrhea). RICHARD wants to have sex all the time but she doesn't and they've reached a compromise, She's had a relationship without sex, which she liked, thinks you can do without it, although quite enjoys it, it's not that important. Talks about sex to RICHARD, and talks about it very easily in general. Discussed oral sex, anal sex, masturbation etc.

Meets her friends through following several specific bands around, so is often going off to places to see gigs, RICHARD doesn't go. Once at [ROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL] she got totally plastered and allowed one of band to have anal sex with her. Didn't feel much at time but extremely painful later, couldn't sit down and would never do it again. Anything else, she tells RICHARD, but not that. Has very low consciousness about AIDS. Knows a bit about it, and says would like to some AIDS counselling through her course, but doesn't feel at risk herself. Protects herself against pregnancy, not AIDS. Only uses condoms for contraception, not against AIDS. Feels that heterosexuals are at risk, that gays have been used as a scapegoat.

Willing to be reinterviewed, although may have moved, but we can contact through her college tutors. Took away Diary to return around end of Feb.