

LJH23 20.6.89

18,1;lives with pa, younger sis (17) (ma/pa broke up longer ago than she can remember, ma lives in [NORTH WEST ENGLAND] with younger brother so does not see too often); pa – [HIGHER EDUCATION ROLE]; she fills shelves [DEPARTMENT STORE] 12 hours pw;ESW; no religion; doing English Sociology, Art A level, planning to go to uni; sex ed useless; hetero, 5 sexual encounters/ relationships.

Dark hair, big eyes, sounds rather cockney, wearing cream cords and a sweatshirt, earrings, light make-up, attractive. Identified herself as being in the Black culture - you can tell by clothing, style, music listened to she said. Black and white cultures (in [INNER LONDON BOROUGH], in the 6th form college). Easier for whites, if accepted to be in black culture than the reverse. Blacks don't like blacks going into white culture. Black boys/men respect (in her view) white girls who go for black men. She gets most of her trouble from black girls. But the group who have most problems in mixed relationships in her view are black girls who go for white men. Has had 5 sexual encounters/relationships. First was 21 year old 'village hunk' when on holiday in Spain, she had just turned 16. She really fancied him and thought he would be experienced but he was not, probably a virgin. It was not up to much. She'd never felt that she had to do it before her girlfriends did, or made a big thing out of virginity. Then a one night stand with another older man (25). Then first 'proper' relationship with boy about her age or a little older. She thought she was in love, went on the pill but it made her ill and she had to come off. So stopped the relationship (2 months I think). I think she stopped the relationship because she thought he was treating her very badly. I think with number 4 (brief) she did use condoms but she hated them, spoil the spontaneity and enjoyment. The last one was another older man and it was really a series of one night stands. He just wanted lots of girls, and particularly to be sure he had one for Saturday night. When she worries re AIDS and wonders whether she should be 'screened' (for HIV) it is him she thinks of bcs he had slept with a lot of girls. She seems to think that men are selfish, none she has known have been concerned about whether she was using contraception, and if she got pregnant it would be her business. However, she does not seem to do a hell of a lot about her fears of pregnancy, mostly trust to luck, rhythm/natural method (but periods are all over the place anyway) occasionally condoms but hates them. Sex is penetration for her, tho she knows re other aspects of 'safe sex'. Also knows fairly well about AIDS, and is bothered, but it does not seem to affect her behaviour much. She thinks for her next relationship she might get (and have him get) 'screened'. She does not think AIDS affects the behaviour of the young women she knows either. Too shy or not enough courage to ask for/insist on condom use. She herself shows contradictions re condoms - should be used for AIDS etc. protection; but does not like them herself and thinks spoil pleasure. Sex ed was too 'technical' and too late (4th year) everybody knew already. Did not think much of it. Nor of govt. AIDS health campaigns. Initial ones just frightened (they did frighten her) without giving information about whether one should be frightened or what about. Thought AIDS gay plague at first but Dad soon told her different.

Spent three months in a born again Christian community in [NORTH WEST STATE] USA (grandma's) when 9 years old. Brainwashed into agreeing whilst there, but operated as aversion therapy later, not religious now. As did a year working post school in boring 9-5 jobs, with low pay - at the time she wanted money. But that experience made her want more education. Doing Art, English, Sociology A levels. Wants to do media studies course at Uni and work in TV production, "creative but not art."

Is having counselling at college. One of the staff is doing a counselling course and needed subjects, she and a girlfriend volunteered. Not just for the T as she pointed, but for herself too. It is good to get some self awareness and understanding of what she is doing. Has not changed her behaviour much so far she admits. Although she is used to talking about herself, had a real problem with the 'self image' question, went to a rather general level of other's images.

Will do diary and reinterview.