

LJH30 6.7.89

19,4; ESW; 3 A levels (Sociology, Communications Studies and English Lit.; lives with aunt, uncle and cousins, parents in [SOUTH COAST OF ENGLAND] and she visits frequently; Ma - runs [NAME OF COMPANY]; Pa - [SALES ROLE]. 30 is a [SECRETARIAL ROLE] 40 hours a week ft in [MARKETING]. Hetero, 6 sexual relationships, 2 recent rather risky, short termers with married men passing through (the country or the company she works for).

Dark, good looking, talks a lot and very confident. White blouse, pencil slim black skirt, high heels. She is very worried about AIDS especially in relation to her recent sexual behaviour. (She is also well informed about AIDS.) Her 'sexual activity' as she put it, is more like a man. Sex without involvement. Most recently, a fling with a married man at work, who has since left the company and the country. Prior to that a week in a hotel, with another man met through the company. Did not use protection, and in fact is worried at the moment that she may be pregnant. She feels she may be brainwashing herself because she was very hurt by the breakup of a long term 'tempestuous' relationship (a year, but with breaks I think). Now she does not want to get involved. When I asked her to do the diary she said it would have been more interesting a few weeks ago. (But agreed to do it.)

Her attitude is that you do not know what is going to happen to you next in life, especially in terms of relationships. She does not want to marry or have children. Is an only child and cannot think of any reason why she should have children, thinks she has not sorted herself out and could not take on responsibility for another life/person. But she allows that she may change her mind, that is the way she feels right now. I think she is ambitious, she is leaving work to go to college ([CITY IN SOUTH WEST ENGLAND], 2 year course about communications).

Thought her sex education was good as far as it went, which was not far enough. She has a good relationship with her mother, whom she tells everything - which worries her mum sometimes, especially in relation to her recent activities. She is materialistic she says, likes money and plans to have plenty in the future. She did not go to uni (I think she was turned down by the ones she wanted due to marks, but could have gone elsewhere) because she wanted to get out and earn money. She has now decided that she needs more qualifications. She is interested in the advertising business, and her course was to include an element of this, but now she has been informed does not.

Her first sexual encounter was almost getting it over with, losing her virginity, she was totally drunk and left it all to him, he said he used a condom and she took his word for it. Too pissed to check herself. Her second relationship was the long one with someone close to her age, met in school or tertiary college I think, and he was a virgin, so not worried about AIDS. But he did mess her around, and had other women (I'm not sure that this involved sex, because she saw other men when they were in a breaking up phase, but never slept with them), and also became extremely jealous of her. What annoyed her most was that he was dramatically jealous of her, and she felt guilt and tried to comply, only to discover that he had been doing the behaviour he accused her of behind her back. I think she terminated the relationship in the end, but both of them had done so at different times. This experience has scarred her in her view, and made her cynical about men, and very frightened to become involved since she does not want to be hurt like that again.

From this yw I got the result I have been waiting for in a way about 'safe-sex'. We talked re masturbation, which she has been doing for years and is the only thing that

gets her through periods of celibacy. She agreed that there are lots of things that you can do in a sexual encounter and that she enjoys all of them except penetration. But if you drew back at that point you would be a dreadful tease. Earlier she had said that she had not or did not particularly enjoy sex. I think then she must have been thinking of it as penetration, but when we considered the alternatives, it was a discovery to her that she did enjoy sex, but not penetration! But it will be interesting to look at the transcript to get this transition.

Bcs of the contradictions which were appearing in what she was telling me, especially around her fears about pregnancy (definitely does not want children) and AIDS (unprotected sex with men who may put her at risk, one of the recent ones travels in areas where AIDS is prevalent), but also because she so clearly wanted control over her life but acted in a way to lose control, I asked her "Isn't that a little contradictory?" She agreed and felt that she had come to be interviewed because she was worried about what she was doing. It had made her think about these things. Maybe it will make her change her behaviour. She really needs a bit of therapy or at least counselling I think.