

LSFS4 /12/13 30.3.89**Amy**

Q: So you do painting?

A: Yes

Q: So what does that involve?

A: Well at the moment just clearing this place up, we have just moved in and it's in a mess. Downstairs is going to be our area, you know, workshop, and it's alright.

Q: Why did you pick painting?

A: I always liked to do it and at home I have always helped around and everything and I really enjoy it.

Q: And you are still living at home?

A: Yes

Q: Is that alright?

A: No.

Q: No?

A: I just don't get on with them.

Q: Is that recent or has it always been like that?

A: Well I mean it's been going on like that for a year and a half, about that. They get on my nerves and I get on their nerves and things like that.

Q: So are you in much or do you try and stay out?

A: Well I try and stay out, you know, but usually when I get home my brother ain't in and I think, and he usually goes out as well.

Q: How old is he?

A: Eighteen.

Q: Does he get on at home?

A: Yes.

Q: So it's just you?

A: Yes.

Q: Why do you think it is?

A: I don't know. I just think my Mum and Dad, they are, like the girl stays at home doing all the cooking and work and, you know what I mean, and the boys go out and enjoy themselves and that's it. And they just can't see my point of view where it's not fair like that. You know, like this job they don't like it either.

Q: Why not?

A: Because they consider it's a man's job. They say, 'you can't do that job' so I went on, I used to train as a mechanic before and they didn't like that either. They just say to me why didn't I get a job like a secretary or something you know, but you try telling them you don't like that job and they still don't want to know.

Q: So does that mean they have not been giving you that much support?

A: Well I mean they did not say much when I joined it. Well like know they keep on saying why are you doing that job and you don't need to do that job, you know, and I bet you don't like it and this that and the other.

Q: So do you have a lot of arguments?

A: Yes.

Q: But you end up doing what you want?

A: Yes. I can't have them run my life. My brother, he had a job as a [SKILLED TRADE] and he only had four months to go and he left. I mean he's working as a [SKILLED TRADE] now but they didn't say nothing about that, leaving one job just to go to another with four months training left and they never said nothing. But with me, you know, it's why are you doing that, that's going to get you nowhere, you know.

Q: So they treated you quite different than your brother?

A: Yes.

Q: Is that because of the tradition in the family?

A: Yes that's what I think because my parents aren't English, my dad's Italian and my mum's Portuguese, and over there the girl stays at home you know, doing the house work and the other things like that, I don't like it.

Q: So they lived over here all the time?

A: Yes, my mum's been here for about 20 years and my dad's been here for about 40, they still live their own way and I have been bought up like this and I never used to do that when I was young, that stuff.

Q: So do they see you as a bit of a rebel?

A: Yes, that's what my dad calls me.

Q: Is he proud of you as well?

A: Sometimes, but I mean we still have arguments as well, I have worse arguments with my mum. My dad ain't that bad, he sees my point of view, but my mum just goes on and on.

Q: So what do they want to happen to you except getting a job as a secretary?

A: Marry a rich bloke who could keep me all his life.

Q: Have they got anyone in mind?

A: No, but if I go out with anyone they want to know their parents, they want to know what he does, what he's like and this that and the other, but things ain't like that nowadays. You don't bring the boys home for dinner, you know to meet your parents, it ain't just like that and like if I just go out with someone as a good friend they go like, 'you can't go out with him he's this he's that', and it's terrible.

Q: So do you take anyone home?

A: No you're joking, oh my God no, never even, if they phone up they get told everything on the phone, they get asked questions, you know, it's terrible.

Q: So do your parents not really know what you do outside?

A: No not really. I try not to tell them because you know, because they want to know this, when you tell them once they want to know all the time. And if my brother goes out, if they ask him where he's going he just says, 'oh I am going out', that's it, that's good enough for them, but if I say it they have to know if I am going out with my mate, she is a girl, they want to know her parents, they want to know where she is from, how old she is, what she does and everything. I mean you just go out with someone, it ain't worth it.

Q: Do you know they are worried about you?

A: No, they are just pig headed. I don't know, I go out a lot but before I never, because they used to ask too many questions when I used to go out before and I used to get fed up of it so I didn't go out that much, but now I think forget it, if they're going to treat me like this I ain't going to accept it. Like when I went out yesterday I didn't tell them where I was going and I came in and it was about 8 o'clock and my dad goes to me, 'where have you been?', I said 'out', and he goes, 'that is not good enough'. I said, 'if it's good enough for HARRY to say it I can say it,' and he goes, 'right, have it your way then'. I went out again, he asked, 'what time are you coming home?' and I said, 'I don't know', but I mean like he won't say nothing but he will let me out once or twice and then he will start again you know.

Q: And do you get home really late?

A: It depends where I go. I mean if I go out to a disco or something I might come in three in the morning, discos finish at that time and you're not going to leave at midnight to get home you know, but it depends on where I go. I'm not as bad as my brother, my brother goes out and comes home about one or two in the morning nearly every night and you know I come home about eleven, that's the latest I come home cause I don't like walking the streets at night, you know, that's the only reason.

Q: So where do you usually go?

A: I usually meet up with SOPHIE, she works here as well, and we just go out and we talk and we go for walks and that's it usually.

Q: Do you go to pubs?

A: Yes.

Q: And you have got a special boyfriend?

A: Well he's not really a boyfriend, he's a friend, do you know what I mean. I can talk to him and everything, he is really understanding and everything you know. My mum doesn't like him either.

Q: Why not?

A: There's three brother's and I used to go out with one of them and the older one, he is the one I get on with really well, you know. He's my mate and my mum knows him and everything and she just don't like him, she just hates him, I don't know why, it's really terrible.

Q: And she's never talked about why?

A: No I mean I she knows his dad and she knows his mum and she just hates him. I said 'why?' and she just said 'no I don't like him', 'you must have a reason?' and she's going, 'no I don't like him I'm not going to let you hang around with that sort of company you know', 'Why?' and she just said nothing.

Q: What does he do?

A: He's a mechanic. She goes, 'why don't you find a decent bloke to hang around with?', but decent to her, what is decent you know, I don't.

Q: But she never makes it clear?

A: All she goes on about is money that's all my mum thinks about is money and she just, you know, 'find a bloke with money', and this that and the other, 'so you don't have to work', I think it's more important if you like a person rather than money. I mean as long as I can get by and I've got a job that earns me enough money to live, that's alright for me. My mum don't see it that way.

Q: And have you had any boyfriends that have been quite serious?

A: Yes, quite a few, then my mum starts interfering you know. They get quite pissed off.

Q: When did you start bringing boys home?

A: When I was about fourteen, about that.

Q: And did you bring them home?

A: No there was one, it was my brother's friend, I used to go out with him a lot. He was probably my first one and like he used to, my mum didn't know about it we wouldn't tell her, but he used to be round the house and then someone told her and she goes, 'oh yes' and she allowed me to go out with him because she knew his mum and they were really good friends and everything. She said 'you should get married to him' and I'm thinking, what, I am only fourteen, I shouldn't be getting married to no one, she just sort of really liked him and when she first found out that I was going out with him and if I said I was going out with ALEX, cause his name was ALEX, I walked straight out the door and she would give me money and everything. 'Go on, go out with him', but then anyone else, you know, it's a different story.

Q: So what happened with him?

A: We just split up because my brother used to take the piss out of him and his mates and you know, so that was the end of that, but we're still friends, we still talk to each other.

Q: So what happened after that, did you have other boyfriends?

A: Probably, can't remember. Yes I used to have one that used to live near the Millwall football ground and my brother got it into my dad's head that he was a skinhead and a Millwall supporter and he goes out after every match and knifing people up and my dad believed him, my brother has never seen him before and my dad believed him and that was me banned from seeing him, bad influence this, that and the other.

Q: But they never met him?

A: No.

Q: I presume he wasn't a skinhead.

A: No, I wouldn't go out with a skinhead, but they, but it was in my dad's head that he was a skinhead and he goes out and he fights and he cuts everyone up, you know, and my dad believed him.

Q: Did your parents ever talk to you about boys and sex and things like that?

A: Yes, lately they have about if you start hanging around with the wrong company you're going to come home pregnant, and don't expect me to stand by you, this that and the other

and 'you're too young to have a baby,' and all this. They don't know nothing so like I said to my mum, 'I want to leave home' and she said, 'the only time you're going to leave home is when you're married,' you know what I mean, and I said, 'I'll leave home for independence like to cope by myself you know, if I ever do get married and if anything goes wrong I'll be by myself, so I need to get used to it and everything'. Well she just can't see it that way.

Q: Could she stop you leaving?

A: I don't know could she, but them flats where you're supposed to live, if you go to the council there is a place Pluto down Road and they only give you flats or help you out if your parents have chucked you out, if you say you are leaving they put you on a waiting list for about 3 years, so I mean like I am looking for a place, I can get help can't I cause I'm on YTS for paying the rents and everything.

Q: I think so.

A: Soon as I find a cheap enough one I am going because like my mate, she's offered me to live with her, but then living with your friend is alright but then you start feeling guilty you know, about paying bills.

Q: Has she got a flat?

A: No she lives with her mum but I know her mum and everything and I get on with her, and her mum says, 'if ever you want, if you have got nowhere to go just come down and stay with us,' but then you feel like you're taking advantage.

Q: Is that your best friend?

A: The one that works here.

Q: SOPHIE?

A: Yes.

Q: Has she got a boyfriend?

A: No, I don't think so at the moment.

Q: So when did you start going out with boys seriously?

A: When I was about fifteen.

Q: Had you talked about sex at school?

A: Yes we talked about that.

Q: When did you have that?

A: What?

Q: At school?

A: Yes.

Q: What age did they do that?

A: I can't remember, I think we weren't that mature about it because everyone was laughing about it when was it, it was in secondary school about second year.

Q: What did they tell you?

A: Just about everything, they just go on and on. We used to have it in the science lessons. Some of the kid's mothers wrote up to school saying they didn't want their kids in it, you know.

Q: What sort of people, was it because of their religion?

A: No they just didn't want the school telling the kids about it, then it stopped and then it carried on again, but everyone just laughed about it and made jokes.

Q: Did you learn from that?

A: No, nearly everyone in my school knew about everything you know.

Q: Did they ever in your school talk about AIDS?

A: Yes, well they did, I think they did, but everyone was talking about it anyway. Yes, they did actually.

Q: How much do you know about AIDS?

A: Well, the facts. Well I mean you know you usually talk about this with your mates and if anything new happens you tell them this and they tell you that, and usually the news and posters and all that, but most of it's from mates.

Q: So who do you think are the people most at risk?

A: Gays, well I mean that's what we have been led to believe, but I mean it can be anyone really.

Q: How's it actually transmitted?

A: Well it started off with gays didn't they, I think it was gays? I remember everyone going around saying gays had AIDS. I know everyone can be at risk, not just gays.

Q: Do you ever feel you're at risk?

A: No. You don't really think about these things. AIDS is just a way of life, you know what I mean, it's just there and it's like getting pregnant, you know, it's just a thing.

Q: That it's in the background?

A: Well it's just a thing, AIDS. I don't know.

Q: Do you know anyone who has got it or?

A: No. I don't think I know anyone whose got it.

Q: Do you know anyone who might be at risk?

A: Not really. I know a lot of boys that go out with girls just for sex and everything, but they always use condoms anyway.

Q: Because of AIDS?

A: Yes. I don't know anyone really.

Q: And do you do that too?

A: Yes, it's a bit stupid if you don't. It's your life that's at risk, it just ain't worth it.

Q: So when you use, because you say here that you use condoms, is that for any particular reason to do with AIDS or is that just because that's the easiest to use?

A: Well it's the safest really. Isn't it? Yes, I mean I suppose people will say the safest thing is saying no, but you are not going to go through your life being a virgin. So I think that's the safest thing to use if you are going to have sex. But not just that, if you get pregnant, that's another big worry on your head. I think it's the best thing really.

Q: You have actually had three relationships, who was actually negotiating the sexual relationship, was it you or your boyfriend?

A: Well when I go out with a bloke I make a point of it, we always talk about things and I usually make sure we talk and if we are going to have sex to make sure we do take precautions and everything.

Q: So you talk about it?

A: Yes it's usually a joint decision.

Q: So has it ever been something you have been persuaded into?

A: No because if anybody tried to persuade me I would kick them and leave. I like getting my own way and if people try to force me to do things I just won't do it and that's it.

Q: And were these each people that you were going steady?

A: Yes. Well two of them I had known them for really long and another one was a mate of one of my mates I had known for ages.

Q: And how long a time is it usually before you decide that you wanted sex?

A: Well I don't know straight away. It takes time. You have to like the person and there has to be something going between you. I wouldn't just jump in bed with anyone just for the sake of it because it ain't worth it.

Q: Is it a matter of weeks or months or?

A: It's months. About three or four months.

Q: When it was the first time was that alright for you?

A: Yes I think I was drunk. I wasn't drunk drunk, I knew what I was doing and everything.

Q: And were you prepared, did you take precautions?

A: Oh yes.

Q: And is it you that asks the blokes to actually use a condom?

A: Yes I am straightforward with them.

Q: And is that always alright or does anyone object?

A: No, they don't. Some boys are just stupid, but if they don't want to wear a condom then tough, you know go and find someone else. That's it. But most of them they don't mind.

Q: Who carries around the condoms?

A: Both do.

Q: So you do as well?

A: Yes.

Q: That's a very good idea rather than relying on someone to have them. You say after a few months you have a sexual relationship with someone, is it because you want to have it rather than for the actual pleasure of it, or is it what gets done next in a relationship?

A: Oh no. I don't get jumbled up. But I think it's both. It wouldn't just be because that happens next, and that's the way the pattern goes because if you do it like that that's just stupid. You can just write a book out and live your life like that.

Q: And do you enjoy it?

A: Yes. Well if I didn't I wouldn't do it.

Q: It's not always the case. Some girls do do it and don't enjoy it.

A: Yes but they are probably the ones that get forced into it really. It's stupid really. You see some girls just go out just for the sake of getting boys, but if they want to risk their life in that way it's up to them.

Q: Do you feel they are risking their lives?

A: Well I know a few girls that they used to go out with just one-night stands and they never used to use anything. That is really risking your life because once you have got AIDS that's it, they haven't found a cure yet. So you don't know what is going to happen to you.

Q: Which seems to be the most prevalent you might think of in terms of the risks of getting AIDS or the risks of getting pregnant?

A: What do you mean?

Q: If you have a sexual relationship with a boy, and you use a condom, what are you most scared of?

A: AIDS.

Q: Rather than pregnant?

A: Yes it has to be AIDS. A kid, you can have the kid and if you can't cope there is always people that will look after it for you but AIDS once you get it that's it and there is no giving it to someone else, you have it, you take it for a while. It's just you've got it and you have got to cope with it and that's it.

Q: So you wouldn't take that sort of risk?

A: No, it's not worth it.

Q: Having you ever used any other form of contraception?

A: No.

Q: Would you think of using anything else?

A: Not really.

Q: Because there are other forms.

A: Yes I know. But no, I just think condoms are the safest and the easiest and that's it.

Q: Would you say that you were the sort of person who takes any risks?

A: Yes I do take some risks but as long as I know, I don't really do anything stupid.

Q: What are the risks you think you take?

A: Like when I went on a course last week and they made us jump off the front of a 50ft bridge. That to me is a risk.

Q: Yes.

A: Yes, well I mean we were abseiling. We had ropes and everything, but I think things like that are risks.

Q: What about anything to do with health, things like smoking.

A: Yes I smoke but it's like you can always do something about it. If you think it's getting the better of you, you can always stop. It might be hard, but you can always stop, but I don't really think that is a major risk.

Q: Do you think you will stop?

A: Probably sometime. Sometime, somewhere I don't know.

Q: But seemingly the risk from smoking, cancer and all that is not as bad as the risk from sex and AIDS to you?

A: No. Alright there isn't a cure for cancer, but if they catch it in the early stages they can always remove it, but with AIDS they can't do anything so I take that as being bigger.

Q: What about things like drugs?

A: No, a waste of money. It is, I think it's stupid. You get told about all these people who are on it and they spend so much a day on buying this rubbish and they just sit there like a cabbage. What for? You know going out to a party if you want to enjoy yourself and even have a few drinks if they want a buzz, but drugs, it isn't worth it.

Q: What about drink?

A: Yes I do drink.

Q: A lot?

A: No. I do get, not really drunk but just jolly when I'm at parties and places like that. But if you haven't had a few drinks at a party you can't really enjoy yourself. So I don't usually go out and get drunk, I might have a few drinks but that's it.

Q: What do you think, when you were talking about what was going to happen to you in the next few years, what sort of business would you like to be in?

A: Painting and decorating. Because I can't stand people telling me what to do.

Q: So you couldn't envisage yourself working for somebody else?

A: I could for a short time but once I had some money together that would be it. I couldn't see myself working for someone all my life, I just couldn't see myself doing it. I would probably get thrown out of so many jobs because of my temper and I want everything my way. I am probably a bit stubborn.

Q: Have you thought about marriage at all?

A: Well I mean some boys I would like to be married and some I wouldn't. I went to a fortune teller the other day and she told me I would be married in two years time.

Q: What did you think of that?

A: Oh my god. Because I went to about three of them and they all told me I would be married by the time I am nineteen.

Q: Which is two years time.

A: Yes, about two years, and I just think. Well I don't know I might be different in two years time, I might want to get married in two years time but at the moment I don't really want to get married.

Q: Have you ever been out with anyone who you thought was someone you might?

A: No not really. I have been out with somebody who asked me to marry them but I just laughed. It was about a year ago and I was just like a school kid, you know. I think I am more mature now than what I was before. If anyone talked about marriage, it was a joke, old people do that, get married.

Q: What about kids?

A: I don't know, one minute I would like to have kids, and then the next you think are they worth the hassle. I don't know, I probably would have kids.

Q: Do you know how you feel now, the ideal age you would like to do all that sort of thing?

A: I would like to be young, I don't want to be old when I get married. I would like to get married before I am twenty five. Because once you are twenty five that's it, I think you are going. I feel old already now. I wouldn't like to be too old to start. I think if I am older than twenty five I don't think I will get married.

Q: And would you live with someone?

A: Yes it's the best way really to find out what they are like. Because you hear these people that get married and they haven't lived with the person and they can't stand each other. It just isn't worth it. You are better off living with someone to find out what they are like and how living with that person is before you take a step like that.

Q: And do your parents mind?

A: Yes.

Q: What are their views?

A: Oh their views, no sex before marriage, you are married you stay home and you do the cooking, the cleaning, look after the husband, don't go out, don't spend the money, don't do this, don't do that, you must obey the husband, yes, yes, yes.

Q: No sex before marriage, is that because of their own traditions or is that because they are Catholic?

A: That's probably because they were married before. I know where my mum comes from if you go out with a bloke and they expect you to get married to him. That's how things go over there. Over here it isn't like that, it's totally different. That's probably because they were brought up like that.

Q: So do they think you are still a virgin?

A: Probably. I don't know, I don't really talk to them nowadays. Just let them live and let me live and that's it.

Q: So they didn't ever sit you down and sort of talk about this is what sex is all about?

A: Oh no, because I already knew it and they already knew that I knew all this. So they didn't really bother.

Q: And did they actually tell you no sex before marriage or is that something that you have picked up from their general attitudes?

A: Well they have probably mentioned it once or twice but you can tell that's what they mean. They say things.

Q: Is that the same for your brother?

A: No. Oh no my brother goes out, he brings girls home, not to sleep or anything but just brings girls home. And nothing is said. They just want to make a joke of it. 'Oh, one day one of their father's is going to come round asking if you are so and so and tell you you've made my girl pregnant'. You know, they joke about it with him.

Q: So they don't say no sex before marriage to him?

A: No.

Q: It seems a bit of double standards. Do you have a sexual relationship with your current boyfriend?

A: No, this one, no. We just like each other's company, we go out and just enjoy ourselves.

Q: How often do you see him?

A: Nearly every week, sometimes three or four times a week.

Q: That's quite a lot.

A: Yes.

Q: Is it acknowledged from both of you that it's not a sexual relationship?

A: Oh yes.

Q: Or would he quite like?

A: I don't know. I saw him yesterday I think, sometimes he just gets the hump because I used to go out with his brother. But we really get on with each other and can really talk to each other. I think if we started anything up other than that would spoil it. I am quite happy with that arrangement, so it doesn't matter to me.

Q: Do you think that might stop you meeting other boys that you might want to have a sexual relationship with?

A: No. He's just a friend, we just see each other like that.

Q: So how long ago was the last person that you had a sexual relationship with?

A: About eight months.

Q: And how long did that last?

A: Well it was like, because I go back to where my mum lives every year for a holiday and sometimes I go twice. Like this year I went at Christmas and the last time there was a bloke over there in PORTUGAL and I had seen him before because I went over in June as well. And when I went over at Christmas he still wanted to carry on seeing me, but I just can't be bothered.

Q: Did you start having sexual relationships with people before AIDS?

A: No.

Q: So AIDS has always been around?

A: Yes.

Q: I was going to ask you otherwise whether you thought your behaviour had actually changed at all since you heard about AIDS.

A: Not really, as long as I take precautions and I'm safe then I don't really worry about it.

Q: Do you know anyone who you think is at risk?

A: Well, I used to have some mates at school, they used to go out on one-night stands but I don't know whether they used to use condoms or not so I don't know if they would be. Other than that I don't know anyone else, because most of the boys I know would insist on using condoms.

Q: People that you know do accept condoms as a sort of acceptable thing to use and in terms of things like sexual pleasure as well because when the pill first came out, I don't know if you know, but condoms took a dive in the sense that girls took the pill, actually it was slightly safer in terms of pregnancy and often people were a bit snooty about condoms, having to interrupt things to put them on, whereas generations growing up now in a sense don't so much have that choice. If you want to be really safe you have to use a condom, do you ever think that it is some kind of, not exactly an impediment, but that it would be more pleasurable or nicer without condoms, like people used to enjoy it?

A: Probably, but it's better to be safe.

Q: If you had to describe yourself, what sort of person would you describe yourself as?

A: Well I like going out and enjoying myself and I'm quite easy to get on with really. Usually when I go out people usually come out with me because I'm fun to go out with. I like joking around.

Q: Is there a serious side to you as well?

A: Yes, I think everyone's got that in them. I'm only serious when I have to be, I take jokes otherwise if you don't make life what it is then that's it.

Q: It sounds to me from what you were saying earlier that you're someone who gets what you want, which I presume means that you know what you want?

A: Yes.

Q: Who would you say in terms of your relationships has the more power?

A: I don't like to be too big headed because people don't like you for that, trying to tell them what to do. I think really what I try to do when I go out with someone is have joint decisions on everything so we both agree to where we're going to go or what we're going to do so that no one starts taking over and that way we both understand each other and no one starts saying, "you always tell me what to do", and this that and the other. I do like getting my own way, not that much, if someone else didn't want to do what I wanted them to do then I wouldn't force them into it because I wouldn't like to be forced into it.

Q: Have you ever had any boyfriends who have ever objected to that sort of approach?

A: Not really, but if I ever did, if they started to take over then they can go and take over someone else because with me they wouldn't take over. I think you have to be equal in a relationship.

Q: Presumably you wouldn't accept it if it was unequal and suppose you fell headlong in love with somebody, have you already?

A: Yes I have, stupid me.

Q: When was that?

A: Well, it was someone I was going out with I wasn't that much in love with him whilst I was going out with him but once I left him that was when I was in love with him, that's when I realised how much I did love him.

Q: Was it too late then or could you get back together?

A: We could have, I still see him and I reckon he still wants to go out with me but I just don't want to, I don't know why.

Q: Do you still love him?

A: No, that's gone.

Q: Had you been having a sexual relationship with him?

A: Yes.

Q: So why did you leave him?

A: I just got fed up with him and that was it.

Q: Is it usually you who leaves relationships?

A: I can usually sense when someone's going to say to me they want to forget it and leave so I usually try and get in before they say it.

Q: What, have the last word?

A: Yes.

Q: Has it ever happened that someone's beaten you to it?

A: No because I don't let them. If I've been going out with someone for about 2 months, you know how they feel towards you and if they start acting differently then that's the time you know they're going to say something so I usually get in before them but we always remain friends, we don't usually break up and that's it we usually still see each other.

Q: Going back, briefly, to actually talking about sexuality, do you know what's meant by safe sex?

A: Surprise me!

Q: What to you is safe sex?

A: Condoms. I know people say just say no, that's even safer, but you can't go round saying no all your life.

Q: But no one's ever, or you hadn't really thought about, say, sexuality that isn't particularly penetration?

A: Oh yes, that thing. Yes, I don't know.

Q: It can just be foreplay but not necessarily sex because when you think of a sexual relationship does that automatically mean sexual intercourse?

A: Not really, when I think about it it's liking the person a lot. There has to be something going between you, there has to be something there that you want to spend time with this person etc. You must care for the person and everything.

Q: But would you classify heavy petting as sex, or would it only become sex?

A: Well that is a form of sex really, yes probably.

Q: That's just trying to think whether definitions of people having sexual relationships just automatically means intercourse or whether it can have loads of other meanings as well which don't necessarily mean sex. You were saying that you don't sleep around, do you have any friends that do sleep around a lot?

A: No, I don't associate with them anymore.

Q: For that reason?

A: Well mostly, when you start hanging around with those people you start getting into doing the same things as they do, I left school and tried not to get in touch with them, I don't want to mix with people like that.

Q: When you were saying earlier on you thought that people most at risk from AIDS were gay, do you know any gay people?

A: No. There is one mate that my brother knows and we call him gay because he's never had a girlfriend but whether he's gay or not I don't know.

Q: What do you think of gay people in general?

A: I don't know, I believe as long as people know what they want and they don't live by anyone else's rules and what society thinks and this rubbish, I accept them. I don't find anything wrong with them, they want to be what they want to be and it's up to them, it's their life.

Q: Do you know anyone who you think might be at risk?

A: No.

Q: It doesn't seem as though you are at risk at all?

A: Well, like I said, as long as they use a condom I don't see myself being at risk?

END OF TAPE