

LSFS6 [YTS TRAINING CENTRE] (No q'aire because she cannot read or write)

Interviewed [RUTH] from [NAME OF TEACHER]'s class on Basic Skills (ie. reading and writing and doing lots of practical things). She is from a 'traveller' family, although she, her mum and younger brother are currently living in a hotel waiting for a council house. Her father is in prison (8 years for [SERIOUS CRIME]) and has only done 1½ so far. She would like to settle down in a house now and stop travelling. Very sweet, quietly spoken. Wearing sweater and jeans tucked into boots. Afraid of sex, I'm not convinced she really understands what it involves and has been influenced by hearing newly married women saying how awful it is. Has had current boyfriend for 2 months who she seems quite serious about, but says she would definitely not get married until her father was out of prison. No sexual experiences at all, and does not want sex before marriage, and doesn't much fancy it after marriage either. Has little clue about AIDS and has gleaned most information about anything like this (plus sex) from the television. Is really enjoying the YTS course which has only just started, and wants to make some sort of career for herself - she wants to look after old people. When I returned the following week, there had been some trouble in this class through two rather rough lads joining, one of whom in particular was constantly disrupting the class and making very sexist and rude remarks to the girls. One or two girls were playing up to this and giggling etc, but [RUTH] was clearly very angry, especially about some remarks made to her. Despite her sweet appearance, she apparently challenged the boy to 'come outside', so she's probably a lot tougher than she seems.