

**AMB18 25/4/89 (RT)**

QU: Who do you live with?

AN: I live with my parents.

QU: Mum and dad?

AN: Yeah.

QU: How do you get on with them?

AN: Alright. They're protective, like.

QU: Not letting you out?

AN: He lets me out, sometimes he won't.

QU: How much do you go out?

AN: I stay in all week because I'm tired from work. Weekends I go out, not all the time... (010)...if I feel like it.

QU: What time does he say you have to be in by?

AN: He don't say the time. I come in when I feel like it.

QU: He doesn't want to know who you've been with?

AN: Yeah, that's right.

QU: Do you tell him?

AN: I used to lie to him, when I was going out with my boyfriend. He didn't like it... (014)...I used to just say I was going to my friend's. I used to just lie to him.

QU: Wouldn't he have liked it if he knew you had a boyfriend?

AN: Well, he did find out. Kept on moaning. Mum didn't mind.. (?)she kept going on at me (017). Then I thought, right, I'm not going to listen to them anymore. I'm going to ignore them. I've had enough, at home. (?)I'll say that I'm going to leave home, but I won't go.

QU: Do they think that you're going to?

AN: My mum goes - oh, get out of the house! Then when I'm going to the -(020), she goes - oh, better wait til your dad gets back. ...(021-022)...She always says - I can't wait til you get out of this house...(023).

QU: So how many of you are there living at home?

AN: Seven, five brothers, one sister. One of them's already left home and the other's moving out.

QU: ...(026) Any younger than you?

AN: No, I'm the youngest.

QU: And you've got a lot of brothers?

AN: Yeah.

QU: What's that like?

AN: Oh, gosh! They're like me dad. They're worse.

QU: Do they try to protect you?

AN: Yeah.

QU: In what way?

AN: They're worse than...(029)

QU: Do they go out and...(030)

AN: Yeah...

QU: Do they get the same treatment?

AN: No, it's just me.

QU: Do they worry that you'll get pregnant?

AN: Yeah, I think so.

QU: Have your parents talked to you about contraception?

AN: No, they.. she wouldn't talk to me about that. Not me mum.

QU: Is it embarrassing?

AN: Yeah, she's not the kind of person to discuss that.

QU: She just tells you not to do it?

AN: Yes, she'll say...(037)..I'll say I'm not like that...(038).

QU: Does that make her happy?

AN: No, she don't mind. Me dad...(040)..It's just me dad who moans. I go out, I don't care what he says. I don't listen to him...(042).

QU: What about your sister? How old is she?

AN: She's 24.

QU: ..(044)..

AN: ..(044)..

QU: Did she have to go through the same you've gone through?

AN: ..(046)..She started going out when she was about 18..

QU: Had to get out..

AN: Yeah.

QU: Did she go mad when she did go out?

AN: She don't really go out much now. I don't know. She don't like going out in the week. She just like to go out in the weekends, because she's working. She don't go out a lot. And when you're young like me, 18, you don't feel like going out cos you know what it's like.

QU: Had enough of it?

AN: Yeah. All the same.

QU: What do your mum and dad do?

AN: My mum was alright, but my dad was just going on, saying, 'Who're you going out with?' Things like that. 'Where you going?' He don't mention times, he just said don't be late.

QU: Do they disagree with sex before marriage then?

AN: No, nothing like that. But they think that because I'm at college, they think I should get on with what I'm doing, then wait for a bit...(061)..I'm not that stupid, cos I don't want to get pregnant yet, you know what I mean? I'll finish off me course and do more hairdressing, get more money til I can afford to get a house and things like that.

QU: So it's not a religious thing with them?

AN: No, not like that. They don't want me to...(065)..see how my job goes...(066)..16 years old...

QU: Which is fair enough.

AN: Yeah, I understand that. I agree with them. But I don't want them to stop me from seeing people, like stop me from doing things. The more your parents stop you from doing things the more you want to do it. Like, don't smoke! (smoking gesture)

QU: .. (069-070)..

AN: When my parents were...(070)..they were arguing, being strict.. (071)..They were trying to make us grow (?) up like that, but I don't think it's right.

QU: They didn't do it with your brothers?

AN: I can't remember cos I was young. Me brother, I remember when he was 16, he was going out, he had to be in half ten, 11 o'clock. He just got fed up, started doing their own things.

QU: They didn't have the same sort of protection you did?

AN: I think I get it easy. With my sister he was strict. He's letting go a bit. He doesn't let me go out all the time, but..

QU: Are you scared of your dad, if he gets angry?

AN: Yeah, used to when I was younger. I thought, 'oh gosh! Yeah, if he hits me again I'm walking out of the house, not coming back'..(084)..but he wouldn't do it anymore, no.

QU: ..(085)

AN: I don't really listen to him...(087). He was strict, his mum were strict, his parents, because his dad died when he was 3. So that's why he's grown up like that. With mum, she says, 'Do some work, stay at home, finish off your course and then do what you want.'

QU: It's not the same for you though, is it? (laugh) What sort of things do you do, when you go out?

AN: I go out, go to clubs and have a drink, get drunk.

QU: What sort of clubs?

AN: Down-town, (?)studio bar..(097)..Hacienda, Gallery, (?)Seymore's, have you heard of that?

QU: Yeah, used to go there.

AN: It's quite good there. I go on Sunday. A few places you hear where it's good and try it out.

QU: Do you hang out with a load of friends?

AN: Yeah. Sometimes we arrange things. There's about 8 of us..

QU: Friends from school?

AN: Yeah, some of them are still at school but they look older.They get..(104)...off the parents...(105)...half-caste.. Black people are more strict.

QU: Do you think so?

AN: Yeah, they are.. Have a laugh, go out, get drunk, oh gosh! I can't go to a club without a drink. I've got to drink something. My favourite drink's a ...(108)..(?)alcoholic..

QU: Why?

AN: If you go to a club and see other people drinking a coke or something. You want a laugh! You want to change your feelings.

QU: Feel less inhibited as well?

AN: Yes. I don't like just sitting there, just drinking coke. Feeling...(113)..I go out to enjoy myself, so..

QU: If you don't drink do you feel a shy person?

AN: Yeah, that's right..(116)..(laugh)

QU: How drunk do you get?

AN: How many drinks do I have? About five. Drunk.

QU: Do you find you ever regret getting drunk?

AN: Yeah. The next day.

QU: What sort of things?

AN: No, I don't like to go back to their house or things like that. I go straight home... (120)..I went out quite a bit ago and met, went with three guys, in the club....(121-123).....

QU: Is it the things you say to people that embarrass you, or things you do?

AN: Yeah, things you do. There were about 8 of them.....you know when you're drunk, people take (?)advantage of you...out of it that night. People were just dragging me, I don't remember it, I remember two people...(128-129).

QU: Do you feel that you're in danger when you're drunk, with people you don't know? Taking risks?

AN: I do in a way, but I know what I'm doing. I'm not stupid like some other girls, like I'll go back to their house..

QU: Do you think that's the problem, girls that are taken home?

AN: Yeah, cos all they want is one thing. I wouldn't..(135)..

QU: Do you think that from your own experience? ..(137)..

AN: No, I've not been in that situation...My (?)cousin goes..(138) ..picking up things, taking risks..(139-140).

QU: Do you not trust those sort of blokes?

AN: No, plus AIDS is going around, no.

QU: Lets go back a bit. We'll talk about that in a minute. You said you don't want a sexual relationship, right?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Tell me about that. Tell me when you first had a sexual relationship and why.

AN: Right, I was going out with a lad.

QU: Not a boyfriend?

AN: No.

QU: Casual?

AN: Yeah...(149-150)..we was going out for 9 months. He waited for about 5 months. I really got to like him.

QU: So you slept with him?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Were you happy with it, was it a disappointment?

AN: No, it was alright...(155-156)...

(interruption)

QU: Was it your decision to do it, or was he hassling you?

AN: No! No, he's so shy you see, he's nice looking and..(158)..so, he made the first move. I was shocked because lads sometimes wait about a week and then jump in your knickers. Well, he waited for about 5 months.

QU: Were you happy with that?

AN: Yes, happy, yeah. So I finished with him..

QU: Straight away?

AN: No, no. I finished with him because he was moving.. he moved to [AREA IN MANCHESTER]. Because me dad didn't know, we would have had to ...(160)..get out all the time. I was too tired when I got home from work, and I couldn't go round to his cos it was too far anyway. The only time I could go was on my day off. And he wouldn't come round to our house..cos..me dad's at work.

QU: Would your dad have gone mad if he'd found out?

AN: Yeah

QU: Is that cos it was your boyfriend?

AN: Yeah. I really hate him so much. You know, like the things he's done. He's stopped me from..(178)..having a boyfriend. He doesn't mind me having friends, you know,.. (179)

QU: Does he expect that you must be wanting to go to bed with every boy?

AN: I know, I think so. I says to him- when can I have a boyfriend? - When you've finished your course, you know..(183). He must mean wait till you're 18 or something.

QU: ..(185)

AN: I'm not listening to him.

QU: This boy you went out with for 9 months. Did you use any contraception?

AN: No.

QU: Why?

AN: Cos he wouldn't wear a condom, I (?)weren't/went on the pill.

QU: Were you worried about that?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Was he?

AN: Yeah, both of us was really. I kept on thinking, oh no, I've got.. (191)..but then.. (192)..me friend she was... yesterday.. I was really scared, I thought, cos I came on early, so I thought, what's happening, what's going on? It's quite unlike me to come on two weeks early. So, anyway, that's when he finished with me, well, I finished with him. So, I thought it was a waste of time. I really loved him, you know, liked him a lot. I still go to the house because I go round, go out with his sister now. Don't really talk that much. Doesn't really talk to me...pass information..(200). I still like him.

QU: If you had another relationship with somebody, sexual, you went to bed with them, would you use contraception?

AN: Yeah, I'm going to.

QU: What about using a condom?

AN: No, he wouldn't.

QU: He wouldn't?

AN: No. A lot of guys don't really like them.

QU: If he'd agreed to use one would you have been happier?

AN: Nah, I'd go on the pill.

QU: You're worried about AIDS, you wouldn't trust the guys you meet out?

AN: Yeah..

QU: ..Do you know how you can protect yourself from AIDS?

AN: Well, that's what the problem is, that's what I mean, you meet a guy, you don't know what he's like. I'll make sure he gets a blood test, check his blood!

QU: If you're on the pill do you think you're protected from AIDS? No? Just pregnancy? Then how would you protect yourself?

AN: Just tell them to wear a condom.

QU: But you don't think you could ask him?

AN: No.

QU: Difficult, isn't it? Did you ask your old boyfriend, or did he just say no?

AN: Just said no, I don't want to...(220)..alright, please yourself...you're not having it.. (221).

QU: Could the same thing happen with another guy?

AN: I don't know. I'm hoping to go to America in November.

QU: There's more chance in America of AIDS.

AN: I know. That's the problem again. So it's just making me..

QU: Do you think it's your responsibility to ask a man to wear a condom?

AN: Yeah, I think it is in a way.

QU: Do any of the guys you're seeing worry about it, thought about AIDS?

AN: Yes, quite a few lads, but (?)PAUL don't...(231)..some of them..(232)..any girl...that's why I don't want, like, some people that you trust, the lads I go out with; I really trust them, cos I know what they're like, cos I knew him from school, he's really quiet. So why..(235)..did I finish with him. The one I went with, he's alright. It was his first time, you see?

QU: You regret that?

AN: Yeah. I still see him...(239)..what I was saying..(240)..I'm not really fussy. I'm fussy on looks.

QU: What is it you want out of a boyfriend? What attitudes? What sort of guy?

AN: I only go for black guys.

QU: Any reason?

AN: I don't think we, they, should mix. I like to stick to me colour. But I've been out with white guys. Now I just go for black guys. I don't know why.

QU: Is it easier?

AN: Ha! They're the worst ones, the black guys.

QU: Yeah, in my experience too. What sort of person?

AN: Black guys! (laugh) Good personality. Some of them, I could tell you. Where I live, the guys up the (?)road, I know what they're like...they try to chat you up, but I'm not interested cos I know what they're like..(256)..the blacks go – 'Hey girl!'

QU: Do you think it's difficult trying to find a bloke who's not like that?

AN: Yeah, it is a bit difficult trying to find a black guy..(259). ..he was really nice..

QU: I think you regret losing him..

AN: Yeah, I know, I do. Too late now. I don't really like him anymore, I've gone off him. A bit, I like him. The way he treated me, he treated me nice: he bought me clothes, things like that.

QU: Do you want to get pregnant?

AN: No.

QU: Why didn't you use contraception?

AN: No, no.. (vague)

QU: Did he want you to get pregnant?

AN: No, he didn't.

QU: You agreed on it?

AN: Yeah...(268)..I wouldn't've had an abortion, I'd've kept it.

QU: You wouldn't have an abortion?

AN: No, I (?)don't agree with things like that. I think it's terrible. I couldn't do it.

QU: What effect would a baby have had on your life and what you wanted?

AN: I don't know...(272)..(?)I wouldn't be on the course. Just like at home. Dad would go mad. ...(279-280)..I'd leave home and go somewhere.

QU: When you were at school, what sex education did you get?

AN: Yeah. Things like.. periods; condoms; contraceptives..

QU: What contraceptives did they tell you about?

AN: Condom..caps..pill..

QU: If it were up to you would you choose the pill?

AN: Yeah, cos most lads don't like condoms, and I don't want the cap, or the coil neither. So I thought, easy to use.. I know it gives you cancer...well, we've all got to die of something. Anything could happen.

QU: Taking a risk is fair enough?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Do you smoke?

AN: Used to, given up, one a day.

QU: How come?

AN: At school, I smoked at school, but when I got home, I didn't smoke at all at home. I thought, if I can't smoke at home, I shouldn't smoke at school. So when I left school, you know.... and my brother could start on me all the time...(302)..It's all my sister's fault. When I catch her I'll break her neck... (304)..kill myself...But I bet she won't...cos that's a threat.

QU: You're not worried about getting cancer?

AN: No, gave up smoking..

QU: Was sex education in Biology?

AN: Yeah, in Biology, when I first started.

QU: Did they tell you about sexually transmitted diseases?

AN: Yeah.

QU: What did they say?

AN: Can't remember...something you get. ....so, how.. how do you get them? I don't know..

QU: What are sexually transmitted diseases? It means an infection...like, most common is syphilis, also gonorrhoea, thrush. There's a lot women can get from intercourse. The way to protect against STD is to use a condom.

(interruption)

QU: They didn't tell you?

AN: They did but I can't remember. I didn't listen.

QU: What did they tell you about AIDS?

AN: You can catch it when you're having sex without a contraceptive.

QU: What sort?

AN: Oh, a condom. That's the only way.

QU: Is there a risk with oral sex?

AN: What's that?

QU: When a woman goes down on a man or a man goes down on a woman.

AN: Oh yeah, I wouldn't do that, nothing like that...disgusting.

QU: Has a man ever asked you to do that?

AN: No, and I wouldn't. Terrible.

QU: Do you know the difference between HIV and AIDS? What is HIV?

AN: No.

QU: You couldn't distinguish the two?

AN: No.

QU: Did you first hear about AIDS at school?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Did you hear anything on TV?

AN: Yeah.

QU: What did you think?

AN: Frightened, I thought, I hope I ain't got it. No...you can catch it if you cut your hand...Just scared, scared for a while.

QU: Do you generally feel scared about sex now?

AN: Yeah.

QU: Did your parents say anything about it?

AN: No...(357)

QU: Do you think you know much about it?...(?)boyfriends in the house..

AN: Yeah..

QU: Think you know enough? Not worried?

AN: Yeah...no...

QU: Just scared of having sex?

AN: Yeah...

- End (364) -