

**LJH13 20.4.89**

16,10; lives with ma, gran, uncle, sis, cousins; Ma - PT [SOCIAL CARE ROLE]; no pa mentioned; 13 wks 14 hours as cashier ([DEPARTMENT STORE] I think) Carib; Pentecostal; 5 GCSE; wants to go to college; hetero.

Not particularly attractive, but ok, lively, plumpish, wearing leather jacket, jewellery, jumper (Objected to her friends who go to 'jeans and trainers' parties, obviously prefers something a little more fancy herself). Spoke rather fast, running the words together, punctuated speech with "that's it then" and reported responses to others "No that's not me" when they misjudged, misinterpreted her. Lives in a big crowd at home, no pa mentioned. Has low opinion of men really, you can't trust them. These young women think they are OK if they know the person, but you can't really trust men. On the other hand she values 'friendship' with men/boys she does trust, would ask them things you could not ask a girl.

Likes gossip, has lively, volatile, relationships at home ("I'm not talking to my cousin" - I think she might have carried tales behind her back, or kept a dispute going after it was over in JH13 view, so was rejected. JH. How long might that last? - a couple of days). She wants 6 children but not necessarily marriage. Disagrees with the teaching of her church re no sex pre marriage bcs you have to accept people who do have sex and babies. Gave e.g. of a member of the church who no longer goes, and is disapproved of bcs she has a child. They think you are below them (she erected a kind of class/status dimension.) She does not go to church too often, mainly bcs she has been at a party late the night before and cannot get up in time when people call for her. She also questions the church's position on sex and marriage. Thinks she is gradually drawing away from the church, and increasingly just not going. Thinks in terms of marriage breakdown, divorce etc. and being the norm, and you should not throw people out for that.

There were a couple of interruptions in this interview, a tannoy call came for the number of the room we were in, she went to tell the office, then my next appointment came in to change her time, or speed us up! Then the tape stopped running. I noticed it but missed some of the interview. I don't know whether we will use this, depends what is still on the tape/transcript, I think probably most of it is there. The following is my recall of the missing bit written immediately after she left the room:

There was one part of the discussion re boyfriends. On holiday. She was sitting opposite a boy and he wanted her to sit closer, she said, why, I can hear you perfectly well from here. But this person asked her if she was a virgin and she said yes. He said she looked like a person who 'was not a virgin'. The thought 'Well that's it then'. She had this interesting way of saying, "no, that's not me" when describing her response to being called 'not a virgin'. She has had a couple of experiences of this type.

She thinks she is loud, very friendly, likes to talk to people, very outgoing. She thinks other people see her that way too. There are some men she is shy with, older men(this bit may be on the tape). I asked whether she would like a relationship with these men, she was not sure.

She told a long story about having a row with one of the teachers. She was in the computer room waiting for the lesson to begin, wearing her earphones. The T (not the class or lesson T, one who she knows from around the school but does not know personally) came in. T asked her to take off her earphones. She told me that her recorder was in her boot and it was hurting her a bit, so she bent down to take it out. Had to undo the boot take the thing out, do boot up again. The T then asked her to take off her jacket. She was clearly taking a lot of time to do all this, and whilst still having the earphones in asked a friend/fellow pupil what they had to start on for the lesson, and punched this into the machine. The T was extremely angry and commented on the length of time it had taken her to respond to T's request and told her to take some punishment, see the deputy head (?). This punishment was not meted out because the episode was in fact mediated through her year head, a man, who argued that the behaviour was most

unlike her, she had to apologise to the T, and the whole thing was smoothed over. She did not like apologising but realised that the T could affect her chances here (at the school) could do her down if she did not apologise, so she did so. But more or less averts her face if she sees the T around. [It sounds a bit as if she is stroppy, verges on the edge of insolence, and T's who do not know her react to this behaviour. It seems to me that there is some provocation from JH13, but also that some T's overreact, or react to a type they think they see. She certainly does not seem as if she minds stirring, and a bit of trouble and excitement.]

JH13 story is that Ts she knows well and talks to, know that she is not like her image. Others think on seeing her that she is loud and cheeky - she had a word for it 'faced' (??). I can't recall it, I'll try and remember, or check if it is elsewhere on the tape. She has encounters when T's make this assumption - but she **is**, she admits, loud. She claims she does her work, but that she might take some time to talk in class when she has finished her work. She has been suspended about four times, I think the tape comes back in there. Just for short periods.

Her other punctuating statement was "that's it really"

It is a pity about this tape, but the longest bit missing I think was about the suspensions and the encounter with the T in the computer room. I was interested to hear it from the viewpoint of the 'bad girl' so to speak, and would have liked to analyse the tape.

There was the bit about virginity, and the image she creates of being sexually active to some young men. There was a long section (still on the tape thank goodness) about equality between the sexes, with an e.g. of asking a guy to dance. She thinks the sexes should be equal but are not. This came up in connection with asking about risky behaviour. She acts as she thinks fit and this is risky in terms of the expectations of women.

We'll see what we think about keeping this in when we see the transcript.

Was interested in reinterview and diary, keeps one anyway