MBS15 (RT) 26.4.89

INTERVIEWER: Will you tell me a bit about yourself? What you are doing at school at the moment? What subjects do you do?

INTERVIEWEE: Maths, English, Child Care, Biology, Computers, Textiles. INTERVIEWER: So that's quite a lot you are doing. Are these all GCSE's? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So is that more than most people take? Is that about the normal number to take is it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And what are you thinking of doing when you finish? INTERVIEWEE: Go to college.

INTERVIEWER: Which college is that?

INTERVIEWEE: [NAME OF COLLEGE].

INTERVIEWER: Right and that's And what are you going to do there?

INTERVIEWEE: Community care.

INTERVIEWER: And is that a course to be, because I saw in the questionnaire that you said you were wanting to be a social worker or community worker, so tell me about the course because I don't know anything about it, I've never heard of it?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know what I'm going to do.

INTERVIEWER: You don't. How did you find out about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Through a book of college courses.

INTERVIEWER: And you applied for that. So why do you want to do this. Have you always wanted to do it or?

INTERVIEWEE: No. Just thought I wanted to do it.

INTERVIEWER: And what made you think about that?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. I like helping people and things like that.

INTERVIEWER: So you would like to do something that's caring.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you know anybody who is a social worker or a community worker. So you haven't seen somebody else doing it and thought I would like to do that?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So how long does this course take?

INTERVIEWEE: Two years.

INTERVIEWER: That's quite a long time then. And do you have to do exams?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What do you have to do, do you have to take 'A' levels INTERVIEWEE: Yes two 'A' levels and you get a City & Guilds.

INTERVIEWER: Right and what is the City & Guilds for, what is it actually called, community care?

INTERVIEWEE: I think so.

INTERVIEWER: So what will you be training to do?

INTERVIEWEE: All different things.

INTERVIEWER: So what type of thing are you wanting to do the most? If it trains you for all different things what are you hoping to do yourself? INTERVIEWEE: Social worker.

INTERVIEWER: So do you have to go one and do a CTSW.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So it's quite a lot of work to get there isn't it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Are you determined?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: I want you to do most of the talking, so really it's a chance for you to tell me all your opinions on different things and I will ask you some general questions, but if there is something I ask that you don't understand just tell me. First of all can you just tell me about where you live and who you are living with at the moment?

INTERVIEWEE: I live with my mum and he's like my step dad but they are not married.

INTERVIEWER: And have you got any brothers and sisters?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: How do you get on. Tell me about your home life, whether you like it, do you get on with your mum, your step dad?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't get on with my step dad.

INTERVIEWER: You don't?

INTERVIEWEE: I do but he is always shouting at me. You know, he's overprotective.

INTERVIEWER: Why is that, he doesn't like you going out and things like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes he likes to know where I am going when I go out and not go far and not stay out late.

INTERVIEWER: Right. Do you stay out quite late?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So you think he is going over the top then?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Does your mum do that as well, is she protective with you?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you mind that, what do you feel about it?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't like it.

INTERVIEWER: A pain is it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Spoiling your fun. Why do you think they are worried about you?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know, because of attacks and rapes and things like that.

INTERVIEWER: Is it quite a dangerous area do you think?

INTERVIEWEE: No not really.

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nothing? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What do your mum and step dad do? Do they work?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Is he unemployed then?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So they are around at home a lot as well?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you enjoy being at home, are you happy there or would you want to get out?

INTERVIEWEE: It's alright.

INTERVIEWER: Have you thought of leaving home in the future? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What are your ideas about that then?

INTERVIEWEE: I want to get a flat with my friend.

INTERVIEWER: Would that be in North Manchester, do you want to stay in the area that you grew up in, you wouldn't want to live somewhere different than Manchester?

INTERVIEWEE: No my friend wants to go to London but we are not going to.

INTERVIEWER: Is this a friend from school?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. She used to come to this school but she's moved.

INTERVIEWER: Is she older or is she..?

INTERVIEWEE: The same age.

INTERVIEWER: What about going down to London, does that scare you the idea of going down there.

INTERVIEWEE: No it's just that I won't see my family.

INTERVIEWER: Have you been down to London at all?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes on holiday.

INTERVIEWER: Do you like it, would you want to live there?

INTERVIEWEE: No. I don't want to live there.

INTERVIEWER: Why do you think your friend wants to go down there.

INTERVIEWEE: Her mum lives down there.

INTERVIEWER: I see. So it would be easier for her.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: But you want to get a flat with this friend then, you want to move out and live with her?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Is that like your best mate?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And you do lots of things together.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Tell me about her, what's she like?

INTERVIEWEE: She annoys me. I stay at her house and she comes and stays at my house. She lives up in Shaw.

INTERVIEWER: That's quite a way out then? So do you tell all your secrets to each other?

INTERVIEWEE: She won't tell me hers but I tell her mine.

INTERVIEWER: Why won't she tell you hers?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: A but unfair isn't it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: She's getting all your good stuff. You said that you had had a sexual relationship with a boy, well girl, boy, I suppose it was a boy. It was a boy yes, right, well I don't want to know about that one straight away, tell me about how you started going out with boys and your first boyfriend. You can tell me in any way you want to tell me. Have you had guite a lot of boyfriends?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: There was just one serious one?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Are you still with this person now?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: You're not. How long were you with the person then? INTERVIEWEE: A few weeks.

INTERVIEWER: So tell me what happened it. Was this the first boy you had ever slept with? Tell me how it happened and how you met him? INTERVIEWEE: He was just near my house.

INTERVIEWER: So it was somebody you had known for a long time? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Did he ask you out sort of thing?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: You tell me. Tell me as if you were telling your mates. Tell me in whatever way you want to tell me.

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know what to say.

INTERVIEWER: It's OK. If you don't feel happy talking about it. Was it somebody you had liked for quite a long time or something? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So what happened in the relationship? Was this the first time you had slept with somebody?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Why did you decide to sleep with him?

INTERVIEWEE: I was curious.

INTERVIEWER: What it would be like? And what did you think of it? INTERVIEWEE: Boring.

INTERVIEWER: A bit disappointing. Did you carry on seeing him after you slept with him for the first time?

INTERVIEWEE: No. He finished with me.

INTERVIEWER: He finished with you. How did that make you feel?

INTERVIEWEE: It made me feel used because like I wanted to do it, and he wasn't bothered. He said he wouldn't tell anybody about that so I wouldn't get a name.

INTERVIEWER: Were you worried about that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So you don't hate him for it or anything like that?

INTERVIEWEE: No. We are still friends.

INTERVIEWER: That's good. So did it put you off sex for a while then? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Doing it.. Not enjoying it. Did you use any contraception?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What was it?

INTERVIEWEE: A condom.

INTERVIEWER: You used a condom. Did he have it with him or did you ask him to use it or what?

INTERVIEWEE: Well he asked me could we do it and I said we could only do it if you get a condom, so my friend went to the shop and bought them for me.

INTERVIEWER: Was this your girlfriend?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Well that was nice of her wasn't it. Brave. Do you think you could have bought them?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So you made sure then that he used one?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Did he complain about having to use one?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: He didn't. Well that's something. A lot of blokes say they won't use one. Have you heard blokes saying that?

INTÉRVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Did you think it was alright using condoms. Did you find it difficult to use or have problems?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: And he didn't complain about it?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So what were your reasons for wanting to use a condom, was it pregnancy?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Had you thought about AIDS?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: You hadn't, so it wasn't for that reason at all?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Before you had been out with this lad you had relationships with other boys before?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: But they hadn't gone as far?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: What sort of relationships were they? How would you think of them now?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: Was it just petting and things like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So since this boy you slept with have you seen any other boys?

INTERVIÈWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And have you slept with anybody else?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Why is that?

INTERVIEWEE: I didn't want to.

INTERVIEWER: But you decided for yourself you didn't want to?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Have you found that those boys have tried to persuade you?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: How do you feel about that?

INTERVIEWEE: It gets on my nerves.

INTERVIEWER: You feel strong enough to let them know what you think?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think, people say things like 'boys are only after one thing', do you think that's true from the boys that you know.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: It is. You haven't noticed anything else then, them being interested in anything else?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think that's true of all boys or do you think it's just because of the age they are or whatever?

INTERVIEWEE: It's everybody.

INTERVIEWER: Yes but you don't trust them that much?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Would you trust a boy, if you were seeing a boy now and having sex with him, would you trust him to be in charge of contraception?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: You would. Would you see that as the boy's responsibility to use a condom for instance, to buy them, so you wouldn't feel that you would have to be on the pill?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: I want to talk a little bit about AIDS now and what you know about it and what you have heard about it. Can you remember the first time you heard about it?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: You can't. Did you see the big campaign on television about AIDS, they had lots of television programmes about it. Did you watch that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What do you think about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Interesting, helpful.

INTERVIEWER: Did you learn from them?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Oh good. What bits of them did you like, if you can remember them very much?

INTERVIEWEE: I can't remember.

INTERVIEWER: They were doing things like condoms on stage and they had quite a lot of stuff girls talking to girls and boys about using condoms didn't they, whether a girl could ask a boy to, and stuff like that. Would you ask, well you did ask a boy, but that was about pregnancy, would you ask, say if you were on the pill or something, would you ask a boy to use a condom about AIDS?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: You would. So you wouldn't feel difficult, because they were talking about it in the studio weren't they, about how some girls found it difficult to ask, it might make them look like that they were a tramp or something like that. So you don't think you would feel like that?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: What did you think about the adverts on television, do you remember the adverts they had on, what do you think about those?

INTERVIEWEE: Interesting.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think they told you very much about AIDS? The ones I am thinking about are the ones that there is a girl in a flat and she's giving a dinner party and the one from the disco dancing. What do you think they were trying to say to you?

INTERVIEWEE: Don't sleep with anybody.

INTERVIEWER: Don't sleep around. Do you think it works saying that to people?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: It does. Do you think that if you don't sleep with many people then you will be safer?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Can I ask you a few questions, technical questions about AIDS? It's not a test so don't worry. Say so if you don't understand. Have you heard of HIV?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And do you know what that is?

INTERVIEWEE: No not really.

INTERVIEWER: If I said HIV you would know that it is something to do with AIDS?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: But you don't know what the difference is between HIV and AIDS. OK. Where would you say the virus is, because HIV is actually the virus and AIDS is what you would get from it. But where in your body do you think the virus is, how do you think it can be passed on? What do you have to do to pass it on?

INTERVIEWEE: Have sex.

INTERVIEWER: What sort of sex? Is it just general sex. Do you know actually how you pass it from one person to the other?

INTERVIEWEE: Through sperm.

INTERVIEWER: So it's actually from intercourse. Just out of interest, what you understand sex to be, would you say that is the same thing as intercourse?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Would you think all the other things I'm sure you did when you slept with the boy, there are a lot of other things that you did, would you not see those things as being sex?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: What would you call those?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: There is no name for them is there?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: But those things would all be safe. You couldn't catch HIV, you couldn't catch AIDS from doing the other things? Would you know about something like oral sex, whether that's dangerous, whether that is risky?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: What type of stuff did you get at school about sex in general? Did you get much education in school about it?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Nothing really. Did they tell you about any forms of contraception?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think they should have?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And you needed to know?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What you know about contraception now, you said you know about condoms to start with and I think on here you put down the pill, condom, cap and the coil where did you find out about these things from?

INTERVIEWEE: Reading leaflets.

INTERVIEWER: Reading leaflets at the doctors?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: But no one has actually sat down and told you about them, and explained how to use them and things like that?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Did you know how to use a condom properly? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: About your parents, have they ever talked to you about sex?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What did they say? Parents usually what they say is quite funny isn't it? What did they say to you about it?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know, it was ages ago. It was the day before I started at this school.

INTERVIEWER: Right so they obviously thought you were going to get into trouble when you came to this school. But they told you about how people get pregnant?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Did they tell you about contraception? Did they say to you, have they ever mentioned about you going out and maybe sleeping with boys, have they ever mentioned that or brought that up? INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So they don't know that you have slept with someone. Do you think they would be angry if they did?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So you are not happy about that side of things? INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: In the relationships that you have had since you split up with this boy that you slept with, in your relationships who is in control and who is number one in them? Is it you or is it generally your boyfriend?

INTERVIEWEE: Me.

INTERVIEWER: It's you. And why do you think that is then?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think you are quite a strong person?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes I think so.

INTERVIEWER: So how does that show itself, that you are in charge, I mean do you decide where you go?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And what you do depends on you and things like that? INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Have you got a boyfriend at the moment?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: But the boys you were seeing, presumably you weren't having intercourse with these boys, but you were having some kind of sexual relationship, you would touch each other and things like that, would you initiate that sort of thing? Would you start it, would you go first? INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: You wouldn't. You would leave it to the boy? Why is that?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. I feel daft.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think, do they know more about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think that's true, that they should know more about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Just tell me a few things about what you do in your spare time? What you do when you go out? Where you go and who with, stuff like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Go walking down the street. I've got another friend that comes, she's seventeen. She comes down to our house and we go out and just walk around.

INTERVIEWER: So you haven't got very much money I should think to go out?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: It's cheaper to hang around.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Do you ever go to pubs?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: Do some girls your age go to pubs?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Are they different sort of girls, that you are different from the sort of girls who do go to pubs?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What would you say a promiscuous girl was? A girl with a bad reputation, how would you describe someone like that? Because people have been saying to me a lot about someone being promiscuous or a slag or a dag or something like that. What would you have to do to be counted like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Sleeping all over the place.

INTERVIEWER: With everybody?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: When you say everybody, obviously not everybody, does that mean sleeping with a lot of people and how many would a lot be?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know.

INTERVIEWER: But you just think things like going to pubs that makes a girl into a..?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: I wouldn't. So it's actually things to do with sex then.

END OF RECORDING.