

LJH24 20.6.89

16,10; lives with ma, pa, younger bro; Ma – [CATERING ROLE]; pa- [ANIMAL WELFARE ROLE]; she works 7 and 3/4 hours Sat in bakers; ESW; no religion (formally C of E); ss school prior college; has 9 GCSE, doing A level sociol., chemistry, biology and taking GCSE physics; hetero, current boyfriend but no sex 'yet'.

There is a bit on this interview where the tape slows down, it actually stopped and we missed a little bit of the conversation, but not much. We retraced it a bit afterwards and it made LJH24 a bit self conscious (we discussed it later) but she soon got back into it. She said that she often feels shy and cannot speak to people, but if she gets more relaxed (like with me!) she can talk. Liked the interview bcs it gave an opportunity to think and talk about things that she does not usually do. {Is this JH just trying to justify incompetence in letting the batteries run down again! Probably. But seriously it was a small section on relationships with parents that was lost - i.e. that her dad seems to understand her, but she can talk more easily to her mum. That sometimes, even when her mum agrees with her, she does not support her with her father. Ma says she does not want to be involved, but might later reveal that she did agree with 24 to her. 24 sometimes gets annoyed at that, although she can understand it. That was a recurring feature of her comments, being able to see the other persons point of view, even tho she disagrees or may be annoyed about it.}

She is short, pretty, dark haired, rather young looking and seeming, worried about her appearance at times (she said). Light T shirt with small pattern, short white cord skirt. No sex yet but in a relationship (one week) with a boy (17) at college who she has in fact known for some time. She values this relationship and feels she can talk to him like a friend. She thinks he may be pushing the pace in terms of the change in the relationship, ringing her every day. She feels if she says don't ring every day he will think she is putting him off, but really it is really to keep the excitement, have something to talk about when they do get in touch. [He had a relationship from age 11 to this February, and thinks this relationship is moving a lot faster than that one, getting involved more rapidly.] No sex yet but is almost at the point. Maybe he wants it more than her, but would not force it. She thinks they must discuss it first and she should get contraception (the pill), and he should use condoms. But there is a slight feeling of the 'carried away', or that thinking and talking about it takes away the spontaneity and excitement. She sometimes feels like being carried away when they are kissing but she thinks what if I did it, what if I got pregnant, and in fact he holds back at that point.

She thinks of sex as penetration, and clearly feels that she will do so fairly soon, but the question re safe/non-penetrative sex made her think of other aspects "foreplay, that's sex too, hadn't thought of it like that". And they do engage in that and she does enjoy it. She could not tell her parents, who are clearly quite strict with her, if she went on the pill. They worry if she is out later than allowed (whilst not re her brother, which gets to her, especially as he does stupid things and is easily led by his friends). He is 12 (qr) or 14 (interview), she talked a bit re problems in the relationship with her brother, and how this operates in interaction with ma and pa.

She thought sex education was technical and no emotions, mostly in science lessons. But did have someone come in and talk re AIDS from which she learned the basics. She wondered how some young found out about sex (and periods) when parents did not tell them about it, and school does not provide adequate information.