

**LJH2 25.2.89**

Interviewed in my office. Very attractive, slender, fashionably dressed, mass of dark hair and eyes, Turkish young woman. Slight touch of the 'Jewish princess' about her if that's not a racist stereotype, I suppose I'm using it as a generalisable category rather than attached to a particular race or religion, since she is a Moslem. She actually acknowledged that (not in the words but the concept) and said that her boyfriend thought she was. He (and some of her friends) thought she would run off and marry some incredibly rich Arab and ride around in a BMW and go shopping all the time. She could not see that happening. I asked directly if her father/family would catch her if she fell financially (she thought she took financial risks, spent money she did not have) and this was why she felt she could take risks in that area. She said she did not want that, but her father insisted in putting money in her account to make sure she was financially OK.

The relationship with her parents was very important, and she was interesting in both statements about and living the contradictions of two cultures. It was also related to her relationship with her boyfriend, which could not be discussed with her parents, was in fact denied, and had been hidden for a couple of years. It was now known but unacknowledged. Her boyfriend is English and seemingly very supportive. He was her first sexual relationship (to include intercourse) tho she had had a couple of relationships with Turkish men before, with whom she would never have made love since it would have been around the community and back to her parents in a moment, they would have spread the word that she 'was easy'. In any event she could not stand the sexism of Turkish men. Nor Arab men, a subject on which she was vehement. As on the Ayotollah Khomenei I think she said he should be put in a room and gassed.

She was very aware of the risks of sex, and of contraception, and knew that she would insist on condom use, and if the man would not use it he was not worth being with, in starting up a new sexual relationship. It was not so much an issue when she started the relationship with her current boyfriend 3 years ago. AIDS not so much on the public agenda, and she did not see it then as relating to her, as she would now.

We discussed her love/hate relationship with her father and the battles they had over control of her life, and particularly her sexual life, and her need to escape that control and become her own person. Her pa works as a 'buyer, import, export', ma does not work.

Clear and ambitious idea of what she wanted to do in the future, a career important to her, but I don't know how realistic her ambitions are, to have an architects studio, after working in one for some time to build skills and knowledge. Does not plan to get any more quals (got a diploma in art, and in architectural design). Currently freelancing in architectural design with a friend from college who has the contacts.

A charming, responsive, interesting young woman. How do I get to be so lucky!