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INTERVIEWER: What I want to do is really just have an informal conversation basically to find out about you, the things you do and we also want to talk about what you know about AIDS and what type of sex education you had and what type of relationships you have had. Could you just tell me about yourself, what are you doing here and how you got here?

INTERVIEWEE: I am doing a two year higher national diploma course in beauty therapy. I lived previously in Barnsley and I moved here after the sixth form where I did 'A' levels for two years.

INTERVIEWER: Do you need 'A' levels to get on this course?

INTERVIEWEE: You need biology 'A' level.

INTERVIEWER: Right. So what is Barnsley like?

INTERVIEWEE: It's very small compared to Manchester.

INTERVIEWER: Did you like it?

INTERVIEWEE: It's nice yes. It's different. It's nice to have experience of living in a large city like Manchester but I think when I go home I will appreciate it more. You tend to know a lot more people than in Manchester. It's very impersonal in Manchester at the moment.

INTERVIEWER: So all your friends are back there?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So when you have finished here will you go back there?

INTERVIEWEE: It depends where I get offered a job.

INTERVIEWER: So what are you likely to get out of this?

INTERVIEWEE: I am looking for a management position in the beauty therapy industry. I've got a placement, hopefully I have got one with [NAME OF COMPANY].

INTERVIEWER: [NAME OF COMPANY]?

INTERVIEWEE: [NAME OF COMPANY]. I am looking for, it's a rep replacement I'm doing and hopefully if I like that I will go into that field. That's a placement in that area to try it.

INTERVIEWER: To find out. So what sort of things would you do for that?

INTERVIEWEE: It's selling equipment products, travelling round, get a company car.

INTERVIEWER: Oh that would be alright. So there are quite a lot of prospects to come out of this. Would you be quite well paid, the sort of jobs you can do?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. I am not sure about the pay for that one. Also I have got another interview when I finish the course in a new salon that's opening in Wakefield which is near where I live and it's a new complex, combining beauty treatment and products and they are doing some fashion as well and with this qualification, the lady I spoke to said hopefully they are looking for someone to manage the beauty therapy side. So I am going for an interview there.

INTERVIEWER: So this is the one you are really in for?

INTERVIEWEE: You see my sister works in [CITY] as well so I can get a lift in every day and a lift back.

INTERVIEWER: Oh that will be really good.

INTERVIEWEE: Until I get my own car.

INTERVIEWER: So your family lives in Barnsley. Is it your mum and dad?

INTERVIEWEE: Mum, dad and my sister.

INTERVIEWER: So what do they do?

INTERVIEWEE: My mum and dad work for [SPORTS COMPANY]. Mum is a personnel officer.

INTERVIEWER: Is there a big factory there?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes that's right. My dad is on the management team and my sister works at [NAME OF BANK] in [CITY].

INTERVIEWER: Do you get on with your sister?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So you have a close relationship? How old is she?

INTERVIEWEE: She's twenty-one.

INTERVIEWER: And you're?

INTERVIEWEE: Nineteen.

INTERVIEWER: Oh that's really close.

INTERVIEWEE: Not much difference.

INTERVIEWER: So you have always been a very close couple?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Right. If you can think back when you were at school, what type of sex education you had whilst you were at school. What sort of school was it that you went to?

INTERVIEWEE: It was a comprehensive. I can't really remember. It was very. The only education we had was all sort of very basic, it was just the basics of how things happened, that kind of thing in biology lessons.

INTERVIEWER: It was all done in biology?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. Biological details, but they didn't really have any lessons on relationships with other people or things like that. It was all very basic. We didn't really do any contraception either. I can't really remember, not in detail.

INTERVIEWER: But did you find out about those things at school?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes from friends, yes. Talking to friends.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think you got reasonably good information from them or was it?

INTERVIEWEE: Well no. Most of it I think is from, nowadays they read it and things like that, and there are a lot of articles in women's magazines. At school it's a bit, the stories that go around it's quite unbelievable.

INTERVIEWER: I remember when I was at school, I think that was probably the way I learnt. Most of my stuff was from my Mum's Cosmopolitan.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: .....what's female hormones? So.....

INTERVIEWEE: We didn't do things like that at school. It was just drawing the reproductive organs.

INTERVIEWER: So what about your parents. Were they quite open about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. My mum and dad. They didn't really talk about it a lot but my mum gave me lots of leaflets and things about periods and things like that. She said if there is anything ever you want to ask me, you know, but really I think more or less talking to your friends and that kind of thing.

INTERVIEWER: Did you used to ask advice from your mum?

INTERVIEWEE: Not really no.

INTERVIEWER: Did she tell you about contraception and things like that?

INTERVIEWEE: No, not really.

INTERVIEWER: Risk of getting pregnant. She didn't give you a mums and daughters talk in that way?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. It was more or less come to me if you decide you want a sexual relationship and then we will talk it through.

INTERVIEWER: She wouldn't have been upset if you were having a sexual relationship?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: They weren't strict about that?

INTERVIEWEE: It was more that I would be taking precautions.

INTERVIEWER: Did your parents give you quite a lot of freedom then? Were you living at home before you came up here?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. It's only the last two years that I have moved away.

INTERVIEWER: Did they give you quite a lot of freedom at home?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. They never, you know a lot of parents say you're not going out with so and so, but they have never been like that. They have always accepted anybody I have been out with. They might have said afterwards, if we've finished, and said oh well I didn't really think that much of them but at the time they wouldn't tell or anything like that.

INTERVIEWER: Did they ask you to bring people home and stuff like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: To meet them?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: So did you have quite a lot of boyfriends when you were living in Barnsley and at school, did you have quite a lot of boyfriends when you were living there?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes I did at school. Well it started about fifth year, I was quite shy I think at first. I started seeing people at school because before that it was all, your friends are there, his friends and your friends so until we got into the fifth year when people are a lot more mature about relationships, they accept that you are going out with someone, that's when I started to see people at school.

INTERVIEWER: Tell me about the boyfriends you had?

INTERVIEWEE: In fifth year?

INTERVIEWER: From what you can remember?

INTERVIEWEE: Not much really. The longest I have been out with anybody is about six months and that was when I was sixteen, I was seeing someone who was twenty and he was a lot more serious than I was. Obviously at that age I couldn't understand a lot of things he was saying. He was ready to settle down and apart from that it's been four months, that kind of thing until recently. I have been seeing my boyfriend since November now. And this is the first that I could see a really serious relationship, where I thought oh yes.

INTERVIEWER: Before that why do you think they were so short? There's actually nothing wrong with them, the four week wonder.

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. It was usually where it was somebody you saw at school or something and you liked them but you had never met them so you thought they were something they weren't and then when you met them at a party or something I didn't think he would be like that. And it was that kind of thing. I always felt really let down. It was not how I expected but with the boyfriend I have met now I met him at a friends' party but I had never previously met him so we just started talking, so I got to know him before I went out with him.

INTERVIEWER: Yes going out with people used to be getting to know them.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes that's it.

INTERVIEWER: But are you having a sexual relationship with these boys?

INTERVIEWEE: No. This is the first one.

INTERVIEWER: This is the first one you are having at the moment. So there wasn't like a huge amount invested in them?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: So this is the first sexual relationship you are having at the moment. Did you feel pressure on you before to have sexual relations?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. A lot of people at school were, apart from my friends. The four of us used to go around in a group, we were all pretty close really and none of us had had sexual relationships and then one of the members of the group she met, but when I was going out with a guy about sixteen she met her boyfriend at the same time she is still seeing him. I think she started having a sexual relationship first. And then there was kind of pressure on the rest but I never felt that, you know, I always thought I'm not going to do it just for the sake of it. And my other friend, she has got a boyfriend now this year but there is still PAULINE, she is at [POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY], and she has been going out with her boyfriend for two years and she still hasn't.

INTERVIEWER: Was this because of your own personal feelings but the men you were involved with you did have any ideas about getting married first or anything like that?

INTERVIEWEE: No. I never thought well no I'm not going to have sex before I get married but I think you have got to work on that part as well. It is no good getting married and realising that you have got problems there. So I just didn't feel that I wanted to really with anybody that I met because like I said it was never that serious.

INTERVIEWER: I think a lot of people rush in and do that and then get to know them after rather than the other way round. So you are happy with this relationship that you are having at the moment?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: And he is?

INTERVIEWEE: Twenty-three. He lives in [CITY IN NORTH]. I work at ..... on a Saturday and the girl I work with, it was her house warming party and it's her boyfriend's best friend.

INTERVIEWER: Oh yes, very handy. Fits in well. Before you had this relationship, what we are calling a sexual relationship is actually having intercourse with somebody?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Before that the relationships you were having with people, was there a sexual elements to them?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes, it was just never intercourse.

INTERVIEWER: Is that how you would consider sex to be. In your mind how you feel about it and also in terms of yourself and the pleasure you get out of it?

INTERVIEWEE: No. There are different aspects obviously but intercourse is not just the be all and end all of sex but I think when people ..... they say have you had sex with somebody that's what they mean, they mean intercourse, they don't really mean any other parts of it.

INTERVIEWER: I agree. I think it's quite interesting because..?

INTERVIEWEE: It's one thing they are overlooking.

INTERVIEWER: They are also talking about in the research, in a way it seems to be defined just as intercourse whereas there is an awful lot of other things which are very much sexual activities in which often it's said can give more pleasure particularly to women, you know, intercourse is supposed to be the part that gives the man the most pleasure. It's interesting in that way. When you were younger, when you were having these relationships presumably you would be doing everything but?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. Just experimenting, really.

INTERVIEWER: Were you let down or were you pleased about when you actually had these relationships?

INTERVIEWEE: Oh pleased, yes.

INTERVIEWER: Let's move on. Can you tell me, firstly in context with this new relationship with this guy, have you thought about the risk of AIDS or HIV in relation to it at all?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. You see it on television, it's dropped off a lot now, there isn't the advertising campaigns but it is always in the back of my mind, but never something that I immediately thought about until you saw it on television and you still don't associate it with yourself. Which I should because, I mean it's OK for him with me not having any other partners, but I know there has been quite a few before me because he is quite a lot older, well.

INTERVIEWER: Does he know that you haven't had any other partners?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. He's twenty-three so he is a few years older than I am and he has had a few one night stands as well which, you know, it's not just him it's which partners he has slept with before me as well.

INTERVIEWER: Are you taking any precautions?

INTERVIEWEE: Well we were. I had, we had problems, started in November yes, and we were using a sheath, condoms and one of them broke and I got pregnant from that. So.

INTERVIEWER: What happened? Did you have an abortion?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. That was in March this year. And since then I have gone on the pill.

INTERVIEWER: Right.

INTERVIEWEE: I just don't feel safe with them anymore.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, they are not that good. So you are not protecting yourself anymore then?

INTERVIEWEE: We were yes, but I think it's two weeks isn't it that you have to be on the pill before it actually starts working. Well the first packet that I took I missed one, I missed the pill so obviously they didn't count because they weren't protecting me for that period so we were using condoms then and we have been up till the safe period which was last Thursday, so we used them right up to then.

INTERVIEWER: What are your feelings about the different types of contraception?

INTERVIEWEE: Obviously I think now there should be more pressure on people to use condoms, but I think a lot, I know GARY, he doesn't like them a lot, and a lot of men I don't think do, they lose feeling or don't like putting one on or whatever, so I think a lot of people.

INTERVIEWER: So what do you feel about them?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't mind them. For me there isn't a lot of difference. It's just personal preference and it's messing about I suppose. With condoms halfway through it's just a lot easier being on the pill.

INTERVIEWER: But if you are on the pill you are not being protected against the HIV virus.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: How would you see yourself in the future, I mean are you planning to change your sexual behaviour in a way to protect yourself. Do you know how you would be able to do that?

INTERVIEWEE: No, not really.

INTERVIEWER: I suppose what we are told is to carry condoms, to use condoms but it seems that happens for maybe the first couple of weeks.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes then it drops off.

INTERVIEWER: Would you think of asking somebody to have a test?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. It seems a bit, when you first meet somebody, before I sleep with you do you mind having a test. It's a bit unromantic isn't it. You should obviously, I think, now you should but the way I see it now, with GARY I can't anymore anyway I am happy with him and like I say the damage is probably already done. If there was any chance. I don't know much about it, would I have got by now?

INTERVIEWER: Well.

INTERVIEWEE: Could he have passed it on if he had it using a condom?

INTERVIEWER: Not necessarily. I mean it's not a particularly easy thing to catch but then again people do in those situations, but you wouldn't see yourself as being at risk particularly, it's not something that's being playing your mind or anything?

INTERVIEWEE: I always think I suppose I am being a bit naive really but I think, because I haven't slept with anybody I am not at risk and I keep forgetting that he has had a lot more partners so it doesn't really matter whether I have had any or not but I always thought AIDS doesn't apply to me because at that point I hadn't slept with anybody so I thought I will be OK. And I suppose just thinking he's the only partner I have had I'm OK and forget he has had a lot more partners than I have.

INTERVIEWER: Do you feel you could put any demands on him about it or is your relationship not at that point?

INTERVIEWEE: I have joked about it, I said, 'Oh it's alright for you, you might have passed AIDS onto me'.

INTERVIEWER: And how did he respond to that?

INTERVIEWEE: Well we were laughing and you know, and I said, 'well it's possible isn't it'. He said, 'well I suppose is it'. A lot of people don't think it is but the girls you went out with wouldn't really have known their backgrounds or anything. Especially one-night stands, you don't know do you?

INTERVIEWER: Would you want him to have, would you feel happier if he had a test?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes I would.

INTERVIEWER: But you wouldn't feel in a position to ask?

INTERVIEWEE: I would feel a bit funny asking him yes. Because he would probably be a bit upset if he said it to me I would think oh, thanks a lot. It's that kind of attitude.

INTERVIEWER: But you wouldn't go back to using condoms as well as being on the pill?

INTERVIEWEE: Perhaps, not now with just being with GARY, but if I met somebody else I would.

INTERVIEWER: You would. Would that be different. In a way that's because not with GARY because you know him and that's the way..?

INTERVIEWEE: No well the thing is because I've always slept with GARY and not using them I tend to think oh well, if there was a risk that he had the virus I would have caught it, so you know, what's done now is done. But if I met somebody else probably I would.

INTERVIEWER: Would you feel happy about buying a condom?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. They are easy enough to buy now, in toilets and everything. I think I would buy them as the risk of catching the virus is just. I don't know, probably when nobody else is around.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think it would be a reflection on you, your reputation or whatever?

INTERVIEWEE: If you had a steady boyfriend probably not if people knew, it's if you have just met somebody in a pub and you go in and think I'll buy some condoms, that kind of thing.

INTERVIEWER: So you wouldn't be too happy. You were saying that in the future that you would probably use condoms. Do you not plan your relationship as well as plan your life or do you see yourself?

INTERVIEWEE: Well at the moment yes. We have talked about it and we have only known each other since November and such a lot has happened, getting pregnant and everything and I know, he is responsible, it was him that wanted me to keep the baby.

INTERVIEWER: Why did he want you to keep it. What did you feel about that?

INTERVIEWEE: Well I was in two minds. I wanted to in one way but again I have never had a job or anything, I haven't got any money. He has got a job, but I said, 'yes but if we split up then I would be relying on social security for the rest of my life until the baby was old enough and could get a job'. It just seemed a lot of pressure on us to stay together and it was damaging the relationship as it was because I was very moody because I knew. It was just the pressure because I thought I might have to. But now since I've had the termination I think, and everything started going good again because I thought there was no pressure on us now. I can just, if we are together we know it's because we want to be together.

INTERVIEWER: And what was his reaction to you having an abortion?

INTERVIEWEE: Well he said to me , at first he didn't say what he felt, he said, 'I just want you to do what you want', and when I pushed him he said, 'yes I would like you to keep it but you would be giving up a lot more than I would and it wouldn't really make much difference to me', he would still have his job, 'but for you, you haven't had a job and you want a career and it would be pressure on you to give all that up'. So, he said, 'if you wanted to get an abortion he said, 'I don't want you to feel.....that would be OK and it wouldn't alter the relationship or anything like that.'

INTERVIEWER: He wouldn't dump you?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes that's it.

INTERVIEWER: What would you have thought if he had dumped you?

INTERVIEWEE: Well what a sod. I wouldn't have wanted to know really. I would have thought well I'm glad I found out now.

INTERVIEWER: Well it is quite important. In a way it demonstrates your relationship is about. How he feels about you and how serious is the relationship.

INTERVIEWEE: We are planning to get engaged in November.

INTERVIEWER: You are. So it's looking serious. Is that do you think because of what happened, getting pregnant?

INTERVIEWEE: Well we talked about, it was while I was pregnant, he said that, but we had been thinking about it before and he said "it wasn't just the baby, it doesn't make any difference if you have it or you don't, I still want to get engaged on November 5th", that's when we met, on bonfire night.

INTERVIEWER: So were you looking to get engaged and married then?

INTERVIEWEE: At the moment getting engaged. Just to state really that the relationship is more serious than anything.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think that's the way to do it.?

INTERVIEWEE: I always said you shouldn't get engaged unless you are going to get married but I think for me at this point, I'm not saying that I don't want to marry but I can see myself getting married it's just that I don't want to say, I want to get engaged and we've got to get married within a year. I would rather we just get engaged to show that it's permanent and that we are going to get married but not rush into it kind of thing. So when ever my job is established.

INTERVIEWER: Can you see the possibility that this engagement is not going to last. This relationship isn't going to last?

INTERVIEWEE: I think it will last at the moment unless anything changes.

INTERVIEWER: You don't sound too sure about it?

INTERVIEWEE: What with saying not getting married?

INTERVIEWER: No not getting married I think, well, increasingly nowadays getting married or not getting married is not so important. But also the way you want to see what's going to happen in your life. I mean obviously you are going through big changes in your life when

you finish here so you have got lots of new things which are going to be happening to you and that's the time when things change isn't it. He must see that as well?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes he does. He doesn't want me to move away.

INTERVIEWER: Is he in a settled job here?

INTERVIEWEE: He lives in [CITY IN NORTH], he's got a job there. He doesn't enjoy it much.

INTERVIEWER: What does he do?

INTERVIEWEE: He works in a printing firm. But it's very good money so he's looking for a job at the moment in the same line but something a bit more varied because he can do overtime as well and his wage I think, last week he earned over £300 so he doesn't want to give that up. But he said if he could get a job somewhere else, if I was offered a job he would move if he could.

INTERVIEWER: He would move for you? Would you move to [CITY IN NORTH]?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. I said to him if I could get a job, if it was a job that I wanted and it was one in [CITY IN NORTH] and one in London I said I would move to [CITY IN NORTH] if it was what I wanted. But I said I don't really want to move anyway. I don't want to live in London or anything like that, I would rather stay in the north but I said I wouldn't move to [CITY IN NORTH] and take a job that I didn't want just for the sake. Because we could both move, or you know it's not far to travel. I live in Barnsley now and I could still when I'm at college, I still manage to see him every night because he has a car. It's only twenty minutes so as long as it's somewhere in this area.

INTERVIEWER: Do you come in from Barnsley every day?

INTERVIEWEE: No I come back, we get Mondays off so I usually come back either Monday morning or Monday night depending on what shift he's on and then go back Friday afternoon because I only have one lesson. And then from Friday afternoon to Monday usually so it's quite a long weekend. It's not too bad.

INTERVIEWER: So he would move for you as well, so it's not just one way. Well it sounds generous. Can we just go back to some of the stuff we were talking about AIDS. I just wanted to know where you first heard about it from. Most of the information you have got, where you got it from?

INTERVIEWEE: I first heard about it on the news and media. That's where most of the information has come from as well. I don't think much came from school at all. Well I think I left, it was only like a couple, three or four years.

INTERVIEWER: Well 1981 it first came out but it didn't have very much coverage until quite recently.

INTERVIEWEE: Did it. It only seems like a couple of years since it's been around.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think that the coverage it got was clear?

INTERVIEWEE: I think at the time the adverts were good, they were pretty frightening, you know it got the message in.

INTERVIEWER: What do you think that message was?

INTERVIEWEE: Safe sex.

INTERVIEWER: Which is?

INTERVIEWEE: Condoms.

INTERVIEWER: Would you say it's just condoms?

INTERVIEWEE: And limit your partners.

INTERVIEWER: But you wouldn't see it as being anything like non-penetrative sex, things like that, other ways of having sex?



INTERVIEWEE: Just from adverts on the television it was seen to be just carry condoms and limit your partners, safe sex, that kind of thing but it was only, I watched some programmes on television and it was those really that went into it in more detail, how exactly you could catch it and all the scare about dentists and things like that. I think it was quite good at first but now you just don't see any of it, you don't see any adverts on television, there is little cover in magazines or anything like that now. I think people have just forgotten about it.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think people have, if it's not being brought to their attention then?

INTERVIEWEE: I think they only remember it when you do get an advert in television or something like that. I don't think it's in their minds when you meet somebody, I don't think everybody thinks oh no AIDS which they should really. I just think there is not enough coverage of it anymore.

INTERVIEWER: Have many of your friends, people you know, people you talk to about things like this, have any of them actually changed their behaviour since finding out about AIDS, has it changed the way that they have sex, or the way they choose their partner or the number of partners they have. Has it changed?

INTERVIEWEE: No.

INTERVIEWER: It hasn't?

INTERVIEWEE: You see most of my friends at home, that I told you about earlier, and then when I came to Manchester, all the girls on the course had steady boyfriends really and so and they are still seeing them so I don't think none of my friends at the moment are seeing different people every week or anything, or sleeping around so they are just staying with their boyfriends so their behaviour hasn't really changed. They are still going out with the same people who they were before. But I mean I know in the Hall of Residence where I live there is a lot of that about.

INTERVIEWER: Is there?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. People one week going with somebody else and next week.

INTERVIEWER: And they are actually having intercourse with these people?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. They are coming out of the rooms in the morning so.

INTERVIEWER: So you presume that they are actually sleeping there. So I should think people comment on that sort of thing, they usually do. Have they said anything like oh she's a slag, or she's a tart?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes but nobody seems, there has never been AIDS or anything like that, it doesn't seem that people are scared or if they are they think oh no it's not going to happen to me, that kind of attitude.

INTERVIEWER: Rather than actually doing anything about it?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: A bit unfortunate really.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes it is. I think now the majority of people now use contraceptive pill rather than condoms.

INTERVIEWER: So you would in the future. Do you think you would actually with a new partner do something about it or is it, I realise us coming along and asking you these questions will probably change how you feel about the pill, make you think more about it more aware, but do you think you will do that now.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes if we split up and I met somebody else I would. Mind you, having said that I don't know why if I said I would I don't know why I didn't this time.

INTERVIEWER: Because it's not so easy in practice is it?

INTERVIEWEE: It's not no. When you meet somebody you don't want to ask them how many partners have you had, the first time you meet them.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think it would be wrong of you to ask him, in a way is it inappropriate between two people to ask somebody about their sexual history. For instance, it may not be with your boyfriend, but people have had to do things like bisexual men, a lot of men, it appears that a lot of men are out, gay and have quite a secret bisexual life. That's one issue that we have talked about, it's probably the least common, most of it is men sleeping with prostitutes.

INTERVIEWEE: That's it, if they had they wouldn't admit it would they?

INTERVIEWER: Well also someone who had been a drug user, or slept with someone who had slept with someone who had been a drug user.

INTERVIEWEE: Well if you said something like how many partners have you had, you wouldn't think to say then were you using drugs or, sharing a needle or anything like that, you wouldn't think of it, and that's one of the major things isn't it and if they had been with a prostitute it's not the kind of thing you think to ask them. It's one thing asking them how many partners they have had but it's another to ask, 'have you had sex with a prostitute'.

INTERVIEWER: Well I think it is particularly difficult for a woman to say it to a man. Because you are not seen to be...

INTERVIEWEE: That's it. When do you ask them and..

INTERVIEWER: And also it's not seen as a woman's place to ask questions about a man because it's supposed to have been alright for him to have done that and good.

INTERVIEWEE: Yes that's it.

INTERVIEWER: It's a pity in a way he hasn't had the benefit of asking you has he? Just a few general things about, did you read at school or from other sources, from your mum and friends, were you told very much about other sexually transmitted diseases?

INTERVIEWEE: No. I can't remember doing anything at school. I don't think they did. It was just, I can't remember, it was probably friends, you know, before you heard sexually transmitted disease or even knew the name, you know, he's got such and such a thing, but after that you didn't really know what they were it was magazines again, articles, things like that.

INTERVIEWER: Do you read women's magazines then? Which magazines do you read?

INTERVIEWEE: Cosmopolitan, Now, and Vogue mainly.

INTERVIEWER: Do you find they are good on things like that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes. Cosmopolitan is. There are a lot of articles.

INTERVIEWER: Cosmopolitan is good on sex isn't it?

INTERVIEWEE: Vogue tends to be a bit full of pictures of mostly clothes and glamorous designs and models and things like that but Cosmopolitan, yes. There are a lot of issues I think.

INTERVIEWER: I was interested in a question, because we were talking to a couple of the other girls about being a beauty therapist or at least being called a beauty therapist because actually you're not a practical beauty therapist a great deal. Do you find people treat you in a particular way because of that?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes last year there were ten of us in Hall last year on a course, being the first year and we always used to sit together. We were the first group there, our course started about two weeks before the actual polytechnic did in college and we were there first and we got to know each other and we would always stick together at meals and we would always come in at the same time and we had uniforms which for the polytechnic is a bit, and everybody would say oh beauty therapists, BTs they used to call us and one particular group, a lot of lads doing the law course which we knew and were friends with but the first

night we met them they used take the mick quite a lot and call us BTs. BT stands for a bit thick, this kind of thing.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think people treat you in that way?

INTERVIEWEE: I think they think beauty therapy is like a mickey mouse course, it's all messing about with makeup and things like that, which is not even on a practical course you still have got a lot of background to learn about the skin and hair and everything and it is quite complicated. On our course we don't have any of that but we do the law side of it, and marketing promotion and it's nearly all business studies so it's quite annoying when people, because it's hard work, 'A' levels are a doddle compared to this. And we seem to get a lot of this, because you see with 'A' levels it was just going to lessons and you get notes, you go home and all you have got to do is learn them but this one it's a science and you have got to research and the amount of hours you spend and surveys and that kind of thing. Where we seem to do more work than people at the polytechnic. They are in all day, they go to a lecture once a week or whatever and that's it.

INTERVIEWER: What made you want to do beauty therapy? It must be quite difficult to get on to this course?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes it was. I don't know, I was always interested in it. I was always messing about with face masks and things like that and magazines I was always very interested in beauty articles and things like that and when I was thinking about a career I didn't really know what I wanted to do and somebody suggested it and I thought that was really interesting and I got a few books out of the library and I asked about a few courses and it was then I thought yes, that's something I wanted to do and when I heard about this course from the careers advisor at school she said it was the highest qualification in beauty therapy, and she said it would be ideal for you because you've got 'A' levels whereas most people just need 'O' levels, which would mean that I wasted two years.

INTERVIEWER: And did you start at sixth form at school?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes the school I was at before.

INTERVIEWER: So you were quite serious about wanting a career at quite an early time then. You were not a rebel or anything at school?

INTERVIEWEE: No, very quiet.

INTERVIEWER: Do you think you are rebellious in ways in your life, that you take risks in a way?

INTERVIEWEE: I don't know. Not so much taking risks. I know what I want to do and I have got a picture of what I want to happen and what I don't want to happen, that kind of thing, I know that I want a career and it's just. I don't think I take unnecessary risks.

INTERVIEWER: But the things you want to have. I was interested in also you said that you want a career and you want to be working so you will always have a particular type of relationship to cope with that. Have you thought about that in terms of having kids and things like that, which is a traditional thing?

INTERVIEWEE: Yes I do want children. I think that's why when I was pregnant I was scared at the time because I thought oh no this is spoiling everything I ever wanted and it means that I'm giving up all that, everything that I have worked for has been a waste of time. I mean it wouldn't have because I could have picked it up but it would have been a lot more difficult because the beauty industry can change so quickly and it would be what, five years, and it's difficult when there are a lot of young people, I wouldn't be that old then but a lot of people like leaving college now, it would be more difficult and I thought that was one of the reasons why I didn't want this to happen. But I do want children, it's just not yet. I just want to earn some money first and get a house so I'm settled, that kind of thing. I would always want to

have a house and settle down before I have children. I don't want to be, I haven't got enough money to support me and dragging it out of that person. I just want it to happen at the right time.

END OF RECORDING.