

**EDD114 Amy, 17****RT 6/7/89**

1. Age 17, ESW, living at home with her parents and grandfather who she looks after during the day. Retaking her GCSE's for the second time, has 3 so far but thinks she has failed again, parents both in professional jobs and are pressuring her into achieving more. She'd like to be an occupational therapist or a speech therapist but knows she won't be able to a degree. Heterosexual. Forgot to ask her about religion. Has a cleaning job for extra cash.

2. Tall, reddish blonde short curly hair, freckly face, wearing jeans and long denim shirt, v. casual. Attractive although thinks that she is plain and fat! At first a little shy particularly with talking directly about sex, but much happier to talk about people and feelings etc. Became very relaxed and forthcoming. We talked a lot on the way home as well. Kept on saying how much she appreciated talking and that it had done her a lot of good to be able to talk about herself as she spends most of her time listening to other people's problems. Very funny and appealing personality.

3. Quite a lot of conversation that was not on the tape. Firstly fuller details of her history. Lived in Cumbria, small village which she hated until a year ago when family moved to Manchester. Blames her poor performance academically on the school that she went to in Cumbria which didn't encourage learning at all. On journey home talked about their first sexual experience which had avoided in the interview, with a friend's cousin on the beach. V. romantic etc, wasn't planned and they did it because they wanted to. Stark contrast to the type of sex being forced on her by present boyfriend who she doesn't like anyway. Also talked about the names that girls are called if they don't want to have sex, 'frigid' again.

4. Sex Ed: Basics at school from embarrassed teacher. Kids knew more than him. Interesting stuff on the view of sex at school, to be popular aka sexually active, you had to not bother about studying.

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Knowledge of AIDS: At 6th form college in the biology lessons had a large section on AIDS. She was well informed although was learnt/revised information rather than everyday knowledge. Says her view of sex is linked with AIDS, it's always been around and she would hope that she'd always use protection. Thought that drugs users were most at risk when I asked her, said my question was exactly the same as one in her exam!

Risk: Asked her about drugs etc. Has smoked dope once, doesn't drink to the same extent as her friends who get really drunk, doesn't take drugs although knows people who do.

Safe sex: Condoms, nothing else.

Sexuality: She doesn't think that she is ready for sex yet. She put on qu. (questionnaire) that she'd had sex but I'm not sure if that is true, I think she might be using this as a self defence mechanism against being called frigid or made to feel abnormal. She talked a lot about how she had always wanted to be like everyone else and didn't want to stand out, but always stood out. Has little self-confidence, thinks she is unattractive which is untrue, paranoid about her weight. Also mentioned feeling a bit young when she went to the Hacienda night club and said that she hated to feel out of place.

At moment is going out with a boy who she blatantly dislikes. Admits that she is just going out with him to keep up appearances with her friends who all have boyfriends. Her boyfriend is pressuring her to have sex with him all the time. Is a bit hung up on being the friend of the 'pretty girl'. Feels that she is always looked through by the boys and by the girls as an agony aunt. We talked a bit about the competitive relationship between girls at this age. All her girlfriends are in 'serious' relationships, think that they are in love, won't stop talking about their relationship.

Good interview, especially concerning teenage subcultures.