I: Ok, Whatever. Hum...I'm Sorry. Next question is, can you tell me what happens when a person gets AIDS?

S: Hum..So I'm thinking psychotic dots. All types of stuff. You know, you just want to go on out and, cause you know that you're going to go. No matter what, then. You know, you like want to get the person that got you. As a matter of fact, you want to go try and get the person that got you.

I: Well, would you always know who it was.

S: Not really, then if you don't then you would just be shit out of luck.

I: Yeah Hum..Can you tell me more about the time when a person gets HIV and then when they get AIDS?

S: Aw, not really, I don't know, I don't know much about that. I'm saying I know that you get it. I know you get HIV but that's you can't take that away.

I: No...That's ok. I just want to know, you know, if you know, you don't know it.

S: Well, all I know when you get HIV, you get AIDS. After a while you might get sick. Or...

I: Yeah.

S: Stuff like that.

I: Hum.....How can someone learn whether or not they have AIDS?

S: They go take a test.

I: Do you know what the test tests for?

S: Ah, like what it is for?

I: Yeah, How does it work?

S: All I know is that ah, you take blood and it will come back like around, like in a week. I, I never took it, you know I'm scared to take it.

I: (Yes)
S: I don't... People told me that they been so scared that whole week, and that that's the worst feeling. I've been super scared before but...

I: So you don't want to take it?

S: Naw, I'm going to take it, I know I'm going to take it one of these days, but I just don't want to do it. You know.

I: Hum...If you don't do it, you don't know.

S: That's true

I: (Laughter) Hum, what kinds of people do you think have a lot to worry from AIDS?

S: Hold on, say that again.

I: What kinds of people have hum, hum a higher chance to get AIDS?

S: People that use crack, hum, shoot up with needles, and they got the really the most, oh yeah, people that don't use condoms.

I: (Yes)

S: Well that's, that's one thing I think about, I remember last year I never used to use a condom, ah, only like every once in awhile when I had one on me.

I: (Yes)

S: Thought about it.

I: And ah, when do you think people can stop worrying about AIDS?

S: When they have a big cure for it.

I: What?

S: When they have a cure. When they can stop worrying about it?

I: (Yes) Ok

S: When they have a cure.

I: Yeah
S: I believe that there is some cure, you know that a person have to screen it out, cause there's not, have enough money. I hope somebody come out with a cure, man, cause it ain't right man. It's just not cool. Ah, what can I say, it's some type of disease.

I: Yeah
S: I don't know how it got on this world, or how it's going to get off.

I: Do you think people are making too big a deal of AIDS or not?

S: No, cause you know that's serious you know. You get that thing you're going to die automatically. You know, there's, there's no stopping it.

I: Hum.....Where have you learned about AIDS?

S: What have I learned?

I: Where did you learn what you know about AIDS?

S: Hum, all over the place, you know. Hum, boot camp, Sherman, ah, school, here.

I: Here too?

S: Yeah. Hum...other places you know, probably, I don't know, I just can't remember. I know I've learned a lot about, I heard about it a millions of times.

I: Do you think they skip things in AIDS classes at school?

S: ...I really don't know cause, you know, I don't know. I don't know, they know that everything about it, I don't. They're teaching me so I can't really say if they skip it, you know.

I: No. If you don't know, you don't know what is missing, right? Hum..
Do you think you know enough about AIDS to protect yourself from it?

S: Yeah. I know, I know....I'm saying I don't know a lot about it but I know, I got to know enough to protect myself.

I: (Yes) You know the basic things. Hum...is there anything more you would like to know about AIDS?

S: Yeah. I would like to know how we can make a cure for it. I wish I could just come up with a cure for it. You know, they got it, you know what I'm sayin'.

I: You just asked a question, of ah, hum.. what was it again, if someone punches you, you can get AIDS from it? But...
S: Like ah, say like if somebody punching you in your mouth.

I: Yeah

S: You know, you know how hard your teeth is, and you might, your teeth might make them bleed on your hand, and they might make your mouth bleed.

I: Yeah

S: And then that can mix them together.

I: Yeah, but that's that's, if there is no blood contact, then.

S: You can't get it

I: No

S: Ah, you can't get it. I'm saying only how you can only get it, you know, the condom thing, and these is what I know, I know there got, there should have been more of this so... I know the condom thing, hum, blood needles, ah crack I think I don't know. .... That's it, I know there should be other things. I don't know.

I: I have some questions about terms that people use when they talk about AIDS. So if you don't know the answer just tell me. Or maybe you've heard about it and you can just tell me what you think it is. Ah, AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV, ah, what does it tell you about it? What does it tell you that AIDS is caused by a virus?

S: It just, is caused by that. Like what do it tell me?

I: Well, ok, let me ask you again. What do you know about HIV?

S: Hum...that that's the first thing you get before you get the AIDS.

I: Anything else? Did you know it's a virus?

S: Oh yeah, it's a virus. Yeah, it's a virus and all that stuff.

I: Yeah, hum....Suppose there is a new disease, and it's caused you know it's caused by a virus, ah, what would you know about how it is spread?

S: How it can spread from, giving it out without telling them. Giving it out, you know, without telling the person that you had it, like that. Oh yeah, like Magic Johnson, he got the AIDS, right?

I: Yeah
S: So, I would, what do, for him to, it's how's he, is he going to die on time? You know

I: What

S: He just naw, like you know, he got it, he's had it for like, how many years?

I: I don't know

S: So..he got the AIDS truly now right?

I: I haven't heard about it. (Laughter)

S: I haven't really. You know I know that he got it but, I don't know if he got that HIV still or the AIDS. Ah

I: All I, only thing I heard that is that he has HIV, I don't know if he has AIDS yet.

S: So if he got AIDS, it take, what it can take a month.

I: It can take longer.

S: It can take like a thousand years.

I: Yeah, well

S: What I'm saying, it can take, ah, a couple years till all that comes.

I: Yeah, next question. Hum....Hum...If you know a disease is caused by a virus, do you know anything about the cure? Does it tell you anything about how it can be cured?

S: Ah, Hum for some people like ah, I wish I could think like that, you know, if I knew how it was caused. And how to track it, and I can just think in my mind how can I just make it something, a drug or some type of herb or you know some thing that would take it away. That would, that would, that would do it, but really I don't know really nothing really about all that.

I: Ok, hum, do you know what the term "safe sex" means?

S: Yeah.

I: Or what do you think it means?

S: It mean, hum, that always use a rubber. That the only thing, that stands for really, is to use rubber. That's the first thing that's involved. They don't really, when they talk about, them AIDS group they don't, they bring up the needle and all that junk last. They talk about the hum, the rubber and all that junk first. You know, and stuff like that.
I: Hum, can you tell me more about, about rubbers? What are the safest ones to use for protection against AIDS?

S: Oh......

I: You don't know?

S: Ah, I know there's some bad, there's lubricated and that just all types of ones, lifestyle, hum. I really don't know what's the ones the best one. I know, but I forgot. The best one, there is a best one I know, that you use but, a rubber is a rubber. And I know that I don't have no best one's in my book. I just use two to make sure.

I: Yeah. What else do they, what else do rubbers protect you against?

S: Ah, all type of stuff like. Hum, herpes, hum,.......I forgot what this one was called, it's something. .....Like blue balls. Like when a girl burn you up, ah, ...think syphilis.

I: (Yes)

S: I don't know, I know I got more, it got to come to my head.

I: A lot of stuff? Ok

S: Yeah, there's a lot of stuff.

I: Hum, another term, do you know what IV Drug use means?

S: (No)

I: Ah, well, IV stands for intravenous. Do you know what that means?

S: No

I: It means that you use a needle to use these drugs.

S: Oh, so now I know.

I: Do you think, hum, needles can be cleaned? You told me that before but.

S: Yeah, it's probably, what I heard they could, but hum...I really don't know cause I never tried it. This is what I know from hearing it, learned it, you know that they could be cleaned, but only a fool would trust something like that. You know.

I: Yeah

I: Thank you