TAPE 20

I: Okay. Uh. In this interview I will ask you to talk about AIDS. I want you to know that you don't have to answer all my questions. If you don't want to answer a question, just let me know and I will go on with the next one. You can also ask me to stop the interview at any time.

In this interview you will be asked to talk about everything you know about AIDS. I will first ask you to tell me everything you know about AIDS. Then I will ask you some more specific questions. I may ask the same question more than once. I do this to make sure that you tell me everything you know and that I understand everything that you say. Please don't worry about whether your answers are right or not, just tell me everything that comes to mind.

My first question is: Please tell me everything you know about AIDS.

S: I know that it's a virus you only get it from sexual intercourse or blood transfusions or sharing a needle, um. And then you can die from it and they haven't found a cure yet. And that's it.

I: Okay. Is there anything else that you that you know about uh AIDS or that comes to mind to you?

S: (silence) Condoms. They may help a little bit but [inaudible] AIDS and [inaudible] AIDS is um small, so small that it can see through the condom. So the condom won't always protect you.

I: Mm-hum. Okay. Um. Can you tell me more about how uh AIDS is passed from one person to another, how AIDS is spread?

S: You have sex, unprotected or maybe you would have condom or you're a heroin addict [inaudible] drugs addicts sharing needles if one has AIDS then [inaudible] partners share the needle you can get AIDS. And the one who has AIDS and he has a sore in his mouth he or she um they kiss whoever uh the other person can get AIDS.

I: Uh-huh.

S: And that's it.

I: (silence) Okay. Um. Okay, you told me uh that AIDS is passed on when you uh have unprotected sex and uh use uh intrav IV drugs. Can you tell me more about that?

S: No I can't.

I: Okay. Uh, what do you mean when you talk about unprotected sex?

S: Not using a condom.

I: Okay. Does it matter how often a person has unprotected sex?

S: Yes it does.

I: (silence) Okay. How how do you think it uh matters?
S: There could be a thousand times or just one time, but that one time you could get AIDS.
I: What about uh drug use? You talking about shooting heroin. Does it matter how often a person does that?
S: Not to my knowledge, no.
I: Okay. Can you tell me how a person can be able to prevent getting AIDS if they're having unprotected sex or uh uh sharing needles?
S: (silence) Only thing I can say is if you do have sex, use a condom. Abstinence is the best way. For drug users, if you're gonna do it, get your own needle.
I: Mm-hum. (Silence) How well uh do you think this would really protect a person from getting AIDS?
S: (silence) If he really cares, he'll he'll um take that advice. If he really cares about hisself.
I: Mm-hum. Uh, what do you think may lead a person to have unprotected sex or to use drugs?
S: Might be in the heat of the moment they might not have protection. And you be thinking well she ain't got it, I doubt she got it or he do that where [inaudible] only [inaudible] two people and only one person got a needle and this their urging for it so bad they just don't care and they both use the one needle.
I: Mm-hum. Okay. What what kinds of things that uh what kinds of things may mess up a personís plans not to uh have unprotected sex?
S: (silence) Could you repeat the question?
I: What kind of things may mess up a persons plans like they plan not to have they donít plan on having unprotected sex, but they do, or they don't plan on using drugs, but they do or sharing a needle.
S: Peer pressure.
I: Mmm. What do you mean by peer pressure? What kind what kinds of uh can you give me an example of that?
S: I may be sharing your boy or whoever and or over at a females house and she's with having sex or she ain't really with it 'cause you don't got no condom or nothing but your boys up there go ahead man, why you bein a little punk about it go ahead. You ain't got no condom or nothin' and they still be like saying she ain't got nothin'. She cool. This and that.
I: Mm-hum.
S: If you don't do it they probably just talk stuff on you. Then you go do it.
I: Okay. Okay. Uh. What effect does alcohol have on people?
S: If you get em in um in a violent mood one of them moods I just I don't care anymore. Them type of moods. Your reflexes are slow. (Silence) That's it.
I: Mm-hum. Does drinking make much of a difference in a personís risk of getting AIDS?

S: Yeah. [Inaudible]

I: Could you speak up?

S: Um, [inaudible] you drink [inaudible] you wanna you desire more to have sex. And at that point in time you probably donít care if you got a condom or not. But just go for it.

I: Mm-hum. Okay. How is this different for people who drink regularly compared with people who binge drink? Do you do you know what binge drinking is?

S: Mm-hum. (yes)

I: Itís like when you sit uh say one time and drink a whole lot of alcohol at one time as opposed to you know maybe just having one or two drinks cause you were sitting just you know drink a whole 40 all at once. By yourself. And then did another one. Do you think it itís different um for people who drink regularly who may be just have like one bottle of beer as opposed to someone who may drink you know a lot?

S: Probably. Cause um...what's that word? The one who drinks a lot can um...

I: Binge drinks?
S: (silence) I'm trying to think of that word
I: Is it a word that I said or another word you trying to think of?
S: Tolerance.
I: Uh-huh.
S: The um the one who drinks a lot he's he's drink he might not have a strong tolerance and that would just overwhelm him.
I: Mm-hum.
S: And he might have one and probably might want to have more sex than the one who just drinks one bottle without [inaudible] and stops. The one who drinks that one bottle probably the [inaudible] is probably they might be [inaudible] but even if it is this uh [inaudible] for most people one bottle ainít enough to really git you drunk drunk.
I: Mm-hum. (Silence) Does it matter how often a person is exposed to AIDS?
S: (silence) No. Uh-huh. (No).
I: Okay. When you say no it doesn't it doesn't really matter, what do you mean by that?
S: You could be exposed...one time one time is enough.
I: Okay. Can you tell me what happens when a person gets AIDS?
S: (silence) They um as the immune system starts to break down, they might they might get sick, lose weight...or whatever but he'll get sick, really sick.
I: Okay. Can you tell me more about the time between when a person.........(silence) um how can someone learn whether he or she has AIDS?

S: Maybe some symptoms or if you have a monthly check up at a clinic you go and get tested and the tests comes back and uh it comes out positive and then you'll know.

I: Mm-hum. What does the uh test test for? Do you know how it works?

S: Uh-huh. (No)

I: Okay. Why would someone decide to be tested?

S: Maybe worried or just curious.

I: Okay. You said may be what?

S: Worried.

I: Oh, okay maybe they're worried or just curious. Anything else? Any other reason why a person might be tested?

S: (grunt) (no)

I: Uh, what would make you think that a person has AIDS?

S: (silence) You can't really tell, know what I'm sayin', you can't really tell if a person got AIDS. If you could it wouldn't spread so fast so you can't really tell if they got it or not so you wouldn't think of nothin'.

I: Okay. What kinds of people have a lot to worry about from AIDS?

S: Drug users, heroin addicts, [inaudible] um...people getting [inaudible] blood transfusions. Um...prostitutes. And just the people that use unprotected sex.

I: Mm-hum. When do you think people can stop uh worrying about AIDS?

S: Whenever they find a cure that kills it off.

I: Okay. Do you think people are making too big a deal about AIDS?

S: Nope.

I: Why? Why is that?

S: Cause it's serious I mean there's a lot of people that die that have it or are gonna die from AIDS.

I: Uh, where have you learned about AIDS?

S: School, um, counseling classes,...

I: Uh, what things do they skip in the uh classes at school?
S: (long silence) Nothing really.
I: Nothing?
S: Uh-huh. (No)
I: Okay. Do you think you know enough about AIDS to protect yourself from it?
S: Yeah...
I: Okay. Is there anything more you would like to know about AIDS?
S: (silence) Where did it come from?
I: Okay. Do you think just having knowledge about AIDS is enough to protect yourself?
S: Yeah, cause knowledge is power.
I: Okay. Do you think what you know about AIDS would keep you from putting yourself at risk for AIDS?
S: Yeah.
I: Okay. Uh, what does safe sex mean?
S: (silence) Using a condom. Knowing that your partner doesn't have it and that you don't have nothin' you just do all the procedures right when you're having sex.
I: Mm-hum. Okay. Can you tell me more about condoms? Like what are the safest condoms to use for protection against AIDS?
S: I don't know what brand but the ones that have monoxadil nine.
I: Okay. You said nonoxynol-9? Okay. Uh, what else do condoms protect you against?
S: S.T.D.s.
I: Anything else?
S: Prevent from having babies.
I: Mm-hum. Uh, what does IV drug use mean?
S: I don't know.
I: Okay. Do you think needles can be cleaned?
S: They probably can be sterilized.
I: Okay. How do you think uh needles can be sterilized? Do you know what the procedure is to sterilize needles?
S: Nope.
I: Okay. Is there anything more you would like to say or to add to it to the interview?

S: Uh-huh. (No)

I: Okay. Thank you.