Number 27

I: Tell me everything you know about AIDS?

S: It's a sexually transmitted disease.

I: Can you speak up a little please? I need to get this on tape since I’m not writing stuff down. You can lean back.

S: You can get it from shooting up and you can get it from having sex.

I: I’m going to write a few things down because I need to ask you questions about what you say and I won’t remember what to ask you unless I write it down. Can you tell me how the AIDS virus is passed on from one person to another?

S: It's in your blood and whenever you have an opening in your body or a cut or something cause could spread.

I: How does that happen, like if you have a cut on your body of something how does it spread?

S: If you have a cut and say that somebody else then you accidently brush up against that you can go in and out. It can't live without blood I guess.

I: Does it matter how often a person might brush up against that other cut?

S: I think only once.

I: Can you tell me how a person could be able to prevent getting the AIDS virus if they do you know brush up against a cut like that?

S: They should have a band-aid on it or somehow, I don't think there is any cure for it.

I: Do you think a band-aid would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus? If they had a cut?

S: If they covered it up right away washed it out.

I: I think you also mentioned that a ...shooting up?

S: Yeah...like if you use somebody else's needle or something like that I guess. Like they have it and you pull it out, I guess it has blood on it. I assume it has blood on it so...

I: And does it matter how often a person would be using needles like that?

S: All it takes is once.
I: Can you tell me how a person can be able to prevent the AIDS virus if they are shooting up?

S: Sterilizing the needle, or use a different needle I guess.

I: How would they sterilize a needle?

S: ....Alcohol. Put some alcohol on it.

I: On the needle or on the skin?

S: On the needle.

I: How well do you think that would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus?

S: Personally, I don’t think you should be shooting up to begin with..

I: Well people are going to be doing it whether you think they should be doing it or not.

S: Um...to be honest with you I really don't know if that would protect you.

I: What do you think may lead a person to shooting up? What would make it more likely they would shoot up rather than not.

S: They [pay them] (?) for it or something.

I: Excuse me?

S: They pay for it.

I: And what are the kinds of things that may mess up a person plans not to shoot up. Like if they leave the house and they say `Ok, tonight I’m going out but I'm not going to shoot up.' What do you think may mess up their plans?

S: If they see one of their friends on the street and they say they have some, I don't know, whatever they shoot up. I don’t get into that stuff.

I: Is there any other way that the AIDS virus could be passed on from one person to another, other than shooting up? Or a person having a cut that the blood?

S: Having sex.

I: Ok, can you tell me how that happens? How the AIDS virus would be passed on from people having sex?

S: It's like an opening your body...ah...I really don't know about that one. Just know..bad..stay away from it.
I: Does it matter how often a person would have sex?
S: No..just once you could get.
I: And can you tell me how a person might be able to prevent getting the AIDS virus if they have sex.
S: With a condom.
I: How well do you think that would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus?
S: I think about 98% or something like that.
I: What do you think might lead a person ah..to having unprotected sex?
S: They were pushed into it by another party of some thing.
I: What are the kinds of things may mess up a person plans not to have unprotected sex?
S: ....get drunk or something. Forget all about it.
I: What effect does alcohol have on people?
S: On people or me?
I: On people?
S: Ah..like say people like black out and stuff. I don't know about that.
I: In the interview part I not going to ask you about your personal behavior. There maybe a couple questions like that in the written part, but you can just talk about people in general or other people you know in the interview. So what effect does alcohol on people?
S: They black out, forget things, make choices you won’t normally choose.
I: Does drinking make much of a difference in a person in a person risk in getting AIDS?
S: Sometimes.
I: How does it effect their chance of getting AIDS?
S: Clouds their decision on what you doing.
I: And is that risk of getting AIDS different for people who drink regularly compared to people who binge drink?
S: Probably people who just you know weekend sippers or whatever.

I: What about the weekend sippers?

S: Probably, they could probably get it easier cause they ain't use to it.

I: Does it matter how often a person is exposed to AIDS?

S: Not, you can get it just one time.

I: And can you tell me what happens when a person gets the AIDS virus?

S: You immune systems break down and like if you out on a day like today you can catch a cold real easily and it's hard to fight that. I guess.

I: And can you tell me what happens when a person get AIDS?

S: ....What do you mean?

I: Maybe you just answered that. How could someone learn whether he or she has the AIDS virus?

S: Could get a blood test.

I: And where is that test test for.

S: To show if you have HIV or things.

I: Do you know how that works. How the test works?

S: They stick a needle in and take some blood and I guess they test it and they tell you the results.

I: Why would someone decide to be tested?

S: They might have reason to think they have it or they might just be cautious person.

I: Can you think of any reasons that people, I mean, what do you mean by reasons if they don't have to think that they have it?

S: Like sleeping around and stuff like that.

I: What would make you think that a person has AIDS?

S: ....Always sick all the time.
I: Anything else?

S: There really ain't no way to tell.

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

S: Drug users and people that sleep around and stuff.

I: When can people stop worrying about AIDS at all?

S: Till they find a cure.

I: And do you think people are making to bid of a deal with AIDS?

S: No..it kills. One of the biggest problems we got.

I: Where have you learned about AIDS?

S: School, little bit from what my mom told me.

I: And what things do they skip in AIDS classes in school? What things don't they tell you? That you have learned else where?

S: ....[Inaudible - 4 words] but almost everything I know from school.

I: Do you think you know enough about AIDS to protect yourself from it?

S: I sure as hell hope so.

I: Is there anything more you would like to know about AIDS?

S: Ah... personally in my opinion I think the government created it. I just want to know how it came, you know it just didn't pop up. Out of the blue.

I: AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV, what does that tell you about it? Does that give you any information about it?

S: Um...

I: Telling you that AIDS is caused by a virus called HIV?

S: Where HIV come from.

I: Now, suppose there is a new disease and all you know is that it is cause by a virus. Would you be able to tell how the disease is transmitted by just knowing that it is a virus?
S: Um...

I: How about would you know how the disease develops? Could you guess about that if you knew it was a virus?

S: You could like take people in who you suspect have it and try to figure it out.

I: Would be able to tell how the disease can be treated if this new disease is caused by a virus?

S: Um..I don't know.

I: What does safe sex mean?

S: Sticking with one person, use a condom.

I: Can you tell me a little more about condoms, like what are the safest condoms to use for protection against AIDS?

S: Latex

I: And what else do condoms protect you against.

S: Other sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy.

I: And what does IV drug use mean? Do you know what that means? Did you ever hear that before?

S: IV isn't that something that puts you to sleep or something.

I: Do you think needles can be cleaned?

S: I hate needles so I.. I guess yeah you can clean them with rubbing alcohol or what ever.