I: 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'll first ask you to tell me everything you know about AIDS, and then I will ask you some more specific questions. I may ask you the same questions more than once, I just need to make sure that I ask everyone the same questions. Hum, and I may ask you some questions about what you tell me because I need to make sure that I understand what you are telling me and that you know what you are talking about is what I'm thinking. Please don't worry about whether your answers are right or not just tell me everything that comes to mind. And you don't have to talk about yourself or your behavior. No one else will hear the tape but the project team and I am not going to report back here to Riverview to anyone about what you have said.

So my first question is:

I: Please tell me everything you know about AIDS?

S: Hum, that you can't only catch it hum, sexually, like you catch it through blood and stuff.

I: Ok

S: But you can catch it sexually transmitted.

I: Ok

S: And people usually die from it. It take like a long period disease.

I: (Yes)

S: And that's about it.

I: Ok. Hum, you mentioned a couple ways that the AIDS virus can be passed on from one person to another. And ah, can you think of any more? You said through blood or,

S: Blood transfusions.

I: Ok

S: That's about the only two ways I know, sexually and blood transfusions.

I: Ok. Hum, can you tell me a little bit more about blood transfusions? Like exactly how does it get passed on from one person to another?

S: Like, if you gotta, like someone with HIV got an open cut and then someone else has an open cut, and like they touch then you get it like that.

I: Ok

S: Or if you give blood to the hospital then they put it in somebody else. Then they'll have AIDS.

I: Hum, does it matter how often a person would like have an open cut and touch someone else
with an open cut?
S: What do you mean by that?

I: Hum, does it matter in a person's risk of getting the AIDS virus, how often a person would ah, if they had an open cut and they touched someone else's open cut?

S: You mean, does it have to touch it more than once for them to get it?

I: Yeah.

S: No, I mean just that one touch you get it. I guess.

I: Ok, So imagine that a person has an open cut, and you know they touch someone else with an open cut one time. How would that person's risk of getting the AIDS virus be affected if they did it more than once? You know, touched an open cut?

S: Well if he did it more than once, he would most definitely have it, but.

I: And why would that be?

S: Because the chances are better that if you had AIDS it would of got in there. Got in his, the other persons cut.

I: (Yes)

S: Like he have a higher risk. I guess.

I: Ok. Hum, can you tell me how a person can prevent getting the AIDS virus if they are ah, having open, touching other people's open cuts with their open cuts?

S: Wear a band aid or cover it up I guess?

I: Ok. And how well do you think that that would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus? Wearing a band aid?

S: Protect them real good, cause you wear a band aid cause there is no access to it or whatever.

I: Ok. And hum, what do you think may lead a person to, like what would cause a person to have an open cut to touch someone else with an open cut?

S: Hum. Like if two people were kissing and they both had like mouth sores or something. Like that order. Like playing football and someone was bleeding and somebody else was bleeding and they rubbed up against each other.

I: Ok. And hum, this is going to sound a little crazy, ah imagine that a person goes out planning not to have an open cut and touch another person open cut. What do you think may mess up those plans?

S: Just by him being so protective of himself, he'd probably end up cutting himself on accident. Or touching somebody with it.

I: Ok. Now, let's go back and talk a little bit about the, if you go to a hospital and give blood and then the blood goes into someone else. Can you tell me how the AIDS virus would be passed on?
S: Guess through the blood stream or whatever. Like it would get in that person and it would just attack the system.

I: Ok, and would it matter how often a person would hum, have a blood transfusion?

S: No, well they, more transfusions, the more there is a openness to AIDS but, just that one transfusion can get it from.

I: Ok, when you say the more transfusions you have, the more open you are to AIDS. What do you mean by that?

S: It's like, the more, the higher risk you would get cause there's, a lot of blood mixing together so, have a better chance of catching it.

I: Can you tell me how a person can prevent getting the AIDS virus if they are getting a blood transfusion?

S: Have the blood tested before they get it put in them.

I: Ok. And how well do you think that would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus?

S: Probably 95% better.

I: And what do you think may lead a person to getting a blood transfusion?

S: If he was in a bad accident and was losing a lot of blood and he would need more blood.

I: Ok

S: Or he was going to have surgery. Still need blood.

I: Ok. Imagine a person goes out planning not to get a blood transfusion, what do you think may mess up these plans.

S: Hum, guess it's the same as being over protective. You'd be nervous, you so nervous that you might end up like you're driving, you're real nervous and end up in a car accident or something.

I: Ok. Good. You also said the AIDS virus can be sexually transmitted? Can you tell me little bit about how that happens?

S: Hum, I guess like, homosexually like two people, like gays I guess.

I: Ok

S: And the membranes, I guess they don't mix of something. I don't understand how they could get it from sexually transmitted but it just I mean most people say it starts from sexually transmitted. Through sex.

I: Ok. Hum, so would it matter how often a person had sex?

S: Yeah. I mean if you having sex with one person, it would be safe, but if you several different people, several different times then you're more going to catch it. You are more open to it I guess.
I: Ok. And what do you mean by that, if you are with several different people?

S: Cause then you not having safe sex. Just you get a lot of diseases from that, but it's not safe doing it to more than one person.

I: Ok. Imagine that a person has sex one time, how would their risk of getting the AIDS virus be affected if they had sex more often?

S: It would be a higher risk if they had sex more often. Or if they had that one partner then usually they trust each other so really wouldn't get it.

I: Ok, so how would their risk change if they only had the one partner. And they just you know, had sex more than once.

S: It wouldn't be so much of a higher risk with just one person.

I: Ok. Can you tell me how a person can prevent getting the AIDS virus if they are having sex?

S: Hum. Have one partner and use protection.

I: Ok. And what do you mean be use protection?

S: Condoms for male and female.

I: Ok. Hum, and when you say have one partner, ah, can you tell me you know, what you mean by that?

S: Hum. Like your girlfriend or something, that's the only person you have sex with. No one other than her.

I: And how well do you think that ah, that would really protect a person from getting the AIDS virus if they only have one partner?

S: It would protect them pretty decently. Than another person having sex with a lot of people.

I: And how well do you think that ah, using a condom either male or female condom, would prevent a person from getting the AIDS virus?

S: They still have a chance of getting it with one on, but it wouldn't be so high as a risk if you did use one.

I: Ok. And what do you think may lead a person to have sex. Like what would make it more likely that they would have sex?

S: You could be sexually attracted to each other or sometimes it's peer pressure or, couple different reasons.

I: Ok. Hum, well what do you think may lead a person to have unprotected sex?

S: Like spur at the moment sex when one would not be ready but the other one is and it just happens. They don't think about using protection.

I: Imagine that a person goes out planning not to have unprotected sex. What do you think may mess up those plans?
S: Hum. His partner saying no you got to use protection. So he wouldn't have sex cause she might use protection and he wouldn't use protection.

I: Ok. What affect does alcohol have on people?

S: Hum. I think it don't really have, I think every body knows what they are doing when they are drunk they use that excuse but, some people might not know and might get their hormones going or what ever. And they're not as, they are not really thinking about what they are doing, it just they feel it's you know, it's all right if they do it while their drunk or whatever.

I: Ok. Does drinking make much of a difference in a person's risk in getting the AIDS virus?

S: No. I don't think so. Cause I think everybody, I mean you know what you are doing. Cause if you were like, the cops were chasing you you would get sober real quick.

I: I'm sorry what did you say?

S: If like you were getting chased by the cops or something, you would get sober real quick but, when it's time to have sex they want to still act like they are drunk or whatever.

I: Ok. Hum, does it matter how often a person is exposed to the AIDS virus?

S: Well, once you got it I mean, I really doesn't matter but if you don't have it then shouldn't try to get exposed to it.

I: Ok, but would it matter if a person is exposed more than once to it?

S: If they have it or not?

I: If they don't have it?

S: If they don't have, yeah it don't matter.

I: And why would it matter?

S: Because if you don't have it you could get exposed to it then you might end up catching it.

I: Ok. Can you tell me what happens when a person gets infected with the AIDS virus?

S: Hum. Like tired all the time, and they get fatigue. Or lose a lot of weight. That's all I know.

I: Ok. And can you tell me what happens when a person develops AIDS?

S: Hum. It attacks their immune system or something, like their blood cells and something their body can't function straight. They end up in the hospital.

I: Ok. Hum, you have mentioned that it is a long term disease. And can you tell me more about what you mean by that?

S: Like you have the, you have HIV positive, that's like just a disease. Like not really into it yet but, after several years it builds up, then you have AIDS. And that's when it really gets them, attacks their body.

I: Ok. So can you tell me more about the time between when a person gets the HIV and when he
or she gets AIDS?

S: Like when you first get it, they won't, they'll still be alright and everything. Like Magic Johnson, he's still hoopen and everything. But after awhile start getting fatigue and tired and then he'll start sitting around, sleepy all the time. Then sooner or later they'll end up in the hospital.

I: Did he end up going back to the NBA?

S: No, he did, he was going to but he was a coach, and then he retired from that too. I think it's catching up with him now though.

I: Ok. How long does it take for a person with the HIV to develop AIDS?

S: Guess it depends. Really.

I: What does it depend on?

S: Like the type, like if you are a healthy person, or you're already unhealthy person then it would be easier to catch up with you but, if you're healthy and everything, it would probably take a couple of years.

I: Ok. And what do you mean by unhealthy?

S: Like you don't eat a balance meal or exercise. What ever or you smoke and drink and all that. But like Magic Johnson he was healthy so, it probably won't catch up with him as fast.

I: Ok. Does it take longer for some people than for others?

S: I think so, yeah.

I: And how can someone learn whether he or she has HIV?

S: Either through symptoms or just going by the hospital and getting checked.

I: Ok. Do you know what the symptoms would be?

S: Like tired, losing weight.

I: And when you say go to the hospital and get checked. What do you mean by that?

S: Like say you are getting blood tested or something. I think they usually ask you if you wanted checked for AIDS or not. And they'll check it for AIDS. Or just basic check ups at the hospital.

I: Ok. So do you know what the blood test tests for? Like how does it work?

S: You mean how they check the blood?

I: (Yes)

S: They take blood and they send it to the lab I guess. They like, they usually check it for a certain thing but I think they ask you if you want it checked for anything else.

I: Yeah
S: So you could just tell them yeah, or no.

I: Well what would you want it checked for?

S: Hum. There's, I don't know what it is called, I heard it before. Something.

I: You don't have to use the exact words you heard. I mean just, if you can describe it.

S: Like if you got. They can take your high blood pressure by just looking at it or something.

I: (Yes)

S: I don't know, I'm not sure.

I: Why would someone decide to be tested for HIV?

S: Cause their partner, they found out their partner had AIDS.

I: Ok

S: Or some body they're around had AIDS and they are just nervous and want to get checked.

I: Ok. What would make them nervous, you think?

S: Well, some people they like think you got AIDS just by being near you, you could catch it so. Those type of people just want to get checked. They heard they were by, near some body with AIDS. But they don't really understand how they could get it, whatever.

I: What would make you think that a person has the HIV virus?

S: I wouldn't think it unless I heard it about them.

I: Ok. And what kinds of people have a lot to worry from the AIDS virus?

S: What type of people?

I: Yeah. Have a lot to worry about?

S: You mean... I don't understand what you're getting at?

I: Hum. Like are there any people that ah...

S: Have to worry about being around it a lot?

I: Ah. Well they have a lot to worry about from HIV or the AIDS virus?

S: You mean like doctors, like.

I: Yeah

S: When they operate on people that presently have blood, I mean have AIDS and they are testing their blood or what ever.

I: Ok
S: Like Greg Lougainus that dude that operated, or stitched his head up. He had a lot to worry. Or just by using needles.

I: Why did Greg Lougainus have a lot to worry?

S: Well that dude that stitched his head up. Cause hum, Greg had AIDS. And he didn't know it, he didn't use gloves or anything so.

I: Ok

S: But, and like they use needles, they could accidently poke theirselves.

I: Ok. Is there anyone else that has a lot to worry about?

S: Most things, like most contact sports probably. Where someone else would be bleeding. Or even people that are near animals like veterinarians and stuff.

I: Why would veterinarians or people around animals worry?

S: The animal could have AIDS and they'd be using needles or the animal could bite them or something.

I: (Yes)

S: Be like that.

I: Ok. When can people stop worrying about the AIDS virus at all?

S: Never probably.

I: Why not.

S: Until they find a cure but I mean, you always got to be worried about somebody else having AIDS. But I mean you keep your self healthy and stay away from other peoples blood or what ever and have, either have safe sex or no sex. You won't really have nothing to worry about.

I: Do you think people are making too big of a deal out of the AIDS virus?

S: Not really cause some people don't understand, I mean they don't tell enough about it for people. They just think well like kissing some body you catch AIDS.

I: (Yes)

S: But they told more about it then people wouldn't be so explode so much about it.

I: Ok. Where have you learned about the AIDS virus?

S: Hum, from school like that.

I: Ok. What things do they skip about AIDS in health classes at school?

S: Hum. How you could really, I mean how you could really catch it. They'll say you can't. They'll tell you what you can't catch it from, or what you can, but they won't be like detailed about it.
They'll just say, they won't like mention about, most people think you can catch it from kissing but they'll probably just say no and won't explain it or whatever. They usually don't get into, some teachers don't like to get into the sex part cause, you know, kids like to act up about that part, but. So they don't really, they don't get detailed in it. They just explain what AIDS is, and mostly what it does once it gets in you. That's about it.

I: Ok. Hum, do you think you know enough about the AIDS virus to protect yourself from it?

S: Not really, but I know like the basics, like the sex part. About the people's blood.

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

S: Probably. Yeah.

I: Like what kinds of things?

S: Like the whole [inaudible] about it like you know what I mean how you get it and the symptoms, more about the symptoms and what it actually do to your body and like the average period you got to live.

I: (Yes)

S: You know the basics, I mean detailed about it like. How you actually get it from sexually transmitted diseases, sexually transmission. Like how it really develops from that.

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

S: What does that tell me?

I: Yeah

S: It's like, it's a two stage disease or whatever. How you get the HIV part first and then it builds into AIDS.

I: (Yes) And what does safe sex mean?

S: Safe sex.

I: (Yes)

S: Some people would say it's using protection but, safe sex is really no sex.

I: Ok

S: So, that's no sex.

I: Ok. And can you tell me more about condoms. You mentioned male and female condoms. Ah, do you know what the safest condoms to use for protection against AIDS are?

S: There aren't any.

I: Ok
S: I don't think there's any. I mean any brand more special than the other that will protect you.

I: So they are all pretty much the same?

S: Yeah

I: Is it the, are the, I know the male and female condoms aren't constructed the same way but would they provide the same amount of protection from a person getting the AIDS virus?

S: Yeah, probably is, but they ain't going to protect them from getting AIDS. It might lower the risk of them getting AIDS, but I don't think it would protect them from it.

I: Hum, why don't, why do you say it's not really protecting them?

S: Cause, well most people would say like the hole in a condom is as big as a swimming pool and the AIDS virus is the size of a basketball so, it's so small and so there is holes in a condom so and the AIDS virus just can get through there I guess. The HIV or whatever.

I: Ok. What else do condoms protect you against?

S: Sexually transmitted diseases.

I: Ok. Like what?

S: Like syphilis, herpes, gonorrhea.

I: (Yes)

S: That about it.

I: Do they protect you against anything else?

S: Pregnancy. Not really but, you can still get pregnant by using the condom but it lowers the risk.

I: Ok. And what does IV drug use mean?

S: Hum. It's like using a needle through your vains.

I: (Yes)

S: Shooting drugs through your arms.

I: Ok. Do you think needles can be cleaned?

S: They can be after they've been used?

I: That's what I am asking you. Can they?

S: No. Once they are used they're dirty. So, only way to clean is when you first use them. But after that they are dirty.

I: Ok