TAPE 69

I: Okay, so I will read the instructions from the paper. I have to you know [inaudible] [inaudible]. Um, in this interview I will ask you to talk about AIDS. And 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 to the next one. Uh, you can also ask me to stop the interview at any time. Um, in the interview you will be asked to talk about everything you know about AIDS. Um, I will first ask you to tell me everything you know about AIDS and then I will ask you uh some more specific questions. Um, it's possible that I ask you the same question repeatedly and I do this to make sure that you tell me everything you know and to make sure that I understand everything you're saying. Um, please don't worry about whether your answers are right or not. Uh, just tell me everything you know that comes to mind.

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

S: Well. [interruption by an outside source]

I: Do you want me to ask it again?

S: Nah. What I know about AIDS is uh sexually transmitted disease uh it's it's it's it's curable but not curable to the human body like the intestinal um like other things where they can't use it on the human new body. Like they say Clorox can cure it but they can't put Clorox in the human body cause it kills the human body in the way it goes. That's about how much I know. It's contracted by like shooting like needles, like like sexually transmitted disease like you see uh one blood stream to another blood stream, that's how you can, gets contracted. Like drugs, um safe sex and all that stuff. That's about how much I know about it.

I: Anything else?

S: That's it.

I: Okay. Um, can you tell me more about how the AIDS virus is passed on from one person to another?

S: Dirty needles, unsafe sex, that's about all I know [inaudible]

I: [inaudible]? Nothing else?

S: [inaudible]. It can't be her-, heredity...like mother havin' it. It'd be hereditary. That's all I know about.

I: Okay. Um, you told me that um so you told me that the AIDS virus is passed on when you use dirty needles. Can you tell me more about that? How that works?

S: I I I don't do it personally but you know...

I: No. No. No. Not what you do but you know what how you think it...

S: Oh, one person who usin' it in their blood be injected into someone else's blood. That's how...it's...dirty needle. I mean, it ain't dirty I mean it's clean, but once it hits their skin it's it's contaminated with their blood. But someone else was goin' use it, I guess it just keeps goin'.

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I: Okay.

S: Down and out the person who has it, [inaudible] person one person would have AIDS and the next person catch HIV [inaudible] it's a virus and [inaudible] [inaudible]

I: Okay. And um...so um does it matter how often a person uses dirty needles?

S: No, [inaudible] person contract the [inaudible], once it hits your skin, breaks through your skin to your blood, it's injected into I mean now AIDS victim.

I: Yeah.

S: So [inaudible] [inaudible] do with it.

I: Um, can you also tell me about how a person may be able to prevent like...can you tell me how a person can prevent getting the AIDS virus if they are using dirty needles?

S: I think they can't.

I: Yeah?

S: Only way you can prevent it, don't use it period. I mean, I don't know, you you want to try prevent not getting AIDS, common sense [inaudible] needle [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: I'm sorry.

S: [inaudible] [inaudible] needle know what I'm saying? He contaminated needle. [inaudible] blood on there. [inaudible] needle [inaudible] you know [inaudible] worse and he might not even have AIDS virus. I contract it myself by myself. [inaudible] [inaudible] first person you might not know [inaudible] [inaudible] AIDS virus. Other person use it, second person might end up with it.

I: Okay. Um, um...do you think uh no wait. Sorry. [inaudible] [inaudible]. Um, what do you think um may lead a person to use dirty needles?

S: Person really really need it bad, I mean. Person really strung out on drugs and another person only got one needle, nine times out of ten, [inaudible] a person wouldn't want to carry his drug needle and [inaudible] ask the man [inaudible] [inaudible] that's a dirty needle you understand [inaudible] inject myself with that needle [inaudible] [inaudible] gonna catch catch AIDS. Most people nine times out of ten [inaudible] [inaudible]. Really strung out on that drug you don't really care what happens. Even if they die, they don't care as long as they get that rush in their body.

I: Okay. Um, what are the kind of things that uh may mess up a person's plans not to share needles? [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible].

S: Oh, I mean you mean they found out how AIDS is contracted [inaudible], they think twice about using other needles [inaudible] used.

I: Mm-hum.

S: [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] you know, [inaudible] [inaudible] she got AIDS or not. Something to think [inaudible] [inaudible].
I: Okay. Um, you also told me that uh the AIDS virus is passed on when you have unsafe sex. Can you tell me more about that?

S: Oh...most [inaudible] most people like...I don't know if [inaudible] explain it understand? But uh, nine times ten there's somebody who who who will know, I I I don't know how how to contract it it it a young gay like that but but [inaudible] older, somebody younger, somebody you know [inaudible] might say I was somebody else, never know I mean. They can contract sometimes [inaudible] [inaudible] somebody who think they think somebody they don't even know a lady that [inaudible] husband three years had AIDS, you don't know about it.

I: Mm-hum.

S: Sometimes I you know you never know who has AIDS. You think she the nicest person in the world, [inaudible] [inaudible] she got AIDS. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] since then.

I: Mm. Can you do you know how it it is passed on from one person to another [inaudible] when you have unsafe sex?

S: Oh, uh. Um, sperm. So I guess [inaudible]. [inaudible] time to pass through any way.

I: Um, does it matter how often a person has unsafe sex?

S: You the first time you have [inaudible] you got AIDS. I mean, unsafe sex is the first time you do it with somebody who's unprotected when they had AIDS [inaudible] [inaudible]. You can't you can't go wash yourself off [inaudible] clinic [inaudible] [inaudible] in your bloodstream.

I: Okay. Um, can you tell me how a person can be can prevent uh themselves from getting the AIDS virus, if they are having unprotected uh unsafe sex?

S: Oh. Um, use a condom.

I: Yeah.

S: That one of those ways to use a condom. Other people say, well use a condom? That's the best way I know.

I: Anything else?

S: Protect you really from [inaudible] wear a condom. Nine times, nine percent or uh, really condoms are a safe really.

I: I'm sorry?

S: Condoms [inaudible] all that [inaudible] ninety-nine percent [inaudible], where they say [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Okay. So, um so do you do you think that using a condom would really protect them from...?
S: That that say. Know what I'm saying? Most people you know [inaudible] at this
[inaudible] well they did have a condom on and boom they [inaudible] baby know what I'm
saying? Like a baby appears know what I'm saying? Well if I had a condom on know what
I'm saying? Never even put on a condom. [inaudible] [inaudible] everything everything
instead [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Okay. Uh, what do you think may lead a person to have unsafe sex?

S: If he if he...husband and wife like he he say to his wife know what I'm saying? After she
my wife now, she been told that something happens, she never know if ... most people don't
even know they had AIDS theyselves, 'tll they find out test for it. [inaudible] [inaudible]

I: Um, um how do you think it would also work that way for unmarried people?

S: [inaudible] , I mean nowadays people are actually really bright [inaudible] [inaudible] I
mean...I I don't know, mean. Most people nowadays try try to use protection but sometimes
they don't [inaudible] [inaudible] have sex they rushing through.

I: Okay. Um, what are the kind of...

(Interruption by somebody)

I: Um, what are the kind of things that you think may mess up a person's plan not to have
uh uh unsafe sex?

S: (silence)

I: [inaudible] the question. Do you want me to repeat it?

S: You repeat it. (laughs)

I: (Laughs) [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] mumbling a little bit. Um, what other kind of
things that may mess up a person's plans not to have sex? In other words, what would be
on someone's mind so...

S: [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] unsafe sex.

I: I'm sorry?

S: You tryin' to say in other words [inaudible] [inaudible] married and not havin' safe sex.

I: Yeah, yeah. They're planning to have safe sex but they they don't because
they're...something messes up their plans. What what what do you think...

S: I don't know, I mean. Person wanted to practice safe sex uh [inaudible] saying he might
not do it to [inaudible] you know [inaudible] right protection. I don't know, might change it
around a little bit. [inaudible] [inaudible] AIDS or some other kind of disease. [inaudible]
[inaudible] [inaudible]

[interuption in tape]

I: Um, you also told me that um the AIDS virus can be passed on through uh what did you
call it, hereditary [inaudible] ?
S: Yeah, hereditary.

I: Okay. Um, [inaudible] not American so I'm (laughs) not used to the language [inaudible]. Um, so can so can you tell me more about that?

S: Well I I don't know if it's hereditary but uh it might you see uh like somebody who had whose father who had contracted AIDS [inaudible] [inaudible] passed it to the lady and they had made a baby, might be passed through the genes. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] TV show I was [inaudible] [inaudible] started at [inaudible][inaudible]. I think it was hereditary to be passed on from the parents.

I: Okay. Um, can you tell me more how about how a person may be able to prevent [inaudible] that this happens?

S: (silence) I mean I haven't [inaudible] at all if you know you have AIDS, you [inaudible] sex at all. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible]

I: Mm-Hum. Okay. Um...what what effect uh does alcohol have on people?

S: Oh, uh alcohol really...I saw a lot of things do have like eight [inaudible] [inaudible] transmitted to other diseases like [inaudible] [inaudible] get drunk you know [inaudible][inaudible] gray [inaudible] and they want to go be with her and she don't know who it is like [inaudible] she [inaudible] drunk like four guys and one girl [inaudible] [inaudible] one of those guys might have diseases or AIDS or she might happen to have AIDS herself [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Okay. Um, so does drinking make much of a difference in a person's risk of getting AIDS?

S: Yeah, cause you you [inaudible] [inaudible] I'm havin' sex with somebody I don't even know one night.

I: Okay. Um, is this uh different for people who drink regularly and people who drink who binge drink like only...

S: Well people who like drink at a party and if you would drink at their home.

I: Yeah.

S: Like people at a home gotta got a better chance of not catching AIDS really cause they I mean they at home occasionally like me at home drinking like some gin or something, I mean, nine times out of ten, activity I mean nobody be like havin' that much. But in the street somebody drinkin' get to the point [inaudible] do something dumb. Carry on. [inaudible] [inaudible] AIDS on the street [inaudible] [inaudible] street.

I: Um, do you think uh it matters how often a person gets in touch with the aids virus?

S: What you mean? Like touch somebody with the AIDS virus like [inaudible] [inaudible]

I: Um, the do you think it matters um how often a person uh...uh gets in contact with the AIDS virus [inaudible] [inaudible] the virus. Do you understand what I mean?

S: [inaudible].
I: No, maybe I should...if you don't understand the question that means that we should change the question. (laughs) That's why we are doing these interviews to find out if we you know are asking the [inaudible] [inaudible] in the right way. So, I'll just skip it. Um, can you tell me what happens when a person gets the AIDS virus?

S: (silence) I don't know. I can't explain it. [inaudible] [inaudible] I would say that someone would feel like is like uh different. At first, it it [inaudible] made a person who had who get the AIDS from and then they'll think I I don't know [inaudible] whole new life, whole new [inaudible] of life [inaudible] you know most people who have got AIDS just carry on don't care what's goin out no more understand. They die anyway, don't care [inaudible] [inaudible]. Most people would try to understand it, to have someone help prevent other people from getting' AIDS like they messed up. Nine times out of ten, [inaudible] people don't [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Um, can you tell me about what happens then when a person gets AIDS?

S: Person gets AIDS?

I: Yeah.

S: Person gets the AIDS...they'll feel upset the first time usually. It it'll be a big shock for him, might say you got AIDS [inaudible]. [inaudible] person with had it, you know what I'm saying was safe and you just knew about it you wondered who maybe do that?

I: Mm-Hum.

S: And...basically about it. I mean people I mean it hurt me down inside if we got a disease now I mean it don't take the fun out of you live anymore, say you you know you gonna die. I mean you still you still gonna do the normal things but you can't...do the things you did before, like...I mean AIDS [inaudible] [inaudible]some people let themselves go and get weak. Some people try to keep theirselves alive longer [inaudible] go. Live a normal life.

I: Um, um wait. So can you repeat that last part again?

S: Oh, some people try try bein' [inaudible] best person best that they could be [inaudible] none of this AIDS bring 'em down, like they got got a disease, understand it. This is in my life, they don't try to [inaudible] time goes on.

I: Okay. I didn't really understand you. Um, is there um any way some one can learn whether he or she has the AIDS virus?

S: Oh go to a I mean [inaudible] tryin' to say is that you only know to a certain knowledge that [inaudible] [inaudible] most people like go to the clinic and try check yourself out. If something happened to the person who had the [inaudible] [inaudible] before he died of AIDS and [inaudible] [inaudible] go to the clinic check myself out or something like. Most people some people check theirselves out some people don't they wait too long extended time, then finally do something about it it's just too late.

I: Can you do something about it?

S: Not really. Nothing much to do about it. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Um, do you know um when when you go to a clinic and have yourself checked out, do you what what they check for? How they test?
S: I never had AIDS I don't know. Couple kids told me they had AIDS testing [inaudible] take blood from your your body, that's about it. Takin' a shot. That's about all I know.

I: Okay. So, um so you don't know what they test for in the blood?

S: I think it's a certain type of virus or something.

I: Okay. Um, why don't why why do you think would someone decide to be tested?

S: Make sure, most people want to make sure you understand that some people like [inaudible] [inaudible] safe sex and they be wondering understand at a party [inaudible] [inaudible] sex with someone unprotected and they're wondering like what if that person had AIDS? [inaudible] [inaudible] clean. Check it out.

I: Um, uh what would make think that a person has the AIDS virus?

S: (silence) I don't know [inaudible] person I mean...I can't you can't really see it AIDS with somebody [inaudible] [inaudible] they they you can tell somebody hurt [inaudible] [inaudible] what's wrong [inaudible] under depression or something, but you can't really tell about their AIDS unless you like see them real weak at home there or something [inaudible] in bed, just can't move. [inaudible] tell somebody got got's something wrong with them. And you never know AIDS comes different ways, cripple you, [inaudible] [inaudible] all types of ways [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Yeah. Um, what what kind what kinds of people have a lot uh a lot to worry from AIDS? About AIDS?

S: [inaudible] disease, that's all. Uh worry about. Unless you get infected with the disease, it's like somebody having [inaudible], who else gotta have an infected disease [inaudible] [inaudible]? [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Um, when can people stop worrying about AIDS [inaudible]?

S: Never, I mean, [inaudible] um the disease goes on and on, can't be stopped.

I: Mm-hum.

S: [inaudible] [inaudible] goes on and on [inaudible]. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible].

I: Um, do you think people are making too big a deal of AIDS?

S: (silence) Some some people some people do and some people don't some people...um nah, not really [inaudible] making a big deal of AIDS they just...they just feel AIDS [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible]. AIDS [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] be around. [inaudible] you just shake somebody's hand and like Magic Johnson, you just shake his hand and all that you never know uh I mean you can't catch it like that some people nowadays they like you close to somebody with AIDS you you can contract it cause you close to them. Breathing. You can't catch AIDS like that. AIDS [inaudible] transmitted like that you're breathing, breathing ain't nothin' [inaudible] touch [inaudible] you got a cut you got a cut [inaudible].

I: Um, uh where have you learned about AIDS?
S: Mainly health class.

I: At school?

S: Uh-huh (yes). At school, like...people like come right [inaudible] neighborhood like they'll pass out brochure [inaudible] [inaudible] and stuff [inaudible] cops [inaudible] too.

I: Um, what things do you think they skip in [inaudible] oh in health class at school?

S: Nothin'. I mean some [inaudible] [inaudible] I'm not gonna [inaudible] to tell you [inaudible] no lie [inaudible] [inaudible] and stuff.

I: Okay. Um, do you think you know enough about AIDS to protect yourself from it?

S: Nah, I don't know too much. I know I don't want to have sex with no [inaudible] protection. [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] that's about it. I know enough to help me goin' around [inaudible] and avoid it, yeah.

I: Okay, (tape was stopped and restarted. Part of question was cut off) like to know more about?

S: I mean , I I don't think I know everything but [inaudible] I know enough where I know [inaudible] what to do like come down [inaudible] come to a point [inaudible] [inaudible] safe sex comes first.

I: Mm-hum. Um, do you think um it really matters whether AIDS is caused by a virus or not?

S: Could you repeat that question again?

I: Um, does it really matter that AIDS is caused by a virus?

S: No, it doesn' t matter is AIDS AIDS is caused I don't care there's people really [inaudible] [inaudible] care about it. It's shame is that a virus [inaudible] [inaudible] build itself up to to HIV and it carried on and on until you die.

I: Um, this this question next question maybe uh a little bit difficult but I wan t to ask it anyway, you know if I put it in the right words. If you don't understand, I'll go home and work on it and make it better. (laughs). Um, suppose there is a new disease and all you know is that it is caused by a virus and so when you know that what information can you refer from this about the transmission of the disease?

S: Oh, transmission?

I: So how it's passed on from one person to another.

S: Oh yeah, I mean watch out for them [inaudible] how you say transmission [inaudible] that new disease I mean I don't think it's new but I mean the disease [inaudible] two college kids killed one and had one in the hospital...that disease [inaudible] told concern , vomiting like like you know like [inaudible] [inaudible] you know [inaudible] [inaudible] days they go and [inaudible] you know [inaudible] something wrong.

I: Yeah.
S: [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] phase you'll go through [inaudible] [inaudible] disease. Sometimes it better to check [inaudible] [inaudible] make sure.

I: Um, um, what what does the phrase safe sex mean to you, mean to you?

S: Use a condom.

I: Okay. Anything else?

S: Oh, not havin' sex either.

I: Anything else or...? Okay. Um, can you tell me more about what condoms you should use to or people should use to protect themselves?

S: What condoms?

I: Yeah.

S: There's all types of condoms.

I: Uh-huh. is one type better than the other?

S: [inaudible] they aren't all 100% um pure than [inaudible] [inaudible] tell which one is safe and which one is not safe, so you're never too sure.

I: Okay. Um, what else do condoms help protect you against?

S: Other than...

I: Other than AIDS.

S: Other diseases. [inaudible] type of disease by transmitted...protect you from them. I mean it [inaudible] protect from [inaudible] AIDS it protect [inaudible] other types...

I: Um, what does IV drug use mean? The the the phrase.

S: IV?

I: in in a intraven...using a needle to [inaudible] need drugs.

S: [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible]

I: Um, okay, well no I'll skip the I'll just skip the question (laughs). I'll I'll I'll um I'll think about that one. Um, we we we just this this is a new list of questions we are using for the first time now, so some questions are really um not clear enough so I'll...let's just skip that one. Um, um some some brochures say that um IV drug users, people who use clean needles. But this is not my question. Uh, do you think uh needles can be cleaned from HIV or AIDS?

S: No. Needles can't be cleaned I mean. Not that I know of, I mean. Might be [inaudible] once needles used it shouldn't be [inaudible] used over or cleaned again. [inaudible] [inaudible] try to [inaudible] [inaudible] use try to use it again. [inaudible] [inaudible] no good something might [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible] [inaudible]
I: [inaudible] [inaudible] clean it?
I: Um, Alright that's it.