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 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. You don't have to talk about yourself or your behavior. No one else will hear the tape but myself and we will not be reporting to the people here what you said.

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

S: It's a, it can be a sexually transmitted disease but, you can get it by needles, blood transfusions, and cuts and things like that.

I: Anything else?

S: It's a deadly disease, it's most commonly, you can most commonly get it by sex.

I: Can you tell me any more about how AIDS is passed on from one person to another. How it is spread?

S: Like I said, ah, blood transfusions, cuts, and through sex.

I: Ok. You told me that AIDS is passed on when you use needles. Can you tell me more about that?

S: Like if ah, you share a drug needle, it can be spread that way. Well if the needle is not cleaned you can get it that way.

I: And what about sex? How is AIDS passed on through sex?

S: If ah, you are just not protected. Hum.....

I: Ok. What about cuts, you said it is also passed on through cuts?

S: Oh, if two people have a cut and the two cuts rub together the blood will mix and you can get AIDS that way.

I: Ok. And what about the blood transfusion? You mentioned blood transfusions, can you tell me any more about that. How AIDS is passed on through...

S: Ah. If the doctor, he uses some blood type, the doctor doesn't use the right blood type. I think, it's that way.

I: You said blood type?

S: I think, I'm not sure.

I: Does it matter how often a person would have sex or get a blood transfusion or share needles?
S: (No)

I: Imagine that a person would share needles only once, what happens to a person's risk of getting AIDS if they share needles many times?

S: It just increases more and more as you use that, as you keep sharing the needle.

I: Can you tell me how a person can prevent getting AIDS if they are sharing needles or having unprotected sex?

S: Really just to stop both.

I: Is there anything, well, what do you think may lead a person to share needles, or have unprotected sex?

S: Peer pressure, mostly peer pressure.

I: Imagine that a person goes out planning not to share needles, or have unprotected sex. What do you think may mess up their plans not to do that?

S: Hum, your friend, their friend could talk them into it.

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

S: Hum, alcohol, if you have too much it can make a person really not think about what they are doing and often time it leads to bad results.

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

S: Ah, I don't think so. Well, I'm not sure.

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

S: (No)

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

S: They'll get a lesion somewhere in their body. They'll begin to grow weak. Have things like cold like symptoms, hum, and they'll, you can see that, it looks like they're slowly dying.

I: Ok. Can you tell me about what happens when a person develops AIDS?

S: They just, well some people want to think that they might as well not do anything at all so mope around cause they know that they are going to die. That's about it.

I: How can someone learn whether he or she has AIDS?

S: Hum, you can go to a clinic, a doctor. Things like that.

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

S: Hum, the lesions, sores, ah, ...I don't know.

I: What kinds of people have a lot to worry about from AIDS?
S: Mostly people who are on drugs, who have sex a lot. Things like that.

I: When can people stop worrying about AIDS?

S: Hum, if they can stop having sex and doing drugs and things like that, they don't have anything to worry about.

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

S: No.

I: Why is that?

S: Hum, cause there are still some people that really don't think, take it seriously as a deadly disease. And that is something that is killing people.

I: Ok. Where have you learn about AIDS?

S: Hum, school, television. My mom.

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

S: I'm really not sure.

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

S: Yeah. Yeah.

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

S: Hum, if there is other ways that it's trans, that you can get it. That's something else.

I: Other, other what?

S: Other ways that you can get it.

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

S: That hum, it's just one of the many viruses that are HIV.

I: What does safe sex mean?

S: Really I don't, the only safe sex is to have no sex at all. They say condoms work but there, it's a chance, it's not 100%.

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

S: I really don't think that there is any safe condoms out.

I: What else do condoms protect you against.

S: They say pregnancy and other vir...and other diseases that are HIV.
I: What does IV drug use mean?
S: I'm not sure, I'm not sure.
I: Do you think needles can be cleaned?
S: Yes.
I: Do you know how the needles can be cleaned?
S: No. I'm not.
I: Ok.