

APPENDIX E

INTERVIEW TWO WITH LIZ

Date: June 3rd 2014.

Time: 11:53

Venue: Quiet Office.

Member checked on: June 12th 2014.

Liz sits down and gets ready for the second interview. Researcher recaps the last interview, including the specific topics covered within the Sexuality and Sexual Health strand of the HFLE curriculum.

R: Ok thank you for coming in today. We will continue our interview based upon the last session we had where we discussed Sexuality and Sexual Health. Ok? So let us begin with the first question.

(Liz nods that she is ready)

R: What are some problems or challenges that you experienced in obtaining information about Sexuality and Sexual health topics?

L: Challenges like, how to get it?

R: yes challenges in trying to get information about these topics.

L: Well, one, you kinda feel uncomfortable asking people about it. So people wouldn't really talk to you about it, to say, that they would feel uncomfortable talking to you about it. And...you have to be very lucky to hear your friend talking about it, to say how their experiences...or even open up and tell you about it. So it is real hard to get information...even...especially, if you kinda shy kinda way? You mightn't even get information. You might just get a clue. It wouldn't be too much. like to know what sexual intercourse is and stuff.

R: Ok so, you are saying sometimes the topic itself may be...

L: Uncomfortable.

R: Uncomfortable for you to discuss?

L: Um hmm.

R: Why is it uncomfortable?

L: (looking exasperated at having to explain) Because is about your private part area, conception and...is just going in depth. How you was born, mood swings in order to get sexually active. You have to ask these awkward questions just to go in to find out about sexual activity.

R: Ok, so this leads into the next question. Why do you think it is difficult to get information about these topics?

L: Hmm! I guess is how we been grown up? How we have been grown up since small. You know we parents never really talk about private parts and tell we...they wouldn't just speak up and tell you. Yea they wouldn't just come and tell you. It real hard to get it because parents shy. People wouldn't tell a stranger about dem kinda ting.

Comment [AG1]: culture

R: Ok.

L: It would be very awkward and disrespectful. Now people would see that as disrespectful. whereas you just wanna find out what going on.

Comment [AG2]: culture

R: Right.

L: But, you cyah just go and ask somebody what going on. Reading on the internet, or in a book is one thing.

R: Right.

L: But the next thing you need is for somebody to explain it. No matter how much you try to get an explanation in a book, somebody still need to come and sit down and talk to a person to know what really going on. To be honest, when I first hear about these topics like sexual intercourse and stuff connected to it, I didn't really understand it. You see, I was like yea ok, because I really wanted to cut the story short, but to me, I really wanted to know more about it. Then I have a friend. She well, she big enough. Sometimes I lime with the more mature adults. They know more about people and they talk about these stuff, but within a group. They wouldn't just start and say, "hi, do you want to know about sex?" They wouldn't just jump and tell you about that. That would be very awkward and disrespectful.

R: Are you saying that it may come up in a discussion?

L: Yea, as a group you know?

R: Ok.

L: Mostly over alcohol, when they drinking, people tend to talk stupidness and they end up talking their business, and you just sit down and listen to them. You kinda get an idea, and a proper understanding about it? Knowing what to do? And to be safe. And what outside dey! So you see like in a conversation, you hear them say, "You hear she get AIDS? You know why? Cos she didn't use protection"

R: Ohhhh.

L: And they talk and say, "Just now she go dead. You ent see how skinny she getting?" And you learn the symptoms of AIDS, how you get skinny and what not nah? (looks thoughtful). Tv also helps eh.

(Liz learnt about AIDS from TV).

L: You mustn't discriminate against people. And you can know a lot by just observing your surroundings.

(Researcher looks confused, so Liz explains herself further)

L: Once you observe your surroundings you can learn a lot.

R: The surroundings you talking about...is it that you are talking about the people you interact with?

L: Yea, people you interact with or simply the TV, or just watching somebody.

R: Um hmm?

L: Trying to figure them out. Watch their ways and what they doing, and you, depending on your age bracket, supposed to know what is right from wrong.

R: Ok (pauses trying to understand what Liz is attempting to explain). Alright.

(Here Liz is referring to watching a person's behaviour to see if they are doing the appropriate actions that would not get them into trouble)

R: Ok, let's move on to the next question. Who are you most comfortable discussing Sexuality and Sexual Health topics with?

(Liz laughs)

L: In my family nobody. No body at all!

R: You want to explain why?

L: Cos! Mummy! Mummy....Well I have a single parent family. Although I have a step father, I would definitely NOT go to talk to my step father about these things.

R: Right.

L: Ummm...my mummy, she really, yuh know, she busy sometimes but she kinda on the shy side as well. She wouldn't come and talk. She might quicker bring a brochure when she come from the clinic. But as I said before, you would not fully understand something by just reading. You need somebody to explain what going on. Umm, I used to feel comfortable with my aunt and when I realised she used to tell Mummy, and mummy used to get kinda jealous. I decided, nah boy, I not doing that again.

R: Ohhh.

L: So I have a friend and she talks. Yea yea whatever. But to be honest, nobody.

R: Nobody in the family?

L: Nobody in the family, but my friend. I would talk to my friend about it.

R: So you feel comfortable talking to your friend?

L: Yea.

R: Around what age is your friend?

L: ummm..15? 16.

R: So she is about your age group?

L: Yea, but I also have other friends like in track and field, where I meet older people who are friends and they warn you about stuff like to be protective and you can come and talk to them about anything. But you cyah just tell anybody something, no matter how long you know them. Next thing they spill something about you. Then the whole...especially in the stadium. You can tell someone something, and then the whole stadium, different clubs know about you. Yea

R: So...trust and confidentiality with the person you are talking to, is important when discussing these kinds of topics?

L: Um hmmm....it very important. You need to know the person before you look to go and say aye, and tell him all your business. Knowing that they have social sites now, they can post things about you.

R: Right....

L: Then they will tell everybody and everybody watching you different. Is all about having a good character, and they can twist words that you didn't even mean to say, but they making it sound so bad, that you do things. Just questioning about it, and they thinking, "Why she question me about that? Maybe she doing it? She doing stuff now! She big!" Now if that get to a boy ears, they might get to thinking they could push theyself on yuh...and that could cause rape, sexual abuse....all these other stuff...Yea. Worse yet if it come to your parents! Yuh in trouble.

Comment [AG3]: breach of confidentiality

R: Oh so you saying like if the news about you asking about information gets back to your parents...

L: Yea

R: you will get in trouble with your parents? That is something you don't want?

L: No you don't want that.

R: you don't want to let your parents know that you're asking these questions?

L: Yea cos then your parents up to say, "What you asking these questions for? You want to do it?"

R: Ohhhh...

L: And yuh know

R: Ok so you're sorta afraid that they find out because then they will get the wrong impression?

L: Yea, yea.

Comment [AG4]: Afraid to be judged by others

R: Alright good. Ok. So let me ask you another question. The person you said you are comfortable talking to about these topics, this is your friend. Do you think that the information she gives you about these topics is accurate?

Comment [AG5]: Afraid of being judged by parent

L: not all the time.

R: But you trust her?

L: Yea, but not all the time what ever she say is ...well you wanna look it up to make sure it making sense.

R: Ok, so you back up your information from her by...checking on books or....

L: Well sometimes I...well my aunt is a doctor so I ask her for a hint. But I don't make it sound like I asking for me....I say something like "I have this thing for a project, what you have to do?"

R: Right.

L: Yuh understand? You don't want them to know, because parents now would think...teenage pregnancy is like a big issue now. They go think you wanna do "that thing". not knowing you just want to find out how to be safe.

R: Ohhh...

L: Yea

R: Yes....I could see that. (pause). Ok. So who would you be uncomfortable discussing Sexuality and Sexual Health topics with?

L: Male family members I might ease up on my mommy. Yea I can tell my mommy anything...but just that I have to explain why I am asking her that so that she wouldn't get the wrong idea. You see the male people in my family, I wouldn't talk to any of them. But you see any females, girls, even a female teacher I could trust them. Maybe some male teachers in the school, I could talk to. Like male teachers who you know, like Science teachers. You could talk to them and they would understand.

Comment [AG6]: She finds it embarrassing to talk to male family members about some SSH topics

R: Right.

L: Once you know you on a good level with them and they wouldn't go and tell the staff and everybody.

R: Oh yes.

L: Once they don't go and tell the staff what going on?...

R: Again confidentiality.

L: You need to have that kinda trust, before you open your mouth to say anything.

R: Ok but I know you mentioned your mom was a little shy? So would you be uncomfortable talking to her about some things as well?

L: yea, but I have to mellow she down, butter she up a little, yuh know, before talking these things with her. Say something like, well we have to talk about this yuh know.

R: Um hmm

L: It awkward for me too eh, but we still have to talk it.

R: you want to talk about why you might be unsure to talk to her about some of these things? Why you would be hesitant?

L: Cos she will back out! She kinda funny. She don't like to talk about body parts and dem kinda ting. But you know when we sick, she dey one time!

R: Ok

L: Yuh know! If we have we period or something, she dey one time! She know what to do, but just she don't like to talk about it.

R: Ohhh

L: She know what to tell you and what not. But she don't want to talk about it.

R: Ok I understand. But definitely not male family members.

L: NO! Definitely not!

R: So uncles, brothers.

L: Uh uh....no.

R: Because?

L: They are male!

R: So what?

L: You don't want to hear your brother talking about private parts! That is just off!! NO!!

Comment [AG7]: embarrassing

(Liz starts to laugh and so too does the researcher)

R: So ok you would not talk to a male family member.

L: uh uh.

R: Cos its embarrassing to you is that it?

L: Yea it is embarrassing.

R: But would you talk to a male doctor maybe?

L: Yes. Yes I would because he is a professional. He would know what he doing!

R: He would know what he's doing. Ok. So is not really that it is "Male" its just that it is a relative that is embarrassing.

L: Yes, especially if it is a family member.

R: alright, I understand. So tell me, how comfortable are you discussing sexuality and sexual health topics openly with other people?

L: Well now,...before when I was younger I was fragile, and I didn't want to know about those things, ewww! Then I started growing out of it, watching the news and seeing that people are very unaware of what is going on. The best way is to just have a simple

conversation about it. I educate myself more to help them understand. I feel comfortable talking to anybody once they ask. I wouldn't say, aye you wanna talk about sex?

R: Ok but what about if you want to ask questions? You can help others by discussing it if they ask you, but what if you don't know and you want to ask? How comfortable are you with that?

(Liz pauses before responding)

L: It...it varies, depending on what the question is.

R: Say you wanna ask about a topic like contraception. Say you wanna ask someone about that?

L: If I don't know the word "contraception" and I ask them, is that embarrassing? I wouldn't be that embarrassed or shy.

R: Um hmm

L: but I would not go and ask about something like "sex positions." That would be awkward! Yea it have a level of questions that I can ask about. But is the same person I trust, I will ask that question to.

R: Right, ok great. So you are saying you can talk openly with people you trust.

L: Unless it's a teacher and they teach it in class, I would be like, excuse me miss I do not understand. Then I wouldn't have no awkwardness, and I thinking that she is thinking what I want to know that for.

R: So the judgement factor, does it bother you in some way?

L: Yea, sometimes.

R: It depends on the person?

L: Yea it depends on the person.

R: Ok, last question. Tell me in your opinion, how would you prefer to learn about Sexuality and Sexual Health topics?

L: By somebody talking.

R: Can you give an example?

L: Ummm... you can hear it from your friends in a conversation.

R: But you wanna get reliable information, accurate information. How would you do that?

L: Yea...a lecturer.

R: A lecturer coming....

L: Coming in like a doctor or some foundation. Child line, to talk to children. It would be fun and cool to learn with your friends too. Yea. Mostly from a lecturer coming in to speak to everybody openly, so you wouldn't feel that kinda awkwardness.

R: When you say come in, you mean come into the school?

L: Yea in school.

R: Ok so home is not appropriate?

L: Not really

R: so coming into school is ok?

L: yea, and public places like centres. Holding public meetings and being more aware. So you doing it in the school and in the community as well.

R: That's a good idea. Ok so thank you so very much for your time. I appreciate this little session we had here today and you know whatever you say is confidential and will be used strictly for research.

L: Um hmm.

R: Your identity is confidential.

L: Alright.

(Interview ends)