

# Trascrizione intervista 18 ottobre - Marija

## Relatore 1

First of all, I want to explain to you what we are doing here. We are taking interview for making people analyse and understand the knowledge they have about the safety on walking alone. First of all, I have to ask you if you are a student or a worker.

## Relatore 2

I'm a student.

## Relatore 1

Okay. And how old are you?

## Relatore 2

23.

## Relatore 1

Okay. Where do you live? In the city center or off the city center?

## Relatore 2

I live outside the city center, so right behind the train station.

## Relatore 1

Okay. When you go out, how do you prefer to get around? On walk, on bus...

## Relatore 2

I usually walk and then sometimes I use a bus, not that often. I'm about to get a bike, so hopefully I will not have to walk that much.

## Relatore 1

And this may change depend of the time of the day? I mean, it's day, it's afternoon, it's evening.

## Relatore 2

Well, it doesn't really change depending on the time of day. It changes depending on when are the buses available. So usually now here in Cesena, after 8, there's like one bus and then next one is in the morning. So Yeah, if I would use a bus, it would be during the day.

## Relatore 1

Okay. So do you think the bus is the safest?

## Relatore 2

Here, yeah.

## Relatore 1

Okay. And can you tell us about your typical day, what you do, when you go?

## Relatore 2

Well, I usually have class from 9 until 4. So I leave around 8.30 a.m. to get to class by walk. So that's usually what I do from Monday to Friday. If I would meet my friends, again, I walk to the city center because buses are not available. If there are buses, I would take a bus. Over the weekends, I usually go to the library or I meet up with my friends, usually again, by walking. So yeah, university, friends, library.

## Relatore 1

And do you feel safe when you are with your friends or when you are alone walking?

## Relatore 2

Well, when I'm alone, yes, but depends on where I am. With my friends and if I just have one person with me, I think that does a lot for safety. Maybe it's like psychological. But yeah, I feel safer when there's people around. Here in Cesena, after 7, 8 p.m., the streets are pretty empty. And even if

nothing, it just feels a bit weird to be just alone, empty street, it's dark outside. Is there any life? But yeah, being with people helps me feel a lot safer.

**Relatore 1**

So, do you feel safe even if a group of friends that you don't know are walking on the other side of the street?

**Relatore 2**

Yes. Usually if they're just men, it's a bit of a different feeling. It's usually after in the night that if there's a big group of a male group coming. Nothing has happened, thank God. But, you know, if it's a mixed group, if it's girls, if it's, I don't know, older people, or if it's just guys, I don't know.

**Relatore 1**

Okay. And did you ever refuse to go out because, you know, you have to come alone home walk?

**Relatore 2**

Yes, I have. Not in Cesena because I've lived here such a short time. But previously I lived in Padova, and same problem with public transportation. There'll be trams there though, but it doesn't matter. I did refuse to go out because I would have to walk alone for 45 minutes at 1 a.m. and it's like, I'm not going to do that.

**Relatore 1**

And that's the only reason or other reason you'll say, no, tonight I don't want to go out?

**Relatore 2**

Well, yeah, of course. The reasons are I don't feel like going out, my mood is not for going out, I have other plans. But if it comes down to safety is also a pretty big thing. If I have to walk alone or if it's just me and one girl friend, then I have to walk alone in the dark. It's not really a good choice.

**Relatore 1**

And on a scale of 1 to 5, when 1 is "Not at all a risk" and "Five is very at risk", how do you feel about the safety on the street?

**Relatore 2**

What street?

**Relatore 1**

Yeah, I mean, when you're walking, maybe to go to the library, like you said, or to reach your friends. How do you feel?

**Relatore 2**

Here in Cesena?

**Relatore 1**

Yeah, in general.

**Relatore 2**

I'm sorry, I have a bit of trouble answering this question because it depends on the city where I am.

**Relatore 3**

You can give us different answers based on the cities you have been to.

**Relatore 2**

Can I? I would say I feel a very good 0.5 consistently. Moments where I feel unsafe, it's usually around the train station that I have to pass at night, or the small pass, underpass way. Because you can't really see who's at the end. You don't have a good visual. There are stairs on the side. So, it's, I mean, it's fine, but you know, in general, I would say I feel a 3. Cesena 0.5, but in general a 3. Yeah. Because I don't know if I'm in Milan or if I'm in Berlin, it's a bit different. Yeah.

**Relatore 1**

And you say that when you're walking to go somewhere and you see a group of people, even if mixed people, so boy and girls, you feel safe. The thing is, when you are alone, do you do something like faking a phone call, or something like that?

**Relatore 2**

Yes, I do. I faked phone calls multiple times. I've also sent out my location to people, a lot, and also different people, so then different people know where I am. Although they cannot do anything because they're far away. But still, this year actually I got pepper spray that I always carry with myself at night. Somehow, miraculously though, this year nothing has happened. The times where I didn't have my pepper spray, it was a bit more dangerous. But yeah, I've taken fake measures like that, to feel more safe and to feel more protected.

**Relatore 3**

So, do you think it's only a feeling?

**Relatore 2**

Well, not really, can I share a personal experience?

**Relatore 1**

Yeah, you can do everything you want.

**Relatore 2**

Well, I got in quite a big accident while I was trying to escape from a man when I was going back home. It was in Padova. I was coming back from a party. I was on a bike. And I lived in a very safe area, which is like, I don't know how, it's very safe. It's very residential. It's not behind the train station. It's super central, old people, you know, very good. And very normal. I've come back home alone multiple times before. But then something started to change in the city from 2022.

*\*\*qui l'intervistata entra nei dettagli di una sua esperienza personale, e ci chiede di non trascriverla\*\**

And it's just like one of, I would say, maybe 10 experiences I had similar in Padova. So, I think before moving and in high school, because I come from Macedonia and I live in the capital city. Population is around 6 to 700,000. It's a pretty big city, very dense, a lot of different people, but very safe. I was going out in high school, coming home at 2, 3 a.m., sometimes walking for an hour because of buses, and never had any sort of experience outside of, you know, a guy honking his car or like looking at you. But aside from that, nothing would ever happen. And then I never had that feeling of, oh, I'm unsafe or I need to send my location or I need to fake a phone call or I have to have a pepper spray with me. But after moving to Padova and specifically after 2022, I don't know what happened to the city, but just the men started getting insane. My friends had men while they were biking, trying to grab their hair, trying to pull them off the bike. One time we were in the train station area, but we were going towards the center. It was 8.30 p.m., not that late at night, but it was November, so it was dark, and then this girl approached me and my friend, and she was like, please, like, can we please pretend that you're my friend? friends, like this guy has been following me for so long, please. And we're like, yes, of course, no problem. We turn around. It's the man that had followed my friend and me two months before following her again. When he saw that she was with us, he still kept following all three of us. We've managed to like lose him somehow through like transportation, but...

**Relatore 3**

So even if it's a group of three girls...

**Relatore 1**

Yeah, and I've also approached girls as well when other guys have followed me, like, hey guys, can you, I'm sorry, I just need to be with some people. And then usually when they see a lot of people, they will still follow, but then they will leave. My first day of getting in Padova, I think he was a homeless man. I'm not sure, but I never saw him again in that area. It was very crowded, so a lot of students in the

student area, super crowded. He set his eyes on me and he kept following me for two hours and I could not lose him.

*\*\*altri dettagli personali che non trascriviamo\*\**

Yeah, a lot of not pleasant experiences, but...

**Relatore 3**

I understand.

**Relatore 2**

Yeah. So that's why I said a general three. Also, of course, in bigger cities, when I've traveled and I go quite frequently to Berlin, it's safe until it's very not safe. And I know quite a lot of people who have other friends or roommates who have gotten assaulted in like the park or like a little green area that you pass by to get to your apartment, you know, like the ones there's so many here. So it's, yeah, not that nice.

**Relatore 3**

Okay. Thank you for sharing these experiences.

**Relatore 2**

No problem.

**Relatore 1**

And I don't know if in your country there is something, but have you used or know about something, associations, that can help people like you making, I don't know, some group for making you feel safe?

**Relatore 2**

Not really. There are different NGOs, non-governmental agencies, that work with women who are victim of domestic violence and other sorts of things. But specifically for cases like this, I don't know anything. And I would imagine it would be quite hard to make something like that because the only way to make me feel safe is to remove these men and to not have men like that, to not remove men in general, like remove the crazy men. But I don't know of any organizations or apps or stuff like that.

**Relatore 1**

Okay, not a problem. And another question. On a scale of 1 to 4, it's even now, when 1 is "Strongly disagree" and 4 is "Strongly agree", how much do you agree about this statement: "Riding in a group, even in a small group, make me feel safer"?

**Relatore 2**

Strongly agree.

**Relatore 1**

And when you are alone, somehow, like to escape to a crazy man, do you take a longer route to reach a safe place, instead of running at home and make yourself at risk?

**Relatore 2**

Yeah, I have. I mean, the simple example from the guy in the hotel, so.

**Relatore 1**

And what about sharing a car, not only with your friends, but also a friend of a friend? This makes you feel safer? How do you feel about that?

**Relatore 2**

To ask a friend of a friend to drop me off at home?

**Relatore 1**

Yeah.

**Relatore 2**

Pretty safe. Like a four if you need it.

**Relatore 1**

Okay, and when you accept his help, do you make him drop out right in front of your house or nearby?

**Relatore 2**

Depends on how well I know the person and depends if I know that friend good and if I know my friend pretty well and it's their friend, then I have no problem dropping them off at my house. But if it's kind of like... my classmate at school that I don't really know and their friend is in my direction, I would honestly probably not even accept the right. But if it's a friend of a friend and I like the friend and I know it, then the front of my house.

**Relatore 1**

And how much do you trust the opinion of a friend about a specific person? For example, if your friend talks about his friend and say to you some specific details, how much then you trust that person?

**Relatore 2**

Well, people that I consider my friends and close to me, I trust them. Yeah, so if my boyfriend will give his opinion on some of his friends, I trust him. My other close friends, I trust them too, but I don't know, a person that I don't know that very well, it doesn't really mean that much to me. Yeah.

**Relatore 1**

So If you have to come home and there are other people that are in your same situation, did you feel safe to know that for a portion of street they'll walk with you?

**Relatore 2**

Yes, I mean, it's also quite common, I think, with girls when you go out. It's like, okay, well, I'll walk you out until here and then I can go from there. Okay, we can walk together until here and then we can separate here. So maybe, I don't know, if a joint walk extends my walk for two minutes or her walk for a couple of minutes, I feel fine with that. Yeah, And I also feel safer, during the shared portion of the walk.

**Relatore 3**

Okay, even if they aren't your friends or are just not so close?

**Relatore 2**

Yeah, I would feel safer during that portion, yeah.

**Relatore 1**

Okay. And do you want to share with us some other experiences?

**Relatore 2**

I've had two or three other experiences where girls have approached me and my friends to help them lose a man. So, we walk together a little bit. I haven't been approached to share a walk home with somebody, if that's what you were asking me. If I would go out on a night out, maybe a club or a bar and I don't know, let's say I see you guys at the bar, right? And we get to talking. We're like, oh yeah, we did the interview. It was so nice. How are you? We share a drink, right? And then you're going with your friends (riferendosi a Relatore 1) and maybe you ask me like, hey, which way are you going? Are you going that direction, that park? (riferendosi a Relatore 3) I'll be like, yeah, okay, let's walk together. Okay. That has happened. But a random person off the street to be like, hey, are you walking to the park? Can we walk? No.

**Relatore 1**

Okay. That's it. We're done.

**Relatore 2**

So, we're okay.

**Relatore 1**

Thank you very much for the cooperation.