Participant number 24 – Female, 18, Hackney

Part 2:

Interviewer: Um… okay, so can we start by talking about what you put in the first box please.

Interviewee: Okay so in the first box I put youth clubs, um… friends’ houses and parties and like family moments. Um but I-

Interviewer: Which one do you feel most socially connected? Is it-

Interviewee: I feel more socially connected when I’m at like friends’ houses, when you have like- you know, when it’s just not you and your friend. When all the friends are over [interviewer: mhm] and you’re all together like having a catch-up or spending time together [interviewer: mhm] and yeah. Just all together, just like a normal day. That’s- personally I feel more like socially connected like that, because that’s- I’m with all my friends and yeah. But I also put youth club as well.

Interviewer: Sorry- friend’s house, is that within this neighbourhood here?

Interviewee: Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: Mhm. And I also put youth club, because that’s within my neighbourhood. But that’s something I used to do like throughout my child- like throughout when I was younger. Um… because they have many activities there like table tennis and all sorts and it kind- a youth club is a place where it keeps like young kids out of trouble because it’s open during the day and it gives them something to do [interviewer: mm] rather than being on the streets. So… I feel like it makes everyone there like all connect and like- socially and everything because it’s the same sort of children that go there, if you get what I mean? [Interviewer: mm] Yeah.

Interviewer: And, when you say like instead of being on the street, can you tell me about that?

Interviewee: Um, instead of being on the street, instead ‘cause young children- like teenagers like the sort of kids that go to youth club who are- they’re in their teens normally. And normally teenagers get into like trouble on the streets like get into gangs or… not all teenagers, but some teenagers, and a youth club’s a good place to like stop them because if they start going to the youth clubs, they’re not really gonna turn to the streets because they’re having fun there. Like they’re mind’s not on what’s happening on the streets. They have all their friends in the youth club so that’s where they wanna be.

Interviewer: Mm. And how does that make you feel? How does it make you feel, being there?

Interviewee: It makes you feel welcome. It’s a happy place. Like it’s never sad, you’re never upset when you’re there. ‘Cause it’s just everything you wanna do, you’re with your friends, like you can drink, eat, it just makes you feel comfortable.

Interviewer: Mm. So it sounds like you like that youth club because um… it makes you feel comfortable, being there with people, having- [interviewee: mhm] you have the opportunity to eat, um… and doing something that gets you off the streets for example. [Interviewee: yeah] Okay. Um… when you say like you go there, it gets you off the street, what is it about that place itself that- tell me about the place itself that encourages you to go.

Interviewee: It’s just the peop- the workers that’s there. They- they encourage us to go. That’s why. Um… [interviewer: mm] and they’re not really like- the workers connect well with the young children. Like, just the way they deal with them. Which makes them feel more welcome. Like they don’t treat them like they’re little kids. They treat them how they wanna be treated. And the kids usually like that. That’s why they go there more.

Interviewer: Mm. So basically it’s a welcoming place, [interviewee: mhm] people are treated nicely, um… tell me about the activities you do in there.

Interviewee: Do activities like um table tennis… um pool, um football- table football, sometimes they used the cage that’s in the area as well for football, basketball. And sometimes when- like in the summer, they used to go on trips, which you had to pay five pound for. But it would be five pound to go to like adventure island in south end or like far away trips in the summer. Or like lacer tag. So [interviewer: mm] they had lots of things to be honest.

Interviewer: Okay. Nice. And how did that make you feel, the- being involved in those activities?

Interviewee: Yeah it makes you feel welcome, like makes you- it makes you happy because you’re around people doing fun things and… yeah.

Interviewer: Mm. Okay. Is there anything else you wanted to say about that? Great. Well thank you so much. Can we talk about what you’ve put in box two please?

Interviewee: Um… in box two, for places where you feel most lonely, I put like um… say when you’re at home alone for a long period of time, like with no visitors, or like no one coming to see you, sometimes that can make someone feel lonely. ‘Cause [interviewer: mm] say if you’re- say if you’re on a break from work and you have no reason to really leave your house, but you’re expecting like oh yeah my friend- I got friends, they’ll probably come see me, but they don’t come to see you, like they just- you’re just there, not seeing anyone throughout your week or so that you have off of work. And… sometimes [interviewer: mm] that makes you feel lonely. [Interviewer: mm] You’d feel like oh, I might as well go to work, like sometimes people feel like what was the point of me having a day off work, I’m not even doing anything.

Interviewer: Mm. So it sounds like, you know, being in your room for a long period of time-

Interviewee: Mmh. It’s- I think that’s not good, personally. It’s good to like communicate and get out doors like… yeah.

Interviewer: How does that make you feel, being at home alone? [Interviewee: um…] For a long period of time.

Interviewee: Sometimes it’s just boring. You just feel- I feel- personally I feel bored, and like you’ll feel fed up with it, like oh I wanna go outside now.

Interviewer: Mm. So what you’re saying is, being at home and having no visitors um…. makes you feel bored at home.

Interviewee: Yeah, sometimes. It depends what you do. It depends what sort of things you do by yourself. ‘Casue some people struggle to entertain theirself, some people don’t enjoy their own company. But some people like do enjoy their own company. Like me, I will enjoy my own company for a certain amount of time, but after a while I’ll get bored of it and I’ll think ‘kay let me go call someone and see what they’re doing because I’m bored of being here now.

Interviewer: When you say some people may not like their own company, can you tell me more about that?

Interviewee: Like… um some people might find it hard… um hard to entertain theirself, being alone. So say, when I’m alone, I would listen to music and like tidy up or something and… I find that sometimes fun for myself. ‘Cause I like- I enjoy listening to music, so I’ll entertain myself listening to music or doing work or something. Or my- like friends will come here. But some people, when they’re like alone- obviously my friends- we’re talking- I’m talking about entertaining yourself and I’m talking about friends coming. I mean… but some people like won’t like listening to music, so they won’t have nothing to really do at home. They might not play computer games either, watch TV, so they won’t have any sort of way of entertaining theirself.

Interviewer: Mm. And when- but so for example you mentioned earlier that you have you phone, which you um basically, you can use to communicate to others and [interviewee: mhm] know what’s going on. [Interviewee: yeah] So… tell me more about that. When you’re at home and-

Interviewee: Yeah, when I’m at home, if I get bored of being with my own company, I would message someone or call them and I would say like what are you doing, let’s meet up or something. And then we’ll just… I would just be with someone so I won’t be alone.

Interviewer: Mm. Alright. Um… is there anything else you wanted to say about that box?

Interviewee: Um. Yeah, I’ll talk about um… an- being in an office or library could make you feel lonely sometimes. Say if you’re at work in an office, sometimes it’s not- it depends where you’re working- sometimes it’s not nice to work in an office all day. Some people might not even communicate. Some people like… could just be working and be in silence and some people might feel lonely and… fed up of that boring, dull, dark atmosphere. Like just sile- just working. Staring at your computer, typing all day with no sort of communication. [Interviewer: mm] That- in a work place, personally if there were lots of people around and no one communicated with me, I would feel lonely. If that happened to me.

Interviewer: Mm. Being at work [interviewee: yeah] and no one communicating with you. [Interviewee: mhm] How would that make you feel?

Interviewee: Um… left out. If I could see them communicating with others. Um… sometimes it would just make you feel like fed up of the job, like- [interviewer: mm] or don’t wanna be here, I wanna be- you just think of other places where you wanna be. And just yeah.

Interviewer: Hmm. So it makes you feel fed up, sort of not being able to participate in some sort of group relationships and so on. [Interviewee: yeah] Um… okay. So being at work or being in any sort of gathering, and if other people are sort of with each other and talking [interviewee: mhm] and what not and you’re kind of on your own, [interviewee: yeah] it makes you feel kind of lonely and…

Interviewee: Yeah, because like- I said like about the other boxes, um seeing people communicate and you being there, not communicating with them, would make you feel- like question yourself, as to like if people like you or not.

Interviewer: Mm. When you say like… you would question yourself whether people like you or not, can you tell me more about that?

Interviewee: Um, question yourself because… um…. you seeing other people communicate and having fun and whatever would make you feel-

Interruption

Interviewee: Anyway, yeah. So-

Interviewer: Sorry, let me just repeat the question. So if you basically- uh when you said like, you know, you would question yourself and then so on, [interviewee: yeah] can you tell me more about that.

Interviewee: You would question yourself because other people around you communicating, and you’re there alone. You would think… why is no one communicating with me? What did I do? Like you’re just- lots of questions would just come in your head as to why they’re not communicating with you.

Interviewer: Mm. And how does that make you feel in that moment?

Interviewee: Um… it would make you not wanna be there. Like probably make you wanna leave the room or wherever you are to like not feel like left out in here, or see the people all together.

Interviewer: Mm. Okay. Is there anything else you wanted to say? ‘Kay cool, thank you very much.