Individual Interview 20 – Clara

(Full time: 59:49)

Int: Hi, hello.

Clara: Hi. How are you?

Int: I’m good thanks, and you?

Clara: I’m good thanks.

Int: Thank God for the rain, it’s been way too hot for my liking.

Clara: It is really hoot.

Int: Just quickly, you’ve read and understood the informed consent form?

Clara: Yes., I have.

Int: Great. Just a quick overview of what we’re going to get into today. We’re going to talk about the concept of belonging, but more the feeling of belonging. So, it’s not about where you belong, but about how that belonging makes you feel and make you do, and stuff like that. And then we’re going to have a look at safety, your experiences with safety, and then we’re going to bring it together and have a look at how – what that means to you as a South African woman.

Clara: Okay.

Int: Any questions, concerns, deep seated worries?

Clara: No. I’m okay.

Int: Great, like I said the first – well, we should probably do some background. So, just some background information about who are you, how old are you, um, where are you from, are you studying, are you working, um, ya.

Clara: I’m – can I say my name?

Int: Yeah, I will change it in the transcript, don’t worry.

Clara: I’m \*Clara. I’m from the East Rand in Gauteng. I’m from Brakpan, I don’t know if you know the place.

Int: I know Brakpan very well.

Clara: I’m from Brakpan and I’m 27. And I’m studying at UP, I’m doing my PhD in biotechnology, it’s my second year. And ya – I don’t know, what else?

Int: That’s about it. So, you moved obviously from Brakpan to Pretoria, or are you commuting every day?

Clara: Yes, I moved. I’m staying in Hatfield right now.

Int: Is that your first move, or did you move around a lot as a kid?

Clara: I lived in Volstruis it’s also in the East Rand, and then I moved… ya, I was born in Volstruis and then I moved in 2016, I moved to Brakpan. And then 2018 I started my Masters, so I moved to Hatfield, and then I moved back – during the pandemic I moved back to Brakpan – and then I came back last year 2022 to Hatfield again.

Int: So, that first move that you did, how old were you?

Clara: I was… 2016, was what – my second… I was 20.

Int: You were 20. So, the house you were in previously you were in there for like 20 years of your life?

Clara: Ya, basically.

Int: You grew up there, spent your entire high school career, and everything.

Clara: Mm.

Int: And you refer to that as home or your childhood home, or just the house that you grew up in?

Clara: I refer to it as home because I still visit there, I still have friends there. Most of the time I think when I’m visiting home, whenever I go visit friends, I still go back to Volstruis.

Int: To Volstruis .

Clara: Ya.

Int: And you remember that as your home-home?

Clara: Ya.

Int: Your original home, and then you moved to Brakpan.

Clara: Ya.

Int: That move to Brakpan – is that house in Brakpan now your home or is the other house still your home?

Clara: I would stay that it is still home.

Int: Still home.

Clara: Ya.

Int: And that move was it very jarring, was it okay to deal with or?

Clara: It was okay. I think ya, because I was like even growing up, I was always that girl like staying indoors with like my sister. So, we played together and all of that. So, when we moved to Brakpan we still stayed, it’s not a busy area, so we still stayed indoors and all of that. I think the only difference like came when my sister got married and moved out, then I was like the only child that was staying at home, but because I would be visiting – I stayed in Stellenbosch.

Int: Oh Stellenbosch rather.

Clara: Yeah, I did my undergrad in the Western Cape. Ya, so I’d come home – form 2014, I’d come home just for the holidays. So, for that brief time I was home and then I would go back, and ya I was up and down lie that. and then ya, basically.

Int: So, you said the biggest shift for you when you did this move – form Volstruis to Brakpan.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Was when your sister moved out.

Clara: Ya, I think, ya. That’s was like my really close friend, ya.

Int: So, how long did it take for his house in Brakpan to start to feel like home?

Clara: I don’t think it took that long because then my sister is not staying far from us as well. So, she’s like fifteen minutes away as well. So, she would drive to come and see us a bit often.

Int: And that really helped. So, also you go to Stellenbosch, that’s quite larny-larny place.

Clara: Ya. I loved it.

Int: It’s difficult not to love Stellenbosch.

Clara: Ya,

Int: Also very Afrikaans area, but also Brakpan if we’re being real.

Clara: True.

Int: So, how was that experience – I take it was your first time out of the house.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Away from your family. Now you go to Stellenbosch, which is very far from Gauteng. How was that move, was it very shocking, was that a bit difficult to get use to?

Clara: No. I wouldn’t say it was shocking, but I think – so, ya my first year I had a couple of my high school mates who also went to Stellenbosch.

Int: Okay awesome.

Clara: So, we all travelled together and fortunately we all studied BSc so we were all classmates for the first half of the year, and then we branched out to different courses but I spent most of my time with them, even my second year. I think some of them went back when we were in second year, but I had adjusted to the environment and I was fine with the few that were left until I finished. But ya, it wasn’t bad. I enjoyed it.

Int: I’m glad. Were you in a Res or were you in different?

Clara: I stayed in private accommodation, it wasn’t a university residence.

Int: Like commune or like an apartment?

Clara: Ya, it was like a commune set up.

Int: And how was the commune vibe?

Clara: It was nice. I’m a very. \*Laughs. I would say I’m a very much a loner. Like I like my alone time. I enjoy my own company so for the first, the first year I lived – how many were we? I think we were twelve. So we just shared the kitchen and then the dining space, and then everyone had their room and their bathrooms. So, most of the time I was on campus, most of my housemates were doing BA and I was doing BSc so there was – like they had their like own family thing going on there. And I found them, I think I was in first year and they were in second year, so they already knew each other and all of that. And I was always on campus in class, they never had classes everyday.

Int: Ya, BA students. \*Laughs.

Clara: Agg. \*Laughs. Ya, but so when I found them at home like we would sit and talk-talk when there’s time, but most of the time I was on campus. But it was nice, like they were like my bigger siblings watching out for me telling me stuff when I want to go out, like “Ay let’s go.” And I always said ‘No’. But they understood. And yeah, my second year I moved to a private – it was a private res this time round, but it’s like a commune also set up. I had – how many were we, I think there was six or eight of us. I was also – I think I moved every year.

Int: Oof.

Clara: Yah. That year I was staying with those people and it was nice. And then in my final year, I stayed with a friend of mine – we got an apartment and we stayed together. That was also great. And then for my Honours, I moved to Cape Town to the medical campus, and I met knew people there because none of the people that I was with at main campus were that side. So, new people again. It was nice ya.

Int: And like the feeling of home, did that follow you through every single move that you did because you said you moved basically every year?

Clara: Ya, I think because I – so, I go to church. So, I think that’s another thing that made me feel like, ‘Okay this is’ – because then I would, most of the time we would have our bible study on like Wednesdays and Sunday was church. So, we had like a – the bible study people that I was with, we were like a family of sorts. Every week, I’d have that community set up and tats what I think kept me going and made me feel like, ‘Okay, this is okay’.

Int: ‘This is home, I can be here’.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Out of the three moves that you did, which one of them felt like the most like home?

Clara: The move to the medical campus. When I went to-

Int: When you were living with a friend.

Clara: It was my fourth move. When I moved to – ya, another campus, the Stellenbosch uni but the medical campus was in Cape Town, ya.

Int: And you felt like you belonged in all of these places? So, firstly you’re coming from this house where you had spent 20 years in – you felt like you belonged in that area, you felt like you belonged with those people.

Clara: Ya, ya.

Int: And then moved to Brakpan, also felt like you belonged with these people, belonged in that area; and now we go Stellenbosch and we have all these different moves, also belonging throughout.

Clara: Ya, ya, I don’t know how to explain this whole thing – like I think as you grow, you understand yourself a bit better. So, when I was in my first year, it was that excitement of, ‘Oh I’m going to live by myself . I want to se how this is going to go, I don’t have to […] anybody’, all of that. But still like – and then, that, that freedom of ‘I can make my own decisions without anybody maybe interfering’, that was nice. My second year, I think that’s when – some of the friends that I had from high school. Some of them were like, ‘Nah, they can’t stay’. They went back. But the few that I had I still continued to be friends with, but I think that was where the church like relationships that I had were a bit stronger, so I was still fine. And then in my third year when I stay with my friend, and my friend was also going to church with me and we studied BSc together, and – ya so we were very close, and she was also from Gauteng, so I think we related on a lot of things. And when I went to the – what is the… oh ya, so in my – the undergrad, my first three years of me being in Stellenbosch, I got into church leadership and stuff like that. So, it was like me giving of service to, to, to the people I was leading. But I think when I moved to the Cape Town campus, it was really… there’s that – there’s a different side to leadership. There’s that side where everyone is just waiting for you to do something and they follow, and that’s how I felt with the Stellenbosch, but when I moved to the medical campus I had a leader that was like, ‘Let’s do this together’. So, it wasn’t ‘Oh one person do something and we follow’, but it was ‘Hey let’s’ – so the burden was carried together. And I think that’s when I was like, ‘Oh okay this is’ – like I loved how, because that’s how I always viewed it but some people were not getting it, but when I got to that part I was like, ‘This is what for me church is all about: Doing this together, helping each other where we can’, and all of that. So, I think that was the one that was like very instrumental for me.

Int: So, this feeling of belonging, what does that feel like?

Clara: Exciting – I’m not really expressing it well.

Int: Oh, no worries.

Clara: Ya, but it was, it was exciting, it was peaceful. I had like a sense of relief, relaxation of sorts. Ya.

Int: So, this church community, you speak about – you clearly really liked being a part of it.

Clara: Ya.

Int: That is somewhere you belong, like a lot.

Clara: Mm.

Int: That is a part of you fundamentally. Walking into – like if you had a really bad Wednesday, because like you said you had bible study on a Wednesday, walking into that room with those people what did that make you feel like?

Clara: Like, ‘Whoof, finally’

Int: ‘Okay I can breathe’.

Clara: Ya, like ‘Oo, guys’ – like a rough time has ended, now we can…

Int: Just be?

Clara: Ya. Refill again and get refreshed again. Ya. that type of thing.

Int: Did that feel like coming home?

Clara: Ya, yes.

Int: That was like the big kind of, \*sighs.

Clara: Yes, ya.

Int: Alright. Ya, that’s also with how we relate belonging a lot to this feeling of home, but also to this feeling of community. And you’ve just you were a leader, and that’s a difficult position to be in in a community.

Clara: Ya, it was.

Int: Because like yeah people will follow you, but if something goes wrong, I mean fingers get pointed very quickly.

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, being a leader, carrying this burden, was that something that made you feel like you belonged more or were there times where that made you question your belonging? Like , ‘Why am I here?’

Clara: Please repeat.

Int: So, being a leader you have difficult times, and then you have those times where people will follow you.

Clara: Sure.

Int: So the time you were a leader, was that a time where belonging was maybe in question or did that make you feel like you belonged more?

Clara: I think a bit of both. Like there are days that are very frustrating and you’re like, ‘Why am I leader’, and all of that. But I think once you… like I sit down and I say, maybe, I’m going to be pray and I’m going to be like, ‘Okay God, this how I’m feeling’. And I’m praying about all of my frustrations and all of that. And then maybe I’m just reading a scripture or I have a friend who I’m venting to about it and then it all comes back to, ‘This is what leadership is all about’. And there’s going to be ups and there’s going to be downs and you shouldn’t be questioning the character and the nature of the person that you are because, that’s, that’s why you were chosen to be a leader because of the person that you are. So, it doesn’t mean that you will eventually – that you will always get it, but you were meant – like you went to be this thing.

Int: Ya, you just have make do.

Clara: Ya.

Int: You have to push forward.

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, you’re South African. Do you feel like you belong in South Africa?

Clara: Yeah.

Int: Ya. In general, in specific places, or?

Clara: Um… I think in general.

Int: Have you gone overseas?

Clara: No. I have not.

Int: Have you travelled within Africa?

Clara: Not really, I haven’t been outside of South Africa.

Int: Don’t worry, you’re not missing out on much .

Clara: \*Laughs.

Int: The grass isn’t always greener. So, you’re coming from Gauteng.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Gauteng has a vibe to it, it’s got a culture – people speak different than the Western Cape.

Clara: True.

Int: And I love it. So, that move – you’re a Gauteng-person, you go to Cape Town did you feel like, ‘Oh this is a different province, this is a different place’ – was that maybe where like, ‘Okay I belong more in Gauteng’, or was it just really seamless?

Clara: Um… it is different, like obviously – I think um… I think it starts – like it became more familiar when I started seeing more black people […] because at first it’s like, ‘Whoa, there’s only white people’, or we’re speaking only English the whole time, and I’m just like, ‘Joh, this is tiring’.

Int: \*Laughs.

Clara: But the more – like there are specific places on campus when you go to it’s just black people or if I know just one person is black there friend automatically becomes my friend type of thing. So, I think over time I got to see that, ‘Oh, actually there are so many of us’, and then you even get more comfortable, that ‘Okay there actually are a lot of us, and I can actually go to that person or visit that person’, if I’m feeling like I want to go home, ‘Let’s go buy a certain type of food at this place’. And ya, I think so those small things um… like things that are within […] like when you visit specific places or specific people, you eat a specific meal, it makes you feel like, ‘Ah actually’.

Int: Ya, ‘I’m at home’.

Clara: Ya.

Int: There’s home in different places.

Clara: Yes, that’s it.

Int: So that’s one thing that I find so interesting, that ‘home’ could be a place, but it could also be a people, a food, it can be a language.

Clara: Mm.

Int: It could be – like for me it’s the South African accent, like I was overseas for a bit and I heard a South African accent and I went, ‘Where are you ?’, and it just felt like coming home. So, what are those things – definitely a people, a food, culture rather than a place?

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, those people, that food, culture – what are those things that are ‘Okay, that’s home’?

Clara: I would say… race.

Int: Ya, that’s a big one.

Clara: I would say language. Um… like ingredients, the specific ingredients that… or, or like chips for example. Slaap-chips

Int: \*Laugh. Ya.

Clara: Or… ya, I don’t know. I mentioned food, the type of food. Ya, there are ingredients that I feel are just used by black people and obviously it goes down to what they can afford but they make something out of it, and it’s like…ya.

Int: This is home.

Clara: Ya.

Int: No, food is a big thing for us because food is so linked to culture, and s linked to race, but it is also so linked to place. Like you can’t, for me, you can’t get the same type of bacon that you get in South Africa compared to Thailand.

Clara: How was it?

Int: I don’t know, that was some like lab-made.

Clara: Was it like facon?

Int: It was so gross.

Clara: \*Laughs.

Int: But like one of the big things for me when I felt – like when I really am missing home, I make what my grandmother used to make. So, now that you’re out of the house do you make those things that your mom used to make, or your gran used to make?

Clara: Mm.

Int: So, ya what are those food that you would make, especially when you are homesick?

Clara: Pap. I’d make porridge. Um, chicken feet.

Int: Oh the ‘Walkie-Talkies’?

Clara: Yes. They’re amazing.

Int: Yeah, they used to laugh at me when I was a kid because I grew up-

Clara: Did you like them?

Int: I loved them so much.

Clara: \*Laughs.

Int: Like my parents worked a lot, so my maid would look after me and she would have her son with us and I’d rather have their food because it tasted a lot better than my mother’s cooking – to this day still tastes a lot better than my mother’s cooking. I’d go to school and I’d have lunch with the grounds staff – I mean it tastes better than what they were making in the school.

Clara: That’s true.

Int: Ya, so you were saying chicken feet?

Clara: And then there’s – well, I don’t make Spatklo, it’s like Korta, I don’t know, Bunnychow.

Int: Ya, ya – Korta.

Clara: That – I buy that, I don’t make it. But I find places, and I buy that and… I don’t know braaied meat sometimes.

Int: Mm, ya a good braai.

Clara: Ya. And then baking, at home we bake a lot. So, sometimes I just get my mom’s recipe and start mixing there and ya.

Int: And that makes you feel better.

Clara: Ya.

Int: That ‘I’m at home’.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Yeah, like I said food is a massive thing specifically in cultures, but so are people. So, like what are those things that, ‘Okay this person is a South African, I know that they are a South African’ – so, what is that type of thing for you?

Clara: Um… I don’t know if, ah…I think they way that – I think the clothes that people wear sometimes you can tell. How they speak, the music that they listen to… and what, I don’t know their mannerisms. Like their certain – I don’t know – that South African people carry themselves. Um… ya. Did I say language, I meant to say language.

Int: Ya, language is a big one. I mean the one thing – have spoke to a lot of participants and some of them have gone overseas, and they say that one of the biggest that give them a clue that someone is South African, is how friendly we are-

Clara: Ya that’s-

Int: Would you say that South African are very friendly people?

Clara: That’s so true, ya. I think ya, I think when it comes to – its also something that I have picked up also, when I was in Stellenbosch. Like there’s an area where there would be like foreign students that are staying in this area and then there’s obviously everybody else. And you see that wherever you walk, you greet each other and even if you don’t know each other, you greet. But as soon as you are in that area it’s, ‘Whoa, they don’t greet you back’, or they don’t even look at you, and I’m just like, ‘Okay’.

Int: That is weird. Like I got into a left the other day and I had the most wonderful conversation with complete strangers.

Clara: Ya.

Int: I was like, ‘This is so nice’, but you don’t get that overseas. Like they’ll think you’re crazy.

Clara: Like, ‘Why are you talking to me?’.

Int: Ya. You’re here, why can I not talk to you?

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, let’s see where we are. Do you feel safe in South Africa?

Clara: Do I feel safe?

Int: Ya.

Clara: Um… what is safe?

Int: Ooo, there is a big one there.

Clara: \*Laughs. I don’t – I … I wouldn’t say one hundred percent yes. And obviously I think we know about the crime and gender-based violence and unemployment, and ya. So, I don’t think I do feel safe. Um.. I think now with how the university – especially now that I stay here in Hatfield, with the incident, that guy that was shot. I think now that they’ve upped security. So, I work late sometimes hours and stuff, so having to walk to my res it’s like ‘Oh, it’s a bit’ – at first, I was just like, ‘I’ll take an uber’, but I also don’t feel safe in an uber. But, it’s better than walking alone. But now there’s security that you can just walk to and say, ‘Can you please walk me to this residence’, and then they just walk with you. So, it does make it a bit better, because obviously you can still get robbed and all of that but at least if someone is there it is not as – it doesn’t feel as heavy as it would if I was by myself. So, ya things like that. when I go to public spaces like malls and stuff, I don’t like going by myself because I’m like, ‘You don’t know who’s following you’, and even if they can take my friend and I but I think if you’re with somebody you wouldn’t feel as bad as when you’re by yourself. Ya.

Int: I think that’s true, I think there is something to be said in companionship, specifically with women. Like do you go to the bathroom alone, especially if you’re out with your friends?

Clara: No not really.

Int: You’ll go with a girl, you’ll go with – you work in a team.

Clara: Ya.

Int: That’s just how it goes. \*Laughs. There was a wonderful joke, like ‘Ya girls go to the bathroom together to plot like taking over the world’, like ay.

Clara: \*Laughs.

Int: How did you know – but ya, this feeling of safety. You say you’re not a hundred percent safe, is that something you felt throughout your life, or is that something you grew up and realised?

Clara: No, I think as I was growing up I realised that, mmm, ya.

Int: Not really a safe place.

Clara: Ya, but it is because of stories that you’d hear, like, ‘Oh this person got robbed’. Like I have never been robbed, nothing has ever, like has happened to me. Um, but its stories that I hear, what’s on the New and whatever and then it just makes you, um, more aware of what’s happening and something you start seeing things for yourself and you’re like, ‘Ooo, might be up to something’.

Int: Ya. So, you’ve said that you have never experienced crime?

Clara: No.

Int: Which is very lucky, but have you ever had to deal with the South African Police Force?

Clara: Not really no.

Int: How do you view the South African Police Force?

Clara: From the stories that I’ve heard, I just feel like … they’re not there. Like they are not, ya. they’re not doing one hundred percent what they are supposed to.

Int: Ya, I think that is a general feeling that all South Africans feel. Like, ‘Why do we even have police’.

Clara: Ya. I mean last week – when was it… was it last week? I think two weeks back, in my res there are guys that are apparently stealing stuff from people’s houses. So, our res is like different houses.

Int: Oh like the Postgrad housing.

Clara: Yeah, I stay in \*university res.

Int: Oh, okay.

Clara: But what happened was, there was – I don’t know if it’s one person or two, but they walked into apparently one house, and then the guy was one the phone saying, “Oh no this is not the right house.” And then he walked out and went to, I think the house next door, and then they stole two laptops and a phone. But my main thing is… the main house is supposed to be locked, like the kitchen door which everybody uses. So some houses they don’t really lock because they’re always in and out, but other houses they do lock up. So, for me, I thought that someone that probably stays inside or knows someone that stays there that knows that, ‘Okay, that house’s door is always open’. And a certain person – and then they check whether this person uses a certain device and they’re around at this time and that time, and then they found a perfect time to just walk in and take everything and just leave. So, that for me was just crazy. And I think the weekend – not this last weekend, ya it was two weeks back. The weekend before this one, I – on Sunday I was napping. So, my room is like subdivided, like two rooms. So, in my – the other room is like my studying area, my chilling area. So, the window that is like close to my chilling area, when you like view from outside you can see my laptop, my study stuff, but it’s a bit far.

Int: Okay.

Clara: So, I was napping. From where my bed is I can see that window that shows-

Int: Everything.

Clara: Ya. So, now I was napping and I was hearing my blinds are like moving, so I’m like, ‘Let’s look at what s happening’, and then I see some – I see a person that’s like alerting another person that, ‘No there is somebody inside’.

Int: Ya.

Clara: And then – the funny thing was that my laptop was literally on my desk, I was working and I was like, ‘Ah let me take a nap’.

Int: Ya.

Clara: So, I knew that no one would be able to reach where it was, but I’m like, ‘If these people had time and’ – or if I was like deep, deep asleep, they could have been able to make a plan and steal my laptop and it freaked me out because I’m like, ‘Oh shucks I don’t even know’. And then I tell one of the house committee people, because they posted about the two laptops that got stolen. And then we called the security and then all of that, but one of the – the head of security was saying that it’s so difficult, um, to control what is happening. He’s like, “We’ve suggested that this res put up camaras around, but they haven’t.” And he’s like this whole thing of students being friendly with security, sometimes they let you in with your friend.

Int: Oh ya.

Clara: So, possibly someone just walked in and they though that person just stays there – so there is so much room for errors, and we can’t pick up people – like, ‘I trust you because I see you every day with this person’, as oppose to, ‘I’m doing my job even if that’s your friend, even if I see you every day I’m going to stick to my job. So, small things like that, you can image with big matters like…

Int: Ya.

Clara: It’s even worse and it can compromise so many things, but…

Int: Ya.

Clara: That’s how things are being done here, ya.

Int: Ya.

Clara: Ya, bless it.

Int: So, you feel safe in the house that you are staying in now, the res that you’re staying in, or not?

Clara: I think not it’s questionable. \*Laughs. Because of the incident that I mentioned, now I have to walk – I can’t leave my room with my windows open, so I literally have to close all of them.

Int: And before this you would?

Clara: I would leave them open and just lock up my door. But now… that window that they were looking through I make sure that one is closed. But even the other ones, I just close them all because I’m like, ‘Nah can’t trust’ – type of thing.

Int: Rather be safe.

Clara: Ya. So, I wouldn’t say I feel safe. Ya.

Int: I think one of the big things of students living in Hatfield, was the shooting that happened.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Were you in Hatfield at the time?

Clara: Ya I was, I actually – heard the guns shots.

Int: Whoa.

Clara: Because I was sleeping – usually sometimes I would get out of sleep in the middle of the night, but because there’s usually, you know, the noise that cars make.

Int: Ya, ya.

Clara: Because my house is on the other side, by Prospect.

Int: Yeah, Prospect Street.

Clara: Ya, so everyone on Prospect like driving off crazy like whatever, but I was like, ‘Mmph that sound is very unique’, like.

Int: Ya.

Clara: ‘Mm, but’ – it’s outstanding but like I don’t even know like what a gunshot or whatever sounds like, so when I heard the next day. I was like, “Aa, what time was it?” They told me, and I was like, “Ahhh that’s the sound that I heard.” So…

Int: Do you mind if we talk about that for a second?

Clara: Yeah no, it’s okay.

Int: So, what were the emotions going around at that point?

Clara: With me or just-

Int: In general, like what was the atmosphere, like what did you feel.

Clara: Um… I think… it was crazy that it happened just outside my res, and because it had been at a time where I’d been like knocking off really late that week, so I freaked out because I wanted to know what time it happened, and when they were like, “I don’t know, I think it was around one A.M or two A.M.” I was like, “Joh, it’s crazy” – because those are the times that I usually, not the exact time, but like a few hours before, those are usually the times that I am walking in the street by myself or sometimes I’m walking with the security that I ask to accompany me. So, it was very scary because like now, I’m like you – and we can’t say, now that the people have that at that time , obviously they are not going to come through at one the next time, they’ll probably come a bit earlier. But it meant that there are people that are watching and waiting for an opportunity just to get something from somebody, and I’m like it could have been me because I’m always in the streets at night by myself, you know.

Int: Carrying your phone and your laptop.

Clara: Ya, you know! So, it was scary and I remember I think the week after I had to be like, ‘Okay I need to push but not finish late because then it’s not safe and whatnot’. I think even now, I’m still on the tip of, ‘Okay come to school and be as productive as you can during the day so that you can leave – don’t stay late hours, because then you’re alone and no ones going to know because everyone is at home’.

Int: Ya.

Clara: Ya, so. Ya, it was a bit – it’s, it’s, I don’t think any of us have forgotten, like all of us are still on that, ‘Mmm, it can still happen’. Um, ya.

Int: That’s a terrifying thing to live with, especially, like you said it happened so close to where you are living.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Um, and these things happen in South Africa, they do, they happen on an hourly basis.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Do you think it was the fact that it was so close that it affected you some much or was it more of the reason ‘It could have been me’, because they were a Tuks student, it happened in a Tuks area, ‘I’m walking home at this time’ as well?

Clara: Yeah, I think the whole thing of ‘It could have been me’, that’s, that’s what it – that’s why it still is a thing that I remember, ya.

Int: With this ‘Could have been me’, there was a movement – think you might have been in Stellenbosch. The ‘#AmINext?’ movement, were you here in Tuks or were you down there?

Clara: I think I was – I remember… I think I was… I probably was in Cape Town or something, but I know – I think I remember of something like that happening.

Int: So, the thing of it, was that it was a UCT student who was raped, mutilated, burnt. It was terrible, terrible thing.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Her name’s Uyinene.

Clara: I think I do remember, ya.

Int: It was a big thing with the university campuses, specially in Cape Town. I mean it was massive in Cape Town – with her being in Cape Town, a Cape Town student – a UCT student. Were you in Stellenbosch during this movement, or where you up here?

Clara: I think I was in Stellenbosch.

Int: Did you take part in the protests were you around – like I said it was a massive hub if you look at the picture, it was insane.

Clara: So, I don’t know how to explain my…

Int: No worries.

Clara: My… the… \*Laughs. It’s very tricky.

Int: No worries.

Clara: Um, I felt like – like when I was in Stellenbosch. There was a group of people that – I don’t know what to say ‘into politics’, but into a movement like that.

Int: Activism?

Clara: Ya… I felt like most of the movement was just doing it, because my friend was there and – like they take part. And I think the few that I would converse with, they wouldn’t know why they were there but they are taking part in things. And I’m just like-

Int: It’s more performative.

Clara: Ya, or ‘If I don’t do it my friends are going to think I’m weird type of thing’. So, and, and most of – I think ‘course was chowing’!

Int: \*Laughs. Ya.

Clara: I was there and I was like – I think I was in my final year when this happened. But I remember all the movements that were happening, I was just like, ‘Joh these things are happening at a time when you’re writing exams or whatever’, and you’re just like have to pick a struggle. And I understand that this is happening, but also, if I flunk… you know.

Int: Ya.

Clara: So, most of the time I would say I was very involved with my school work and not really thinking too much – because I felt like they were very distracted most of the time and like those people – I don’t know, I don’t want to be judgemental.

Int: No.

Clara: But it was people that were doing their degrees for so many years, they were not finishing. And I’m like, ‘It’s because when you should be studying, you’re not studying’. I feel like there is a time and a place for everything that we could, you know. But most of their meetings would take so long and they are discussing things sometimes that are not relevant – or ‘Because that matter was not addressed and now we’re on here, I’m going to use this opportunity to address that matter as well’. So, I was not part of the movement. If I recall, I was probably writing exams and stuff. But I do remember and… I think also universities hide quite a lot, like.

Int: Oh ya.

Clara: So, for me it was that thing of ‘Is it worth it to part take in it knowing that this person who did this is not going to be in prison’, or ‘Nothing is going to be done and we’re still not going to feel safe’. They’re going to put security there for two months and next year we’ll be back to square one. So, I’m like, ‘What is this?’, because like our campuses are also – there’s no gate at the entrance, it’s open. So, literally anyone could literally walk into any place. And that for me was just like already – because like its set up that way, it’s not safe. And when such things happen, it’s like… ya, so, I don’t want to ya.

Int: No, no, like another participant shares your view quite clearly, because – so, we were on Tuks campus, I can speak from a Tuks student’s perspective, like the protests were very disruptive. Like they walked in – like there were protests that happened in Hatfield and that was off university campus and that’s that situation. But they were – there was a time where students were coming into lecture halls and actively telling lectures to stop lecturing because its disrespectful that they were doing this on a day of mourning, and I get that. And the participant said that she understands that, but her choice was to be part of her own struggle – she also studies, she needed to pass that module.

Clara: Ya.

Int: She could not leave that lecture hall. So, this activism that came in and disturbed that – is that what you’re disagreeing with, not the movement itself?

Clara: Ya, I think – yeah, I think there are so many things that need to be addressed, things that need to be done, and I think timing – I think, ya. As a person – I think even in life man, there are so many things that happen and you just have to pick what you’re going to have to focus on, and. I mean to some people it’s okay for them not to wite that – some people knew that, ‘Okay these exams are not going to pull through, so we’re going to get them cancelled and we’re going to’, and some of them did – I remember there was in our lecture, but I think that was the ‘Fees must fall’.

Int: Oo, the ‘Fees must fall’ was so intense.

Clara: And we were writing, I think, our last exam and everyone had studied and the paper was so easy, and they walked in and disrupted the exam. This guy was like, “Thank God, because I didn’t study.” So, some people I know – ‘You probably didn’t study’, and ‘We’re going to make sure that no body writes the test and’ – so that you can have time later on and do the work. But I do think – I am not against the movement, um… ya I’m not against it.

Int: But there is a time and place.

Clara: Ya, that’s how I feel.

Int: No, I agree with you. It is an important conversation, we have to talk about this. I mean the main thing that was pushing this was the hashtag ‘Am I Next?’, and it came from South African women saying ‘I could be next, it really could be me’. Is that something that you share as well?

Clara: Ya!

Int: ‘I could be the next victim’.

Clara: Mm.

Int: And that I think was the big push, but as you say a lot of people use this as an excuse not to study, not to do the exam because they knew they weren’t going to make it and that kind of effects the movement. I think it waters it down and makes it-

Clara: Ya, true.

Int: Like, ‘What’s really going to happen here guys?’. So, ‘Fees must fall’. You were on campus for ‘Fees must fall’.

Clara: Yes, I was.

Int: How was that feeling because it’s not a closed campus as well.

Clara: Ya, no like I said, I feel like. \*Laughs. Like distraction, on distraction, on distraction. I didn’t write one of my tests like I said, because they just walked into our venue and joh, it was a mess. And… um… like it was just a scary time because they just hired a lot of security. There were so many like big guys outside of everywhere, outside of venues, and I’m like, ‘We’re not going to do anything’.

Int: Ya, ya.

Clara: And… ya, it was just…

Int: It was scary.

Clara: Ya, it was scary.

Int: So, you’re coming from a campus with no security – well, I don’t want to say ‘No security’, but less security, and then you come to Tuks. I mean Tuks has decent security, we have gates everywhere, biometric scans, guard everywhere. I mean it’s intense. Did that make you feel safer or less safe?

Clara: No I think it was – it’s better.

Int: Okay.

Clara: Ya, I think it’s much better even though some – like we have had incidents in the department where someone’s laptop is stolen because, ‘You just left it on the desk, you didn’t close the office door’. I don’t know someone from other departments, there’s a lift that can lead you to every floor of the department. So, you can take it and go back through that lift and whatever, but I think requires someone to have knowledge of how things are set up in every part of the department or of the campus. But the whole thing of like having security, the student card, the bio, bio- what?

Int: Biometrics, the fingerprints.

Clara: Yes, the fingerprints situation, I think it makes, it makes, it brings some light level of ‘Okay it’s a bit safe’, and the cameras and ya.

Int: Does that make you feel better?

Clara: Ya. I think even at res because that was my stress. With my student card, I just scan I don’t need to use my fingerprint.

Int: Ya.

Clara: So, that for me is just like, if we, if we did that we will probably know the people who are not from there that were inside, because you put in your details when you sign in or whatever.

Int: Exactly.

Clara: You’d know that, ‘Okay these are the people that are outside that came in, can we maybe look into that’, or whatever. But… ya.

Int: Okay so we have touched on something now and it’s very similar to how South Africans build their homes. South Africans have homes that are fortified.

Clara: Ya.

Int: We’ve got high walls, we’ve got alarm systems, we’ve got burglar bars, we have all of this. so, your place that you are staying in now, it’s under Tuks security so I take it you’ve got that massive gate around, you’ve got Tuks guards and everything.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Burglar bars.

Clara: Yes, we do have.

Int: Deadbolts, alarms?

Clara: No, I don’t think we have. No, we don’t have alarms.

Int: And the homes that you grew up in with your family did they have similar type of security?

Clara: No, no, not really. We just have a gate and the door you have a butler, a door still, and that’s just about it. But ya.

Int: So, there are things that we do as South Africans to keep ourselves safe on a daily basis.

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, I don’t drive with my handbag on the backseat, I always put it in the boot. Are the somethings like that that you do everyday?

Clara: I’d say the whole. \*Laughs. I like locking myself up in my room. I don’t like, it’s weird. My housemate she does not know how – like she can’t. She’s like, “No, I’m from hostel. If there’s a fire, who’s going to get my ID and stuff.”   
“Dude, I’m not even thinking about that.” So, for it’s the thing of when I leave my room, even when I leave to go to the laundry room or whatever. I always lock my room, even before the whole incident, when I sleep at night I lock my door. Ya, and I don’t walk around with my phone, I put it in my bag when I walk to campus. Um, ya I think I – ya, just the whole this of displayed devices, like I wouldn’t put my headphones or whatever on when I’m walking in the streets, but as soon as I get to an enclosed office space or whatever then I put them on and stuff.

Int: So, when you’re like walking about are you always thinking about your safety, are you always thinking that ‘There might be someone following me’, that there might be something going on, or is that something that is at the way back of your mind that you don’t even think about?

Clara: Ya, no I’m not thinking about that. I think that I – I, ya no. I think times like that, I’m just reflecting on maybe how the day was or I’m singing, or I’m looking at cars because I like cars or ya. Or I’m walking with a friend and we’re talking about how our day was. And what we plan to do when we get to res and stuff.

Int: So, one of the things that I asked you, ‘Do you feel safe in South Africa’, you were like, “Not a hundred percent”, and you mentioned jobs. Is job security something that you’re worried about.

Clara: I think so now obviously you’re doing PhD and with all the people that we see on social media that are having all he qualifications but still not working. It just feels like, ‘Oh someone with a degree is not having a job and someone with maybe a postgrad degree now is also still the same’. And I’m like, ‘Oh and then I’m here doing my PhD’, like is this all going to be worth it or am I on to something in the end because it would be sad. But I like to look at like me furthering my studies as just me learning, not necessarily that, ‘I do this because I want a certain kind of job’. I look at, ‘Okay what am I going to take away from this whole thing’, you know.

Int: Ya.

Clara: So, ya I do think about it a lot because now ya everyone is just like, ‘Girl, you need to make sure that after this you get a job because’, ya.

Int: And do you see a future for yourself in South Africa or not?

Clara: I do. I think there’s – with the work that we’re going, I think with the food – is your phone ringing?

Int: Ya.

[…]

Int: So, ya would you like to stay here in South Africa?

Clara: I wouldn’t mind staying ya. It’s – I think I’m starting to, like I said, with regards to the work that I’m doing I think it is very, like it could be very beneficial to people who are into farming and stuff so. I think I’m looking now at the nature of the work – like I’m falling in love with giving back the information to people as appose to just sitting and doing the work. I think I’m gravitating towards, ‘Okay I want to put the information out there’, as appose to writing a paper, getting a degree, keeping it, when the information could be useful to somebody. So, I realised that I think a lot of us here in South Africa, we do like amazing work and research and we – and we don’t know what to do with it after, but you’re excited that you get your degree and you go and get a job, but that work was never given to the people that need it. And I think that is something that I want to get into. So I think I want to see like…

Int: A future here for you?

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, it because you can play a role in the growth of South Africa

Clara: Ya, have an impact and ya.

Int: So, one of the things that I think have affected a lot of the participants answers on this is whether you would like to have kids or not one day.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Is that something you would like or not at all?

Clara: Would I like to have kids? Yes, definitely.

Int: And does that impact your decision about staying in South Africa or not really?

Clara: No, not really, no.

Int: Kids are just an add on.

Clara: Ya. I think you make – it is on you to make… ya. I think it’s, you make it what you can like you can make home what you think is best for your kids. And they’ll grow up and have their own perception and experiences and whatever, but, and we see what we can do with that – but ya no.

Int: And then what’s your biggest fear living in South Africa?

Clara: Oo, biggest fear, I think being raped. I think that’s something that I’m like, ‘Oo’. I can just imagine – joh, ya that.

Int: That’s the number one fear for you.

Clara: Ya.

Int: And I think a lot of that is really linked to – you said that you didn’t really go out when you were a student?

Clara: Ya, no.

Int: Have you ever gone out to the clubs?

Clara: I have.

Int: And it’s just not your vibe?

Clara: Ya, no. Crowded places, I can’t.

Int: Rowdy people.

Clara: Noise, yah, no.

Int: When you were out in the clubs were you ever worried about your drink being spiked?

Clara: No, I think for the times that I went it was like – it was on days when, or like I went when it was earlier, when it’s not too packed and I always make sure I go with people I trust, so like. And obviously guys and stuff, but you make sure that the people you’re with are people you can trust and they are on the lookout for you as well, so nah I wasn’t really worried about that.

Int: Another thing that always comes up is that when you go into a club in South Africa as a woman you are almost guaranteed to get touched inappropriately. Is that something you have experienced, or is that something that you know of?

Clara: I know of it happening to people, but I, I have not experienced it, ya.

Int: Going out in Stellenbosch and have you gone out here in Pretoria or not?

Clara: Um, ya no I haven’t. Not in Pretoria, no.

Int: And then going out in Stellenbosch.

Clara: I think I have gone out in – at home. In like Volstruis, where I grew up. That’s where my siblings and I go out there. And in Stellenbosch, probably once or twice but it was not late, like early hours mainly before it gets really packed.

Int: And like similar type of vibe or was it different?

Clara: It’s different, but still I would always be around like people that I feel safe around and ya.

Int: So, the people are what made you feel safe.

Clara: Ya I think there was a lot of – or rather, I think that the people that you are with they have a potential to have you raise your guard up or down. So, if it’s people that you trust then you’re like, ‘Okay, I’m not worried about that’. And you know it’s just about having fun and you have fun without thinking, ‘Ooo, my drink’ or this, because you know that maybe this person’s going to get your drink and they going to bring it directly to you and they don’t stop by or leave it, or things like that.

Int: Because you’re with people they’ll watch for you and you’ll watch out for them.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Ya, I think that’s a big thing as well. So, back on the rape thing, I think a lot of South African women fear that, that is something that we grow up hearing stories about. And if we look at the statistics. It’s absolutely mad. And the big thing has become, ‘How do we change this?’. I mean it is clearly such an issue. How do you think we should change this or how should we go about changing this?

Clara: There’s - \*Laughs. There are so many things that, um… obviously the cause of it can be a lot of, like people are doing it for different reasons. But um, recently I’m learning about attachment styles and all of that, and how like if someone is abandoned by like a parent when they were growing – when they were young. They grow up and get into relationships with people, and as soon as the people are not there when they need them they feel like, ‘Oh they’re leaving me’. And now, you respond in a certain way or you get so clingy you don’t want them to associate with other people because they make you feel like you belong and all of that.

Int: Ya, so you were talking about the attachment styles.

Clara: Ya.

Int: You leave someone, they feel this sense of abandonment and they might react in a bad way.

Clara: Ya, but I also don’t know how the solution to that can be, because I don’t think anyone knows how to be a parent when you have children.

Int: Ya.

Clara: And every child is different. And even if you have a number of children they all also have different personalities, and you’re trying to figure out everything. And all of them have different experiences of it. So, it’s a bit tricky to say, ‘This is how we can fix it’. Ya, because I mean… now, what they say is that we need to accept that this is how – that was the best thing that your parent could do, and even if it is not the best thing for you, but you just need to accept and when you have your own home then you could make it what you would regard as the best. But also, that’s also not the best for your kids maybe. You know what I mean?

Int: Yeah.

Clara: So, it’s a bit tricky.

Int: It is tricky, I mean a lot of people have, and I think quite accurately said it’s a social thing. It’s how we bring up boys and how we bring up girls. Um, and one of the things that I find so interesting is – I don’t know if you have brothers.

Clara: I do have one brother.

Int: So, when you were growing up, did you see your parents treat your brother differently to how they treated you and your sister?

Clara: No. No, I didn’t. I think. \*Laughs. I think now, as… ya, growing up I think we just had different personalities, like my sister and I, liker we’re almost very similar. And we’re very close. And my brother was just that out – that guy living his own life, and he didn’t get him but we were okay with him being himself. And now growing up, we’re just like, “Okay.” My sister and I are very close to out dad, and he’s close to our mom. So, we have that thing of, ‘Oh why doesn’t out mom do’ – like now, as girls that are big we feel like we’ve missed out something with out mom, and he’s okay with his – like, like with our mom. But he also feels like, ‘Oh something, like my dad and I are not that close’, type of thing. So, I think only when you grow up and start viewing things a certain way, that’s when you start seeing that, ‘Oh maybe I’m missing this’, or whatever. But when we were still young, I wouldn’t say there was anything that I felt less.

Int: Different.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Um, so you went out when you were younger?

Clara: No, not really.

Int: Not really. Did your brother go out?

Clara: Yeah, he did.

Int: He was the party animal of the family.

Clara: Ya, but he even did it when my parents were not agreeing, but he would find a way and just go. And it always ends messy and we’d always be like, “That’s why we don’t do it.”

Int: \*Laughs.

Clara: So.

Int: Ya.   
[Could we get the bill, please. Thanks].   
Int: One of the main things is that you go out to the club, my mom always bleats on about this, “Make sure your phone is charged, make sure you have cash, make sure you have this, make sure you’re going out with groups.” But with my boy cousins they never had anything, just “Ayt cool, enjoy yourself.”

Clara: Mm.

Int: Is your brother the same as well, or because you and your sister never really went out so your parents never really had to have that conversation?

Clara: Ya, I don’t think no. I just think it’s just boys, dating and stuff, you’d just get a heads up like, ‘Hey be careful, boys bring babies’.

Int: \*Laughs.

Clara: Ya, but I don’t think that for my brother, it was probably, ‘Ah use protection’, but with us it’s, ‘Don’t do it’.

Int: Rather stay away.

Clara: Ya, basically. But with growing up, my sister and I were just always in doors.

Int: Ya, and then last question. Are there any places in South Africa where you feel like you shouldn’t go, or won’t go?

Clara: Won’t go because it’s not safe?

Int: Ya, you won’t go specifically alone or as a woman?

Clara: Oo… I don’t know, it think for now like it’s a preference thing based on like how I feel like in the surroundings. Like I said the people make it feel safe and all of that. So, if it’s a space which does not allow for me to feel that way then I wouldn’t want to go. So, I wouldn’t put a ‘name to it’, like I don’t know.

Int: So, you’ll go anywhere as long as you have like those people with you that make you feel safe?

Clara: Ya, I think like clubs and stuff like preferably not.

Int: Ya, not your vibe.

Clara: But if it’s with this person, and it’s with my brother and sister, or my sister’s husband, then we can go. But at certain times.

Int: \*Laughs.

Clara: Like socially I’m not wired like that, I can only do like a few hours and then we can leave.

Int: I don’t blame you. I do not like the clubs anymore – I used to do it in my youth. \*Laughs. I cannot do it anymore.

Clara: Ya, you’re time is done.

Int: Ya. there is a time out. Like I got hit on by a kid who was sixteen-years old, and he was just like, “Age is just a number.” I’m like, “No, it’s a crime.” Like, ‘I can’t do this’.

Clara: \*Laughs.

Int: Ya, getting hit on in the clubs is that something, you’ve experienced?

Clara: Ya, I have.

Int: And what’s that like?

Clara: ‘Ooo, stay away from me’, like ‘Stay away from me’.

Int: Um, ya that’s basically it that I have for you today. Um, do you have any questions or concerns or anything that you would like to add you can add it now.

Clara: Um, no, I think I would ask you.

Int: Mm.

Clara: What – there was a question that you asked me about crime and unemployment and all of that. Like, what, what would you say is like…

Int: Like, my biggest fear in South Africa?

Clara: Not your biggest fear perse, but like what can we do about it. Like with all that’s happening.

Int: Like you say its just so many things at acting at once. I mean we have very high crime states solely, not solely because but we also have really high unemployment. Our rape rates and our gender-based violence rates, I think that’s linked to how we’re raising kids, like how we’re viewing the female body like there’s something, ‘You shouldn’t rape because that’s somebody’s sister, that’s somebody’s daughter’. Like, no. That is someone and that’s it.

Clara: Mm.

Int: Women should not be view as a relationship to men.

Clara: Mm. That’s true.

Int: Like that’s not how it works. That’s a persona and you can’t just treat that person like an object that you can just take.

Clara: Ya.

Int: So, to fix that is going to take a massive dismantling of how we have socially come together as a country. I mean we are a country of division.

Clara: Mm.

Int: Weirdly unified and we are a country that a lot of people feel that we are heading towards a collapse. An economic collapse, a societal collapse, a social collapse.

Clara: Ya.

Int: And that’s a terrifying thing to live with. And I would sympathise with people who leave.

Clara: Ya.

Int: Because everyone that I have spoken to who that wants to leave-

Clara: Ya, even now I was about to say-

Int: ‘I’m done I can’t do this’ – and this loadshedding is like another crack that’s forming.

Clara: Mm, another reason.

Int: And I don’t want to leave because like I say, we are a country that ahs a horrible history. It’s terrible. We have a very violent history and we have every right to have civil war. Like, a lot of people thought we were going to have a racial war, and it hasn’t happened. And you have to ask this question like, ‘Why?’. Why for a country that has so much potential to be so violent, and is violent.

Clara: It doesn’t happen.

Int: It hasn’t happened. And I think it’s because the grand majority of South Africans don’t want to fight. They’re just like, ‘Listen, we’ve got this great opportunity, we’ve got this great country with great people. we have everything that can make us great, we just need to get past all the people that are being really loud’. Those that are using activism as a way to get their way.

[…]

Int: Ya, ae using activism not to get the story across but to make themselves rich and that’s, that’s, ya. So, how do we fix it? That’s why I’m asking participants and hopefully someone is going to come with an idea.

Clara: Like I saw this the other video, I think it’s on TikTok, and there’s these classes that guys are having. They’re like doing things like Yoga and journalling and stuff. It’s like a session that they sit through and they share their stories, and use that.

Int: Ya.

Clara: I thought it was beautiful, because I saw it and it was so sad to see all the women that were commenting and saying, “We’re so glad that you’re doing the work.” Like because so many people don’t want to touch on that because it’s so uncomfortable to admit that, ‘Oh shucks, I have a issue with this’, or, ‘This is how I view women, and I want to change my perception’, and all of that. so, I saw them doing that and I was like, “Wow.”

Int: Ya, if you see that TikTok, please send it through to me, because like you say, I think that’s the biggest difficulties that people have is to say, “I’m wrong.”

Clara: Mm.

Int: Like in general just to say, “I’m wrong.”

Clara: Ya, like, ‘I didn’t know better and now I know and I want to do right’.

Int: Ya, but like that was my thing like we have this ‘#AmINext?’ and it was a great movement – in parts it was a great movement – but I think it was a great message and it got lot of people talking, specifically a lot of women talking to each other about their experiences. And it was scary and it was heart-breaking to hear how many people go through this.

Clara: Mm.

Int: But then what happened right after was ‘#Menaretrash’, and then came ‘#Notallmen’. And that kind of overshadowed everything and obviously, obviously it’s not all men.

Clara: Mm.

Int: But it’s enough men.

Clara: Ya.

Int: And it’s the men that are saying, “But it’s not me.” Like, “Okay great, I get that it’s not you but what about that friend of yours that thinks there’s such thing as a rape joke.”

Clara: Ya, that’s true.

Int: Because in my opinion. I don’t think there is such thing as a rape joke. Like there’s jokes but those things can’t come together.

Clara: Ya.

Int: And this Yoga thing I think is brilliant.

Clara: Ya.

Int: I mean we teach boys not to cry, like why?

Clara: Ya.

Int: Why is it so bad to cry. But ya that’s actually such an interesting add on thank you for that. And if you have anything else you would like to add, you are more that welcome to. But firstly, thank you so much for your time and your willingness to share your stories. This is not the easiest of conversations to have, so it means a lot to me that you are willing to talk about it, be honest about it. Ya, and have uncomfortable conversations. Cool, awesome for your time.

Clara: Thank you.