Individual Interview 10 – Jane

(Full time: 1:03:26)

Int: Hello. How are you?

Jane: Fine, and you?

Int: Good, good. So, we’re just going to go through the ethics first.

Jane: Perfect.

Int: You’ve read and understood the informed consent form?

Jane: Yes.

Int: Great. Just a basic overview of what we are going to do today. So, we’re going to look at the concept of belonging, more specifically the emotional side – so, what it means to feel a sense of belonging. And then we’re going to look at the concept of safety. And then, lastly, we’re going to look at what it means to be a South African woman in a place that is not necessarily safe and how that impacts your idea of home, and everything like that. Cool, sound good?

Jane: Sounds perfect.

Int: Any questions, concerns, deep-seated worries you want to ask, you can ask them now.

Jane: I don’t have any.

Int: Great. So, ya, like I said we’re going to start off with belonging. So, belonging has two sides to it, we have this feeling of a sense that ‘I belong’, and then also a political thing of where you belong. So, how would you describe having a feeling of belonging?

Jane: So, like how it makes you feel when you belong?

Int: Ya.

Jane: I guess, if you feel a sense of belonging that’s love and acceptance. So, ya you just feel accepted by a group.

Int: Ya, acceptance – very good.

Jane: And loved by them.

Int: So, where are spaces that you feel like you belong?

Jane: um, well, obviously your family and then in your friend group, because you selected those people so they accept you. And then, I guess, community groups – I’m part of a few community groups.

Int: And you feel a sense of belonging to these communities.

Jane: Yes, ya, especially at the scout community.

Int: Which is a big international community as well.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: Do you feel that belonging to the international community or just the South African community or just your scout group?

Jane: I haven’t really explored much internationally, but throughout South Africa I have done a lot of traveling and have partnered with a lot of other troops so, with the whole of South Africa. So, a big sense of belonging.

Int: And it’s this sense of scouting scouts?

Jane: Yes, ya. It’s lovely, you can be any scout and-

Int: You all just click like that. \*snaps.

Jane: Ya.

Int: There’s a common knowing-

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: Or what binds you guys together?

Jane: Are you asking what binds us together?

Int: Yes, ya. What binds you guys together?

Jane: I think the way that we were taught, especially like for my generation. The way we were taught, and how we had to interact and I think that – it’s just a different way, you’re not really taught that anywhere else and you don’t have to do those activities anywhere else, so. I think that just…

Int: Unites you?

Jane: Ya, pretty much.

Int: Do you feel that similar type of belonging to South Africa?

Jane: In a way… I have travelled a lot within South Africa. We have done a lot of – I think we have done like all the provinces and there is a sense of belonging, especially with the local people. I love like going to the local restaurants and bars or wherever, and then you chat to the people. So, I guess there is a bit, but then not really because there is such a divide in the country. So, I mean you can’t easily go anywhere and be accepted. So, there’s not, so much with everyone.

Int: So, you said right in the beginning that it’s people who accept you, so when you say there’s a divide in the country, I mean we do have a history of division; I mean, some would argue that is our heritage. Do you feel a sense of ‘non-acceptance’ or an inability to… connect?

Jane: I think a bit of both. It is hard to connect with everyone just because there… I want to say there’s like a barrier between lots of people, so then you know.

Int: A language barrier, a cultural barrier, a racial barrier?

Jane: Ya, I think a bit of everything.

Int: A bit of everything.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Just lot of barriers that we put in place.

Jane: Ya, so it’s hard to really connect with those people, because you’re not really from the same background.

Int: Ya. So, you don’t know the same things haven’t been through the same things.

Jane: No.

Int: But, we still try?

Jane: Yes.

Int: What are those ways that you try to cross that barrier?

Jane: Well, I’ve tried to learn some of the languages before, but lots of people don’t find that to be, um, appropriate. Ya, I’ve gotten a lot of backlash for it especially back in school. It’s um… a lot of people feel that’s their language so you don’t have a place learning it. And certain things like hairstyles and clothing – I’ve always loved the African beads and things.

Int: Patterns as well.

Jane: Ya, I mean I would – like I often look at the African prints at the fabric shops and then people like give you the skew eyes, cause ‘why you wearing their prints’, and so.

Int: It’s kind of what belongs to them, you can’t take what’s theirs.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Ya, we’re going to move a little forwards. When we’re talking about this feeling of belonging – you quite explicitly expressed a connection with people, not necessarily places.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Do you think that the people are a greater influence than place is or does place play a role?

Jane: In belonging?

Int: Ya.

Jane: Ya, I think definitely. So, ya there’s that feeling, that acceptance feeling of the people, so then that makes then a nice little community. But, place for me is… ya, is more important so – like in Pretoria with like the whole area, you do feel like you belong to Pretoria because we are from here. And then like other places, specially Cape Town, I feel like that is more where I belong and then I don’t know, you get along with those people a lot more; and there’s a lot more you can relate to.

Int: Culturally it’s a bit easier to relate to?

Jane: Yes, ya. And then like, further, further up to Sabi and those areas, weirdly enough. There’s not much out there but, ya you feel like you belong more to those areas because it relates to you more.

Int: So, one of these things that we relate to this sense of belonging is having a sense of home. Would you agree with that?

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: So, obviously you come from a home – you have a home.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Your home, that’s a place where you belong?

Jane: Yes.

Int: Your family is who you belong to.

Jane: Ya.

Int: So, have you moved before, have you not moved before, or have you always lived in one house?

Jane: Ya, so I lived in the same house when – I was born there and I lived there until I was 21 and then we moved. So, ya I always had the same house and the same school, from preschool to matric.

Int: Which is a big deal because we’re dealing with friends as well, from preschool till matric.

Jane: Yes. And all of my family members lived in the same house – most of my friends, like you guys, have lived in the same house.

Int: I feel like that is a common thing in Pretoria. You kind of just live in the same house your entire life and only really leave when, ya, you go to university or something.

Jane: Yes.

Int: So, that shift from high school to university must have been jiggered for you because you’re leaving a place you’ve known quite intimately for quite a long time, and I take it you felt like you belonged and was kind of like another home.

Jane: Yes, ya. In a way… it is sad, because I mean you spent your whole life there and now you’re leaving, but I was actually very happy to leave. It’s nice to have a new start because you’re at the same place with the same people. So, it’s nice to actually move on

Int: So, the jump between high school and university – so, university, I take it you went to university?

Jane: Yes.

Int: Studied? What did you study?

Jane: I’m doing interior design and then I’m majoring in Environmental studies.

Int: Something you chose, or something you were like pushed into.

Jane: No, I chose myself.

Int: So, the jump from high school to university was it unsettling, was it, like you said, just a new start?

Jane: No.

Int: So, you were really, really excited.

Jane: Ya, really exciting, um.

Int: Ready to get on with it.

Jane: Yes, ya. Because there is so much more freedom, so. You can do whatever you want really. So, it was nice – I preferred that. \*Laughs.

Int: \*Laughs. And then this move from one home, which you have lived in your entire life until this new home. Was that jarring, was that a bit weird, like you have to find your feet somewhere?

Jane: Yeah. That was hard. I’m a very sentimental person, so having the same house where you feel safe, like you have grown up and have all these memories, to leave it… um, was really ya, really unsettling.

Int: Understandably tough.

Jane: Ya, it was actually very hard and then to settle into this new house, it’s been three weeks now and I’m not settled at all.

Int: It’s still very, very new. It’s going to take some time.

Jane: Ya, because it’s not your home and I don’t think any other house will ever be your home.

Int: Ya, your childhood home.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: That’s actually I must remember. But ya, you’ve touched on something very important is that – like you are a very sentimental person – this childhood house technically became a childhood home because you grew up in it and I mean you know every nook, cranny, and everything about it.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: You know that, this roof leaks here or that thing will sound weird when it’s windy. And in this new house, is it kind of like you’re living in someone else’s house?

Jane: Yes, ya. It is technically that because it is being rented.

Int: Okay.

Jane: So, it is someone else’s house. Fortunately for us, we are allowed to do whatever we want to the place so we can make it feel more like our house. But ya, it’s, it’s different sounds at night, and different noises, and this thing rattles here and this thing makes that noise and it’s very unsettling trying to learn the sounds.

Int: So, do you feel – you have to learn the sounds. \*Laughs.

Jane: Ya. \*Laughs.

Int: So, you said you felt safe in your childhood home?

Jane: Yes.

Int: And in this house, you feel unsettled – not safe yet?

Jane: I mean, I guess I feel safe, because it’s in a secure complex. So, I mean from that aspect I feel safe, but not settled.

Int: Not settled – hopefully not yet, hopefully it will come with time.

Jane: \*Laughs. You can only hope.

Int: So, when you guys were moving, I don’t know if you were part of this, but the aspect of safety – how high did that rank on your list of wants? Like, ‘I want a garden, I want’, I don’t know, ‘a sink, two sinks’. How high did safety rank on that list?

Jane: Ya, it was very high on the list because where my childhood home was, was next to the highway, so there were often a lot of burglaries because it’s easy access for people to hop over there. So, we did have lots of burglaries, but you know, it doesn’t make you feel safe but it is still the place where you kind of feel safe. so, now when we moved we had to make sure that we’re not in a sketchy area, you’re hopefully in a complex or if you do move to a place that is not in a complex that there is a security gate on all the doors, burglar bars on all the windows, an alarm – you know, something. So, it was very high on the list.

Int: You’ve touched again on something that I think links to all South Africans – we live in very fortified homes. Our houses are like, high walls, gates, and alarm systems and everything. We live in basically forts. Could you walk me through the new security measures that you have in this new house.

Jane: So in this place, mm, it’s not as high as the other house. There it was electric fencing everywhere, it was beams, it was security gates, it was alarms, it was everything. In this new place, it’s in a gated community so you have to like open a boom to get in, and out complex is right by the entrance of the boom gate so there is a security guard there, which is nice. You also have to come in with a remote. But the houses don’t… they have locks at the doors, no security gates and no alarms. It just something they don’t.

Int: Is it a bit weird, because you’re coming from a house fortified to-

Jane: Yes. \*Laughs.

Int: I mean a gated community is kind of fortified but your house itself isn’t.

Jane: So, it is a bit, you know it feels unsettling to not set an alarm or to not close your security gate. And the walls are quite low between the houses. But the perimeter walls are quite high, I guess, with fencing, so. Ya. It’s a bit of a strange one.

Int: I mean, it’s just new houses, new environments. You have to get used to these things. Um, you mentioned earlier that you had quite a few burglaries at your old house. Do you mind if we speak about them for a bit?

Jane: Sure, ya.

Int: So, when did they start, how many were there, what can you remember?

Jane: Ya. Well, it’s been throughout my life really. When we were younger, back then crime wasn’t as hectic I guess, so everyone was more relaxed. So sometimes – we had a car taken from our garage.

Int: Geez, okay.

Jane: So, someone broke the main gate and then stole the car. \*Laughs. And obviously then you like get more locks and fencing and stuff. There were a few, but the main – there were two main ones. Once someone got in – oh and that’s another thing with that house, we had armed response.

Int: Oh, okay.

Jane: And they were very, very, very good. It was like a two minute response time, because they lived down the road. And they were always armed so obviously that was nice. So ya, they broke in from the main gate, they broke the security door and the front door. Smashed the front door. And stole a bunch of things from the lounge and they, um, rummaged through our rooms. Which was – that was a horrible feeling because that’s really your personal place. And I had someone go through my box of underwear. \*Laughs. Like they had gone through my cupboard with my clothing, so that was ya; that’s not very nice. And then the second time they came through the back, they broke our pedestrian gate out of the wall.

Int: Geez, okay.

Jane: Yeah, and there’s no alarm there so they had time to do that. And then they smashed our back door, it’s security gate, and then they also just stole things in the lounge.

Int: Were you guys there for any of these?

Jane: Luckily not. The last one I mentioned, my brother was supposed to be home alone that day.

Int: Ya, thank God he wasn’t.

Jane: Ya. My mom had to fetch me from Hartbeespoort from a rowing practice thing and then my brother just decided to go with her and keep her company on the drive and that’s when they broke-in.

Int: Geez, but thank God, I mean-

Jane: Ya.

Int: It would be really scary if you were like sitting at home and then someone just started banging on the gate.

Jane: Ya.

Int: I think that’s an experience a lot of South Africans have had. I don’t take it that you have – you have been away during all of the burglaries?

Jane: Ya, luckily.

Int: Luckily. And ya, you side something very interesting – the car was stolen, we increase security.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Something stolen we increase security. Every single time this happens, we increase our security, and yet, for you, the burglaries still continued.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: So, these security measures that we put in place, are they actually doing anything or – well, they could. They could be making it more difficult.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Or are they just giving us a sense of ‘at least, I’ve done what I can. I’m safe now because I did x, y, and z’?

Jane: Ya, that’s tricky cause it is false security really. I think it just slows the people down, but it – if someone is desperate enough they can do whatever they want to do, so. Ya I don’t know if… I mean you can add more security but it doesn’t really-

Int: Stop it.

Jane: Ya. But what I did find, someone did keep breaking my car window, to steal things in my car. And then I would just leave the car unlocked so they would stop breaking my windows and I stop having to replace it. And funny enough, something like a rubber snake in the car.

Int: \*Laughs.

Jane: That stopped it immediately. I don’t think we were burgled ever since that.

Int: Geez.

Jane: At all in the house. Just having-

Int: A rubber snake.

Jane: Rubber snakes in our cars at night.

Int: That is a very interesting safety precaution to have.

Jane: Ya.

Int: I mean we can actually talk about that for a bit, because it’s one of the questions. What – expect for the rubber snake – what are the daily safety precautions that you take?

Jane: Um, I guess… locking the house in the morning, and when I have to leave, I lock one thing at a time and make sure, you know, you check behind you, lock the doors – I mean if someone is waiting there you can quickly run back inside. If I get in my car, I always check around me and then quickly get in and lock it immediately. I guess at robots and things, especially at night, then like I’ll lock around me every two seconds to check if…

Int: Anyone’s there.

Jane: Ya, I guess like just being vigilant.

Int: I don’t know if you have ever left South Africa – have you ever travelled internationally?

Jane: No. Unfortunately.

Int: Don’t worry, you still have time. You’re still young, I mean geez.

Jane: Ya.

Int: So, this sense of being vigilant, is that something you’re always doing; that you are always checking around, you’re always watching out?

Jane: Ya.

Int: Is there any moment where you stop looking around?

Jane: Um… no, I don’t think so. \*Laughs. I guess, not as like hectically as you do sometimes, but ya. I’m so used to it now, I just look around, ya.

Int: It’s just second nature.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Also, like locking the gates it’s just something that you have to deal with. Something you have to think about or, ‘ag I just have to do it’?

Jane: Ya, I don’t even think I think about it, I just do it.

Int: With the burglaries, especially the one where they rummaged through your bed room, I mean that’s violating on quite a few levels. And you said that one was a tough one. The bounce back to ‘someone broke into my house’- what’s that feeling; what’s that like when you arrive home and ‘someone’s been in my house and they have taken my things’, what does that feel like?

Jane: Yoh, it’s such a hard feeling to explain. I think… you feel like – it’s like you’re instantly scared because you think like, you know, ‘is someone still here? Are they watching you? What are they doing?’. And then it’s like, it’s a loss. Like just that empty feeling because you’re sad because… it’s your stuff and it’s your space and now a stranger has come in there, and for me it’s almost sad… I don’t want to say that the person was dirty because I don’t know, but there’s just like this dirty feeling like ‘my stuff’, I don’t know, ‘kind of been contaminated in a way’ – like it’s someone else’s…

Int: Hands.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Someone else’s hands that I don’t know, someone I didn’t welcome into my home has touched my things.

Jane: Exactly.

Int: And that bounce back to that feeling, ‘okay this is my home, this is my feelings’, like it’s no longer dirty – I feel like we can use that word. How long did that take? Did it get easier the more this happened?

Jane: I think… I don’t think it ever really goes away but I think after a few weeks you realise that you’re fine.

Int: ‘I’m safe again, this is alright’.

Jane: Like I don’t think that they are easily going to come in the house if I am here. So at least in that sense I know that if I’m here, I’m fine.

Int: Ya, so we’re going to move on a little bit. How would you describe your life as a South African woman living in South Africa?

Jane: \*Laughs. Um… hard.

Int: Hard.

Jane: Yeah. I think that we go through quite a lot as women in general, and then I think in South Africa where I just don’t think we really have enough laws in place and we don’t really have any actual security that will – like police wise – that will actually enforce anything. So, I think it is just hard for us because we really have to be like vigilant all the time and most times you have to have like, um… I don’t want to say like weapon, but something to protect yourself. Like sometimes if I travel I’ve got like a little wooden stokkie in my car or um, a panic button on my phone things like that. So, I just think it makes it a lot harder for us.

Int: Ya, I mean I had a friend back in high school who used to carry around a pair of knuckle dusters with her.

Jane: Geez.

Int: Like in a pink little clutch, like it was the strangest-

Jane: Oh, classy.

Int: Ya! She would just whip out a pair of knuckle dusters, like, ‘okay’.

Jane: \*Laughs. Geez.

Int: Intense. I don’t know if you have ever had to deal with the South African Police Force?

Jane: Um, yes.

Int: How was that experience, what did you have to do?

Jane: Um, yoh… a few times I had things stolen from me so I had to go-

Int: Report it.

Jane: Go to the police station – yes – and get an affidavit for the insurance. And that process, \*Sighs, takes forever. They’re not very friendly. Often – after I had my car accident last year, I had to go to the police station. You have to fill out those incident reports. And I don’t, I just – I was so um… upset and flustered still from the accident that I didn’t really know what I was doing, and they were so rude; no one wanted to help me, it was just such an unpleasant experience.

Int: Ya.

Jane: So, that – from that it’s just, ya. Not great.

Int: Shame, that must have been terrible. You just had an event happened to you and you’re still flustered and now you have to do paperwork and no one is like, “Hey, are you okay?”

Jane: Ya.

Int: Would that have helped, if one of the officers were like, “Are you okay? Do you need some water, do you need to just sit down for a bit?”

Jane: Ya. I think it would have been nicer, or if they had just said, “Hi, are you confused like can I help you; okay, don’t stress this is what you do.”

Int: Just a sense of care would have helped.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Was there a sense of care or service?

Jane: No, absolutely not.

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

Jane: \*Sighs. Ya, it’s tricky. We’ve had very good friend of ours work in the Police Force, as profilers and as just general policemen. So, you know, we’ve gotten the in’s and out’s from them – how understaffed they are and how underpaid; that is also why they aren’t so kind to people because they feel like, ‘Why must I give you good service I’m not being treated well’. So, I do understand that aspect of it. Um…but then, you know, corruption and all of that. So, then, you know, we hear other stories because my dad works in the armoury business. So, you know, he often tells us, you know, “This huge thing happened and it was policemen who did it” – you know, who robbed the armoury and they did this and they did that, or they confiscated all these guns and then they went missing and it was them. So, you hear all these other stories from other people as well. And then you think, you know, ‘You’re not really here to serve or protect, you’re just here to steal’. It’s insane.

Int: Oh, I was going to ask this question, but it completely just jumped my mind… oh! Do you have any faith that if you go to the South African Police Force, specifically for things that were stolen, that you would have your goods returned to you or that the criminals are caught.

Jane: No.

Int: So, you only go to report it for the affidavit for the insurance?

Jane: Yeah.

Int: If that wasn’t an aspect – if you could just go to the insurance without an affidavit, would you even think about reporting the crime?

Jane: Not at all.

Int: There’s no use in it, there’s no point in it – save yourself some trauma.

Jane: Absolutely not, no.

Int: That’s another thing. They do say we get secondary victimisation. So, firstly you are victimised because of the crime and then you go to the police and they’re just completely apathetic and well, pathetic as well. So, you get that secondary victimisation – did you get that as well?

Jane: Ya. Ya, no definitely.

Int: if someone had just shown some care, it would have gone just a lot better?

Jane: Ya, definitely.

Int: So, the next question is – do you feel safe in South Africa?

Jane: …That’s tricky…it’s strange because, I mean, no; because there are so many things that happen you can’t say that you are safe, but then I think you can’t say your safe anywhere in the world necessarily. I mean, there is stuff that does on everywhere, and I still feel safe enough to jog alone, hike alone, travel alone, especially because I live in Pretoria, if I travel anywhere else – Cape Town, the coast, or wherever - I will still happily, even if I don’t know the area, I will jog by myself, drive alone. You know, I’m still okay with that. So, I think I still feel a sense of safety, but you know if I – I think I just want to feel that, so I’m fine with it, but if I actually think about it, no, I’m not safe at all.

Int: I like how you say, ‘I want to feel a sense of safety’. Why do you want to feel that?

Jane: I think, it’s just… if you feel safe and you feel at ease, you’re not stressing the whole time, it’s just easier-

Int: To live?

Jane: Ya, if you’re not on edge that something is going to happen to you all the time. So, ya, I think if you feel safe you’re just a lot happier – a lot calmer. So, I think that’s why you would want to be safe.

Int: You see that is one of the aspects of belonging, is this sense of safety, and that’s also an aspect of home is – home is a ‘safe place’, for a lot of people; and we belong where it feels like home. And you’re saying that you want to feel safe – is that what enables you feel a sense of belonging? Is this feeling that you want – that you need to want to have this is what stops you from having a full sense of belonging?

Jane: Ya I think, safety definitely does like influence your belonging, because if you feel safe with a group of people or in a place, then you’re going to relax, you’re going to open up and then they will accept you and then you share – I don’t know you share stuff with them.

Int: Ya, stories, food, wine, ya.

Jane: Ya, and then that makes your little community that you belong to. So, ya it definitely does play a role.

Int: So, we spoke previously about this safety conscious – that you are always looking around, that you’re always aware of your safety. Um, it might not be in the front of your mind, but it is always in the back of your mind .

Jane: Ya.

Int: Is this something you’ve always lived with or is this something that you grew up and realised?

Jane: No, we were always taught – I mean when you’re little, like you always sing these little songs to remind you of the emergency numbers and you-

Int: You do?

Jane: Ya, like the one-triple-one, we had-

Int: Oh!

Jane: We had a little song in pre-school – ag, I can’t remember it now, but it’s something like, ‘who do you call… look at my hand… oh, one oh, triple one’.

Int: \*Laughs.

Jane: And then there’s one – zero, one, whatever like a little rhyme.

Int: In like pre-school?

Jane: Ya, and then that whole ‘stranger danger’ thing, like you are always taught it. And whenever – I know my family might just be different – but whenever we would go to shops and things, you’re always taught like ‘hold the hands’ and um, and then we would always be reminded, I don’t know why, that if we don’t hold our parents hands on the escalators or that we don’t stay close to them, that we’re going to be kidnapped. \*Laughs. You know.

Int: \*Laughs. Like in the middle of the shops, ‘hold me or you’re going to be fucking kidnapped’.

Jane: Ya, so I think they kind of like scare you into like wanting to be like closer for your safety. So, ya I think we were always just taught that.

Int: I mean you’ve got a brother.

Jane: Yes.

Int: So, I take it that you go out the clubs, you know, a university student you go out.

Jane: Ya, ya.

Int: And your brother goes out or not really.

Jane: Not as much as I do, but he does yes.

Int: When you leave the house, is it different for you leaving compared to when he’s leaving?

Jane: Ah, it’s interesting… actually no, I don’t think so. If he leaves and I’m home alone, um… ya, you see I feel that sense of safety still, so I’m relatively fine but it is, it is always more reassuring to know someone is in the house.

Int: Ya, so when you go out to the clubs, are there any specific safety precautions you take as a woman? That perhaps your brother doesn’t have to take or your guys friends don’t have to take?

Jane: What you wear. Not that it really stops you from wearing what you want to wear, but you must – I always just think like if I’m going to wear a top that is more relieving, I must just look out more. That’s just something I think about, doesn’t stop me from wearing it. Also, covering drinks. If you have a cup with a straw, you just put your hand over it. If I have a beer, I put my finger into the beer things like that. If I go to the bathroom, you don’t just walk in and close the door, like you walk in, look, close the door, just quickly. I always just make a note where bouncers are and where, like, a clear exit is. And I am just overly vigilant wherever we go out. So, I often notice like, you know, people stare at you when you go out.

Int: Ya.

Jane: That’s just what they do. And then they stare at your friends – people are just a bit creepy. So, I always notice if someone is watching me or is watching a friend, or is watching anyone. So, I just keep an eye on the people.

Int: Is it people or is it men?

Jane: Men. \*Laughs. But I don’t want to say that because I have been, not harassed, but I have been followed by women before.

Int: I’ve been harassed by women before, ya.

Jane: So, it is a kind of harassing – but that was once or twice but mainly-

Int: Not as often.

Jane: Ya, mainly men.

Int: What’s it like to be hit on in a South African club by South African men?

Jane: It’s icky. It’s icky ya. Well, for myself, I have a boyfriend so it’s, ah, it’s – I don’t like it. Even if I didn’t have a boyfriend I would still have a problem with it, just because I think, if I’m not giving you any sort of look, or anything, don’t, just don’t come to me because I’m clearly not interested. So, often when you get – I want to say harassed, cause they come to you like, ‘ah hello’, and often they are very touchy and it’s just, it’s – I don’t want to say it’s off putting, but-

Int: It is off putting.

Jane: It is off putting, but it’s uncomfortable.

Int: One of the participants had said earlier that when they go out to the club, it’s almost a given that they will be touched inappropriately. Is that something you have experienced as well?

Jane: Ya, definitely.

Int: You just know it’s going to happen.

Jane: Ya, you know you’re going to be touched or someone is going to try flirt with you or they’re, I don’t know, offer you a drink or do something. Oh, that’s another safety thing is don’t accept drinks from strangers.

Int: Ya, I mean spiking, throughout all the interviews I’ve done, all the women have said, “Spiking that’s the number one thing you look out for.”

Jane: Ya.

Int: Have you had an experience with spiking, have you been out with friends who have been spiked.

Jane: I have before.

Int: Geez.

Jane: I went out with one of my guy friends and, funny enough I had my arm in a sling so I was somewhat-

Int: Disabled?

Jane: Ya, I had one arm. And it was quite a quit night and we were in Hatfield, at Aandklass, and it was a very chilled evening. And at some point – which I only learnt the next day – my guy friend had a bit of an altercation with the guy at the bar. And I didn’t realise anything, and I was really good with my drinks that night because I saw some sketchy guys. I had my fingers on the drink, like I was really good. And at one point, I really just felt ill, so I went to the bathroom and I locked the door. And then I just went like completely limp in the bathroom, and I could not get up at a point.

Int: Geez.

Jane: So, I was trying to call other people to come help me.

Int: In the bathroom?

Jane: Ya.

Int: You’re there like calling strangers to come help you.

Jane: Ya, because I could barely…

Int: Move.

Jane: Ya. And eventually a lady came and she helped get me out, because I eventually opened the door. And then I lay on the bench outside and she sat with me.

Int: A stranger or someone who works there.

Jane: A complete stranger.

Int: Just a fellow woman who was like, “Listen this chick needs help.”

Jane: Ya. She went on my phone and she called my emergence contact which was then my boyfriend. And um… ya, I could barely do anything. I was completely limp. So, I think from that – I mean you hear stories – if a guy was trying to, you know.

Int: Do something or if he was outside the bathroom and saw it happen.

Jane: And it’s, um, the whole night’s pretty blurry and there are some sections I completely blank. So, I think if someone was trying to do what they wanted to do they probably would have been able to as sad as that sounds, so ya.

Int: Well, thank goodness for this woman, I mean. I do have a theory that a woman’s bathroom is somewhat of a sanctuary.

Jane: Yes.

Int: You go to a woman’s bathroom, ten to one it’s almost always so busy – there’s so many women there. Everyone’s having a conversation, you might just chat to a stranger.

Jane: And some places have those panic buttons now in the bathrooms.

Int: Which is also now an added level of security. I mean, that would have been great in your situation but luckily this fellow woman was there to help.

Jane: Ya.

Int: What we do see now is that there are woman involved in these spiking schemes or these kidnapping schemes who are working with me – sex trafficking or just sexual assaults.

Jane: Ya.

Int: How do we view these women? How do you view these women?

Jane: Who are like the front person?

Int: Ya. Who are kind of like, ‘I’m a symbol of safety, I’m a fellow woman, but I’m actually helping these guys’. How do you view those women?

Jane: It’s disappointing. Ya, I mean… we were once burgled by a lady. She had a gardener that she drove to people’s gardens, like a garden service. And we trusted her because she was like this old sweet lady. Meantime, she was like taking these people to like canvas houses and then come rob them. She was the getaway car.

Int: This granny.

Jane: Ya!

Int: Geez.

Jane: I mean you wouldn’t think.

Int: No, of course not. It’s a granny.

Jane: Because it was a woman we were like, ‘she’s so nice and so sweet’, like, ‘we trust her’. And ya, it’s just so disappointing to hear that because then you think ‘who can you now really trust’, you know. Because now your women who you thought were your people are now not really.

Int: Exactly. I mean, in this bathroom you are completely limp, you’re completely defenceless.

Jane: Ya.

Int: If a guy had come in, would you have trusted him to help you?

Jane: Oh God no.

Int: Oh God no.

Jane: \*Laughs. No ways.

Int: So, it was only because she was a woman that you were like, ‘here’s my phone, help me’.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Could you speak at this time or?

Jane: Um…

Int: Did she know what was going on?

Jane: I think I could kind of speak – I can’t really remember too much. I think I could kind of make out what needed to be done. Like, ‘phone – call’, something ya. But ya, I don’t really know, it’s not very clear.

Int: Ya, I mean, when we’re talking about these aspects of safety, that we have to be so safety conscious and that there are certain people that we just can’t trust and sometimes it surprises us – sometimes it’s a flipping granny who like helping canvas houses. Which is also very strange like geez. Do you feel as though you are free in South Africa?

Jane: Free to do what I would like or?

Int: Ya. Free in the general sense – it’s just because of this aspect of safety that we have to just be so vigilant, does that prevent our freedom?

Jane: I think… ya, I do – I mean, I do feel like I can still. I mean, I can go where I want, I can do what I want, I can – especially nowadays you can… I feel like we actually can do a lot more nowadays. But… again like ya, I won’t very easily travel somewhere because I know it might be a bit more sketchy.

Int: Where are those places where you feel that you juts cannot go, specially as a woman or alone?

Jane: Um… I think, I mean like… I really like, as funny as this is, I like driving into town.

Int: \*Laughs.

Jane: And I love looking at the old buildings because I really like architecture and sometimes I just really want to photograph some of the buildings. But I can’t drive there by myself, especially if I’m going there with my camera. Ya, I will either, one hundred percent, be robbed or mugged or whatever, ya I can’t do that. So, if I need to do that, I would go with a person and then you kind of have to be like, hide with your camera. We recently went to Cape Town and those areas – there are quite some areas that are poor and people are desperate.

Int: Ya, Cape Town. I mean, I think it has one of the highest… juxtapositions between socio-economic standards. I mean, you have some of the poorest South Africans and then the richest of South Africans.

Jane: Ya, it’s eye opening. And there I would walk around with my camera because I love photography. So, you know, want to talk photos of the buildings, and whatevers. But every time someone walks past me, I have to put it under my bag, I have to always make sure my bag is zipped closed, that it’s over my-

Int: Shoulder.

Jane: Over my shoulder – camera’s over my shoulder, the bag is hidden. So, ya.

Int: It’s a lot of extra things that you had to do?

Jane: So, ya – it’s actually everywhere, it’s not like a specific place, but um, if you want to go to more… local places, where it’s not so touristy, then those places are.

Int: You have to watch out for.

Jane: Ya.

Int: So, ya, one of the places that have come up quite constantly and you’ve mentioned it, Town – Pretoria CBD. Would you ever go into Hatfield CBD – Hillbrow?

Jane: No.

Int: Ya, that’s another thing that has come out of a lot people, “Not a chance.” Hatfield – not Hatfield, Hillbrow, “Not a chance.”

Jane: No. I would actually rather spend my day in Pretoria CBD than anywhere Joburg and further down like that. Definitely.

Int: Don’t blame you – I really don’t blame you.

Jane: I think ours is still relatively okay.

Int: Ya, one participant called it a jungle – like they were talking about like how they would go to Pretoria CBD, that’s no issue, no problem. But Joburg CBD, that’s a Jungle-

Jane: Definitely no.

Int: You just don’t go there. That’s a big ‘no-no’.

Jane: Definitely not.

Int: So, ya, the only reason why you would go into CBD is because of the Architecture. I think it is what, one fo the oldest cities in South Africa, it really is beautiful – we have the union buildings there, I think there are old courthouses there-

Jane: Yes!

Int: There’s Church Street there. I mean it really is stunning. So, I take it you’ve gone in there, you’ve taken photos of these things.

Jane: Mmmh.

Int: What was that experience like, where you’re always stressing out or were there moments where you get back into your car like, ‘I’m safe now’?

Jane: Ya, I think you’re always watching so you’re always on edge the whole time, so you can’t really relax and enjoy like what you’re looking at. Sometimes it is a bit concerning to take a photo with your camera because you have to stand still, you have to look through the lens, so you’re not watching around you. So, it is a bit of a… ya, when you’re done it is a bit of a \*breathes out. “Okay, let’s go.”

Int: So, do you see – maybe we’ll do that one later. What do you fear most living in South Africa?

Jane: What do I fear most… I think… ya, I think one of my biggest fears is just death in general. So, I think here it would be, to experience – there’s been so many horrible murders lately, and it’s to actually a few people that we know, not personally but in our circles.

Int: In your community.

Jane: Um ya. So, I think my biggest fear is to have a horrible death like that or one of my people having a horrible death. A murder.

Int: One of the things that seem to accompany a lot of the murders in South Africa, specifically when it’s women, it’s rape. Is that something you fear heavily, is that something you worry and stress about?

Jane: Ya. It does cross my mind often if I go anywhere. So, ya there is a bit of fear as well.

Int: Ya, I mean … you’re a student, I don’t know if you were at university, specifically Tuks university – it’s the Pretoria university.

Jane: No, I’m at Inscape.

Int: Inscape – it actually might be interesting if this crossed over there. But have you hear of the #AmINext? movement?

Jane: Yes.

Int: Were you at university when that was going because it was a big university pushed movement?

Jane: I don’t think so, no. I took a few years before studying, so I think it was during my gap years ya.

Int: So, you hear about this event during your gap year.

Jane: Ya.

Int: It was quite a massive thing on the university campuses because, I mean, it was a university student that this happened to. And then all of the South African universities kind of came together to find this girl and then the news came out that they found her body – raped, mutilated, burnt. And-

Jane: Horrible.

Int: A very, very terrible death. In a Post Office no less, and that I think was what shocked a lot of people that it was in a simple thing; it was not like she was in a dodge area or a sketchy area, it was in her area. So, what was that like, not being in a university centre but have this movement happen so quickly around you?

Jane: Um, well, ya it’s scary but you know, they always say that something tragic has to happen before there’s change. So, I was actually quite um… I don’t want to… I was happy that there was a movement now; that there was actual-

Int: Action?

Jane: Ya, and like people taking action. And it was horrible so I’m not happy that it happen, but I was happy that actually something was being done about it. And because I wasn’t at university at the time, it was nice to be a part of it but not in that sense – in the outside.

Int: In the activist part, ya.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Did you join the protests, were you online with the voicing of opinions and sharing of stories? Because that was another thing that came with this?

Jane: Not so much online. I try to avoid that because I know that sometimes has a lot of issues. I mean.

Int: Cancel culture is quite toxic.

Jane: Ya. And you know, I try to stay clear of that. But I did… you know, we spoke a lot about it with people – every women you saw like we were speaking about what happened. In friends and family it’s discussed; I mean from there we would share it with everyone.

Int: Was that a sense you did feel – the question ‘Am I next’ came out from conversation on university campuses where people were like, ‘this could happen to anyone like – am I the next one, it could be me’. Is that something you think is possible or ?

Jane: I definitely think everyone has the chance or the, ya, of being-

Int: We don’t want to say opportunity because that sounds a bit positive, but ya.

Jane: Ya. \*Laughs.

Int: It’s a possibility.

Jane: Yes, ya. I think everyone does have that possibility, so its not like a one in a million really.

Int: It’s not a specific person this could happen to – well, we could say it’s not a specific woman that this could happen to.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Because the likelihood of this happening to a man is-

Jane: Much less.

Int: Much less – I mean, men do get raped but we’re talking about maybe one or two percent of rape cases.

Jane: Ya.

Int: And then, ya, men’s response to the #AmINext? movement-

Jane: Agg.

Int: Ya, there were a lot because the #AmINext? was kind of followed up by the ‘men are trash’ movement.

Jane: Yes.

Int: And then that was followed up by the #NotAllMen. And I agree with you, I think this is a social media thing. Where it was just like fighting on both sides.

Jane: Yes, ya. I also think the labels, like the ‘men are trash’, ag… I understand where it’s coming from but I don’t think that wording needed to be used because that just creates a bigger issue, because then it’s good men saying, “I’m not part of this.” But the label is on them, which is not technically fair. But I do think men will always have a problem with any kind of protest that women do. If we – ‘am I next’ – it’s women doing it because women feel unsafe and men will always have a problem with that because it’s the men causing problems, so they will always try to stand up for themselves.

Int: Even if they are ‘part of the good men’, who aren’t rapist and murders – I mean, obviously, obviously it’s not all men.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: We know that okay.

Jane: They just get so…

Int: Defensive?

Jane: Yes. \*Laughs.

Int: Which shocks me, because if you know it’s not you-

Jane: Why are you taking offence.

Int: Why are you taking offence – I mean they say ‘all white people are racists’, I know I’m not racist so I don’t take offence; I’m sure there are quite a few. But I do find it interesting, like you say, when women have this call for like, ‘let’s make a change – I really feel like I could be next’, and men’s response is like, ‘stop overreacting’.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Which is find very interesting because that’s what’s linked to being a women id the emotional sense. And one person once said, “It is time to cry, like this is the time to show emotion; this is the time to cry.” And yet, when we do that, specifically when women do it, you are seen as irrational.

Jane: Oh ya, definitely.

Int: Have you seen that in the protests or is that something you’ve seen in private conversations?

Jane: Ya, I think it’s everywhere really. I’ve sometimes had people call me hysterical and like overreacting, you know, and things like that. And I think like, ‘if a man did it, it would be fine’.

Int: ‘If a man did it’, it would be completely different – ya, I agree with you.

Jane: So, I think… ya, it’s personal conversations, I’ve seen it in public. It’s ya.

Int: I mean that’s one of the other things to belongings. One of the aspects is ‘we belong where we feel safe’ – we don’t always feel safe in South Africa; we want to feel safe in South Africa and that might just be what enables us to have a sense of belonging. But if we remove safety from the equation of belonging, there’s another way of looking at it, and that’s this ability to have a voice or this ability to have a voice respected and heard. Do you think South African women have a voice and is it respected and heard?

Jane: I think we have more of a voice than we ever have had, and in some instances it is respected. But when it comes to anything, I want to say political or anything that requires power, it’s not.

Int: So, when is it heard because you said there are places where it is heard?

Jane: I think in these movements now in universities and in, um, our years, like this-

Int: Our generation.

Jane: Yes, ya. We respect everyone of what they’re saying and if someone says this, we will go stand by them and we will, um, listen and stuff, but if it’s anyone older than us then there’s still that old way of thinking then I don’t think women really – I mean, you can talk but no one’s really going to-

Int: Listen.

Jane: Ya.

Int: We have – I don’t know if you know what’s happening in Iran?

Jane: Kind of. I’ve heard a little bit about what’s happening there.

Int: Ya, there’s big unrest, a lot of women have been imprisoned, and there is this situation where… it’s getting to a point, and one of the theorist that I use quite a lot in this – she talks about the state of South African women, it’s going to get to a point where surely these women are going to say ‘I’ve had enough’, like, ‘I need to fight back’. And that’s technically what’s happening in Iran – right now these women have said, “I’ve had enough, I don’t want to live according to these oppressive laws. I’m pushing back, I’m fighting back.” And they are fighting back – we’re talking about actual, like petrol bombs and riots in the streets, and burning of the Hijab. So, there is literal violence happening. But this theorist says, that if we are going to fight against this violence and we use violence, it’s only going to end up in more violence. Is something you agree with, is something you maybe see a different way of viewing?

Jane: I think… it makes sense, um… there will just be fighting. No one’s going to stop. But then another part of me just thinks ‘well, if they’re violent and you are not, they’re just going to be violent to you and you’re going to be stuck in the same situation’.

Int: Exactly – how do we change this?

Jane: Ya, so it’s just such a fine balance between the two.

Int: I mean what’s happening in Iran, do you think South Africa is heading to a point like that because we have some of the highest rape rates and gender-based violence rates in the world. Is there a point, in your opinion, where South African are literally going to break and say, ‘I’ve had enough, I’m now going to riot in the street, I’m going to buy a gun – I’m literally taking these matters into my hands now’?

Jane: I think at some point there is a possibility of it. And I think, South Africa specifically, we’ve got so many other issues as well. I think if one movement had to fight, like ‘women’s rights’ and stuff had to fight, there would be all these other things that would all come together, and it would just be like more than one. So, not necessarily just women’s rights, it would end up being a huge…

Int: Battle and ya.

Jane: Ya, being a war between everyone. So, I think we will eventually-

Int: Get to that point.

Jane: Ya, but I think… South Africa, specifically is so unstable, you actually have to think about it and be quite carful because I think it will just end up being a lot more than one battle at a time. If that makes sense.

Int: Ya, I completely understand. It’s like everything has been building and eventually the bubbles going to either burst – I mean a lot of people thought that was going to happen after the fall of apartheid. A lot of , a lot international agencies thought that South Africa was going to turn completely on it’s head, it’s going to be complete bloodshed. And I mean the shift to democracy, in relation, to other shifts in democracy was fairly peaceful. I mean, there was still bloodshed, people did die. And that seemed to happen and then it almost got to a point where, ‘this could happen but I don’t think it’s going to’.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: But then again we do have a situation where people say South Africans have a culture of violence.

Jane: Ya.

Int: I mean we have a terrible history of violence, even now we have a very violent culture in South Africa. Would you say that South Africans are violent people?

Jane: Ya. I think more than most. Ya, I think… like we often joke about it, like if you… like hidings.

Int: Yes!

Jane: Like that’s normal in South Africa – if you’re naughty I’ll just slap you on the bum.

Int: Ya, exactly – you’ll get klapped with a slop.

Jane: Ya, or a belt or whatever. And then we grow up with that and we think ‘that’s pretty normal, I’m going to do it to my child’.

Int: Exactly.

Jane: So, ya I think we often joke – I know in Afrikaans specifically, it’s like, um, “I’ll just klap him.” You know, you just make these little jokes and but um. \*Laughs. It’s, you’re not really going to mean it, but ya, you are still saying it so you are still thinking it so. Whenever something bothers you, the first reaction is-

Int: Make a joke.

Jane: Violence.

Int: Oh, violence. Ya. I mean, out protests are very violet at times, I mean it gets ridiculous. There some times where they block off roads, like ‘hey motorists, do not go there there’s a strike, they’re gong to throw rocks’ – there’s probably a bus on fire, like.

Jane: Ya, I got stuck in town once.

Int: With a protest?

Jane: Ya.

Int: Geez.

Jane: And I didn’t know there was a protest that day, otherwise I wouldn’t have driven into Town.

Int: Obviously.

Jane: And I was the first car and the police, like cut us off, and just said, “Please don’t go this way. Re-route.”

Int: Luckily, the police were doing their job that day.

Jane: Ya, shame they were actually really good that day. So, I was thankful.

Int: I mean our police, I think they do well when it’s a crisis situation.

Jane: Yes, ya.

Int: Because they are used to dealing with crisis, but when it comes to the, I don’t know, the personal situations – I understand their jobs must be completely tough. We talk about the highest gender-based violence rates and we see these rates, we talk about these rates, but we don’t actually see the crimes, and these are people who actually deal with them intimately. They take their records, they see the bodies, they see – ya.  
Um… I lost my place – oh, that’s what I wanted to ask you. Nope I lost it, I’ll hopefully find it again. Do you plan on remaining in South African for the foreseeable future?

Jane: You know, if I had to stay I would move to the Cape just because I feel like that is – that section of our county is a lot better and a lot more well managed than the rest of the country. So, you’re quality of life is much better down there. So, I don’t mind to stay, but I do see myself traveling a lot internationally, so chances are I’ll probably immigrate somewhere.

Int: What’s pushing you to immigrate?

Jane: I think… they all say ‘quality of life’, like you need to be able to wake up and then – for me, I want to be able to go into the streets and use a bus or have my tax money go to actual places and work, and I want to go to a government hospital and get good service; you know, I just want things to work. So, ya, I don’t mind who gives me that, I just want it to work. Ya.

Int: The aspect of safety, is that something that might be pushing you or is it just the frustration at the amount of corruption that does go on?

Jane: Ya, that is. I mean there is crime everywhere. We’ve had lots of people that went on a cruise to um… some islands, and the few that travelled to Thailand and those places, and they were kidnapped and held for ransom and beaten and horrible things.

Int: Oh geez.

Jane: Some people, they have never gotten their children back – we’ve heard horrible stories. So, I just think, you know, every country had its shit. So, I don’t think you will ever really escape the crime.

Int: Might as well not out run it.

Jane: It feels like it’s going to be all the same no matter where I go – I’m still going to have to my safety precautions, so.

Int: Exactly.

Jane: Safety is not really a thing for me.

Int: One of the other things that I think might influence this decision, is whether you would like to be come a parent one day or not. Is that something you would like to be or is it not too sure now – maybe, if it happens it happens if it doesn’t, it doesn’t.

Jane: As it stands for the moment, and how I have felt for the past few years, I do not want children. I personally… I feel like I was born in the wrong time. I should have been born many years ago, two or so generations before. I like simple stuff, I’m not such a fan of the super advanced world we’re living in.

Int: Oh preach – I still don’t understand email. Like honestly.

Jane: \*Laughs. Okay, no. I get email. I mean, now like with that whole, wall… like those ‘line cities’.

Int: Oh ya, I think it’s in Abu Dhabi, or something. It’s crazy.

Jane: I don’t like it and these robots that can paint and talk out of their own free will and I just don’t like that.

Int: Neither do I.

Jane: Ya, and I just think, you know, I feel like I really miss my tape deck.

Int: \*Laughs.

Jane: I like a tape deck, and I like old twirly phones, and I like old cars.

Int: You’re retro.

Jane: Ya, you know, I just like simpler times really. And I just feel like, ‘if I was born now, would I like to live in what the world will be like in the next twenty, thirsty years’. And no, I don’t want to. So, I don’t – wouldn’t have a child because I feel like that would be unfair to them. I mean the crime gets worse, the living gets worse. I mean we have to now think are we going to end up being… people that can live in good quality places or are we going to be on the outskirts you know. And then I just think, why would I want my child to experience that and then have it ten times worse. So, as it stands right now, I don’t want a child.

Int: Is that a view you hold about the world, or South Africa in particular?

Jane: I think the whole world.

Int: The whole world.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Going towards a collapse, perhaps?

Jane: Ya.

Int: Oo, that’s a fun thing to think about.

Jane: Ya.

Int: Thanks for the nightmares, I mean. \*Laughs.

Jane: \*Laughs. Yeah, I think the whole world is going in the direction – this one direction, and I don’t think it’s a healthy one necessarily.

Int: No, I don’t think so either.

Jane: South Africa is… we’re a little bit behind the rest of the world, so it will take long for us to kind of get there.

Int: Like usual.

Jane: Ya, but I think we will eventually.

Int: I mean, we’re talking about the problems of South Africa and we fear crime and we do fear violence, and I mean we kind of had a discussion why you can’t fight violence with violence. So, how do we fight this, how do we try to stop this situation from getting worse?

Jane: It’s a good question. I don’t even know. It’s ya… I think slowly but surely like the more… the more people learn and the more conversations there are, the more aware people become, I think small changes will become big changes, but I don’t think we will ever be able to have something happen where it’s like, ‘boop-change’. So, I think…

Int: It won’t be like a switch.

Jane: No.

Int: It’ll take time, and lots of conversations and a lot of work – small changes.

Jane: Ya, I think the only thing that we can only really do is small changes. Hopefully, peaceful small changes.

Int: Please, peaceful small changes. What type of small changes are you thinking about?

Jane: I think like, especially in South Africa for the um… like the gender-based violence, you have more support groups, you have more um, well – I don’t know much about politics, but I mean the more you get involved with that type of stuff hopefully you can pass some more laws-

Int: Laws and legislation.

Jane: Ya, it will protect people. And the more stories you hear the more you can share and then I think knowledge is really power so, the more that other people know, they will start thinking differently. And then kind of like that, so. Ya, I think conversations, teaching, especially in schools.

Int: Ya, I think schools are where we can make a lot of change in a small – maybe not in a small way, like in a simple way.

Jane: And I love that saying, it’s um… ag I must think of it now – when you go to school and it’s, like girls are always told you can’t wear strappy tops because your shoulders are sexy-

Int: Your shoulders will distract the boys, ya.

Jane: Are distracting. And then it’s, “Don’t teach girls what to not to do and stuff, it’s teach boys not to rape.”’

Int: Ya.

Jane: And that’s like so simple. Like we have all these rules for what we can and can’t do and they just nothing – like nothing gets done with them.

Int: It’s a general thing, like a lot of people have spoke about this, that the victims of these crimes have been made to carry the responsibility of their crimes, but it’s very simply put: clothes don’t make people rape, men rape. It’s the fact that you think that you can.

Jane: Yes.

Int: Or you have a right to, and that is something – and you’re very right I think that’s what we should be teaching in schools. We shouldn’t be like – parents shouldn’t have to tell their kids, ‘hold my hand or you’re going to get stolen’, people stealing kids should know ‘let’s not steal a child’, I mean that’s someone else’s child.   
But ya, that’s basically all the questions I have for you today.

Jane: Awesome.

Int: Ya, thank you for your answers and thank you for your honesty, and time.

Jane: It’s not a problem.

Int: It’s great.

Jane: I hope you got what you needed.

Int: I got lots, thank you very much… but ya, if there are any questions, concerns, or deep-seated worries or anything you would like to add to the conversation, you are more than welcome to do so now.

Jane: No, can’t think of anything right now.

Int: Great. And if you think of anything you have my email address.

Jane: Yes.

Int: So, you are more than welcome to send me an email.

Jane: I will.

Int: And ya, but otherwise, thank you.

Jane: Thank you.

Int: Enjoy your day.

Jane: Thank you, you too.