

QUIR

VISIBILISING THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



CALEB

E: Entrevistadores (Interviewers)

C: Caleb

E: Hola, que tal? Moltes gràcies per participar en aquest projecte. Comencem.

Primer de tot, com et sents en relació al teu gènere i sexualitat?

Hello, how are you? Thank you so much for participating in this project. Let's start. First of all, how are you in relation with your gender and sexuality?

C:Sóc un tio trans, I gai.

I am a trans boy and I am gay.

E: I com ets sents actualment amb aquestes etiquetes?

How do you feel right now with those tags?

C: Sí, em sento còmode, no es algo que amagui, em sento orgullós, però tampoc vaig dient soc trans, mireu-me. I lo de gai ho utilitzo més com a terme *umbrella* perquè soc demisexual i demoromàntic, I explicar-ho a la penya és un tostón. Llavors dic que soc gai I a està.

Yes, I feel comfortable, it's not something I hate, I feel proud, but I don't say I'm trans, look at me. And I use the term gay more as an umbrella term because I am demisexual and demoromàntic, and explaining it to the people is a pain in the ass. Then I say that I am gay and that's it.

E: Ens vols fer el “tostón” d'explicar que es demoromàntic i demisexual?

C: Són dins de l'espectre d'aromàntic I d'asexual. Asexual és que no sents atracció sexual, però demisexual es que quan tens molta confiança o connexió amb aquella persona si que sents atracció sexual. I demiromantic és lo mateix però amb romàntica.

E: Com vas arribar al punt de saber que no et senties bé i volies fer un canvi?

How did you get to the point where you knew you didn't feel good and wanted to make a change?

C: Això va ser a 4t d'ESO. A 3r d'ESO vaig tenir una època que tenen molts tios trans que es una època molt femenina, perquè t'han fet molt bullying per ser marimacho o portar roba mes masculina i llavors intentes més femení perquè t'acceptin. Aquella època va ser com ep! Què es això? es molt estrany, i llavors a 4t d'ESO vaig tornar a l'estètica més masculina.

I sortia pel carrer I em flipava molt que la penya em veiés com un tio, I quan em duen pel meu nom de naixement és com, merda. I llavors un dia estava parlant amb la meva millor amiga a classe de filo I li vaig explicar el que em passava. Que m'agrada molt que la gent em vegi com un tio. I ella em va dir, has pensat que potser no ets una tia? I jo, clar, no havia considerat aquesta opció.

A partir de llavors em vaig començar a informar molt, a mirar mols vídeos, I vaig dir ep! Que potser és això. I efectivament era això. Llavors a 4t d'ESO vaig fer començar a sortir de l'armari amb els companys de classe I amics, però era bastant xungo perquè encara no ho tenia molt clar. I vaig començar a utilitzar un nom unisex que era Charlie. I cap a finals de 4td'eso vaig dir vale, soc en Caleb, soc un tio. I no va ser fins a 1r de batxillerat que vaig sortir de l'armari amb la meva família. I no vaig ni sortir jo, perquè ho va dir un professor.

Portava bastant temps parlant amb la psicòloga del centre, I el que va dir va ser vale, el que farem serà fer una reunió amb els teus pares I el professor, I aviam si surt el tema, veurem si són homòfobs o què.

I el tema va sortir. I vaja si va sortir. Aquell dia, vaig tornar a casa, els meus pares s'havien anat de vacances després de fer la reunió, I veig un paper que posa “Caleb, dona-li això al teu professor”. I jo em vaig quedar flipant.

Quan van ornar de vacances vaig parlar amb ells. No és que el professor m'hagués tret de l'armari sinó que el meu pare ja s'ensumava alguna cosa I li va treure ell el tema. Va dir-li com ei, el meu

fill, la meva filla, que és? I el professor ja li va respondre. Igualment no crec ue li hagués hagut de respondre però Bueno.

That was in 4th ESO. In 3rd ESO I had a time that many trans guys have that is a very feminine time, because they bullied you a lot for being a tomboy or wearing masculine clothes and then you try to be more feminine to be accepted. That time was like hey, what's going on? it's very strange, and then in 4th ESO I went back to the more masculine aesthetic.

I went out on the street and I was really shocked and relieved that the people saw me as a guy, and when they call me by my birth name it's like, shit. And then one day I was talking to my best friend in philosophy class and I was explaining what was happening to me. That I really like that people see me as a guy. And she said to me, have you thought that maybe you are not a girl? And, I never thought that this was actually an option.

From then on, I started to get a lot of information, to watch a lot of videos, and I said Hey! Maybe that's it. And indeed, it was that. Then in 4th ESO I started getting out of the closet with my classmates and friends, but it was quite difficult because I still didn't have it very clear. I started to use a unisex name which was Charlie. And by the end of 4th ESO I said OK, I'm Caleb, I'm a guy. And it wasn't until the end of 1st of high school that I came out of the closet with my family. And I didn't even come out myself, because a teacher said so.

By that time, I was seeing the school's therapist, and she suggested a meeting between my parents and my teacher, so that if the subject comes up we will see if your parents are homophobic or not.

And yes, it came up. That day, I went back home, my parents had gone on vacation after the meeting, and I saw a paper that said "Caleb, give that to your teacher". And I was amazed.

When they came back, I talked to them. It wasn't that the teacher had pulled me out of the closet, but that my father had already learned something and he was going to bring up the subject. He said to him like hey, my son, my daughter, what is it? And the teacher answered him. I don't think he would have had to answer, but ok.

E: I com va ser la rebuda per part de la teva família?

And how was your family reaction?

C: Els meus pares ho van acceptar bé. La resta de la família també, però a la meva àvia és a qui més li costa, perquè a més a més té 92 anys. Que es molt progress I tot però sí que li costa molt, encara em fa molt missgendering i s'equivoca amb el nom. A vegades sí que m'emprenyo molt amb ella i ens barallem, però, mes complicat. Quan m diu nena, jo li dic nen! O maca, i jo maco!

My parents accepted it well. The rest of the family too, but my grandmother is the one who has the hardest time, because she is 92 years old. She is very progress and everything but it is hard for her, she still misunderstands me a lot and makes mistakes with the name. Sometimes I do get angry with her and we argue.

E: En relació a la teva sexualitat, ja tenies clar que et tiraven els homes sempre, i llavors un cop vas sortir de l'armari vas dir, vale sóc gai?

In relation to your sexuality, did you always knew you were attracted to men, and once you came out of the closet you said like, ok, I'm gay?

C: Sí exacte. Algun cop m'he sentit atret per una noia, però han sigut moments puntuals. Llavors és com vale, m'agraden els tios però no és com que el veig i dic ua, me'l vull fer, sinó que m'agrada perquè és maco, o m'agrada per la seva personalitat i coses així. Però es que no m'he enamorat mai. I jo pensava què està passant. I llavors va ser com vaale, ara ho entenc.

Yes, exactly. Some times I've felt attracted to girls, but it's been just a few moments. Then it's like ok, I like guys but it's not like I see him and I say ok, I want to make out with them but I like him because he's handsome, or because of his personality and things like that. But I have never fallen in love. I was like, what's going on. And then it was like oh, now I understand.

E: És a dir, que a través d'anar-te informant vas anar trobant les respuestes.

So, it is to say that through the research and sources of information you looked for, you got the answers to your questions.

C: Sí exacte, i els típics testos de Am I gay, i coses així.

Yes, exactly, and the common Am I gay tests and things like that.

E: I creus que això dels testos realment serveixen d'alguna cosa?

What is your opinion about those tests, do you really think they are useful?

C: Jo tinc la teoria que, a la que busques el test, vol dir que algo passa, que hetero no ets. Però un test no et po dir que ets, ningú et pot dir que ets. Però saber que ets també és molt complicat. A més a més hi ha molta pressió per sortir de l'armari i ser això tota la vida. Notes que la gent necessita posar etiquetes o definir-te d'alguna manera concreta. I al final la sexualitat és com un espectre. No diré com un dia soc això i un dia un altre perquè tampoc és això, sinó que va fluïnt i està en moviment constant sempre.

I have the theory that, when you look for the test, it means that something is happening, that you are not straight. But a test can't tell you what you are, no one can tell you what you are. But knowing what you are is also very complicated. Moreover, there is a lot of pressure to come out of the closet and be that way all your life. You notice that people need to label you or define you in some specific way. And in the end sexuality is like a spectre. I won't say that one day I'm one thing and one day another because it's not that either, but it's always flowing and in constant movement.

E: I en relació amics i companys, a 4t d'ESo a l'escola on estaves, que tal?

And in relation with your friends and classmates, in the school you first were, how did they respond to your situation?

C: A la ESO em van fer molt bullying. A la que vaig sortir de l'armari com a trans em van deixar de fer bullying. I no sabia que pensar, no sé si no em feien bullying perquè no volien semblar homofòbics o què, però, gracies (?). Però amb la gent amb la que estava bé. Molt oberts tots, gent que em va fer bullying que se'm va disculpar. Em va fer gràcia perquè una noia a 2n d'ESO va escampar el rumor de que jo era lesbiana, i quan ja vaig sortir va ser com, soc un tio maricón. Ella se'm va disculpar més tard.

Per sort els amics propers em van fer molt de costat i em van donar molt de suport, perquè abans de sortir amb la família vaig sortir amb ells. Qui em va qüestionar va ser una professora, que quan li vaig dir, ei, que soc un tio, em va dir n'estàs segur? No és una fase? I jo, no, no és una fase.

In that High school, during the ESO, I was bullied a lot. When I came out of the closet as a transsexual, they stopped bullying me. I didn't know what to think, I don't know if they didn't bully me because they didn't want to seem homophobic or what, but I was like, thanks (?). But I was fine with my close friends. All of them were very open, people who bullied me apologized. It was funny because a girl in 2nd grade of ESO spread the rumour that I was a lesbian, and when I came out it was like, I'm a gay boy. She apologized to me later.

Luckily my close friends gave me a lot of support, because before going out with my family I went out with them. Who questioned me was a teacher, and when I said, hey, I'm a guy, she said, are you sure? Isn't it a phase? And I was like, no, it's not a phase.

E: I a l'hora de fer el canvi de centre de la ESO a Batxillerat, com va ser?

And how was the change of school from ESO to High School?

C: Jo a la ESO estava a un institut de poble, que és un lloc gran, públic, amb un hisotiral una mica homofòbic per part dels alumnes, i clar, jo allà tenia por, perquè a un li van fer bullying per ser gay. Però per sort al meu any va anar millor. Tot i que a 4t els professors ens van dir, va, pinteu l'escala principal amb la bandera gay, i clar, jo em vaig quedar com, gent, per favor, què feu.

I al canviar al centre de Batxillerat, que és un lloc molt obert, vaig entrar sent un tio, sent en Caleb. Tothom súper bé, ningú em va dir, no, és que ets una tia.

During the ESO I was in a small-town High School, which is a public place, with a somewhat homophobic history among the students, and of course, I was afraid there, because one of them was bullied for being gay. But luckily, the people from my course weren't that bad. Even though in 4th grade the teachers told us to paint the main staircase with the gay flag, and of course, I was like, people, please, what are you doing?

And when I went to the high school, which is a very open place, I went in as a guy, as Caleb. Everyone was very nice, no one said to me, no, you are a girl.

E: I com veus que pot afectar-te el fet de ser trans en un futur, de cara professional? Creus que et condicionarà molt?

And how do you think being trans will affect you in a professional future? Do you think it will condition you?

C: Sí, a mi això em fa por. De moment no he treballat mai encara, i al meu poble em fa por buscar-ne un perquè és un lloc petit, on tothom em coneix com a Carlota, com a la nena. I anar allà amb barba, pels al pit i una veu greu, es fa feixuc.

A més a més, encara no tinc el DNI canviat, me'l canvio el mes que ve. Però a l'hora de buscar feina ara he de posar el meu DNI, que posa que soc una noia, però jo no m'hi considero, i és dur. I sí que he sentit casos de gent que a la que descobrien que eren trans els feien fora, i això m fa mal rollo.

I més de cara al futur, crec que pot millorar. El que passa es que si la generació anterior és descabellada, la següent és tancada. I em fa mal rollo eprquè la nostra és bastant oberta, i em fa por que la pròxima sigui més tancada. Que suposo que no, perquè la següent són fills de millenials i aquests són més oberts. Crec que de moment però, estem anant cap a millor.

Yes, that's what I'm afraid of. At the moment I haven't worked yet, and in my town, I am scared to looking for one because it's a small place, where everyone knows me as Carlota, as the girl. And going there with a beard, and a deep voice it's hard.

Moreover, I haven't changed my ID card yet, I change it next month. But when looking for a job now I have to put my ID card, which says I am a girl, but I don't consider myself as one, and it's hard. And yes, I know cases of people that when they found out they were trans in their workplace, they were fired, and that makes me feel bad.

And looking in a further future, I think it can get better. What happens is that if the previous generation is open-minded, the next one is closed-minded. And I feel bad because ours is quite open, and I'm afraid that the next one will be even more closed. Which I suppose not, because the next one will be the children of the millennials, and these are more open people. I think that for the moment; however, we are getting better.

E: I el tema de fer el canvi de DNI i tot el que vindria a ser més papers oficials, com està?

Talking about the DNI change and all the official papers, how is the situation like?

C: Fatal, Espanya és la cosa més lenta que he vist ai. Si ets de Catalunya està bé, perquè hi ha Trànsit que s'encarrega de tot això.

Primer de tot, per canviar-te el DNI has d'estar hormonat, per força. I llavors, a Trànsit, un cop portes set mesos amb hormones, et fan els papers oficials, et preparen un paper psiquiàtric on posa que tens el trastorn psiquiàtric de disfòria. Això als de trànsit no els hi agrada gens perquè creuen que no hauria de ser un trastorn. Llavors et fan el paper conforme portes tal temps prenent hormones i tens el paper psiquiàtric.

Llavors, has d'anar al registre civil, els hi entregues els papers i quan et truquin ja podràs canviarte'l. Jo amb tot això vaig començar a l'Octubre, i ara al mes de Juliol me'l podré canviar. I a la resta d'Espanya, si no hi ha organitzacions com trànsit, t'has d'esperar als dos anys prenent hormones. I clar, amb hormones pots començar als setze anys, perquè ja se't considera adult mèdicament, i llavors t'has d'esperar dos anys, fins als 18 per canviar la documentació.

Clar, i si ho mires quan tens trenta anys no sembla que hagis d'esperar tan, però quan ho vius es fa etern. O per exemple, persones que se'n adonen quan son petits, s'han d'esperar tots aquests anys. I és com, per favor, deixeu-los fer ara, que de les persones que se'n arrepenteixen és una minoria molt minoria.

It is very bad; Spain is the slowest thing I have ever seen. If you are from Catalonia, it's better, because there is Transit that takes care of all this.

First of all, to change your DNI you have to take hormones, by force. And then, at the Transit, once you have been on hormones for seven months, they do the official papers, they prepare a psychiatric paper stating that you have the psychiatric disorder of dysphoria. The traffic police don't like that because they think it shouldn't be a disorder. Then they make the paper as you are taking hormones for such a long time and you have the psychiatric paper. Then, you have to go to the registry office, you give them the papers and when they call, you will be able to change it.

With all this I started in October, and now in July I will be able to change my DNI. And in the rest of Spain, if there are no organizations like Transit, you have to wait two years to take hormones. And with the hormones you have start at sixteen years old, because you are already considered an adult medically, and then you have to wait two years, until 18 to change the documentation.

Of course, if you look at it when you are thirty years old, it doesn't seem like you have to wait that long, but when you go through the process, it feels like an eternity. Or for example, people who discover who are they when they are little, have to wait all those years. And it is like, please, let them do it now, that the people who regret it is a very small minority.

E: I ara que dius això dels nens petits, com et sents en realció amb al teva infància? Ensumaves que algo no anava com volies?

And now that you are talking about children, how do you feel about your childhood? Did you feel that something wasn't right?

C: Ara quan penses en la infància dius, soc imbècil com no podia veure-ho? Me'n recordo que de petits jugàvem a pares i mares i jo sempre era el germà gran, o anava a jugar a futbol amb els nois. Jo era molt marimacho, que els meus pares ja em deien a veure quan portes el nouvió, o la nouvia. D'alguna manera ells ja s'ensumaven algo abans que jo.

Però la gent que se n'adona quan és petita, penso ole ells! I si poden aconseguir ue els hi donin bloquejants de pubertat, és el millor que els hi pot passar. Sobreto les nois trans, s'estalvien la regla, i les noies trans s'estalvien la veu. Ajuda bastant amb el tema de la disfòria. Jo per exemple vaig tenir la regla i va ser com perquè està sagnant? No ho veia com una opció, pensava que m'havia fet un tall. No sé si aquí a Espanya en venen de bloquejants de pubertat, sé que als Estats Units sí, perquè casi tota la gent trans que segueixo són d'allà.

Penso que el tema trans hauria de ser més conegit, perquè jo vaig descobrir lo de Trànsit primer per un amic que és trans, i més tard per un incident que vaig acabar a l'hospital, i la infermera va estar parlant amb me mare i li va donar els papers i tot. I clar, després el desplaçament que has de fer cada cop que has d'anar allà a Trànsit, perquè crec que a Catalunya només està allà a Barcelona.

La cosa bona és que les hormones entren per la seguretat social. L'inconvenient és que les operacions no. Per seguretat social son entre sis i vuit anys d'espera, perquè només en fan unes quinze operacions a l'any en tot Catalunya, i molta gent quan és el seu torn o ja s'han operat per una clínica privada, o han desaparegut del mapa. Però per privat et pot costar uns sis mil euros tranquil·lament.

Now when you think about childhood you say, I'm stupid how could I not see it? I remember that when we were kids, we used to play as parents and I was always the big brother, or I would go to play soccer with the boys. I was so tomboyish that my parents joked about when was I going to bring my boyfriend or girlfriend home. Somehow, they already knew that something was different with me.

But the people who get used to it when they are a child, I think they are very strong. And if they can get puberty blockers, that's the best thing that can happen to them, so that trans guys that they can get rid of their periods, and trans girls can get rid of their deep voice. It helps a lot with the issue of dysphoria. For example, I was having my period and I was like, why am I bleeding? I didn't see it as an option, I thought I had had a growth spurt. I don't know if here in Spain they can get puberty blockers, I know that in the United States they do, because almost all the trans people I follow on social media are from there.

I think that the trans issue should be better known, because I found out about Transit first from a friend who is trans, and later because of an incident that ended up in the hospital, and the nurse was talking to my mother and gave her the papers and everything. And of course, then the trip that you have to make every time you have to go there to Traffic, because I think that in Catalonia is only there in Barcelona.

The good thing is that the hormones are free thanks to social security health. The disadvantage is that the surgeries are not free. Through social security there are between six and eight years of waiting list, because there are only about fifteen operations per year in Catalonia, and many people when it is their turn, they have already been into surgery in a private clinic, or have disappeared from the map. But from a private clinic it can cost around six thousand euros.

E: I quina és la part que veus més difícil de gestionar socialment?

And what do you think is the hardest part? Socially talking.

C: Sortir de l'armari, perquè jo casi cada dia surto de l'armari, perquè tinc la sort de que passo molt com a persona cis i llavors els meus companys de la Universitat que no saben que soc trans, a vegades em pregunten, i d'on ve el nom de Caleb? I jo els hi dic, me'l vaig escollir jo, i ells pregunten, com que te'l vas escollir tu? I jo llavors els explico que soc trans, i ells diuen ostres, i com funciona tot això?

I clar, cada dia estàs sortint de l'armari. Els hi estàs explicant cada dia, i està bé perquè pots anar informant a la gent, però acaba sent esgotador. El tema del nom també és feixuc, perquè per exemple, quan em vaig apuntar a la UAB, posa Carlota, però per sort allà tenen un procediment molt fàcil que d'una setmana a l'altra pots canviar-te el nom. Però sempre apuntar-te coses amb el nom del DNI i tot això no ajuda, notes que sempre hi ha algo que no acaba de quadrar.

Coming out of the closet. Almost every day I have to do it, because I am lucky that I look like a cis person and then my friends at the University who do not know that I am trans, sometimes they ask me, and where does the name Caleb come

from? And I tell them, I chose it myself, and they ask, but how did you choose it? And then I explain to them that I am trans, and they say, wow, how does all this work?

And of course, every day you are coming out of the closet. You are explaining to them every day, and it's good because you can keep informing people, but it ends up feeling exhausting. The name issue is also difficult, because for example, when I signed up at the University, I had to register as Carlota, but luckily there they have a very easy procedure that you can change the name in a week. But always writing down things with the name of the DNI and all that doesn't help, you notice that there is always something that doesn't quite fit.

E: I per acabar, tema referents, algú que t'ajudés durant la teva infància/adolescència?

And to finish, did you had referents during your childhood/puberty?

C: Referents trans els vaig començar a trobar quan vaig sortir de l'armari. El meu referent per excel·lència es diu Sam Collins, un youtuber.

I hi ha un altre que es diu August que té nòvia i una filla adoptada, i són els meus referents principals. I llavors hi ha referents que m'han fet mal, perquè són transmedicalistes, és a dir, que si ets trans has de tenir molta disfòria, has de voler passar com un tio/tia cis, has de voler hormonar-te, operar-te i tot això, i va fer-li tan bullying a una persona no binària que aquesta persona va haver de sortir de les xarxes socials perquè no parava de rebre amenaces, fins i tot de mort. I clar, jo mirava els vídeos d'aquest home i em qüestionava el fet de si era trans o no.

I ara ho veig i penso, no hi ha només una experiència, cada un és un món diferent i potser tindràs més disfòria o menys, això no vol dir que nos siguis trans. Està molt bé tenir referents però alhora s'ha d'anar en compte, perquè et pot fer mal.

I started to find trans references when I came out of the closet. My reference par excellence is Sam Collins, a youtuber. And there is another one called August who has a girlfriend and an adopted daughter, and they are my main references.

And then there are references that have made me feel bad, because they are transmedicalists, that is to say, that if you are trans you have to have a lot of dysphoria, you have to want to pass as a cis guy/girl, you have to want to get hormones, surgery and all that, and he was so bullying to a non-binary person that this person had to leave the social networks because he was not going to stop receiving threats, even death threats. And of course, I was watching the videos of this man and I was wondering if he was trans or not.

And now I see it and I think, there is not only one experience, everyone is a different world and maybe you will have more or less dysphoria, that does not mean that you are not trans. It is very good to have references but at the same time you have to keep in mind, because it can be bad for you.



ANNA

E: Entrevistadores (Interviewers)

A: Anna

E: Hola, que tal? Moltes gràcies per participar en aquest projecte. Comencem.

Primer de tot, com et sents en relació al teu gènere i sexualitat?

Hello, how are you? Thank you so much for participating in this project. Let's start. First of all, how are you in relation with your gender and sexuality?

A: Ara mateix bé, no em genera cap problema. Al principi si, va costar l'acceptació de la meva orientació sexual. Tampoc sabria posar-hi una etiqueta. Podria dir perfectament que son lesbiana, però no descarto l'opció d'estar amb nous, però ara no ho veig. I quan dic que soc lesbiana tampoc em tanco cap a persones no binàries.

Nowadays, I don't have any problems. At first, yes, it was difficult to accept my sexual orientation. I wouldn't know how to put a label on it either. I could perfectly say that I'm a lesbian, but I don't rule out the option of being with men, but now I don't see it. And when I say I'm a lesbian I don't think about excluding non-binary people either.

E: Com t'identifiques dins l'espectre del gènere?

How do you identify yourself within the gender spectrum?

A: També és un dilema. Ho deixo bastant a l'aire. M'agafo al terme *queer*, és amb el que em sento més còmode.

It is also a dilemma. I leave it pretty much up in the air. I stick to the term queer, it's the one I feel most comfortable with.

E: Com vas arribar a aquest punt?

How did you get to this point?

A: Externament he tingut força acceptació. Internament ha sigut més difícil. Pel que fa a descobrir-ho en si, no hi ha cap punt d'inflicció, va ser més evolutiu. A poc a poc, vaig veure que em tirava més una banda que l'altra. Vaig anar veient algunes noies de forma diferent a amigues, pensava "potser amb aquesta persona tindria el que veig a les pel·lícules".

La sèrie *Los 100*, va despertar algo en mi. Me'n recordaré sempre. Tenia un *crush* enorme amb un personatge. El tema de la sèrie és bastant el meu estil, i quan va sortir ella, la *crush*, va ser brutal.

Externally I have had a lot of acceptance. Internally it has been more difficult. As far as discovering it in itself, there was no turning point, it was more evolutionary. Little by little, I saw that I was more attracted to one side than the other. I started to see some girls in a different way rather than friends, I thought "maybe with this person I'd have what I see in the films".

The series The 100 awakened something in me. I will always remember it. I had a huge crush on a character. The theme of the series is quite my style, and when she, my crush, came out it was brutal.

E: Quina edat tenies quan vas saber-ho?

How old were you when you found out?

A: A primer d'E.S.O. ja ho sabia, no ho acceptava. No va ser fins a tercer d'E.S.O. que ho vas acceptar. Recordo un dia a l'hora del pati, que va venir una noia del Casal de Joves a fer una xerrada i ens va preguntar si ens havíem sentit pressionades per tenir relacions sexuals amb nous, i després va afegir "o amb noies". Aquí, les coses van començar a clicar.

Perquè de petita no pensava en crushes. Jo pensava en jugar a futbol, sé que és molt estereotip però és així. Cap a sisè, recordo que es feien *shipeos* a classe i tal, però això encara no estava dins del meu cap.

In first year of E.S.O. I knew it and didn't accept it. It wasn't until the third year of E.S.O. that I accepted it. I remember one day at playground time, a girl from the Youth Centre came to give us a talk and asked if we had felt pressured to have sexual relations with boys, and then she added "or with girls". Here, things started to click.

Because when I was little I didn't think about crushes. I thought about playing football, I know it's very stereotypical but that's how it is. When I was six years old, I remember that they used to play football in class and so on, but that wasn't in my mind yet.

E: En dir-ho a les teves amistats, com s'ho van prendre?

When you told your friends how did they take it?

A: L'única persona a qui li vaig dir va ser a la presenta (assenyala una de les entrevistadores). La resta d'amistats ho van saber per instagram, per una foto, no vaig sortir formalment de l'armari amb elles.

The only person I told was the present one (sings to one of the interviewers). The rest of my friends found out about it through instagram, through a photo, I didn't formally come out of the closet to them.

E: I la teva família?

And your family?

A: Un dia vaig asseure a me mare i li vaig explicar. Em va costar, va dir el típic "t'accepto, però m'agrada més la forma tradicional". Actualment, aquest tema amb me mare està neutre, ho sap, però no parlem d'això. Em molesta, perquè sempre hem sigut molt obertes i m'agradaria que ho acceptes més. Sento que després d'aquell dia falta algo.

En canvi, el meu pare no ho sap. Si ho sàpigues no sé què diria. Com que no estic quasi amb ell, els meus pares estan divorciats, bueno...

Els meus avis.... Justament l'altre dia va venir me iaia a casa. Tinc la bandera de l'orgull penjada a l'habitació. Primer em va preguntar "però tu Anna, ¿eres chica, no?", suposo que en tenir el cabell curt i tal deu pensar que potser em sento noi. Sempre intento que es quèstioni, per exemple que és ser noi?, que és ser noia? Ella es queda sense paraules. Li parlo molt d'aquest tema, però no soc tan oberta per dir-li la meva sexualitat. Fins i tot, fa poc em va preguntar directament si soc lesbiana i vaig sortir corrents de l'habitació. Ara penso que li hauria d'haver contestat, per por no em vaig atrevir. Sé que ella ho acceptaria, potser soc jo que encara no accepto que ella ho acceptaria.

La parella de me mare també ho ha acceptat molt bé. Me mare em va dir que no li digués a me germana. Estic enfadada amb me mare per això. L'argument de me mare és que no vol que jo influencii a me germana, que és més petita, en aquest tema. Però és el que dic, tinc la bandera de l'orgull penjada a l'habitació i me germana no és tonta, si suma 1+1, ho sap.

One day I sat my mother down, and I told her. Its was hard, she said the typical "I accept you but, I prefer the traditional way". Nowadays, this topic is quite neutral with my mother, she knows it, but we don't talk about it. It annoys me, because we have always been very open with each other and I would like for her to fully accept it. Since I told her, I feel like something is missing.

On the other hand, my father doesn't know. If he knew I don't know what he'd say. I'm rarely with him, my parents are divorced, so...

My grandparents Just the other day, my grandma came to my house. I have the pride flag hung in my bedroom. First, she asked me "but Anna, you're a girl, aren't you?", I suppose that having short hair and all that, she must think that maybe I feel like a boy. I always try to question her, for example, what is it like to be a boy?, what is it like to be a girl? She always ends up speechless. I talk to her a lot about this subject, but I'm not so open to tell her about my sexuality. Even, not long ago, she asked directly if I'm a lesbian, I ran away. Now I think I should have answered her, but I didn't dare. I know she'd accept me, maybe it's that I'm not ready to accept that she'd accept me.

My mother's partner has also accepted it very well. My mother told me not to say to my sister. I'm quite angry at her for this. My mother's argument is that she doesn't want me to influence my sister, which is younger, on this aspect. But it's what I said earlier, I have the pride flag hung on my bedroom and my sister is not dumb, is she adds 1+1, she knows it.

E: Com et sents respecte al teu futur professional?

How do you feel about your professional future?

A: Tinc por. En el sentit de comentaris despectius i fora de lloc. També en el sentit que no m'agafin per la meva orientació, com per la foto de currículum... És fort ser rebutjada per ser una tia amb cabell curt, estil més androgin tirant cap a masculí.

Tiro més cap a professions artístiques perquè és l'únic món on veig que puc ser acceptada de forma professional, per l'altra gent i per mi mateixa.

I'm scared. In the sense of derogatory and out-of-place comments. Also, in the sense that they won't hire me because of my orientation, or because of the photo on my CV... It is heavy to be rejected for being a girl with short hair, with a more androgynous, masculine style.

I'm more interested in artistic professions because that's the only world where I see that I can be accepted professionally, by other people and by myself.

E: Com ha sigut la trajectòria de la teva expressió i presentació física?

How has the trajectory of your physical expression and presentation been?

A: Bastant traumàtica. De petita era un mini tio, pel carrer es dirigien a mi en masculí. Per exemple quan anava amb me mare li deien "que maco el teu nen". En part, per això estic confosa amb la meva identitat de gènere i, també, me la suda. Tenia el cabell curt, vestia ample, jugava a futbol, m'agradaven els cotxes. No per res en específic, simplement perquè m'agradava.

Recordo que els nens de la classe, a primer, segon de primària, em preguntaven si volia ser un tio. No sabia que contestar jo, vull dir que m'era igual el meu gènere jo només volia jugar a futbol. M'estranyava molt la pregunta, no entenia la relació de voler ser o no ser un noi a voler jugar amb cotxes. M'incomodava. Em sentia jutjada. Per sort, sempre he tingut amigues al darrere que m'han ajudat.

Quite traumatic. When I was a little girl I was a mini-guy, on the street I was addressed in masculine terms. For example, when I used to go with my mother they would say "what a handsome boy you have". That's partly why I'm confused about my gender identity and, also, why I don't give a damn. I had short hair, I wore baggy clothes, I played football, and I liked cars. Not for anything specific, just because I liked it.

I remember that the kids in my class, in the first, second year of primary school, asked me if I wanted to be a boy. I didn't know what to answer, I would say that I didn't care what gender I was, I just wanted to play football. The question was very strange, I didn't understand the relation between wanting to be a boy and wanting to play with cars. It made me uncomfortable. I felt judged. Fortunately, I've always had friends behind me who have helped me.

E: Quina creus que és la part més difícil de gestionar en la societat?

What do you think is the most difficult part of society to manage?

A: El que a mi m'ha ajudat molt és tenir referents en continguts audiovisuals. Crec que falten més. Els referents són molt importants, necessitem referents que ens validin, necessitem diversitat dins d'aquests referents. Sobretot hauria d'haver-hi més referents a les sèries infantils. És el que deia al principi, a partir d'una sèrie vaig començar a validar la meva orientació sexual.

A més, l'educació. Però l'educació sempre estarà dictada segons qui l'imparteixi. Recordo que a tercer d'E.S.O. vam fer educació sexual, però educació sexual per persones cis i hetero. Ja està. Que hi hagi educació sexual no garanteix que sigui una bona educació sexual.

També necessitem que els pares ho normalitzin. Per exemple, fa poc vaig veure un anuncis de condons que sortia una parella gai. Estava amb el meu pare i no va fer cap comentari. Normalment en fa. El fet que ja no ho vegi de forma esporàdica i que estigui més present a la seva vida ajuda al fet ho integri com a cos normal.

Per altra banda, l'assetjament ha de parar ja. Un dia estava amb la meva primera nòvia caminant pel carrer agafades de la mà i ens van xiular i ens van dir el típic. En una altra ocasió, estava amb una noia de festa i tal, a 400 metres hi havia un tio que ens mirava i s'estava masturbant. Estàvem al carrer, en públic.

What has helped me a lot is to have references in audiovisual content. I think we need more. References are very important, we need references that validate us, we need diversity within these references. Above all, there should be more references in children's series. It's what I said at the beginning, it was from a series that I started to validate my sexual orientation.

Moreover, education. But education will always be dictated by whoever teaches it. I remember that in the third year of secondary school we had sex education, but sex education for cis and hetero people. That was it. Having sex education doesn't mean having good sex education.

We also need parents to normalise it. For example, recently I saw an advert for condoms featuring a gay couple. I was with my father and he made no comments. Usually he does. The fact that he no longer sees it sporadically and that it is more present in his life helps him to integrate it as a normal thing.

On the other hand, the harassment has to stop now. One day I was walking down the street with my first girlfriend, holding hands with her, and we were cat called at and told the usual things. On another occasion, I was with a girl at a party and 400 metres away there was a guy looking at us and masturbating. We were in the street, in public.

E: Per acabar, has tingut algun referent?

Finally, have you had any referents?

A: Una persona en específic no. He tingut més la necessitat de normalitzar-ho que no pas de tenir un referent a qui seguir.

Not a specific person. I have had more of a need to normalise it than to have a referent to follow.



NIL

E: Hola, que tal? Moltes gràcies per participar en aquest projecte. Comencem.

E: Entrevistadores (Interviewers)

N: Nil

E: Primer de tot, com et sents en relació al teu gènere i sexualitat?

Hello, how are you? Thank you so much for participating in this project. Let's start. First of all, how are you in relation with your gender and sexuality?

N: Sóc gai, i ara estic bé, còmode, tinc gent que em dóna suport.

I am gay, now I'm ok, comfortable, I have people who support me.

E: Com ets sents actualment amb aquestes etiquetes?

How do you feel right now with those tags?

N: Estic aquí parlant del tema amb vosaltres, com veieu, no m'avergonyeixo de res. Sí que ha sigut difícil arribar fins aquí, per part meva també, d'acceptar-me tal com soc, perquè m'he envoltat sempre dels típics *machitos*, i hi ha hagut mal rotllos, i ara per sort he trobat un grup més dispers, de nois i noies, que compartim la mateixa condició sexual. Abans sí que em sentia com molt cohibit, havia d'estar tota l'estona vigilant el que deia o feia per si em deien alguna cosa fora de lloc, una mica un paper havia de fer.

Hi ha gent que m'ha sabut ajudar i gent que no, ha fet adonar-me que tothom és com és, que no som iguals, i llavors m'he trobat també amb gent que tenia el mateix problema que jo.

I'm here talking about it with you, as you can see, I'm not ashamed of anything. It has been difficult to get here, for me too, to accept myself as I am, because I've always been surrounded by the typical macho guys, and there have been bad breaks, and now luckily I've found a more dispersed group, of boys and girls, who share the same sexual condition. Before, I used to feel a bit self-conscious, I had to spend the whole time watching what I was saying or doing in case they said something out of place, I had to play a bit of a role.

There were people who knew how to help me and people who didn't, it made me realise that everyone is the way they are, that we are not all the same, and then I also met people who had the same problem as me.

E: Com vas arribar al punt de saber que et senties atret pels homes?

How did you realise you like men?

N: Va començar més cap a l'E.S.O., perquè a primària ni ho sabia. Vaig començar a sortir amb noies, i notava que alguna cosa no encaixava, que estrany, pensava. Hi havia tota la pressió social de fer coses amb les noies, i clar, jo em deixava portar molt per la gent. I va arribar un punt que vaig dir, jo soc aquí i soc així. I a qui li sembli bé doncs perfecte, i sinó doncs adeu. Però això no va ser fins que vaig canviar de centre per fer batxillerat. En aquest centre tothom era més obert i dispers, gent amb tota mena de condició, i realment si ets de ment tancada allà, passades molt desapercebuts, la majoria guanya.

Va ser tot com una evolució, per les relacions amb noies com he dit, per la gent del meu voltant. Amb una noia la cosa va anar bé, però notava que em sentia atret sexualment pels homes, i en canvi amb noies no. Llavors, un dia vaig quedar amb un home, i la cosa no va anar bé, i em vaig tancar. Va ser com, que està passant? No m'omplen ni les noies ni els nois. Vaig començar a pensar que potser vaig començar massa d'hora, però d'hora per mi, hi ha molta gent que es veu molt endavant per començar abans, però el meu cas va ser més per pressió social, això de començar a fer coses.

Jo vaig anar amb el psicòleg perquè anava molt percut, perquè no m'acceptava a mi mateix, però tampoc em va ajudar gaire. Tot va anar agafant el seu cicle. A mesura que vas madurant vas adonant-te què això t'omple i allò no.

Jo vinc d'un poble petit, on tot se sap, tancat de ment, i clar, allà no pots ser tu mateix, perquè a la mínima ja et diuen alguna cosa ofensiva. I en venir a la ciutat, aires nous, i clar, tot ajuda. Va ser com tornar a començar de nou, em dic Nil i m'agraden els nois. I ara estic en un punt que, tothom ho sap i qui no ho sap doncs és perquè no ho ha de saber, i ja està. Em va anar molt bé

personalment venir aquí a la ciutat, fer aquest canvi. També perquè vaig deixar com la gent de poble que no m'aportava res bo de costat, ho enfocava tot al nou centre ara. Al poble qui he conservat son els amics de veritat. Si al poble acostumava a anar sempre amb una persona que no m'anava bé, en canviar de centre, vaig trencar amb aquesta rutina i en començar de zero un altre cop, vaig tenir l'opció de triar amb qui volia compartir els moments i amb qui no.

It started more towards E.S.O., because in primary school I didn't even know it. I started going out with girls, and I noticed that something didn't fit, that it was strange, I thought. There was all the social pressure to do things with girls, and of course, I let myself get carried away by people. And there came a point when I said, I'm here and I'm like this. And whoever thinks it's good, that's fine, and if they don't, then goodbye. But that wasn't until I changed schools to do my baccalaureate. At that school, everyone was more open and dispersed, people from all walks of life, and really, if you're narrow-minded there, you go very unnoticed, most of them win.

It was all like an evolution, because of the relationships with girls, as I said, and the people around me. With a girl it was going well, but I noticed that I felt sexually attracted to men, but not with girls. Then, one day I met a man, and it didn't go well, and I got tired of it. It was like, what's going on? Girls nor boys fill me I started to think that maybe I started too soon, too soon for me. There's people who are ready at this age, but I did it because of social pressure, that's why I started to do things.

I went to a psychologist because I was very lost, because I didn't accept myself, but he didn't help me very much either. Everything took its own course. As you mature, you realise what you like and what you don't like.

I come from a small town, where you know everything, and you can't be yourself there, of course, because at the least they say something offensive. And coming to the city, change of air, and of course, it all helps. It was like starting all over again, my name is Nil and I like boys. And now I'm at a point where everyone knows it and who doesn't know it because they don't, and that's it. It was very good for me personally to come here to the city, to make this change. Also because I left the people of the town who didn't bring me anything good on the side, I focused everything on the new centre now. In the village I have kept my true friends. If in the village I used to always go with someone who didn't suit me, when I changed centre, I broke with this routine and when I started from scratch again, I had the option of choosing who I wanted to share moments with and who I didn't want to.

E: Com va ser la rebuda per part de la teva família?

And how was your family reaction?

N: El meu canvi ha sigut més gràcies a l'entorn, al canvi a la ciutat, la meva família també m'ha ajudat. Però m'ha falta una mica més de recolzament per part seva. I clar, dins la família hi ha gent que li sembla bé i gent que no, o que directament no ho entén. Per tant, qui ho ha de saber ho sap, i qui no, doncs no cal. Penso que no els hauria d'importar amb qui me'n vaig al llit.

Abans de portar un noi a casa, havia portat una noia, i realment tot va anar bé, però mai els he dit als meus pares directament ei, que vaig amb aquest o amb l'altra. Va ser, tinc parella, vaig a presentar-la a la família. I els meus pares bé, però clar, els avis, no tan bé. Els hi costa acceptar-ho, per exemple, quan posem la sèrie *Modern Family*, quan surt la parella gai, és com ai no treu-me això. I clar, apartes una mica aquesta part de tu cap a ells.

Jo ho he portat bastant malament la veritat, perquè he aguantat molt, sempre he tingut les mateixes amistats, i quan es van trencar algunes van ser, *tierra trágame*. La gent que em feia bullying a primària, són ara els meus millors amics, però perquè aquesta gent ha evolucionat i s'ha donat conta que els passava una mica el que em passava a mi. I si jo no estigués al seu costat, potser no sabrien com afrontar-ho. I el fet que jo sigui una persona tirada endavant i oberta, crec que també ajudo als amics del voltant a sentir-se còmodes amb ells mateixos. I jo com a persona he evolucionat també, abans era molt sensible a tot, i ara soc més dur, més segur, m'he fet gran, diguem. I en acceptar-me a mi mateix, m'ha fet créixer i veure que no és una cosa dolenta, i això ha influït molt a com soc ara.

I de fet cada vegada hi ha més gent que ho accepta i surt de l'armari, molta gent estava amagada, i jo he notat un canvi molt gran, des que vaig començar fins ara, perquè cada cop la societat està més conscienciada que hi ha altres opcions a part d'home-dona. Tot i que això en el fons em fa ràbia, perquè, a mi ningú m'ha explicat des de ben petit que jo puc anar amb homes, ho he descobert per ells, o pel carrer, o fonts externes. El desenvolupament ha sigut una mica autodidacta, anar descobrint-ho i provant coses, però mai he tingut ningú que em digui, és normal això que t'està passant. I clar, jo aquest recolzament l'he trobat a faltar, perquè a més a més, dels meus amics he sigut dels primers que s'ha donat conta o que ho ha dit en veu alta. I penso que tot això s'hauria de treballar des de ben petits. Explicar-ho, i no deixar-ho com a tabú. Però explicar-ho bé és important, no només dir, bé, hi ha això, això i això altre, i després tot allà. No, explica quines son aquestes altres opcions.

My change has been more thanks to the environment, the change to the city, my family has also helped me. But I've lacked a bit more support from them. And of course, within the family there are people who think it's okay and people who don't, or who don't understand it at all. Therefore, people who need to know know it, and those who don't, well, they don't. I don't think it should matter to them who I go to bed with.

Before bringing a boy home, I had brought a girl, and really everything went well, but I've never told my parents directly that I'm going with this one or the other one. It wasn't like I have a partner so I'm going to introduce them to my family. And my parents are fine, but of course, my grandparents not so much. They have a hard time accepting it, for example, when we show the series Modern Family, when the gay couple appears, they reject it. And of course, you put that part of you aside from them.

I've had a pretty bad time, to be honest, because I've put up with a lot, I've always had the same friends, and when some of them broke up, it was like, I'll be damned. The people who bullied me in primary school are now my best friends, but that's because these people have evolved and realised that what was happening to me was happening to them. And if I wasn't at their side, maybe they wouldn't know how to deal with it. And the fact that I am a person who is forward and open-minded, I think I also help my friends to feel comfortable with themselves. I've evolved as a person too, I used to be very sensitive to everything, and now I'm tougher, more confident, I've grown up, let's say. And accepting myself has made me grow up and see that it's not a painful thing, and that has had a big influence on how I am now.

And in fact there are more and more people who accept it and come out of the closet, many people were afraid, and I have noticed a big change, from when I started until now, because society is becoming more and more aware that there are other options apart from being a man-woman. Although this makes me laugh, because no one has explained to me since I was a child that I can go out with men, I have discovered it through them, or on the street, or from external sources. The development has been a bit self-taught, discovering it and trying things out, but I've never had anyone tell me, it's normal what's happening to you. And of course, I've been missing this support, because what's more, I've been one of the first of my friends to realise it or to say it out loud. And I think that all this should be worked on from a very young age. Explaining it, and not leaving it as a taboo. But explaining it well is important, not just saying, well, there's this, there's that, there's that and then there's the other, and then all that. No, explain what these other options are.

E: Com has portat aquests canvis?

How have you handled all this changes?

N: El meu caràcter ha evolucionat molt. Abans era una persona molt submissa, em semblava tot bé. Ara a la mínima que una cosa no em sembla bé, dic la meva, sigui a una persona en específic o més en general. M'he posat l'escut de saltar perquè ho he passat malament. També pot ser al revés, abans e tancava més i ara que he descobert qui soc, estic còmode amb mi mateix i m'obro més.

My character has evolved a lot. I used to be a very submissive person, I everything was fine to me. Now, as soon as something doesn't seem right to me, I speak my mind, whether it's to a specific person or more generally. I jump as a defense mechanism because I've had bad experiences. It can also be the other way round, before I was more shy and now that I've discovered who I am, I'm more comfortable with myself and I'm more open.

E: De cara al futur et preocupa que la teva sexualitat et perjudiqui?

Looking to the future, are you worried that your sexuality will work against you?

N: Sí. No vull que la gent em reconegui com el dissenyador gai. No vull ser l'etiqueta. No vull destacar per aquest fet. M'ha passat que a classe quan no sabien el meu nom deien *el gai*, no. No vagis a l'etiqueta.

*Yes, I don't want people to recognise me as a gay designer. I don't want to be the label. I don't want to stand out because of that. It's happened to me that in class when they didn't know my name they said *the gay one*, no. Don't go to the label.*

E: Quina és la part més difícil de gestionar socialment?

What is the most difficult part to manage socially?

N: Jo crec que l'educació, a casa també. Hi ha moltes famílies creient que perquè a la Bíblia posa que està malament que nois vagin amb nois, ja ho tracten malament. Toquem de peus a terra. Entenc que enfoquin la seva vida amb una mirada religiosa, però que acceptin el col·lectiu.

El que s'ha de millorar directament és l'educació, als nens, però també als pares. Perquè tu no t'atreveixes a explicar als pares quina és la raó per la qual et piquen al cole, menteixes. Jo quan sortia del cole, m'esperaven un grup de tios i ties per picar-me. No entenia per què a mi, no ho entenia. Vaig parlar amb els professors i en comptes d'afrontar el problema em feien sortir per la porta del darrere o em feien esperar deu minuts. Això encara ho entenia menys.

I believe that education, at home too. There are many families who believe that because the Bible says that it is wrong for boys to go with boys, they treat them badly. Touch the ground with your feet.. I understand to look at life through a religious lens, but accept the community.

What needs to be improved directly is education, to children, but also to parents. Because a kid doesn't dare to tell their parents why they're being harassed at school, they lie to cover up. When I left school, a group of guys and girls were waiting for me outside to physically attack me. I didn't understand why me, I didn't get it. I went to talk to the teachers and instead of dealing with the problem, they made me leave through the back door or they made me wait for ten minutes. I understood that even less.

E: Vas créixer en un àmbit religiós?

Did you grow up in a religious environment?

N: Algun sí. Els meus avis estan junts simplement perquè el meu avi no creu en el divorci, que el casament és una condició per tota la vida. La meva àvia no és creient cristiana, més aviat creient espiritual. Ella ho sap i ho accepta, si jo soc feliç li sembla bé. Penso que aquest raonament és el que hauria de seguir tothom, encara que no ho entenguis.

Amb la família del meu pare quasi no hi ha relació. Hi ha hagut el típic comentari, al moment abaixó el cap i penso "la propera vegada no vinc" i ja està. He decidit no anar-hi més, no hi tinc relació.

Me mare no és religiosa, però es condiciona segons el que diuen al poble. És dur que la teva pròpia mare et limiti pel que poden dir al poble, perquè el meu avi no ho sàpiga... tot. Estic orgullós d'ella perquè m'ha ajudat, de veritat, però li ha costat portar-ho. M'ha ajudat més veure-la tranquil·la que no pas que m'intentes ajudar directament. Vaig anar al psicòleg, em feia falta, vaig canviar d'amics i tota la pesca. En aquests moments ella no estava allà. I jo prefereixo que no estigues en el moment, però que estigues tranquil·la.

Some do. My grandparents are together simply because my grandpa doesn't believe in divorce, he believes marriage is a condition for life. My grandma is not a Christian believer, but rather a spiritual believer. She knows it and accepts it, if I'm happy it's fine with her. I think that this reasoning is what everyone should follow, even if you don't understand it.

With my father's family there is almost no relationship. There has been the typical comment, at the moment I lower my head and think "next time I won't come" and that's it. I have decided not to go there anymore, I have no relationship.

My mother is not religious, but she is conditioned by what they say in town. It's hard that your own mother limits you because of what they can say in town, so my granpa doesn't know... all of it. I'm proud of her because she has really helped me, but it's been hard for her to carry it. It has helped me more to see her calm than to see you try to help me directly. I went to a psychologist, I needed one, I changed friends and all that. In those moments she wasn't there. I preferred for her not to be if that meant she was calm.

E: Com et va afectar que te mare reaccions així?

How did your mother's reaction affect you?

N: Em va posar més nerviós del que ja estava. Ja sabia que al poble em dirien això o allò. Que ella m'ho digués directament va incrementa el neguit. Per exemple, fa uns dies vaig anar amb el meu pare al bar, i hi havia uns amics seus. Vam demanar un gintònic, de la ginebra normal només en quedava per un i l'altre el van fer amb ginebra rosa. El meu pare va dir "jo agafó el normal i tu queda't amb l'altre", vaig demanar-li que perquè deia això, buscant una mica el joc. "Ja saps perquè ho dic" i tots els seus amics van riure.

It made me more nervous than I was already. I knew that they would say this or that to me in town. The fact that she said it to me directly made me even more nervous. For example, a few days ago I went with my father to the bar, and there were some friends of his. We ordered a gin and tonic, only one of the normal gin was left and the other one was made with pink gin. My father said "I'll take the normal one and you keep the other one", I asked him why he was saying that, looking for a bit of a joke. "You know why" and all his friends laughed.

E: Tens algun referent que al llarg de la infància i adolescència t'hagi ajudat?

Do you have any referents who have helped you during your childhood and adolescence?

N: Específicament LGBTQ+ no, actualment *La Veneno* trobo que ha estat súper bé. En general, que m'ha ajudat a tirar endavant, la Lola Íngido, per molt que ha caigut ha torna a aixecar. Valoro molt el seu esforç perquè ho ha passat realment malament i m'ha transmès l'actitud.

*Not specifically LGBTQ+, actually *La Veneno* I think has been really good. In general, who has helped me to move forward is Lola Íngido, don't matter how much she has fallen, she has come back up again. I really appreciate her effort because she had a really bad time and she transmitted her attitude to me.*

A close-up portrait of a young person with dark, spiky hair and a side part. They have a light complexion and are looking slightly upwards and to the right. They are wearing a black t-shirt and a silver chain necklace. A rainbow-colored wristband is visible on their left wrist. They are holding a makeup brush near their face, with their fingers resting against their chin. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

DYLAN

E: Entrevistadores (Interviewers)

D: Dylan

E: Hola, que tal? Moltes gràcies per participar en aquest projecte. Comencem.

Primer de tot, com et sents en relació al teu gènere i sexualitat?

Hello, how are you? Thank you so much for participating in this project. Let's start. First of all, how are you in relation with your gender and sexuality?

D: Ara estic bé, còmode. Abans dubtava molt del meu gènere i estava molt *lost*, perquè abans interpretava que hi havia home i dona i ja està. No m'identificava amb la imatge que jo tenia del que és un home. No sabia on ubicar-me exactament, fa uns 10 mesos m'identificava com no binari, però no acabava d'encaixar en això. Fins que em vaig donar conte que la imatge que jo tenia d'home no concorda amb com són tots els homes.

Els meus amics em van començar a tractar en masculí i és com em vaig sentir millor. A partir que vaig sortir de l'armari (si és que ho vols dir així), com a home, m'he sentit molt més còmode amb la meva identitat de gènere, i amb tot el meu voltant. És un plus d'autoestima.

Now I am fine, comfortable. Before I was very doubtful about my gender and I was very lost, because before I thought there was a man and a woman and that's it. I didn't identify myself with the image I had of what a man is. I didn't know where to place myself exactly, about 10 months ago I identified myself as a non-binary, but I didn't quite fit in. Until I realized that the image I had of myself as a man does not match with how all men are.

My friends started to treat me in masculine terms and that's how I felt better. Since I came out of the closet (if you want to say it that way), as a man, I've felt much more comfortable with my gender identity, and with everyone around me. It's a plus of self-esteem.

E: L'orientació sexual l'has tingut sempre clara? T'identifiques amb alguna etiqueta?

Have you always been clear about your sexual orientation? Do you identify with any label?

D: Sempre he sabut que m'agradaven les dones, però no tenia clar si m'agradaven els homes o no. Sempre he dubtat molt de la meva orientació sexual, encara no ho tinc cent per cent clar, però en donar-me compte que soc un noi he entès que no és que m'agradin els homes és que vull ser-ne un. Actualment m'identifico com a heterosexual.

I have always known that I liked women, but I wasn't sure if I liked men or not. I've always doubted a lot about my sexual orientation, I'm still not a hundred per cent clear, but when I realized that I'm a boy I understood that it's not that I like men, it's that I want to be one. At the moment I identify myself as heterosexual.

E: Quan vas donar-te conte que ets trans?

When did you realize that you are trans?

D: Crec que no hi ha quelcom que et faci donar compte, són moltes coses al llarg del temps coses que et fan pensar fins que les proves i veus que sí. Jo abans no ho veia però, ara recordo coses de quan era petit i és evident, però, en aquell moment no ho penses perquè ets un nen. Amb el temps, com que hi ha més informació, es visibilitza més, veus gent fent activisme i és quan aprens i et desconstrueixes per trobar la teva identitat, per saber com ets.

I think there is nothing that makes you realize, there are many things over time that make you think until you try them and you see them click. I didn't see it before, but now I remember things from when I was little and it is evident, but at that moment you don't think about it because you are a child. With time, as there is more information, it becomes more visible, you see people doing activism and that's when you learn and you discover yourself, it enables you to find your identity, to know who you are.

E: En el moment que trobes referents i et qüestiones, negues la teva identitat?

When you find referents and you question yourself, do you deny your identity?

D: Si, molta negació. Sempre he tingut, per vivències pròpies, una imatge de l'home súper negativa. No volia convertir-me en el que em fa més por: un home blanc heterosexual. Això em resultava impossible, perquè em feia molta por convertir-me en el que a mi em feia por i a molta altra gent també. Al final vaig veure que negar-ho em feia més mal que ser-ho.

Yes, a lot of denial. I have always had, due to my own experiences, a very negative image of men. I didn't want to become what I was most afraid of: a white heterosexual man. That was impossible for me, because I was very worried about becoming what I was worried about and many other people too. In the end I saw that denying it made me feel worse than being it.

E: Com s'ho ha pres la teva família?

How did your family take it?

D: La primera persona aquí li vaig explicar va ser a la meva mare. Sabia que amb ella tenia confiança i sabia que digues el que li digues em donaria suport, que no em posaria cap però. Òbviament, entenia que al principi no ho entengués, però, sabia que m'acceptaria igualment. Al principi li va costar, sobretot els pronoms i el nom, i de vegades quan parla en passat encara parla en femení. Quan li vaig dir al meu germà també va anar bé. Amb qui em va costar més va ser al meu pare, vam tardar molts mesos a dir-li, feia molta por, perquè la relació amb ell mai ha sigut bona i sabia que ell volia tenir una filla, i era la nineta dels seus ulls, la nena de la seva vida, i que de sobte deixes d'existir. Sabia que era una cosa que ell em negaria molt, que no ho acceptaria i no em respectaria com a tal. En moltes ocasions m'ha donat a entendre que no ho accepta ni ho respecta, però tot i això utilitza el meu nom i els meus pronoms.

Entorn amistats no hi ha hagut cap problema. És cert que he tret a persones de la meva vida perquè no accepto la transfòbia. En general he estat en *safe places*, amb molta acceptació, també per part de professors.

The first person I explained it to was my mother. I knew that I had trust in her and I knew that no matter what I told her she would support me, that she would not have a problem with me. I understood that at the beginning she didn't understand it, but I knew she would accept me anyway. At the beginning it was difficult, especially with the pronouns and name, and sometimes when she speaks in the past tense she still speaks in feminine. When I told my brother it also went well. With whom it was more difficult for me was my father, it took us many months to tell him, I was very worried, because the relationship with him has never been good and I knew that he wanted to have a daughter, and she was the baby girl of his life, and that ceased to exist. I knew that he would deny me a lot, that he would not accept it and would not respect me as such. On many occasions he has given me to understand that he does not accept or respect me, but he uses my name and my pronouns.

Around friendships there has been no problem. It is true that I have cut people out of my life because I do not accept transphobia. In general I have been in safe places, with a lot of acceptance, also by teachers.

E: Com va ser la transició, respecte a l'entorn educatiu?

What was the transition like, regarding the educational environment?

D: No vaig fer canvi de centre. Va ser molt difícil fer la transició, no sabia a qui dir-li ni com fer-ho. No volia fer-ho davant de la classe per *paniqueo*, ansietat social. Em vaig plantejar anar professor per professor... No sabia què fer. Va ser molt difícil, al cap d'uns quants mesos ja es va estabilitzar la cosa.

La transició social és la part més fotuda. Tothom t'ha de conèixer com a altra persona i la gent que coneixes nova et coneixerà d'una altra manera. Costa molt. Haver-ho de dir cinc mil vegades, repetir les coses, gent que no ho assimila, però un cop fet és un gran alleujament.

I did not change centers. It was very difficult to make the transition, I didn't know who to tell or how to do it. I didn't want to do it in front of the class because of panic, social anxiety. I thought about going teacher by teacher.... I didn't know what to do. It was very difficult, but after a few months things stabilized.

The social transition is the hardest part. Everyone has to know you as another person and the new people you meet will know you in a different way. It's hard. To have to say it five thousand times, to repeat things, people who do not assimilate it, but once it is done it is a great relief.

E: Creus que pot ser un inconvenient pel teu futur laboral?

Do you think it could be a disadvantage for your future career?

D: Crec que sí. És molt difícil perquè has d'ensenyar el currículum o ensenyar el DNI, i les dades no concorden. Sobretot si has de fer una entrevista per algú, si tens un superior... És molt difícil sobretot si és de cara el públic, i jo treballo de cara al públic. Hi ha molta discriminació emmascarada, per exemple: "Ai! No ets el perfil que busquem", posaran qualsevol excusa perquè no sembli transfòbia, però ho és. Tot plegat fa por, anar a una entrevista de treball em fa por, la cara que posen, que la foto del DNI no s'assembli a la meva cara... espero que en aquest àmbit hi hagi millors perquè actualment és pèssim.

I think so, it is very difficult because you have to show your resume or show your ID card, and the data is do not match. Especially if you have to do an interview for someone, if you have a superior? It is very difficult, especially if it is in front of the public, and I work in front of the public. There is a lot of masked discrimination, for example: "Ups! You are not the profile we are looking for", they will make any excuse so that it doesn't look like transphobia, but it is. All of this makes me feel bad, going to a job interview scares me, the face they give me, that the photo of the ID card does not match my face... I hope there will be improvements in this area because currently it is terrible.

E: En quin aspecte de la societat veus que hi ha més carències?

In what aspect of society do you see that there are more deficiencies?

D: Crec que tot recau en les lleis. Si el govern determina i tracta una cosa com a malaltia, la gent ho llegirà com a tal. Si des d'un principi es normalitza i no es tracta com a malaltia, la gent ho assimila millor. Pel que fa al dia a dia, cara a cara, no suposa un xoc tan fort (òbviament hi ha gent que si i hi ha situacions difícils). Recau molt abans que tot això, si poses una llei que diu que necessito dos anys de psiquiatre per acreditar que jo soc un home, la gent pensa que estàs malament del cap, ho associa a trastorn mental.

En l'àmbit legislatiu també és molt difícil perquè hi ha altres províncies que es complicat aconseguir les hormones, si no portes un any i pico anant al psicòleg no te'n poden donar. Hi ha molta gent que s'ha suïcidat perquè no poden aguantar dos anys, és algo que realment es passa molt malament. Crec que si s'arreglés aquest aspecte la gent ho normalitzaria més. No estàs malalt, ets una persona vàlida.

El problema també ve de l'educació. En el moment que tu eduques els nens, que son com una esponja, el respecte i la igualtat, deixarà d'haver-hi molts problemes. Encara hi ha molta gent que educa els seus fills de manera no inclusiva, d'aquí surt la gent que no entén i neix també la transfòbia.

I think it all comes down to the law. If the government determines and treats something as a disease, people will see it as such. If since the beginning it is normalized and not treated as a disease, people will assimilate it better. As far as day-to-day, face-to-face life is concerned, it is not such a big shock (obviously there are people who do not take it well and there are difficult situations). It's much more than all that, if you have a law that says that I need two years of psychiatrist to prove that I am a man, people think that you are mentally ill, they associate it with mental disorder.

In the legislative field it is also very difficult because there are other provinces where it is complicated to get the hormones, if you haven't been going to the psychiatrist for a year or so they cannot give them to you. There are many people who have committed suicide because they cannot hold two years, it's something that is really tough to go through. I think that if this aspect was addressed, people would normalize it more. You are not ill, you are a valid person.

The problem also comes from education. The moment you educate children, who are like a sponge, respect and equality, there will be no more problems. There are still many people who educate their children in a non-inclusive way, this is where people who do not understand and transphobia is born.

E: Encara hi ha moltes famílies ignorants, cop podem esperar que eduquin de forma inclusiva?

There are still many ignorant families, how can we expect them to educate in an inclusive way?

D: Per això s'ha d'ensenyar des de l'escola. Les famílies no inclusives tenen por, és negant a ensenyar educació sexual, qüestionen "com li ensenyaràs això al meu fill?". Ho aprendrà igualment, malament però ho aprendrà. És por al desconeixement. A la gent li fa por, prefereixen negar i mirar cap a l'altra banda.

That's why it has to be taught from school. Non-inclusive families are afraid, they refuse to teach sex education, they ask "how will you teach that to my child? They will learn it anyway, badly but they will learn it. It is fear of ignorance. People are afraid, they prefer to deny and look the other way.

E: Vas trobar coneixement en referents? Tens algun punt de referència?

Did you find knowledge in references? Do you have any point of reference?

D: A la infància no. Els últims anys a través de les xarxes socials he conegit a més gent. Avui en dia coneix a molts referents, però abans no coneixia a ningú. Per exemple, la pel·lícula La noia danesa m'agradava molt i no entenia el perquè, ara connecto els punts. Aquesta pel·lícula em va despertar algo a l'inconscient. Persones específiques com a referents no n'he tingut. Vaig sortir una mica després que Elliot Page, que era un referent guai per mi perquè és un actor que m'agrada. Em va fer sentir que no era massa tard per sortir de l'armari. Em feia una mica de por que ja fos massa tard per mi, em va tancar una mica, però veure que ell sortia de l'armari va ser alleujant.

Not in my childhood. In recent years, through social networks I have met more people. Nowadays I know many references, but before I didn't know anyone. For example, I liked the movie The Danish Girl very much and I didn't understand why, now I connect the dots. This movie awakened something in my unconsciousness. I have not had specific people as references. I came out a little later than Elliot Page, who was a cool reference for me because he is an actor I like. He made me feel that it wasn't too late to come out of the closet. I was a little bit worried that it was too late for me, I was a closed to myself, but seeing him coming out was very relieving.

E: Vols afegir unes últimes paraules?

Would you like to add any last words?

D: Només espero que socialment, a poc a poc, tot vagi cap a millor. Que hi hagi més suport per la joventut, i infància, trans, i que pugui créixer en un entorn on se sentin validats i segurs.

I just hope that socially, little by little, everything goes for the better. That there will be more support for trans youth and kids and that they can grow up in an environment where they feel validated and safe.



SOFIA

E: Entrevistadores (Interviewers)

S: Sofia

E: Hola, que tal? Moltes gràcies per participar en aquest projecte. Comencem.

Primer de tot, com et sents en relació al teu gènere i sexualitat?

Hello, how are you? Thank you so much for participating in this project. Let's start. First of all, how are you in relation with your gender and sexuality?

S: Sempre m'he identificat amb el gènere femení, no he tingut disfòria, però durant una època em sentia més masculina, em vaig tallar el cabell súper curt. Mai he tingut cap problema en aquest aspecte. En tema orientació sexual, soc bisexual. Ha costat, però em sento bé amb mi mateixa, sortir de l'armari em va ajudar molt.

I've always identified with the female gender, I haven't had dysphoria, but during a period of time I felt more masculine, I was going to cut my hair very short. I've never had any problems in this aspect. As far as sexual orientation is concerned, I'm bisexual. It's been hard, but I feel good about myself, coming out of has helped me a lot.

E: Com va ser la sortida de l'armari?

How was it to come out of the closet?

S: Anava com amagada per la vida, no era ja mateixa. Quan ho vaig dir em vaig sentir més lliure.

I felt like I was hiding, I wasn't myself. Coming out was liberating.

E: A quina edat et vas donar conte?

At what age did you realize?

S: Soc bastant oberta i coneix a força gent; quan vaig veure que em començaven a fer *tílin* les noies vaig pensar "*What is this?*". A partir d'aquí vaig començar a buscar informació i vaig descobrir que hi ha un espectre enorme. Queer és un paraigua son tothom hi cap. De petita no ho veia, va ser al voltant dels 16 que em vaig obrir. Tot va fluir, no vaig negar la meva sexualitat. He tingut sort de no tenir cap problema mai. En canvi, tinc amigues que ho han passat molt malament.

I'm quite extroverted and I know a lot of people; when I saw that I liked girls I thought, "What is this?". From there I started to look for information and I discovered that there is a huge spectrum. When I was little I didn't see it, it wasn't until I was around 16 that I started to open up. Everything flowed, I didn't deny my sexuality. I've been lucky not to ever have any problems. But I have friends who have had bad experiences.

E: Amb els amics vas trobar suport?

Did you find support in friends?

S: Sí, tot va anar bé. Vaig conèixer gent que és bisexual, va estar bé. Tothom molt amable i molta acceptació. No he tingut cap problema, mai, i si veig que algú em mira estrany... jo continuo amb la meva vida.

Yes, everything went well. I met people who are bisexual, it was good. Everyone was very friendly and very accepting. I haven't had any problems, ever, and if I see that someone looks at me strangely... I carry on with my life.

E: En quin ambient escolar has crescut?

In what school environment did you grow up?

S: A la E.S.O. un fàstic, molt tòxic, molt fals. No em va agradar gens, a la que vaig poder pirar ho vaig fer. Amb un grupet ens vam fer, encara tenim contacte, però en general no em va agradar gens. El canvi d'E.S.O. a batxillerat artístic em va ajudar molt, podes parlar de tot amb tothom. Trobava a faltar això, gent amb qui estar a gust.

E.S.O was disgusting, very toxic. I didn't like it at all, and as soon as I was able to leave I did. I made friends with a little group, and we are still in contact, but I disliked it in general. The change from E.S.O. to artistic baccalaureate helped me a lot, you could talk about everything with everyone. That's what I found missing, people to be comfortable with.

E: Com ha sigut la rebuda per part de la teva família?

How did your family take it?

S: La família de me mare està arreu del món, només coneix una cosina i una tieta seva de quan era petita. El meu tiet viu al costat de casa meva, ell és de dretes, em pregunta "tens novio?" i li respon "clar que sí!" (amb to irònic).

Als meus pares sí que els hi he dit. Me mare em va qüestionar, i vaig explicar-li que, a part dels nois, també m'agraden les noies. Li costa una mica, però deixin que faci molt la meva, em deixin molta llibertat. Volen que estigui còmode i segura, i ja està. Els meus avis són conservadors.

My mum's family is all over the world, I only know one of my mum's cousins and aunt from when I was little. My uncle lives next door to me, he's right wing, he asks me "do you have a boyfriend?" and I answer "of course I do! (with of irony).

I came out to my parents. My mother questioned me, and I explained to her that, apart from boys, I also like girls. It's a bit difficult for her, but they let me do a lot of my own thing, they give me a lot of freedom. They want me to be comfortable and safe, and that's it. My grandparents are conservative.

E: Et preocupa que, laboralment, et posin traves per la teva sexualitat?

Are you worried that, in the workplace, you will be put through the wringer because of your sexuality?

S: No. He treballat a diversos llocs, mai m'han preguntat. És el que menys els hi importa, volen que facis la feina i siguis responsable, però la vida privada no els hi interessa. Si em preguntessin jo tinc dret a posar els meus límits. Generalment, la gent ho respecta. També he de dir que coneix a gent que està a l'extrem de l'espectre i han tingut problemes. Personalment, no he tingut cap confrontament, tot i que els comentaris sempre cauen. En ocasions he fotut tal esbronc que s'han quedat tiesos.

Per exemple, una vegada el meu pare va dir una cosa bastant lletja i me mare em qüestiona bastant. He hagut de marcar el meu espai i posicionar-me en què soc així i ho han d'acceptar. Perquè convienc amb ells i el respecte mutu és necessari. Tinc amigues que a casa no estaven bé i s'han buscado la vida pel seu compte.

Intento sempre respondre als comentaris dels del respecte. Perquè si no respectes no et respecten. I primer de tot, has de tenir respecte per tu mateix.

No. I've worked in different places, they've never asked me. That's what matters least to them, they want you to do your job and be responsible, but they're not interested in your private life. If they asked I have the right to set boundaries. Generally, people respect that. I must also say that I know people who are at the extreme end of the spectrum and have had problems. Personally, I haven't had any confrontation, although there are always comments. On occasions I've had such an outburst that they've been left speechless.

For example, one time my father said something quite outrageous and my mother questioned me a lot. I have had to mark my space and position myself as such and they have to accept it. Because I live with them and mutual respect is necessary. I have friends who were not doing well at home and they have made a life for themselves.

I always try to respond to the comments with respect. Because if you don't respect them, they don't respect you. And first of all, you have to have respect for yourself.

E: El respecte cap a tu mateixa l'has trobat al llarg dels anys?

Have you found respect for yourself over the years?

S: Sí. Tenia moltes inseguretats amb mi mateixa, sobretot venint de la E.S.O. Crec que és una època molt traumitzant per tothom. Surten totes les pors, inseguretats, exposat. En passar a batxillerat, vaig entrar en un ambient molt més acceptant, estava a gust, em podia expressar com volia, allà em vaig trobar a mi mateixa, la meva identitat. El respecte també.

Tenir a amics i els pares de suport m'ha ajudat a tenir confiança. De mica en mica vas trobant el teu espai i la teva gent.

Yes, I had a lot of insecurities about myself, especially coming from the E.S.O. I think it's a very traumatic time for everyone. All the worries, insecurities and exposure come up. When I moved on to secondary school, I entered a much

more accepting environment, I was at ease, I could express myself as I wanted, there I found myself, my identity. Respect too.

Having friends and parents to support me has helped me to feel confident. Little by little you find your space and your people.

E: Socialment, quina és la part que s'ha de treballar més?

Socially, which aspect needs to change most?

S: L'educació. A casa i a l'escola. Per més que a l'escola s'ensenyi des del respecte, si els pares no tenen respecte cap a certs col·lectius, els nens creixeran amb la mateixa mentalitat. La mentalitat haurà de ser més oberta, crec que amb les generacions que pugen això ho veurem millorar. Espero que els fills facin bé el que els pares feien malament. Actualment els pares i els avis son tancats, sobretot els avis perquè venen d'una època molt, molt tancada, de la dictadura.

En definitiva, el més important és l'educació. És el que a mi em va faltar. L'única educació sexual que vaig rebre va ser a sisè de primeria, dues monges ens expliquessin que és un preservatiu masculí i un condó femení, ja està. Falta educació sexual, entre altres moltes coses. A Espanya ens estem quedant enrere.

Education. At home and at school. No matter how much respect is taught at school, if parents have no respect for certain communities, children will grow up with the same mentality. The mentality will have to be more open, I believe that with the coming generations this will improve. I hope that children will do well what their parents did badly. Nowadays, parents and elders are very shackled, especially elders because they come from a very, very close-minded period, from a dictatorship.

In short, the most important thing is education. That's what I lacked. The only sex education I received was in sixth grade, when two nuns explained what a male condom is and what a female condom is, and that was it. There is a lack of sex education, among many other things. In Spain we are lagging behind.

E: Vols afegir algun anècdota, vivència, paraules concloents?

Do you want to add any anecdotes, experiences, words to conclude?

S: Em xoca el poc coneixement que hi ha de la història LGBTQ+. He parlat amb gent que no sabia que la revolta de Stonewall va començar amb Marsha P. Johnson, una dona trans negre. Les persones trans son les grans oblidades. Tinc un amic que ho és i està molt enfadat perquè tothom parla dels gais, les lesbianes... i ningú parla dels trans, que son els que més dificultats tenen.

It shocks me how little knowledge there is of LGBTQ+ history. I've talked to people who didn't know that the Stonewall Riot started with Marsha P. Johnson, a black trans woman. Trans people are the great forgotten ones. I have a friend who is one and he's very angry because everyone talks about gays, lesbians... and no one talks about trans people, who are the ones who have the most difficulties.