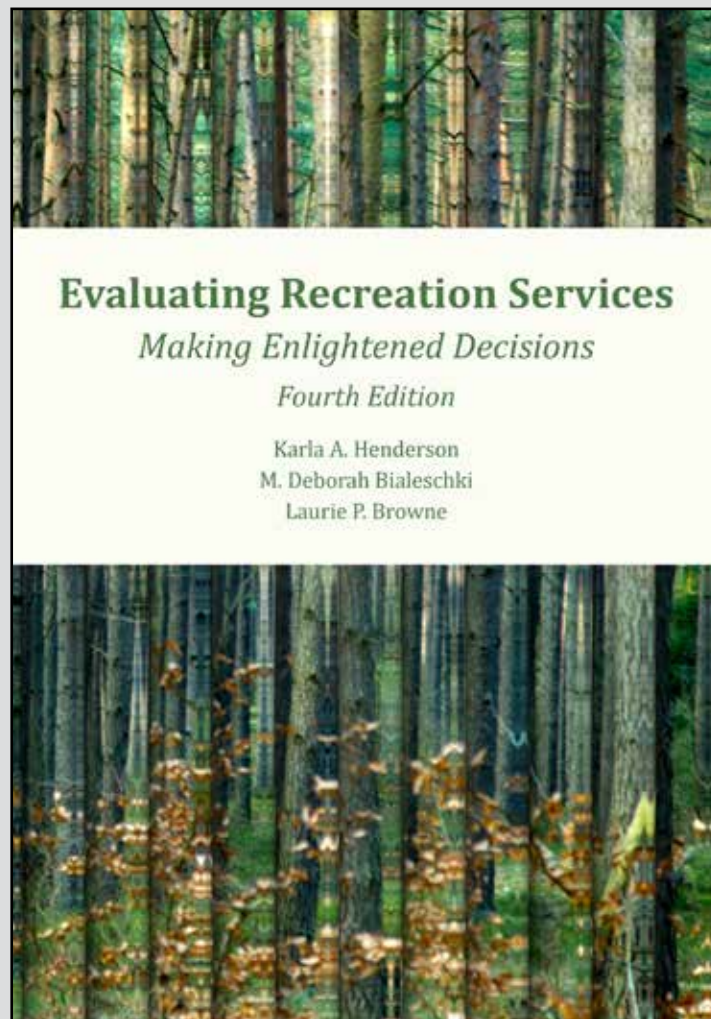


SAMPLE QUALITATIVE DATA



FOCUS GROUP WITH RESIDENTS OF THE HOMELESS SHELTER

Leader (Focus Group Moderator): There it goes...um.

Leader: Alright, um, just to get started we will go around the room and say your first names again...

Jeff: Jeff.

Leader: Um, well wait I wanted to ask another question (ha, ha, ha)...

Jeff: Oh, okay.

Leader: ...and then um, just say um, your first name, your age, and how long you have been using the shelter.

Jeff: Jeff, 35, been there about a month.

Dan: Dan, 38, been there for 2 days.

Brenda: Brenda, I have been there a year.

Job: I'm Job and I've been in and out of that shelter, using that shelter for about...since '93.

Rob: My name is Rob and um about 2 months I been in, in the homeless shelter.

Leader: Alright, um, now I just want to know, 'cause everyone has different ideas about what they consider to be recreation so I just want to know what you all think recreation is, like how would you define recreation.

Job: Okay.

Leader: (some silence) Anyone.

Job: Alright my name is Job and um to me recreation is anything leisurely, that relaxes me, and get me out of the mood of doin' my typical everyday thing. Somethin' that's relaxin' me gettin' my mind off (inaudible)

Brenda: Ya, same thing.

Dan: Uh, my name is Dan, and uh to me recreation is doin' somethin' to uh to clear my mind uh I could get me the type of thing where I could just relax, ya know relax my mind and what ever I'm doin' that day that I don't have to think about just uh and just uh I mean 30 minutes to an hour just to clear everything. That's what it is.

Rob: Well, uh my name's Robert. I guess that bein' in the current situation we in ya know we get a lot of exercise walkin' around just lookin' for work. Ya know. More or less. Ya know. Sittin' back relaxin' readin' the newspaper or somethin' tryin' to find a job.

Jeff: Ya, 'bout the same thing they said (inaudible) ... everybody think recreation is sports.

Leader: Right.

Jeff: (inaudible) some laughter

Leader: Uh, so I want to ask now what um what different things you guys do for recreation right now. Like what you said, was saying about the newspaper...

Brenda: Nothing now they took the TV out for one thing.

Job: Always say your name first.

Brenda: Oh Brenda. They well, we had a TV they took the TV out so now ya know.

Leader: Right. So now nothin'.

Brenda: Nothin'.

Rob: Um.

Brenda: Nothin'.

Rob: Um, I'm, recreation to me right now is walkin', and listenin to other people uh, I mean just uh really sit down and keep some people company uh huh 'bout like what we doin' now. It is, this is, I mean to me part of recreation.

Jeff: Right now I can't define what recreation is 'cause my mind is something that don't have nothin' to do with recreation.

Rob: Well I guess um you would have to um think that ya know its a lot of stress...

Brenda: Ya it is.

Rob: ...because ya know bein' dealin' with the current lifestyle you know...

Leader: Right.

Rob: ...it's a lot a stress, it's a lot uh, you have to do a lot of things you have to put up, you know, an you an you- your livin in a closed environment and your under and you uh its gonna be a stressful environment when you have adults that have to be supervised in in a facility. You know and you know you have to be patient you know when your in this position because you know your gonna have to be subject to authority, ya know and so you have to uh carry yourself in a uh in a manner where your gonna have to have some type of recreation in order to last. You have, to keep, uh you know sane mind ya know.

Brenda: (inaudible) Yep.

Leader: Ya, well that was Rob, sorry you forgot to say your name.

Job: My name is Job, um right now ya know, well I'm disabled and I'm goin' through a lot of medical problems and so physical recreation is out for me which I have to do a little walkin' sometimes uh just ya know 'cause therapy on my leg and uh and like Rob said bein' in the situation that we in it puts a lot of stress on you and you have to have an outlet. So a lot of people end up getting into trouble cause they don't know how out how to have these outlets. Have to use these outlets to do different things that get their mind on the situation that they on and the control that that you bein' under and they end up not bein' able to release these thing and that uh all of a sudden they it blows and it just kinda builds up and it has to go somewhere and you end up most times getting' in trouble goin' to jail or to the hospital um which is sad.

Rob: Um well my name is Rob when ya get a group of adults, um there's like people say they took television out well I can see ya know it's a tedious position, position that everybody's put in even the people and the staff because I mean everybody get stressed out even, even staff (inaudible) they're human too so. It's easy you know if you work at a shelter it's easy to see one person and see everybody you know because uh I mean you don't have the time or the funds or the training necessary in that type of field to single people out I mean it's much easier to just ya know judge everybody you know some people...

Brenda: Yup.

Rob: ...some people get into, into that's why you know it's up to an individual thing and ya you know as as I speak in recreation is a good thing 'cause eve you know even in the bible which I don't believe in uh an idle mind is a is the devil's workshop you see that's why people get stressed out because they sit there and look at each other all day instead of gettin' out and about just tryin' to create somethin' because you see how the world is the world is cruel we know that. Nobody's gonna give it to you, nobody's gonna bring it to you, ya gonna have to create it and that's just all there is to it because ya know everyone's just sittin' around waitin' to see how somebody else is goin' to treat 'em but I guess you gotta figure out how you are gonna treat yourself.

Jeff: Just like you, you, you do what you had to do, not sittin' there waiting for someone to come up to you oh there the poor people in line (inaudible) you got to get out you see what I'm saying?

Leader: Right, right.

Job: Homeless people wasn't gonna come to you, you gotta go get it.

Leader: Right.

Job: That's what he sayin' so I don't know, I'm Job.

Leader: What, what 'em, they don't have any activities for you at the shelter now that the TV is gone?

Job: (at the same time I was talking) No.

Leader: (inaudible) Nobody ever comes in?

(Several people talking at once, indistinguishable.)

Job: Church.

Leader: Church.

Jeff: Creative writing but that's about once a week.

Job: Ya we had a, I'm Job, and that last week I had just gotten back here they had a creative writing course which was real good you know I attended it was real good.

Jeff: Ya my name is Jeff, they have creative writing, AA classes...

Brenda: NA.

Jeff: ...and NA/AA what ever they're called.

Leader: What's NA?

Job: Narcotics anonymous or alcoholics anonymous they have the meeting there once a week...

Dan: (inaudible) those are the only three things they have going on there.

Job: ...and they come in from out.

Brenda: Yeah.

Leader: You say the churches come sometimes?

Jeff: There's church there now.

Leader: What are they doing?

Job: For Sunday church.

Leader: Oh for Sunday Church okay, alright, some people do church for recreation? Do a lot of people go to church groups?

Job: Yeah, um.

Jeff: That's what they say. We really don't know what their intentions are until you really sit down and...

Brenda: Yeah.

Jeff: ...talk to them and then you know what they in there for real, other ones they ain't (inaudible)

Brenda: Yeah. A bunch of them in there goin' to sleep and ain't, they just sittin' there 'cause they can't go into the other parts and sit down where the TV was...

Job: And there's bad weather outside.

Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: Any, anytime you live with uh um a closed environment with with that number of people some people um think that you know I would imagine that it's easy to get a one track mind that the staff members think we don't see exactly what's going on. You have to have rules and regulations...

Job: Right.

Rob: ...but bein' a good social worker or knowin' how to work with people you gotta be able to balance the two. I mean you gotta be you know, I mean you gotta walk softly but carry a big stick but you know basically but you know some people get to the point where (inaudible) usin' authority to say I don't have to do that. But see know legally you don't have to do that but socially in order to get along with people you have to do that you know?

Leader: Right.

Rob: (inaudible) It's, it's, it's just as easy to come in with an iron fist and say well you guys (inaudible) ya know, I mean, if you don't do it will call the police or whatever. But that's not how you get along with people that's how what this country was founded on. This country was mostly founded on uh um on a bunch of people workin' together to try and solve a problem without uh force as a last resort. You know?

Leader: Right, right.

Rob: You know bein,' bein' a person that knows how to work with people you gotta be able to say well look. If you are gonna help somebody you gotta be able to look at that particular person and say look, look, I know you've got problems on, know you got issues you know but I got rules and regulations too but I'll try and work with you the best way that I can you know everyone deserves the benefit of the doubt you know.

Leader: Right.

Job: My name's Job and I agree and um 'cause basically cause what he is sayin' is even though you are in authority, the people that work there you gotta know how to to determine that you are a human being your self and that person (inaudible) getting' that help is a human being. A human being regardless of if he is homeless...

Leader: Right.

Job: ...or on drugs or what. You gotta have that sympathy you know?

Leader: A lot more rules (inaudible, several people talking at once)

Job: Don't let somebody walk over you. Because you are in authority don't let uh the person the client walk all over you but still remember that person is a human being.

Rob: You know for instance...

(laughter)

Rob: Oh, go ahead.

Dan: Okay I am Dan. I mean I, I don't quite agree um with what they say. I mean this is my opinion.

Leader: Can I just...Are you guys basically saying that there's more rules than there is social opportunities. Is that what...

Rob: Yeah.

Job: Well I'm basically saying that even though you are the manager on duty don't just do, just don't get paid to be there because you can do that.

Brenda: Yeah.

Leader: Oh okay.

Job: You want to treat that person like he's a human being...

Unknown: (multiple people talking) Or just for no reason at all.

Job: Or just don't force a person (many people talking) just don't force a person to go to the church service.

Brenda: (multiple people talking) It's a person, punish one person.

Leader: Right.

Job: Ya know. Don't force church, don't force religion on somebody...

Leader: Right.

Job: ...because they end up suspicious.

Leader: Right. Great point.

Job: You know .

Ron: Also I kinda look at it, I look at it like this. I mean if there is somebody in charge it ain't all about what they doin, its about what I can do to make it better and what I can do sometimes to make it better...

Job: That's what I mean, I understand that.

Ron: ... a better place.

(several people talking at once)

Ron: It ain't for me to want to come in and take over and run a shelter when I don't have a place to go. And uh...

Job: Right.

Ron: ...I mean the reason I'm saying this is because I did go to a Wake Tech to take a life skills course and with the past job I just had uh I deal with uh people in society I deal with uh the Senator, the governor, you know they all come out to the job and you know I just had to put on those type of shows uh for them and I was just me doin' - doin' what I was doin' and enjoyin' what I was doin'. Because whenever you do what you do and enjoy doin' it everything it just falls in place. It ain't about me stepping' back and lookin' at everybody. It's about when I get involved 'cause when I get involved and do the right thing then things just fall right in place. But, but when I just sit back and point fingers at everybody else I mean its just not goin' to fall into place. I, I...

Leader: So, mostly do you think it is your responsibility to create recreation and to create opportunity?

Rob: Yeah it is.

Job: I understand that, I'm Job and I understand what you sayin' but it never been my experience to be that easy like you sayin' just because I do the right thing, things gonna fall A B C.

Unknown: Yeah that's right.

Job: You know? Things take time, there's progress in anything and you know you don't just wake up this morning and one morning and say you know I'm gonna be clean for 90 days everything gonna be alright in my life. It don't happen that way bro.

Unknown: Okay.

Job: And, and I'm not tryin' to be the (inaudible) manager at the shelter because I do whatever, whatever need to be doin' I do it and the way I am speakin' now is because she's askin' us our opinion but I don't speak it there. You know? They got a job to do. You know? I don't I don't try to go you know to get in there and change there job or try (multiple people begin speaking).

Rob: Nobody's ever...

Leader: Right.

Rob: ...nobody's ever said, my name's Rob, nobody's ever said that look, you got lost...

Job: Right.

Rob: I got I have one cop that stop me you know look, he says, hey man let me check your ID. Fine. Here ya are. I, I'm not gonna give that cop an attitude.

Job: Right.

Rob: Here's your ID. Look. Where you doin' here. You not you're not supposed to be here. Sir well I'm sorry you know I'll try not to do it again. Well I'm gonna give you a ticket. Well I guess I got a ticket, you gonna give it to me you know. Have a nice day, you know what I'm sayin'. Now that cop came to me he did his job. He gave me the ticket anyway. Right but then I got another cop that comes up, you know, hey you asshole, what you doin' back here ya know. I mean all up in my face ya know. You know what I'm sayin'. And I'm lookin' at him like-- But I still gotta be me...

Job: Right.

Rob: ...regardless. It's the same here, same situation.

Brenda: (in background) Next question.

Leader: (laughter) Ya, I want to, I am sorry to interrupt.

Rob: Yeah recreation, I'm getting there. What I'm getting' at is this you get in, see recreation, jail is stress that's why we on this issue.

Leader: Right.

Rob: It deals with relievin' stress you get to a point where you in an environment. I'll to get back to the issue. You get in this environment and nobody want, like what he said, nobody want to take over anything.

Job: Right.

Rob: But we still want, all we want is respect. You know? We don't ask for much, I mean what what is watchin' a television?

Brenda: Yep.

Leader: Right.

Ron: I mean, or something like that or playin' chess or somethin' We don't ask, we don't say...

Jeff: We can't even play cards.

Ron: We wanna go up there with a (multiple people talking, inaudible)

Leader: You can't play cards?

Brenda: (multiple people talking) Ya because its gamblin'

Job: No kinda games.

Ron: That's recreations, that is recreations, television and stuff like that.

Brenda: Like spades ya know?

Multiple people talking (inaudible)

Unknown: Yeah you know there's rules and regulations that we willing to follow without (multiple people talking).

Brenda: Look you know.

Unknown: ...but what we need, what we need.

Brenda: With, with as much frustration as buildin' up in me now, I could explode ya know what I'm sayin'?

Leader: You were saying like TV and cards, what other things would you like to be doing if they had, you know.

Jeff: Chess, checkers.

Several people: Yeah.

Leader: Chess, checkers.

Job: Books are limited. (inaudible multiple people talking)

Brenda: You see too okay we had a bookshelf in there right with books, they kept messin' up the bookshelf so they took it out. They took it all the books out. Paperback books and everything took all of 'em out of there.

Unknown: There's a lot people (multiple people talking)

Unknown: Instead of creatin' a new system.

Unknown: There's a lot a people read.

Rob: Instead of creatin' a system-- Okay we'll put the books back here and when you need one...(several people talking)

Job: Check it out.

Rob: Heck yeah, that's right, somethin' like that.

Brenda: Yeah that's right something like that.

Job: 'Cause its a lot of people that really love to read.

(Inaudible several people speaking)

Rob: Yeah yeah say you have a (inaudible) that's on disability that's there all day. You can get him and say okay you wanna be you know. There's ways its what we just sayin' there's ways of creatin'...

Unknown: They don't want to work.

Rob: ...creatin' ideas...

Unknown: They don't want to do that.

Rob: ...that things can be achieved as a group without havin' to go through all this animosity.

Unknown: (inaudible) get a job its part of the job description.

Brenda: A bunch of them don't want to work.

Rob: Just like when I was when I was in the penitentiary, you had, you had the rec man you know.

Jeff: We already know this is not gonna happen (inaudible).

Job: ...and—and...

Leader: ...and that was Jeff.

Job: ...yeah that was Jeff and I'm Job and I ask you this question, if there was no homeless people in Chapel Hill, what would them people in that building be doin'?

Leader: Right (several people talking at once)

Job: They'd be somewhere else, they'd be tryin', they'd be fillin' out resumes.

Brenda: Yeah.

Job: But,

Rob: Back to the recreation point. What, you know, to me...

Brenda: You need to get to the point.

Rob: ...physical activity is greatly necessary and you know you go out and some time you want to , okay people say hey hey. There are still some people that drink responsibly, I'm not one of 'em but (laughter) you can go to, you can go to, and that's another thing, laughter that's that's...

Job: That's recreation. That's the only thing you got around sometimes

Rob: I mean, I mean, if you can drink responsibly, if you like sometimes, if you just need to go to a bar or somethin' and sit down. Maybe you like to get a drink, you not an alcoholic or nothing, maybe you just like drinkin'. You might do that every now and then, I don' know.

Leader: Right.

Rob: You go in the bar you lookin' for somethin' to do. Maybe, sometimes I see people if you got a few dollars in your pocket, and you can uh, you can come to uh, go to a restaurant, it's like, McDonalds, you know a hamburger'll only cost you a buck. Get you a newspaper, sit down there and just relax for a minute.

Brenda: That's what I did the other day.

Rob: You know sometimes, if you can't change the environment, get out of the environment.

Job: Right.

Rob: You know? That, and sometimes that helps you know 'cause there be a lot of times I leave there you know.

Brenda: They stole my stuff out of my bag.

Leader: Hmm.

Brenda: That's got me hot, you know my radio, that was the only recreation I had, you know my radio.

Job: Speaking of recreation, this is like the only place on Franklin Street you can go and there is not a TV in it. This is Chapel Hill and the sports is very big in Chapel Hill, that's why...

Brenda: Yup.

Job: ...and for us not to be able to see a – a basketball game at, at, at that shelter, in Chapel Hill, that ain't right.

Several people talking at once (inaudible), laughter.

Rob: Maybe you should ask Matt Doherty what his recreation is.

Laughter.

Rob: Ask him what is recreation man, ha ha ha (inaudible)

Job: Recreation is when they play North Carolina A&T.

Dan: Yeah.

Leader: Why don't, you talk a lot about the shelter being uh, like your barrier to recreation. You not allowing you to have cards, they took out the TV...

Brenda: Ya, no books.

Leader: ...no books. But what...

Brenda: It's like a penitentiary.

Leader: Other things, outside....

Rob: No we got them in the penitentiary. Ha, ha.

Leader: What are some other things outside that keep you from doing recreation?

Brenda: Goin' to the library.

Job: No things keepin' you from doin' recreation.

Leader: Oh. Both, what are some of things you do outside...

Job: Outside the shelter.

Leader: ...and what keeps you from doing other things?

Dan: Gettin' a job that's about it.

Brenda: Yeah.

Dan: The only thing that keeps me from doin' it is gettin' a job.

Job: And me it's goin' to the doctor's a lot. You know 'cause my health.

Jeff: This is Jeff, and then basically when you have a job, you work durin' the day, you get off in the evenin' so you can get in there and go to sleep at night.

Rob: It's like my man said, you just can't go out and get a job....

Brenda: That's right a lot of people (inaudible)

Rob: (Laughter). A lot of people don't have the skills....

Brenda: That's right.

Rob: Like a lot of people, you got people who are willin' to work, like me, all I ever did my entire life, 'cept for Military Service, was—I'm not lookin' for someone to start a violin now 'cause—all I ever done was construction, you know I had a few jobs where workin' labor wise, you know I'm no white collar people but I was in an office, wasn't doin' much, you know, that was when I was younger but basically all the jobs man, I mean look, look, look at the papers, they ain't lookin' for a landscaper construction...

Brenda: No.

Rob: Guys, you know who they hirin' to do all those jobs now.

Brenda: Mexicans

Rob: Right, so I...

Brenda: They got everything.

Rob: ...I mean the unemployment rate especially

Leader: Right.

Rob: For poor people in America (inaudible) People think were racist, people think (inaudible) for racist comments, but I say right now, I say, I say look, this country's really goin' bad because work is a part of recreation.

Leader: How is work a part of recreation?

Rob: Work a part of recreation because I mean you know it relives stress too, 'cause maybe you know you got a paycheck comin'...

Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: ...and that takes some of the weight off you know

Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: I mean I have nothin' against a foreign person tryin' make a livin' they only doin' what I'd do if I went to another country. But somewhere down the line, there – there needs to be a social and economic balance for the private citizen in the country as it is 'cause it's gettin' out a hand. You know it's kinda like, like if I went to your house and you know they said okay these people gotta eat too. But it's your house you know and we start eatin' up all the food and you ain't got nothin' else to eat now what's the deal. It's easy to sit back if you workin' a white-collar job. What about all the blue collar Americans that are bein' put out a work over here because of immigration? And that is, people think that I hate Mexicans, I don't hate Mexicans. I hate the idea there though that I think the government if they want tot help foreign people they should try to boost the economy where they are, because then you have an economic clash over here.

Leader: Right.

Rob: That you gonna create and then that we don't need, a lot of people gonna be, a lot of hate and stress gonna be goin' around here. It just, it just doesn't have to be. Because if to if you gotta be, you gotta hire black people you gotta, you can't just stick to one agenda, because you know for the loads of us you see workin', there are loads of us they are not workin'.

Leader: Right.

Rob: And then people get an image of us that like we don't wanna work. I can't make you gimme a job. You know if you want to stereotype me as say you know black people lazy then that's your fault.

Leader: Right.

Rob: You know. I could show you it's – it's – it's not a racist thing. They are lazy people in every race that you have.

Job: My name is Job. Just to show you what he is sayin' uh, like in Durham and in Raleigh what they got is labor corners, you could be 90% black, and a few white, but once the Mexicans came...

Brenda: Umha.

Job: ...and they got their own, got on their own corner.

Brenda: Yeah, umha.

Job: The people would come and go past the black and white and go to nothin' but Mexican corners.

Rob: Cause they workin' for less wages.

Job: Less wages.

Brenda: That's what they do now, it's a car pool.

Job: Whereas we want 9 or 10 dollars an hour. The Mexicans take 6.50, 7 dollars.

Brenda: Yeah.

(Several people talking at once, inaudible)

Leader: So there's the economic problem and you are saying that work helps you as part of recreation, helps you relieve stress. What are some of the other, like do you hear about opportunities, like you said you go to the library, do you go to Chapel Hill or to UNC?

Brenda: I go to the library and get books and read.

Jeff: There are opportunities to work, but like you say the requirements...

Leader: But recreation opportunities, does anyone put up flyers or anything.

Rob: You know, like you know, I can't even get a job. I stand, sometimes, I look for one so much. I stood in front of the, of the um, just tryin' to look for day labor ya know? Just so can I go out there and lookin' for what ever ya know. Nobody wants to live like that. And then you have drug use and I guess, sometimes some people use that as a recreational thing. You know you got your drug use and that and it's high.

Brenda: Drinkin'

Rob: Because the more you depressed, the more susceptible you are to drug use and alcohol (several people talking at once-inaudible). You know sometimes I be workin' a – a day and you know you ready to sit down and get high, you know what I'm sayin? You know or get me beer to calm my nerves.

Leader: Right.

Rob: You know you can do that you know. (inaudible)

Job: I'm Job, (several people talking at once) I'm Job, put a little comedy in this thing. I could make you a rich lady, all you gotta do is come out a school, get you one of these offices over here, open you up a day labor place where people come...

Brenda: Yeah.

Job: ...in there and can get a job around Chapel Hill. Construction, cookin', cleanin'

Brenda: Yep.

Job: Chapel Hill the only place that don't have temporary services.

Brenda: Sure don't

Job: In the triangle

Rob: You see, the – the way the world is, it seems like to me, you can call it what you want, they reward immigrants (several people talking at once)

Brenda: Yeah that is what it is.

(Several people talking at once – inaudible)

Brenda: My name is Brenda. 'Cause uh, there a bunch a jobs in the paper right that I could do, stuff like clean, clean the buildings and stuff like that, but 'cause you gotta have your own transportation, you know your own car or what ever.

Leader: Transportation is a big problem?

Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: You gotta have a car, but they won't give you no job so you can buy one. You gotta get a job so you can get a job you know – laughter

Job: Which what it did which did help with no – with no fare for the city transport but you know.

Rob: I've walked up to many of these construction sites, all over you know...

Job: Big guy like him.

Rob: I had you know, walked up and it was just like, you know how you doin' and my – my appearance, you know, it's hard. And you might not believe this but I had an air bag hit me in the face. I am tryin' to get some money out of it now, that's why all this, you know it was a terrible accident, you know it feels like, I couldn't even explain, it feels like a truck just run into your face. All this right here, you remember when I came in...

Job and Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: ...all this was messed up right here and uh yeah and that's a part too you know, appearance. You know and it was devastating to me you know to lose all my teeth and stuff. To look like this and to, I woke up and after I came out of the hospital and I was like what you know, but we're workin' on that. And the car was a rental car. So there givin' us the run around, you know I think I can get somethin' out of it I think I can get some money so I can get these repaired, still I end up with false teeth. A little bit of money, but it still not gonna be enough to do what I wanna do. You see the thing is, I been on many of these sites, job sites, and its just everybody is just like man we ain't gonna hire you.

Leader: Right, right.

Dan: And then it piss you off, one or two days later, you run into a white guy or a Mexican that got the job.

Unknown: Yup.

Brenda: Yeah, it sure do.

Leader: I want, I want to talk a little bit more about what Brenda was saying before and definitely what Job and Rob were talking about, things you could do at the shelter, like have someone check out books. What are some other things, I want to talk more about those things.

Job: I think they should have uh some kinda job search person in the building...

Brenda: Yeah right.

Job: You know they have social workers, they have social workers, but I think some...

Rob: It's not even that, I'll agree with that and I'll go back to the staff, you don't know what type of organization, you don't know what types of funds are available for these types of things. If you livin' in an environment where everything is based on donations and grants, you don't know if they gonna have enough money to hire somebody, especially in your case, you may have graduated college and you wanna be a recreational therapist or somethin' and they will hire you, that will cost money, and and ...

Brenda: Yeah.

Leader: Right.

Rob: And they might not have that kinda money to get somebody that's trained in that area.

Leader: But like with the TV, what, what would make them bring the TV back.

Brenda: You know why they took it?

Leader: Uh-uh.

Job: Just 'cause they feel like it.

Brenda: Okay.

Rob: Okay, I think I get what you are sayin', as the people livin' in that community, we could bring about a solution, we could bring about a petition...

Brenda: Yeah.

Rob: ...and say in order to keep order up in this place, we could, uh ask them why they took the TV...

Brenda: I now already!

Rob: Well wait y'all, I'm just sayin' we could be respectful, you know you can't go to them belligerent.

Job: I know what would make 'em bring it back.

Rob: you – ya –you – gonna – gonna have to go in there and you gonna have to be respectful to 'em, and just say, go to the right people and say, why did you take it, and call for a community meeting on how can it be replaced, how can the problem be resolved, you know what I'm sayin'?

Job: I – I know – I'm Job and I know exactly how they'll bring it back. The head top man, Chris Moran, is the type of person, if either one of us, go to Chris, say I want I want to see Chris Moran, I want to talk to him about a situation. I'd say Chris, I been at he shelter since '93 and I ain't never give you no problem, I ain't gettin' into that but, uh there's a lot of people in that building there be days when there's not a lot to do, can't go outside and everybody's just sittin' there looking at each other. And they don't want you to sit there and go – go- to sleep- 'cause- you - you can...

Brenda: Yeah no sleepin'

Job: 'Cause you can get banned for sleepin' sittin' up in a chair sleepin' but...

Leader: Can't you sleep in there?

Brenda: You fall asleep they come wake you up.

Job: No so if I say, if I say...

Brenda: Wake you up at quarter to five in the morning.

Job: Right, so if I say, if I say that it is a donated TV that we could be watchin' there, I mean what's the problem there and I guarantee that next day that TV be back in that building. But then you got to worry about, 'cause he gonna put on paper who come to him, so then the next day you gotta worry about them people upstairs walkin' on you.

Brenda: Yup, sure do.

Job: Oh you gonna have a hard time, yes you will.

Brenda: Now if somebody else say, from the shelter you know like talk to the people, you know what I'm sayin' it won't get back on us you know what I'm sayin' 'cause we stay in there.

Leader: What were you sayin' how it got...

Brenda: Okay.

Job: It's donated.

Brenda: They put a note on the TV, right Rainie the supervisor right, he put a note on the TV for every manager before they leave their shift to take the TV to put it back in their office every time before they get off work right. The person that was on duty that day did not put it back in the office so Rainie told Roselle,...

Job: told him to get it...

Brenda: Yeah. So she put it in her Bronco or whatever and they took of with it.

Leader: Because of their mistake.

Brenda: Because of their mistake.

Leader: That's frustrating.

Brenda: Yeah that's messed up.

Job: So we suffer regardless if it's our mistake or their mistake.

Brenda: (Inaudible) yeah they blame

Rob: Well we do have a small job we might be able to do today, if our interview's about done (laughter) we have this one guy that comes down, this pizza guy to hand out flyers. He gets about seven or eight of us...

Job: You probably seen the flyers, what's the name of it...

(Several people talking, inaudible)

Rob: Chinillos's.

Brenda: He won't pick up women though.

Rob: Yeah he will.

Brenda: No he won't, I went and talked to him, he said a women can't keep up the pace like a dude, that's discriminating.

(one of the men is laughing)

Rob: And he's about, he might come around this time, he comes around he does on Sundays, actually between 11:00 and 2:30.

Brenda: Yeah, my name's Brenda okay anyways they got a clothing issue thing too, the women's problem we don't have no clothes down – they used to donate- the people outside used to donate clothes, they took all the clothes out of the clothes closet, right, no more clothes in there right.

Unknown: What?

Brenda: Yeah! 'Cause now you – you only get like a voucher, go to the PTA right, a piece of paper and they write down what you need an the piece of paper, one pants, one bra, blah blah blah, right an if you don't get that paper but once every 6 months – clothes - that's messed up

Jeff: Five months you should be somewhere else and have some money to buy your own stuff.

Job: Yeah

Brenda: What you gonna do if you can't get no job?

Jeff: I know.

Job: that's what the limit (inaudible), that's what they sayin'

Jeff: On the other hand some of them takin' the donations too.

Brenda: Yeah they sure do, they steal.

Rob: I'm lookin' for somewhere to relocate, find out where the work is an get on, I ain't just gonna sit here it ain't nothin' goin' on (several people talking at once – inaudible)

Job: You have to understand everybody that – that uses that shelter don't live at that shelter...

Brenda: Yeah.

Job: ...and you don't get the benefits of the person that live at the shelter. And speakin' of recreation, they used to have a program, they used to have uh a drug and alcohol program and they used to have certain people that was livin' in the building in a certain program and they did everything together. They did the classes on campus, NA meetings, stuff at night, it was just certain things they did all together. And that 15 to 20 people all of 'em built up a year or two clean time and I think a lot of 'em still doin' pretty good. But – but that program was phased out.

Rob: What time you got brother?

Leader: Yeah, I mean we can wrap up, everyone said a lot of really good things and it was really helpful.

Rob: I just don't want to miss this guy.

Leader: No, no it's fine...

Rob: You know its 25 or 35 dollars.

Leader: You know I really appreciate it

Job: Did you have one more question?

Leader: No, no that's it, unless there's any last comments you have. Gonna have some recreation this afternoon—

Brenda: Ain't gonna be no recreation, TV's gone and my radio's gone.

Leader: How 'bout on campus? You ever gone on campus buildings?

Job: Yeah but there's a lot of things you not supposed to go on - on campus

Brenda: Make me mad—

Leader: Really?

(Several people talking at once)

Brenda: Especially if you trying to get a job, you put 100 Rosemary Street down and shit they like no.

Leader: Right.

Rob: I'd like to play tennis with her, wouldn't you? (he was looking at a picture of Venus Williams)

Brenda: A bunch of 'em.

Rob: A game of tennis.

Leader: I couldn't play tennis with her (laughter)

Rob: I wouldn't be playin' tennis with her anyways, you know what I mean? (laughter)

Leader: Well I really appreciate it, I am glad you came out.