

Appendix 5:

Illustrative questions/topics and themes for interviews and focus groups

Background

1. Name (or name you would like to be called for this interview) and sex?
2. How old are you?
3. Do you think of yourself as having a sexual orientation? How would you characterize that?
4. Can you describe your family, siblings and their ages, parents and their occupations, any extended family? Pets? Others living in your home?
5. What was it like growing up, what kind of environment was this for you?
6. Where were you born?
7. Did your family move often?
8. Where were you living the last time you lived with your family?
9. What was it like for you., living There? What do you remember about the community?
10. Did you attend school regularly?
11. How was your physical health? Did you see a family doctor/dentist regularly?
12. Did your family have a religious faith, and did they attend any religious services?
13. What did your family's religious beliefs and practices mean for you?
14. Did you participate in your family's religious practices? How was that?
15. Do you subscribe to any religion or spiritual belief? Which/why not?
16. How did you find out about this study and why did you respond to it?
17. Have you ever been interviewed/participated in a study, before this? When and what kind?
18. Do you believe interviews like this can serve a useful purpose? What, and how?

Leaving Home

19. Are you still living at home? If not, what led to your leaving home?
20. What are your strongest memories of leaving?
21. What might have kept you from leaving? Would that have been better than this? Why/not?
22. Why do you choose or feel the need to live outside the family unit?
23. Where did you go when you first left?
24. What happened between then and now?

Home/Housing

25. Where do you live at present? How long have you lived there. More than one place?
26. Have you ever been in the care of anyone other than your parents? Can you tell more about that?
27. What kinds of assistance in housing do you think are presently available to you?
28. Do you feel safe in your present home/living environment?

29. Who or what gives you the most essential support in living right now?
30. How long do you think you will have to live on your own?
31. Do you have many friends? Partner? “Best friend/s”?
32. Where did you make your best friends and where do you get together with them?
33. What do you usually do when you are with your friends?
34. Have you spent any time living on the streets?
35. For what periods of time have you lived on the streets?
36. What was the best thing about being on the street, and what was the worst?
37. Do you have a plan to get off the street?
38. What do you think happens to most people who live on the street?
39. Do you think this will happen to you?
40. What would motivate you to go into a shelter? To go into housing?
41. Would you like there to be a house specifically for “queer and questioning” youth?
What would that mean to you?
42. Where do you think would be the best place for that house, and why?
43. Where would YOU prefer to live, geographically?
44. What kinds of programs, supports, facilities, services do you think would provide the greatest benefit to you if you could get into a house like that?
45. What would you definitely NOT want to see in a house like that?

Health and welfare-related

46. Do you get enough food? Where do you get your food, and how do you pay for it?
47. Do you have enough clothing? Where do you get it, and how do you pay for it?
48. How and where do you access medical services? Doctor? Tests/Specialists? Other?
Do you get the medicines that you need when you are sick? Where? How do you pay for them?
49. Do you get enough sleep? Where do you find you sleep best?
50. Where do you make your money?
51. Where do you feel safest?
52. Where do you feel least safe?
53. Are you healthy?
54. What health issues, problems or questions do you have?
55. Are your friends/acquaintances in good health?
56. What community organizations/services do you use?
57. How good are these, in your own experience?
58. What else/other would you think most valuable for you?
59. How do you relate to the police?
60. Are you responsible for looking after anyone else beside yourself?

Education-related

61. Are you presently in any educational programs? What kind/s?
62. If you have remained in school, what level of education do you hope/intend to complete? Why that educational level?
63. If you have left school, at what age/grade did you leave? Why?
64. How were you doing (marks, subjects) at school before you left?

- 65. Was leaving school a result of leaving home? Any relationship between the two?
- 66. How did other students treat you at school? How did teachers/principal treat you?
- 67. Did you have difficulties with anyone in particular: (without naming the person) tell more about that?
- 68. How would you like to be treated if you were to go back to school?
- 69. What kind/s of education would you most like to have?
- 70. Under what conditions would education be of most use/greatest help to you? What kind/s of support would you need?

Goal-related

- 71. To this point, what have been your personal ambitions (e.g.family, career, education, life experiences)?
- 72. What are your ambitions today?
- 73. What do you think is a realistic projection of what you will be doing in 5 years? Ten years?
- 74. What do you wish you'd be doing (in 5 years, in 10 years)
- 75. What kinds of help or support do you think could make those wishes possible in reality?

Work-related

- 76. Have you worked before? Where, what and how long?
- 77. Why did you leave?
- 78. Have you had any job-related training? What kind and where?
- 79. If not, why not?
- 80. What kind/s of job-related training would you like to have?
- 81. Under what conditions would job training be of most use/greatest help to you? What kind/s of support would you need?

Follow-Ups, Contacts, Referrals

- 82. Would you like to have a copy of the results of this study?
- 83. How can we get that to you?
- 84. Are there any questions you think should have been included in this interview/survey/focus group?
- 85. Are there any questions you have about this interview/survey/focus group, or any questions you have for/about us?
- 86. Is there anyone you think we should speak to for this study, or is there any organization you think we should contact/visit/find out about?
- 87. Would you provide us with a second interview? (Join a focus group? Other?)
- 88. How can we reach you?
- 89. Do you have anything else to add, anything at all?
- 90. What is your most urgent need at the present time?