LILY's TRANSCRIPT

I: INTERVIEWER

P: PARTICIPANT

(0:00) I: Yeah, okay, thank you so much. So firstly, I'm Khadijah. I'm a masters student from Christ University. Thank you so much for taking part in my study. I really appreciate it. So, before we begin, I just want to confirm that you're okay with me audio recording this interview and using it for my dissertation.

(0:10) P: Yeah, I'm fine with it.

(0:15) I: Thank you so much, and my research guide will also have access to it. But other than that, nobody else can hear this or see the video or anything like that.

P: Okay.

I: thank you so much. Before we begin, can you please pick a pseudonym for yourself, a fake name that I can use for you in this research?

(0:39) P: Anything is fine. Anything would be fine, I don't mind.

(0:48) I: Okay, good.

P: Yeah.

I: Shall we go with Lily then? Is that okay?

P: Yeah.

I: So how old are you, Lily?

P: I am 21

I: Okay. And what is your gender?

P: Female.

I: Okay, where did you relocate from? And where did you move to?

(1:08) P: relocated from Navi, Mumbai to Pune. But outskirts of Pune, it's like on the Solarpur Highway near- um it's- it's far from Pune city.

I: Okay, can you please tell me your reason for relocation?

(1:29) P: Oh, for the studies.

(1:31) I: For education, okay. Can you please tell me what your living arrangement is?

(1:37) P: At the moment, I'm living in a flat with two flat mates.

(1:42) I: Okay, great. So, shall we begin with the main questions? So, can you please tell me what does the concept of safety mean to you? It can be physical safety or even emotionally feeling safe. What makes you feel secure in a place that you're in?

(2:07) P: So, the concept of safety would be, you know, not being constantly worried, you know, not just physical, emotional as well, because I have experienced that since I've relocated to, you know, Pune for my studies. Now I'm not saying I'm- I don't blame Pune or anything. I think it's just people, you know, how they make you feel physically and emotionally. And for me, the concept of safety would basically mean, you know, thinking and feeling freely. You know, not constantly worried about that one aspect in my life of safety. But yeah, that's what I-I would associate safety with.

(2:56) I: Just being able to be yourself freely?

P: Constant worry is not a part of you know, your routine. That's when I think safety. You know it's..

I: Okay, great. Can you please tell me what makes you feel unsafe or safe in an environment, certain things that helps you feel safe and certain things that take away from your safety?

(3:23) P: These sound like very heavy questions.

I: Please take your time.

P: Yeah, for me, safety, what makes me feel unsafe like is that the question?

(3:26) I: what helps you feel safe and what helps you? What makes you feel unsafe?

(3:40) P: What helps me feel safe would be, you know, when I'm with trustworthy people, I think that would be one way of me feeling safe. If I'm traveling by myself. I think I know it's this is very stereotypical, but if I am wearing hoodies and, you know, baggy clothes, I'm already very chubby. So, wearing hoodies and baggy clothes is like a daily thing for me. But even while traveling, if I'm by myself, I usually am when I'm traveling from Pune back home here, so that's one way for me to feel safe way. But I'm not saying these are all foolproof. It's just for my own 'mere kudke man ke shanti ke liye' ['for my own peace of mind], I would say, and things that would make me feel unsafe is- is that- I don't know. I think when things are done against my will, I- I'm not saying it's personal. I think it's, it's very generic when it comes to girls, as in my will, as in, say, suppose I'm going out with my friends and, you know, we decide to go to one place and then come up with four different places that they want to go in the middle. I am, I am, personally not okay with that when I'm going with, like many people, but when I'm going with safe people, you know, the people I feel emotionally and physically safe with, I'm fine with going anywhere. I don't know- I think these are very vague answers, I dont know if these will help with your research or not. I'm so sorry.

(5:40) I: No, no, no, I really understand you. You mean that, like it really depends on the people you're with.

P: Yeah.

I: Completely understandable. That's- that's a good answer. Can you please describe your initial perception of safety in your new environment after you relocated? So, the first time you came to Pune, what was your initial impression, how did you feel? Do you remember feeling safe or a little bit worried about your safety the first time you had arrived? Something about that?

(6:11) P: I was constantly worried in the beginning, actually, I was by myself, obviously so I think it's a given that you feel worried and unsafe in a new place. But I was, I am the kind of a person who takes extra and over precautions. So, in the beginning, I used to live in a PG. In the beginning, the start when I came so we had an end time of 10 o'clock. So, for some reason- we would, or I would be back in my room by 9:30 or 9:45 so that is like, that was, like a need for me, case time, but I should be back in my room. So, that is something I would do in the beginning. And yeah, for perception wise, *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] is basically not, not that safe. Where I live, MIT ADT, that's my college. It's not very safe either way. That area, it's a village area. I'm not saying village is not safe. Villages are safe, but I don't think that area is safe. So yeah, even back then, I thought that it was not safe. And even now, I don't think- it's just the people I hang out with have changed. So now, hanging out with them in *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] is feels safer.

(7:34) I: Can you please tell me what made you think the place wasn't-wasn't safe when you came? You said that you felt like *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] wasn't that safe when you first arrived. Can you tell me what gave you that impression? What made you think so?

(7:48) P: Actually, the PG that I lived in, it's like- so the MIT area, here it comes in that area only, but the road to reach my PG was filled with construction workers and truck drivers. And I

hope you get the impression so it, it's not, I'm not, I'm not saying that they are unsafe, but, you know, just walking on that road would be a constant worry. You know, these, these workers are always on that road. And what if I come in the middle of the night and they're still there, you know? What if some- of one of them just bounces at me. So, it's a- it's- it would- it used to be a constant worry because that road was filled with construction workers and the people. And I had heard a lot of stories from my, you know, from my seniors and PG girls that it's not a safe area either way. So.

(8:53) I: So, how did that make you feel? Did that cause you to avoid certain routes or be more vigilant, or anything?

(9:00) P: Actually, yeah. It did. It caused me to actually not walk that much from that area. So we found that's another road that went to to our department from the other side where there were workers and less people, you know, less truck drivers and construction workers. So it became much safer because we found another route. So that was one.

I: So that was your initial perception. You didn't feel very safe in the-

P: Yeah.

I: You said, how now that the people you hang out with have changed, and that makes you feel a lot safer. So can you please tell me how your perception of safety has changed over time from how it was initially, initially, like you mentioned, you did not feel very safe. So how do you feel now in the place? Has it changed over time? Or do you feel it's the same? Or you feel even more unsafe now. Like, how has it changed? If it has.

(10:05) P: Okay, now, actually, I left that PG, I live in a flat, and then that area is mostly filled with college students and people you know. So actually, I still feel that this place *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] is still unsafe, but I think- I know that if I ever get

into trouble or if I have a problem, I can just call- I know that my friends are one call away, you know, to- for help or anything. So, even I still think that it's an unsafe place. I just know that there are people who have my back. So yeah.

(10:47) I: And how does that make you feel? knowing that you do have someone there if you need it?

(10:50) P: It's much, much better. I think it's a- makes it much, you know, easier for me to get out at 9:30 or 10 o'clock. Just, you know, if I have to buy something. So it's fine. You know, the area is, you know very- it's late, and there are people around until 10:30 and 11 o'clock. So I feel fine.

(11:14) I: How has your experience been with public transport and things as such? Do you like- you said you always make sure you have a friend with you. Or what about the times where you have to go alone, if everybody's busy or something? How do you navigate your safety then?

(11:30) P: If we're talking about places apart from *name of place* [removed as per participant's request], I just take a cab, usually Ola or Uber, but I rarely take public transport in Pune. Actually, the only transport I take from Pune is shivneri to Mumbai [bus], Navi Mumbai. That's it. Otherwise, I don't take any other public transports. But, yeah, it's a- it's been, it's been mediocre experience. Obviously, there is a creep around every corner, staring or, you know, trying to get a chance at groping you or something. But, yeah, that's been mediocre.

(12:13) I: Is there a reason why you don't use the public transport? Is that a conscious decision or something you've just found yourself not doing much?

(12:21) P: It's a conscious decision. Actually, in Pune, I use public transport in Mumbai without even thinking. But in Pune, it's, I don't know. I just don't like it. I don't- I don't find it safe enough to go to use it. So yeah.

I: Can you tell me why you find it unsafe? like what worries you about it?

(12:43) P: It's just that- okay, so there's this one time I well, I took, I took an Ola from the- wait where are you from?

I: I'm from Kerala.

(12:57) P: Okay, so, you don't know. Okay, so where the main bus stand, where we take the bus from Pune to Mumbai. So I got down in Pune, and I took an Ola from there to my flat in *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] near my college. And that guy, ah, after he, firstly, he was driving very harshly. And after we completed half the journey, he, he, uh, he stopped at one place. And firstly, it was night time, so one place, and he and I just asked him, like, 'Dude, why are you stopping?' So he's like, 'No, my brother has to come'. I'm like, 'Why? Why does your brother have to come first drop me, and then your brother can come?' And he's like, 'No, he has to go in the same place'. So I just, I froze. I was dumbfounded. For some stupid reason, I could not say anything. And his brother came and he sat in front, like in that auto-wala, they just sit together. And after some time again, he stopped, and I'm like, 'Why are you stopping' 'No, now my friend has to come' and I'm just like, What the fuck?

I: Oh, my God.

P: I know. So he again, he stopped, and he took another friend, and I actually, I was shit scared, so I told him to drop me on a common road somewhere in *name of place* [removed as per participant's request], and I had like, three or four bags, and I carried and walked to my flat. It was like 1.5 kilometers. I walked that much, yeah, so he does not know where I live- live, yeah. I mean, I-It sounds very stupid, but it's-

I: It's not stupid at all, it's very scary

(14:34) P: yeah, it was very scary. I made him drop me near the college, and I walked, no, not even near the college. It was far away from college, and I walked from there to my flat. And fortunately, I, yeah, fortunately I had a friend on call, and I didn't tell him. I could not because, you know, the men were just sitting right there. I could not say that there are three men in my auto, and they're not listening to me. So I I just said, you know, stay on call with me. Just stay on call me. And until I got down. And as soon as, as soon as I got down, I felt much safer because I knew the area, I knew the people. I knew if I screamed, somebody would be there, even if I don't know them. So, yeah, so I got down, yeah, that's one of the reasons why I don't take local auto and all even, I mean, that is an Ola, I know, but I would, I don't know. I just don't take auto and stuff now.

(15:36) I: So what do you do instead of that? Do you have a vehicle of your own or?

(15:40) P: No, I don't. I just have to go by Uber or I ask a friend to drop me, either a friend that has a bike, yeah.

I: You dont feel very comfortable using public transport after that. Understandable, very understandable. You just mentioned this incident, but were there any other specific challenges regarding your safety that you've experienced, any incidents that made you feel unsafe like the one that you mentioned?

(16:10) P: There was one actually. There have been many, obviously. But after a point, as girls, you just, for some reason, it's a very horrible thing that you just get used to these incidents. So there's this one time when we were playing in the- in the game zone. There is this Game zone in college. So we were playing there, and then there were six of us, okay, and walking from that game zone to the flat, all of- all of our friends- and I was on call, so I was at the back of the group, so they were pretty far away, like five, six feet, feet away from me, and I was talking on

the phone, and for some reason I felt like somebody was following me. But I was like, I'm in a group. It's fine that nothing's gonna happen. And after a point while I was in a call, looked to the side, and there are people two men, one is driving the Auto, and one is sitting behind, and both of them just staring at me, just constantly staring and it's like 10:30 at night, and I am, I am with my friends, but I still feel so unsafe, and I had no- I had no courage to tell my friends, Ki, you know, 'there's somebody, you know, there's somebody following me- this'. I had no courage to tell my friends that this was happening right there, then and there. And as soon as that happened, I cut the call and I ran to my friends in front and I held someone- one person's hand, like just, you know, 'don't let go'. That's all I said. 'Just don't let go. Give me two minutes'. And for some reason, they still followed me till we reached the main road. And after the main road, they were very close, like I was- if you're walking from here, they were literally- they were stopping. They stopped right here. And I just, I practically ran in front of the group. They're like, 'what is happening with you? Are you crazy or something?' And I had no courage to just tell them that this was happening.

(18:12) I: That's what that is like in the moment. You're just so scared you can't say.

(18:16) P: It's just, for some reason, when I even today that I'm telling you this, or tomorrow to tell my friends I-I find myself feeling stupid for not saying it out loud, you know, for I know in because in that moment you're so frozen. It's- It's scary. It's very scary, even, like, even when my friends, they tell me, you know something like this that has happened to them first, I understand. You know that they froze, that they could not say anything. But at the same time, your first instinct as a listener is, you know you should have said something, you should have told someone, but when you go through it, you understand why you and yeah.

(19:01) I: It's easier said than done, especially when you're in that situation, it's Yeah, but the fact that even got through it itself is an amazing thing. Honestly.

P: It's very scary. Now, I never go by that road by myself, never.

(19:19) I: So, you avoid certain routes or things that you feel is?-

P: Yes.

I: Okay. That actually ties to my next question I was going to ask. Are there any measures or strategies that you use to cope with your safety concerns? So, like I said, you avoid certain places, or you only go to certain places a day, or things like that. Some habits that you've started doing to help you feel safer?

(19:46) P: Those are actually the things that I do. I see the- I don't know how to cross the road, okay, I know I'm 21 and I dont know.

I: No, no, I get it. Its really hard. Sometimes they're all coming in.

(20:02) P: But the thing is, the shortest route to my flat is through a tunnel, and I usually avoid that tunnel if it's night time or something. So I cross the road. I don't care. I just cross the road. And that is one thing that I do that I just avoid the tunnel that goes to my house. Or I ask a friend, I call a friend, and I call talk to them on call while I'm, you know, going home. Or I take the routes that are most crowded. Actually, there's this route that is very crowded on my way to the flat because it's like it has Supta points and mess and restaurant, so it's usually open till 11:30 or something. So, it's much easier to go by that route, because there are people over there. So it's much easier for me to go by that route. And sometimes I ask my friend to drop me. So there are some friends that that you know I don't I shamelessly just ask them to drop me by their vehicle, so it's much easier. Yeah.

(21:11) I: That's nice. It's nice to have someone to help out at least. Can you please tell me how your living arrangement or the physical layout of your new environment affect your sense of safety. So for example, where your campus is located, or where your flat is now. If there are street lights or street cameras, things like that, how does that affect your sense of safety?

(21:35) P: Actually, there are no street cameras on my route from my flat to the campus. No, none. I don't think the campus inside has enough camera, because it's a huge campus. So no it, there's nothing, actually, that I could say would record or, you know, find the perpetrator, if something were to happen to me or everybody else, I hope it doesn't, but yeah, you know, there's nothing that I know of there might be, but I don't know. So yeah.

(22:13) I: Does that impact your safety in any way? Like, was it easy to get your campus from where you lived or how did you feel about waiting in the streets or walking alone things like that? Did you feel like it was a safe area to do such things?

(22:31) P: Actually, I think it was much better in this case, when I used to live in PG. So the PG had cameras everywhere. So even though you know you're walking from the street, it was like it had enough cameras for the capture. A lot of something would happen. But actually, the building that I live in right now, it does have cameras, but I don't know where that footage goes. So even if it does have cameras and the cameras work, I don't know where the footage goes or if it can be used or not. So yeah.

(23:11) I: And how does that impact your sense of safety? Does it make you feel safe or unsafe? Or it just doesn't have any impact?

P: It doesn't actually, I thought about it when you asked me right now. Otherwise, I've never thought about, you know, the place, having cameras or any of that, so.

(23:31) I: It hasn't really impacted you. Okay. So, the next thing I want to ask was, have you heard of any new stories, or did you see any online posts about the place you were going to move to before you moved or even after you moved that impacted your sense of safety? For example, sometimes you can see on the new something gruesome that happened in the area before you moved or even after you moved, and it can really have an impact on your sense of safety. So is that something you can relate to, or something that has happened?

(24:03) P: Actually, after I moved to Pune Iyengar, I heard a lot of news about rape cases and, you know, groping and assault cases. So even if I had heard about those things, my first instinct is how I can keep myself safe, you know, pepper spray or, you know, just carrying a blade or something. So that's, I don't carry a blade. I think that's not- okay, I should, but you know that that's my first instinct. I think even if, even if, if I had an option of not going there, then obviously I would have chosen not to go. But I have to go. I have to study though. So.

I: So, that was what motivated you to to go through with it even when you heard those things? How did it feel to hear about these cases? How did it like impact your sense of safety? Were you more cautious after hearing that, or anything like that?

(25:06) P: Actually..okay, so there's this one case when I was living in the PG. There was this one week when I was- I was here, I was- I had a long weekend, and I came back home, and as soon as I reached back to my PG, I realized they have made everything more strict, like, if the gate closes at 10, it was at 10, only earlier. I was like, I'll-I'll be late, so just keep it open. We would tell the PG owner, and he would do it, but he made everything more strict, and everything was like attendance based. And they would ask us to call our parents to tell to you- so you know our parents would tell the owner that ‘you know my kid is going out tonight, and I know that my kid is going out, and you can keep the door open for her’, and should like- and I didn't

understand why it was happening. And after a few days, I asked my friend, the PG-wala friend, she told me that some girl left the PG in the middle of the night, went into that village, *name of place* [removed as per participant's request], and some got, I think, assaulted by some guys in the middle of the night. And I was like, that is so horrible. You know, but, and you know, not just that. I think there were two, three more cases, something like that had happened in the same time and after few days, after- not after few days, after a few months, I think I found out that there was this girl who got raped on the bus station. Yeah, in the morning, I think 5:30am, 6, o'clock. She got raped in the in the morning and and not like it was a deserted station or something. There were actually people. It was a heavy, bustling, uh, hour. It working hour like the time people actually go and come, yeah, in the middle of that, she got raped. So even if you are in a crowded area, there's no point asking for help. So even if these things were happening, my first thought was, the more these things happen, the more we girls get blamed, and the more we are, you know, we are tied down more because of these things happening. That was actually my first thought when all of that happened, and I was living in the PG, like I said, they tied us. They practically didn't let us out without parents' consent. They didn't let us stay out for more than 10:30. I still remember I had just reached back home at 9:45 so I reached back to the PG at 9:45 I called them and I told them that I have just reached and the mess is closed, so I'm going to go have dinner and come back by 10:30 they straight up. Said, No. They said, You can't come. You either come by 10 or we just close the door and you stay out. Yeah, and I was I was very angry. I literally did not have food that day.

I: Oh no

P: Yeah!

I: How is that keeping someone safe?

(28:24) P: But that's the point, right? When these things happen, the first thing that people do is point at the girls, even if they do or not do anything. I don't, I don't even blame the girls. I mean, I get it at the same time. I think we have to keep ourselves safe. That's fine. But you know how much- kitna bhi karenge na [‘no matter how much you do’], you know, how much- at the end of the day the men, how they watch you and how they see it's- I hate men.

I: So it like negatively impacted your sense of safety. You just felt more restricted.

(29:02) P: Yeah.

I: Uh, can you continue?

P: Yeah.

I: Okay, can you please tell me, how has making new social connections influenced your feelings of safety? So, you mentioned how you always take a friend's help in most cases. So how did, how did it impact your sense of safety after you made the social connections, and how was it before you were able to make friends in this new place?

(0:26) P: Actually, Well, I think it's it's a given. I think you know when the more social connection and the more people you know in a place, the easier it is for you to feel safe. I-I don't know. I don't think it's, I don't think it's generalizable, but, yeah, it's just much easier for me to ask for help when I know people. But again, you know you get- you freeze in the moment when you actually need it. So, but yeah, I would rather have four friends who I feel safe with, walking down with than by myself, you know. So, yeah.

I: Yeah, you feel helps.

(1:18) P: Yeah, it helps.

I: Okay, that's okay. Can you please tell me how the stress of relocation has an impact on your sense of safety, so missing home or unfamiliar routines and things like that, did that affect your sense of comfort or make you feel more vulnerable?

(1:39) P: In the beginning?

I: Yes, in the beginning.

P: It's very, you know, there's that adjustment period. So I got, you know, I was very, how do I say? homesick, and I couldn't stay in that new PG and with the new people, and it felt very lonely. Now I've come to a point. Even if I feel lonely, I have this, you know, I have a routine. I have a fixed place I have to be at. There's a time, you know, it's time, I have to be in college. I have to do this, I have to eat, I have to get back, I have to get this assignment done. So I'm so busy with that, so I think now I've settled in to feel safe enough in that area. So yeah, in the beginning, it's difficult, obviously, but now I've, it's been a while, so I've gotten used to that place. Yeah.

(2:37) I: Did it impact your emotional safety in any way?

(2:39) P: It did. A lot, a lot, trust me when I say Pune is not for beginners. It's not living in Pune, even physical and emotional safety is not. I might sound like somebody who hates Pune, but it's not that. It's the people- okay, the people are not somebody you want to give your emotional, I don't know an access to you emotionally because, yeah, not everybody there is emotionally intelligent firstly and secondly, my emotional safety has been highly jeopardized. Jeopardized?

I: yes, yes, that makes sense.

P: Yeah, since I went to *name of place* [removed as per participant’s request], so yeah, I've been traumatized a lot by friendships and relationships since I went there, not even my

friendships and relationships. Actually, I'm very sensitive when it comes to these things. I-I get stressed a lot, and I get stressed over very minute things, and I get affected by everything that is happening around me. So there are people who are just- who just exist, and they don't get affected by things. I genuinely want to learn that, because I-I get affected very easily. So when it comes to emotional safety, I think emotional safety is almost 80% always in your hand. That is what I am saying. From my experience, 80% of the time, it was what I was thinking and how I perceived the things. But if I had just been more, you know, aware at the time and more present at the time, I would not have been so affected and so harmed by the things happening around so yeah.

I: Did everything that happened in any way impact how you missed your home, or how you missed your life there, or anything like that?

(4:55) P: I did. I did, like I said, most of these things happened in the beginning. So like for, for about seven, eight months since I shifted there. So yeah, I did after, at some point, I thought I was better off here with my family and with, you know, by doing bachelor's here and, you know, if I-I at one point, I was thinking of relocating back. So it's stressful to live by yourself, so just, you just have to get through that phase and find better people that you can actually depend on in the real world. Because the real world is effing scary. It's not- It's not what people make it out to be, you know, all rainbows and ribbons. No, it's horrible.

I: So, it's impacted your safety in that sense, it's made you a little bit more cautious. You would say? I understand and for my last question, I just want to know if you can share an experience where cultural differences in your new environment, if there were any, impacted your sense of safety. So, some people struggle with language barriers or different social norms or anything like that. Were there any cultural differences that impacted your sense of safety?

(6:21) P: Yeah, there was actually so, okay, so you have you lived in Kerala all your life?

I: No, I actually lived in Dubai for my entire life. This is like my first year in India, in Bangalore now.

P: Okay, okay, so you came back for masters?

I: Yes, yes, I came to do my masters.

P: Okay, so how you know how? I wouldn't say, let's just say- so how there are people, suppose, suppose you live in Mumbai. Okay, see I'm very confused at the moment, because I know what I want to tell you. I just don't know how.

I: Its okay, go ahead, please.

P: So, first, I've lived in Mumbai, okay for maximum time in my life. So what I mean is, if there's a relationship issue, there's a friendship issue, it's, it's something that you can sit and watch, okay, as a third person, if, if two people over there are in a relationship and they're having an argument, so I can sit and watch. If two friends have an issue, I can just- it's like, how you are watching a drama. That's how it happens in Mumbai. When I went to Pune, this is something that new, new. Something new that I saw. It's not new. I knew that this is something that happens in the world. I just did not know that I would be someday a witness to it. Okay, so what happened is, when I went to *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] to live there, I-I realized that the dating culture there is so horrible, horrible to the point, horrible to the point it's, it's, it's proper abuse, physical/ emotional abuse, and it's not something you want to witness, okay? It's not something you ever want to witness, or ever want somebody to go through it. But I and well, give me one second. So sorry.

I: No problem.

(8:30) P: So it's something that- that was new to me. I knew- I had an idea that these things happen, you know, physical and emotional abuse, these things happened, yeah, but after marriage, maybe, or maybe, you know, far, far away, not around me. And when I went to Pune, I saw that it was very common, you know, hitting a girlfriend or hitting your friends when, when it comes to, I don't know, proving a point or something, it's very common there, and it was very shocking for me. So it it became more difficult for me to feel safer over there than it would have been, you know? So, so, so that place is very, it's very, it's not good for anybody any kind of safety. So, yeah.

(9:33) I: So, Did it make you feel a little bit restricted if you can explore your relationships and things like that?

(9:39) P: Yeah, I It did. It did. I have not, frankly speaking, I have not dated in a long time. Date is a problem proper. As in dating somebody, getting involved. I have not dated anybody in a really long time. But that is because of personal reasons. And then when I went to *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] now I know that, you know, it was a good choice that I did not want to date anybody, because I could never handle this kind of things. Never, my first instinct when something like this happens, emotional abuse or any physical abuse is, firstly, leave and secondly, make sure that you know that person is you know, held accountable for their actions.

I: Understandable. It can really hold you back.

(10:26) P: Can I just make one request?

I: Yes, of course.

P: Can you not put *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] in that whole thing? Recording thing that you're gonna do, the transcription that you'll do?

I: I can just censor it out and be like your home or the place that you're currently at. I can do that but like, when, if, sometimes, if I have to give a socio demographic, I might say, you're in Pune, but I will not specify that it is *name of place* [removed as per participant's request] or anything of that sort. Is that okay?

P: Yeah, okay.

I: that was the end of the interview. You did amazing. Thank you so much. Gave me a whole new insight into this. I really enjoyed our time together. Is there anything else you would like to add or say or ask even?

P: Um, no, but I would be really happy to read your paper once you're done.

I: Oh, sure. I would love to.

P: Just send it to me when you're done.

I: Okay, thank you.