**WH # 8**

I: Who am I about to interview, what is your name?

P: P.

I: What is your last name/surname?

P: P.

I: When is your birthday?

P: September 10th 1966, in Qaanaaq.

I: Are you born in Qaanaaq?

P: Hmm (yes)

I: When did you move to Kullorsuaq?

P: In 1989.

I: Was 1989 your first time in Kullorsuaq?

P: hhm yes.

I: We are here in Kullorsuaq to study life and we conduct our studies by interviewing people who live here in order to understand you and your reasonings. Thus, I would like to conduct an interview with you about life in Kullorsuaq but with limitations. Meaning, the prevention use and mensturation of women here in Kullorsuaq. Additionally, I would like to get your oppinion on how we should proceed when we start studying the women mestrusations more thoroughly from this spring. We have been thinking about finding a procedure convinient for you and we would like to use it in our studies about your menstruation.

P: hmm (yes)

I: I would firstly like to inform you that the questions about prevention and menstruation is concerning you.

P: hmm (Yes)

I: Thus, your identity and your name will not be visible.

P: hmm (yes)

I: First, I would like to ask you if you use prevention?

P: no.

I: Have you previuosly used of prevention?

P: In order to get pregnant the nurse had tried to let me use prevention for a month with no success. That is the only time I have used prevention.

I: A month. Do you remember which type you used?

P: Birth control pills.

I: Wonder why you only used it for a month?

P: It was the nurses decision e.g. if I want to get pregnant the nurse wanted to examine how I would feel when I start using those birth control pills, which month did I have menstruation there, within that one month. How is my menstruation, what comes out, the nurse gave me paper.

I: When did that happend?

P: I think it was around 1991-1992.

I: Several years have passed since the nurse examined you, do you remember the results? How was your menstruations?And how were your feelings affected?

P: When they examined me, they determined that the festus almost stopped/stayed three times. What do you say, my menstruation remained the same no matter the use of birth controll pills, but I gained in weigth then when I started using those. What do you say, my life, the way I lived felt different like what do you say strange whilst I used the birth control pills, maybe that is why I gained so much in weigth, that is what I thought after the fact. Maybe when I gained in weigth then I felt like that. But when I stopped using them that is what they determined. Three times the fetus almost stopped/stayed.

I: Prior to that month?

P: Within that month.

I: Have you given birth?

P: No, I have not even been pregnant.

I: How come?

P: I dont know why I am like that, maybe from birth.

I: Have you tried to become pregnant?

P: Th… that

I: That month?

P: hmm (Yes) but since when I was a girl, you know some women get thier menstruations, since when I hit that period I have had my menstruation I have had menstruations every month.

I: When did your menstruation start? How old were you?

P: Maybe around 12. It started a little bit, but begame regular when I was around 13-14.

I: How long were your menstruation periods?

P: Five days, four and five days.

I: When you had menstruation for four five days, from the beginning to the end how much did you menstruate?

P: My peak menstruation such as many women goes through this maybe during our youth heavy menstrual bleeding is about two to three days approximately. Then towards 30 I started having more heavy menstrual bleeding. Started having menstrual pain, we could not understand why, then I was informed by the doctor that my ovaries were stuck to the other one and therefore immediately when I turned 30 they removed my ovaries. Despite the fact, from the age of 30 to 35 and maybe to 37 and till today I can still feel when I am supposed to my menstruation, the feeling you get before the menstruation period. How we feel after the menstruation period. It felt for a short period of time but it is becoming less and less.

I: Then do you still have heavy menstrual bleeding the first two days or what?

P: No.

I: How is it now?

P: Some days it can comes as if I were to have menstruation, but I do not menstruate.

I: Then when did you have your last menstruation period?

P: December 1996 if not it was November.

I: So it is a couple of days since you had your last menstruation period?

P: Hmm (Yes).

I: Then, did the doctor explain to you excatly what was going on within your uterus?

P: Hmm

I: What were the reasons?

P: First time I was examined in 95 there were somethiong wrong with one side of my ovaries there were inflammation and as to avoid cancer they removed one of my ovaries. And because there were no change and it was becoming worse then I went to the doctor that when they informed me that my ovary sometimes gets stuch to my uterus. Then it is stuck for a while for example same time every month. After that, the doctor informed me that we unfortunately have to remove the ovary since it gets stuck even after being losened since they determined that it will continue on like that.

I: Where did they examine you?

P: First it was in Upernavik after that in Nuuk.

I: Then did you get your uterus removed in Nuuk?

P: Hmm (Yes)

I: Can you in the other parts of your body feel that you do not menstruate anymore?

P: Just the feeling of mestruation is about to begin, only that. Nothing else.

I: Is it a feeling within the uterus or emotional feeling?

P: Emotional.

I: How are your emotions there?

P: When my menstruation period is getting close sometimes I prepare by wanting to buy the feminine napkins.Then I start to remember that, I now must forget those, if one say I start to remember. Then the last time my daugther the one I call our daugther that girl when I saw her feminine napkins then I remembered that women use those forgetting that I used to have menstruation periods.

I: Do you have an adopted daugther?

P: hmm

I: Yes. When did you get her? She was born in 89 and we got her in 90. After she turned one?

P: hmm when she turned one. And also another boy which is now 12 years old.

I: Did you also get him as a baby?

P: We have those.

I: Yes, did you get them here in Kullorsuarsuaq?

P: hmm

I: Are they from Kullorsuaq?

P: Our familiy’s children.

I: I wonder how the contraceptives are used in Kullorsuaq?

P: To my knowledge, injections and birth control pills are mostly used here.

I: How is pregnancy here in Kullorsuaq?

P: Looking from 89 till now. I have noticed that those who are pregnant here are getting ypounger and younger.

I: Approximately from what age?

P: For example maybe around the age of 15-16 are pregnangt. When I got here, the pregnant women had already passed those ages before they got pregnangt. In the later years I have noticed that they get pregnant very early, children you know young women.

I: I wonder why they get pregnant?

P: I think maybe their parents just accept the situation or when their menstruation period just pass they avoid/forget telling their parents, stuffiness towards their could be the case here or the upbringing could also be the reason.

I: Then they propably do not use contraceptions and those young people?

P: Because I have worked in the public school for many years, I know that the children are informed about those subjects but when at home the parents inform their children.

I: How is the will to use contraceptions amoungst the young people?

P: It is obvious that some use and some may not want to use, like that.

I: Some use, some must want to use?

P: hmm

I: How come?

P: I have heard when we talk to the pupils, I do not want to have children because I do not have time. You know when they start receiving informing about those they wake up. I am not ready, I want to go to school first, I want to study first. Then maybe after they have a baby they start using conctraceptions. Then they can start back in school and study.

I: How about those girls who do not want to use contraceptions, I wonder why they do not want to use contraceptions?

P: I do not know, some do not want to mention why they do not want to use contraceptions. Maybe their parents have not been too informative about contraceptions, that is what I think.

I: I do not have the numbers on how often they become pregnant here in Kullolrsuaq, but approximately how many do you think they are? Half of them or below half of them who become pregnant amongst women?

P: Half and some of the half maybe we can that is what we can say. From early youth till 18 years old those are a little fewer I notice.

I: How can you describe being pregnant in Kullorsuaq? How do you see it? How is it to be a pregnant woman in Kullorsuaq?

P: Sometimes I think about if the person is really capable to be a provider? Who will help the person with the provider role? We from the settlements know each other quite well, if the parents do no have jobs or if the father of the child is a fisherman or hunter knowing that hunting for game animals and trading stops. Sometimes I contemplate about who the coprovider will be, right?. The pregnant woman might not be able to provide much and her partner, if the couple are young or a little older. Sometimes I contemplate whether or not they eat healthy, right?. Especially if they are smokers, then the child will also smoke (passively). And sometimes I don’t really contemplate about it, like that. But there is contemplation about who the coprovider will be, you know a single woman and no other to help with the providing.

I: The one who got the woman pregnant the father, is he equally young? Are the together in getting pregnant?

P: Now in the later years those are increasing in number such as a couple, you know. To my knowledge they become more like that. But earlier the father if we say illegimate child right, there were more illegimate children. The the womans parent become coproviders. And must contact the social services for help.

I: The which support/allowance do they get from the social services?

P: Because they get registered, surely they must help them, like that.

I: How can they be helped? What are the options?

P: The options are not similar if they want to help or if they want those.

I: They most certainly must receive childsupport, how else could they be helped/receive help?

P: Those childsupport allowances are determined based on the parents income. For example maybe if they have held a job continuosly in three years, when they have a baby and go on maternity leave and when the child turn six no three years because you have worked there for five years you will receive this much – not much. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

I: Are they low?

P: They are low.

I: Are there several single mothers?

P: In the later years the single mothers are decreasing, like that. I can I evaluate from 1989 to today that the single mothers are decreasing according to what I notice. Not including divorses, the fathers have started to partake in the providing for the child.

I: Maybe while we are here, we can interview one of the young women who recently became pregnant or just had a babyi?

P: hmm

I: If anyone contacts you to know what we are doing, you are most welcome to let them know that we could be interested in interviewing.

P: hmm

I: I am thinking now whether or not I could take the second part of he interviewquestions concerning the nature, settlement? Now that you have stopped with the mestrual periods and since you have not been pregnant and now that we know the reasons for those and how your menstrual periods used to be if you do not mind I could maybe start the second part of the interview.

P: Yes it is okay.