**File Label:** 130616\_005

**File Length:** 16 minutes 29 seconds

**File Notes:** Interview with man who lives at his grandmother’s house in neighborhood his whole life.

**Transcriptions**

**AES:** “We’re just, what we are doing is trying to understand a little bit more about how kinda of people feel about their neighborhood, um, and how they kind of experience it and stuff like that.”

**RSP:** “Ok.”

**AES:** “So, we just want to ask you a few questions about it.”

**RSP:** “Perfect, that works.”

**AES:** “Ok. Cool. Umm, so, uh, and again this is all anonymous. So, about how, how long have you lived here?” ***(15 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Pretty much my whole life…Like in this neighborhood or what?”

**AES:** “Yeah…”

**RSP:** “In this neighborhood…Yeah, been here all my life.”

**SM/AES**: “Ok”

**RSP:** “Yeah like in this house pretty much too.”

**SM/AES:** “Oh, ok. Cool.”

**AES**: “Umm, so what do you consider to be your neighborhood. Like---you know---like, how, how big do you feel like it is?” ***(30 seconds)***

**RSP:** “What do you mean?”

**AES:** “So…”

**RSP:** “What do you mean big?” *(RSP slightly interrupts AES)*

**AES:** “So, like…”

**RSP:** “Community wise, like representation?” *(RSP slightly interrupts AES)*

**AES:** “Well… I mean like---you know---like when you think about your neighborhood, do you just think about like the street that you live on? Do you think about a couple streets beyond it? I mean…does that make sense? Does that…” ***(44 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Umm. See this is like---I grew up coming over here like all my life when I was young, you know what I mean. So, this, this, this area is just nice---you know what I mean. Like there’s like a couple areas over in this general, you know, 4/5 block radius where it’s like, you know, not as nice as suburb area. You feel like what I’m trying to get at?”

**AES:** “Yeah, yeah. Sure.”

**RSP:** “It’s a little bit more, you know, trappy. You know what I’m saying?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “And over there but it’s like, from where I grew up when I was a kid, in, like, east Denver, and in, like, that area, like over in Adams like this is beautiful up over here. You know what I mean? It is nice, everybody’s cool, nobody---you know what I mean---we don’t have to worry about, like just goofy shit, you know what I mean, shit like that, you don’t have to worry it. You don’t have to worry about it. The only thing up here is people are racist.” *(AES makes intermittent sounds of agreement in background “yeah”, “sure”, “right” while RSP is talking).*

**AES:** Yeah.

**RSP:** “That’s it, you walk down the street and you get, like,---you know--- people looking at you all crazy---you know what I mean. But other than that, like, they too afraid to say anything up here, you see what I’m saying.” *(Anand intermittently says yeah in agreement)*

**AES:** Yeah. *(AES laughs)*

**RSP:** “It is like low key closet racists. You know what I mean.”

*(Laughter)*

**RSP:** “Like they’re too scared to say shit about it. So its, like,---you know it’s fine--- like that’s cool. But yeah, that’s like the only problem I have with up here is just that they are low key closet racists.”

**SM:** “It’s a reasonable com----"

**RSP:** “Ya, you know it’s like, *(laughter from group)* like there’s nothing wrong with it bro. That’s funny, we all racist. That’s uh yeah…..”

**SM:** “So are you, uh. Do you, do you think about this area as particularly political?” ***(2 minutes 5 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Uhhh….eshhhhh…..”

**SM:** “Like you were here during the last few elections, right. And, I mean, I , did-did this feel like a place that really uhh….*(Noise in background)*. I’ll give you a minute.”

*(Pause in conversation)*

**RSP:** “Uhh. I feel like this---I don’t really see like people putting signs up. You know what I mean? You know, like you see like Trump or Pence. Like you do, kinda like, over by the school areas. You know what I mean.? Like the high school area, I’ve been seeing stuff like that. But, I haven’t like really like paid too much attention to it. Its not as, like, in your face out here, like in this area from what, from my experiences. You know what I mean? That’s is not to say that people are not down, they might not be like that. You know what I mean?”

**AES/SM:** “Sure. Yeah.”

**RSP:** “But right here I have never noticed people being, you know, real political or really in your face about it or ---you know---having their signs up---you know---show who their supporting---you know.”

**AES: “**Sure.”

**RSP:** “I’ve never seen that up on, on this area, so….”

**AES:** “Ok”

**RSP:** “You know, mellow.”

*(Slight pause in conversation)*

**AES:** “Gotcha.”

**RSP:** “But when it come to political---you know what I mean--- I don- I don’t really see people being too---"

**SM:** “Do you ever talk to your neighborhood, neighbors about politics, or anything like that?” *(SM interrupts RSP)* ***(3 minutes 16 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Not really, like--- you know what I mean----like, like we got other stuff we be talking about,---you know what I mean---, like just the general life.”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**SM:** “Ok, but you do talk to your neighbors then.”

**RSP:** “Yeah. Hell ya. Our neighbors are all cool. Like I grew up, they know-they know me since I was a little boy. You know what I mean?”

**AES/SM:** “Yeah.” *(laughter)*

**RSP:** “So it’s like now---you know---way different. Their just like, it’s great, you know what I mean. We all be communicating, like we’ll have bbq’s and shit and everybody comes out to them. You know what I mean?”

**AES/SM:** “Ok.”

**RSP:** “So, its like we are close out here the sense like that. You know what I mean? Like everybody’s got each other’s back, you know what I mean. If we see something going on at like that house---you know what I mean--- we call and be like “hey.” You know what I am saying? Versus rather than calling the cops we just call you---you know---and be like, “hey bro, something dah dah dah, going on at your house.””

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “You know what I mean? ---Whatchya want me to do?’

**AES:** “Yeah, yeah.”

**RSP:** “You know what I mean, nine times out of ten we’re not going to call the cops on this neighborhood. It’s like, just weird, like normally like we don’t do that, we’ll just show up at your house. You know what I mean?”

**AES:** ‘Yeah, yeah.”

**RSP:** “Which is great because it is like---you know--- a little community here.’

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “People that you can definitely see that have your back.”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**AES:** “So you said you didn’t no-you didn’t notice that a lot of in your face signs and stuff like that---"***(4 minutes 18 seconds)***

**RSP:** Yeah. *(RSP slightly interrupts AES)*

**AES:** “--during elections. When you do see signs for candidates, do they, do they make you feel anything? Like do you ever thing of anything-”

**RSP:** *(RSP says something inaudible)* “you know what I mean---" *(RSP slightly interrupts AES)*

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “Everyone’s entitled to their own opinion, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “That’s your property; you do whatchya want to do with it. You know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “If that’s how ya feel then go for it. Who am I to say you can’t do that, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “I don’t care. You know what I’m saying?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “Same thing with Trump. You can have your own views on Trump. Doesn’t mean like I think its right or I think its wrong. It’s all perspective. You know what I mean, it’s-your perspective is going to be different than my perspective. You see what I’m saying?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “So, there’s no right for me to say that you’re wrong in your political views. Or that I have a certain type of feeling toward a political view, cause- its just your view, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “How do I know what you view? You know what I mean? I might view something different but its not going to make me, you know, feel a certain type of way seeing something, ya know, political.”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**SM:** “Do you think there is a reason people don’t talk a lot about politics in the neighborhood? Do you like try to avoid it?” ***(5 minutes 10 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Nah, I mean it’s nothing like that, it’s just, more just like we’ve got more, other interesting things going on in….”

**AES**: “Ok.” *(AES slightly interrupts RSP)*

**RSP**: “… in our lives. You know what I mean? It’s like, you know, we got a graduation going on. So, it’s like people, we be talking about that type of thing. It’s not like, “ah did you see what happened on the news?”, you know what I mean? It’s nothing like that… everybody’s more talking about your everyday life type thing--- you know what I mean---rather than politics and shit like that cause you know you can sit down and go round and fuckin’ round and round and round about the shit but you know but you don’t know that person. It’s more, ya know what I mean. It’s just…”

**AES:** “Do you notice when, when people do put up signs and stuff like that? Sounds like, there isn’t that much of that around here. But when they do, do you notice that stuff? Like does it, do you like…” ***(5 minutes 48 seconds)***

***(FROM 5 minutes 55 seconds to 58 conversation difficult to understand)***

**RSP: “**They don’t” *(RSP slightly interrupts AES)*

**AES:** …you notice, you know

**RSP:** “..They be like, when we drive by, people be like putting them right up on the corner, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah, yeah.”

**RSP:** “You can see it- it, its not like they’ve got it right by their door, and, uh, you know what I mean tight. Like you know, with the, with the ADP signs how they kind of got them…”

**AES:** “Right. Yeah.”

**RSP:** “…they got them right by the windows and shit. It’s not like that. These people- thev have them right up front so you’re walking right by them, you know what I mean?”

**SM:** “Does that make you think anything about them? Not like--of course they can put that up…” ***(6 minutes 14 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Yeah.”

**SM:** Do you use that to think about like…

**RSP:** “Like does that put an interpret-judgement..”

**SM:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “Yeah, not judge that person because they did something a little more forward with it. If not I…”

**SM:** “Or, or maybe you just disagree with them?” *(SM slightly interrupts RSP)*

**RSP:** “Honestly, I don’t care what people do, you know what I mean? Hey that’s—hey, you do what you want to do. You get one life, you know what I am saying. You get to live your life to whatever you want to live it to. If that’s what you want to do then go for it. I don’t know, who knows, you might find somebody who wants to help-help spread your message, you know what I’m saying, you know that political belief, you know what I mean.”

**SM:** “Do you consider yourself political at all?” ***(6 minutes 45 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Uhh, it depends on the circum-,---you know--- the con-the concept, you know what I mean. It depends on what we are talking about and it depends on the view, the other person’s view on it? You know what I’m saying?”

**SM:** “Do you vote?” ***(6 minutes 56 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Yeah, I vote, I vote.”

**SM/AS:** “Ah, sure.”

**RSP:** “And like I said, it-it depends on who, who has a better—you know---better points. And, uh, better topics**,** you know what I mean. I can side with a lot of the Democrats but it doesn’t mean I don’t like the Republicans too, you know what I mean? Like, it doesn’t matter to me. It’s just who has smart shit that is going to further us as a people. You know what I’m saying? Who’s going to bring everybody up as a people. Rather than like Democrat, this, that, this, that. You know what I am saying like, you got good points, you got good points, they got good points. You know what I’m saying, I don’t, like I don’t know who the fuck I am. I just like everybody’s points, you know what I mean. I don’t look at the negatives in people really, you know what I mean. It is more or less like people are in a politic sense doesn’t….”

**AES:** “Has this, has this neighborhood changed since you’ve grown up here?” ***(7 minutes 45 seconds)***

**SM:** “Yeah, you’d know better than anybody.”

**RSP:** “Uhh *(pause),* in the sens--yeah a little bit in the sens—umm. I don’t know, in the sense like its not as, uh, like everybody’s not as out like the used to be in that sense, you know what I mean?”

**SM/AES:** “Mmmhmm.”

**RSP:** “People ain’t just leaving their doors open. You know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Right.”

**RSP:** “Like, you know what I mean? Like its not what it used to be where you could like—when I was little, I could just run up the street to my buddy’s house. Walk in their house. You know what I mean? It was- it wasn’t like nothing. You know what I mean? It was just—it was like everybody was so used to this. You know what I mean? This is like how we grew up when we was kids.”

**SM:** “Yeah”

**RSP:** “Now, it’s like everybody has to be so politically correct, not just necessarily in this neighborhood. But, you don’t know if that neighbor over there is you know a little bit more---you know---sensitive or a little bit more emotional to certain types of things…”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “than---you know-- before. You know what I mean? Its weird, it’s like now everybody’s on edge with not trying to offend everyone and its like, it don’t make sense to me, I don’t know.”

**AES:** “Do you think there is a certain type of person, like—you know--- given what you said, like, everybody’s on edge. Do you think there is a certain type of person that, like, puts that sign up front, like, you were saying, like, they put it out there. Like, who do you-- who do you think that person is who’d do that sort of thing?” ***(8 minutes 39 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Somebody that believes truth in what they-you know in like that topic. You know what I mean.”

**SM/AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “They could-That’s how I see it. You wouldn—you wouldn’t do something like that or be so forward about it if is you weren’t passionate or believe something about it, you know what I mean?”

**SM/AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “And like some people. Like when I was talking to my mom and some people about like…Everybody’s gifted with ---you know--- a certain vision in their life. You know what I mean? And like, some people---you know---want to grow up to be doctors, some people want to be musicians, some people want to be business people. I don’t know what you want to do---but you know what I mean---but in your mind you know what you want, truly for your life *(in background “yeah”)*---you know what I mean---and it’s going to kill you or drive you crazy until you do it. And if you don’t do it you are going to look back and be like, “fuck.” *(in background “right” from AES/SM)* You know what I mean?Same with you, everybody has they own thing in their mind that they truly want for the selves. So how do I know this person doesn’t want be a Republican or doesn’t really want to be politically out there so he’s trying to—you know---throw that agenda out there that much more ‘cause he’s truly trying to help these people- you know what I’m saying?”

**AES/SM:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “So, it’s like, it could be like that type of person.”

**AES/SM:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “It could be that person who really---you know--- genuinely believes in that movement or, uh, wants to see it succeed. I am not going to tell you you’re wrong for it. You know what I mean? Its just-- I feel like people that do that are more, uh, umm, more like, not like politically inclined, but more, uh, they that—that’s what they like, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “That’s what, that’s what they like to do. You know what I mean, that’s what they involve themselves, that’s all they really want to do. You know what I mean? Like some people want to be doct- like I said some people wanna be doctors, some people wanna be musicians. All they do is, do everything that has to do with fucking music. You see what I’m saying? Some people want-- want to be like, like that with politics. All they want to do is talk nothing about politics, nothing about that, you know what I mean.”

**AES/SM:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “That’s why I think those people are so—they really genuine and they like politics, you know what I’m saying? And that’s how I see that when I walk by a sign. That’s that out there right there…”

**SM:** “So, you see it more as like something about them. You don’t -you’re not, you don’t think like well…--- you know---tha-hat makes me think about that candidate or anything like that, you just sort of see…” *(RSP interjects)* ***(10 minutes 35 seconds)***

**RSP:** “No, no I definitely think about that candidate. It, it depends on who’s---you know---what, what, sign it is. If it is Hillary, its like, OK, like obviously she is doing something to get this person’s, you know what I mean, like backing. *(In background AES/SM “right on”)* Like, she must be like, you know what I mean, I, I don’t know what she’s doing but I’ma look more into it, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Oh, ok.”

**RSP:** “Because now it like you see it, oh ok, like,---you know--- like why is that there?”

**SM:** “So, if a particular neighbor had a particular sign…” ***(11 minutes 2 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Doesn’t matter to me”

**SM:** “OK”

**RSP:** “I would do just more research into it, or like,---you know---you be, be like talking to somebody, be like, “Hey, like what’s your views on it.” You know what I mean? And then you get like a different perspective.”

**SM:** “You’re not afraid to ask that?”

**RSP:** “Nah, I like to---I like, I like knowledge, you know what I mean. I like knowing anything and everything. I don’t hold it against nobody, you know what I mean? Cause that is they only way you can learn to further yourself as an individual is by learning and talking with people, you know what I mean. So that’s not, what, what the worst that is going to happen, they might get offended by something you say, that doesn’t fucking kill me. It makes me stronger, you see what I’m saying? Ok now I know that person is a little bit---you know--- different this way. Now I know how to watch my words when I speak, you see what I’m saying?”

**SM/AES**: “Ohh, it might, it might affect, affect you.” *(RSP in background “uh yea-yeah”)*

**RSP:** “It affects everybody. You know what I mean, its just whether you choose to acknowledge it or not, you know what I mean? *(AES/SM in background “yeah”)* Communication is key with everything and anything that you do, you see what I’m saying? If you can’t communicate, well then that stops everything, *(AES/SM in background “yeah”)* it just does. You know what I mean? And that’s just how I see it. I’m not afraid to talk to nobody about nothing. You know what I mean? I’m let y’all in here, *(AES in background “that’s true)* y’all feel me, I don’t…*(AES/SM: “true”)* Y’all feel me. I like-I like talking with you, this is neato.”

**AES:** “We appreciate it. We appreciate it. So, I think last question, right, umm, so, something, something you said earlier, ah uh, I thought was really interesting, and you were talking about like how different places you can kind of feel like how people feel, uh, about race, like in a subtle versus explicit…” ***(12 minutes 3 seconds)***

**RSP:** “Oh yeah!”

**AES:** “And you were saying how like, out here in like the suburbs, that people are kind of like, you can tell they are racist, but they don’t say much…”

**RSP:** “Yeah! It’s just so…”*(RSP slightly interrupting AES)*

**AES:** “So how, how do you pick up on that man? Like what’s…” *(AES slightly interrupting RS)*

**RSP:** “Its…”*(RSP slightly interrupting AES)*

**AES:** “How does-how does that feel for you?”

**RSP:** “Growing up like in an area where like, where like I grew up like younger. Cause this is like where my grandparents live, so I like came over here when I was a child all of the time, you know what I mean? So I kind of grew up in like this neighborhood too. But being down there, like, encountering some people like that, they are, they don’t really think about it in the sense of, ---you know what I mean----everybody is just mixed. You know what I mean.”

**AES:** “Right”

**RSP:** “Up here, it’s you know, it’s more like you can see everybody holds themselves to a higher standard, a higher class. You know what I mean? Everything got to be a certain, you know what I mean, there is a certain you move, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Mhmm.”

**RSP:** “Versus when your like when you are like in the nei- like in the hood there’s a certain way you move, there’s a certain way you conduct yourself.”

**AES:** “Ooh.”

**RSP:** “You see what I am saying?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “In the suburbs there is a certain way you move, there is a certain way you conduct yourself. And if you don’t conduct yourself in these types of ways---you know--- they see that. They see that---you see what I’m saying. And the people that see that, are going to be of a different, whether that’s a race or a hierarchy. It’s alrigh---you know what I mean--that’s how people see it, you know what I’m saying.”

**AES:** “Mhmm.”

**RSP:** “So in this neighborhood, it might not necessarily be racism, you know what I’m saying. But it is something along them lines, you know what I mean? Because I don’t see it, you know, the Mexican dude, or ---you know, I mean---the Black guy, or the Asian guy, aren’t looking at me as I am walking down the street or driving down the street up around these people. They don’t look. But what I do notice is that all the older white peop- you know the older generation, they, they are all real-like they mean with they eyes *(AES/SM in background “yeah”)*, its like…”

*(AES laughs)*

**RSP:** “It’s like woah, you know what I mean, like I didn’t know you could do that, that must hurt, you know what I mean, like….”

*(AES laughs)*

**RSP:** “You know what I’m saying.”

**SM:** “It’s funny, I mean it’s not funny but the way you said it, its like….”

RSP: “Yeah, yeah.” *(RSP slightly interrupts SM)*

**RSP:** “You know…”

**SM/AES:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “It’s, it’s. But that’s, that’s a judgement I’m making.”

**AES:** “Right, right.”

**RSP:** “I’m not- for all I know they could, they could not hate that person at all. It could be the way I’m dressed. They might be like, I’ve never seen that color hair on somebody *(laughter)*, that looks good. You know--that person has a nice shirt, oh cool, you know what I’m saying?”

**AES/SM:** “Yeah.”

**RSP:** “That might be my assumption.”

**AES/SM:** “Right, right”.

**RSP:** “You see what I am saying.”

**AES/SM:** “Right.”

**RSP:** “So, to each its own. I’ve. personally, I’ve never experienced racism in my face, you know what I’m saying. Like somebody, like trying, like, of a higher standard, in this area, never had that happen to me. I’ve had, I’ve seen it happen to other people to whom I’m like “damn!” but it also could have also been the way you was talking to them. You know what I mean? It all about, like I was saying communication *(AES/SM in background “yeah”)*, it’s all about how you conduct yourself and the way you communicate, you know what I mean?”

**AES:** Yeah

**RSP:** “There’s certain ways, areas, and certain times when you gotta do things a little different. You know what I mean? You got to move in certain ways. You know what I mean? That’s just how the wor-world is, you know what I am saying?”

*(Inaudible speech, several people try to start conversation at once)*

**AES:** “Is there a, a----Is there a, um, this is all anonymous again, you know.”

**RSP:** “Right, right.”

**AES:** “Is there any like um, like a party that you like tend to, kind of generally support or identify with like….” ***(14 minutes 55 seconds)***

**RSP:** “umm.”

AES: ..Democrats or Republicans or--

**RSP:** “Like I said, I like everybody’s things, that’s it. All,uh-- it comes down to, if you’ve got a good idea and, and, as in, in it to me if I like it, you know what mean. I like it, you know what I’m saying, I don’t care if you are Republican , I don’t care if you’re Democrat, if, if you are liberal or whatever other parties---you know what I am saying--- that their making up now because everybody’s so god damn---you know what I mean--- sensitive. *(Laughter in background)* With the, “no we got to do this now!” I mean whatever, you know what I mean, it doesn’t matter, *(AES in background “yeah”)*  but I identify with what everybody’s saying, everybody’s got good topics. You know what I mean?”

**SM:** “Sure”

**RSP:** “I don’t know---I can’t say I’m like, “I’m Republican!” or “I’m Democrat!” cause I like they, they ideas too. You know what I mean?”

**AES:** “Yeah.”

RSP: “Like I like some of Trump’s ideas, I like some of Hillary’s ideas, you know what I am saying? But its like, some Bernie, you know what I mean? So, it’s like, I can’t be like I hate that president completely. I hate some of the shit that this person does but then I might like some of the other shit that he does too. And it’s like, damn some of that shit is pretty good--you know what I mean---and that shit is like tight the way you said that---you know what I mean---and there’s certain, different aspects so it is hard for me to be like, like I don’t know, I’m like a person of understanding. You know what I mean, like I take myself out of perspective to be like ok like why---you know what I mean---why is that like that, you know what I mean.”

**AES:** “Right.”

RSP: “And then, that’s, that’s, so it’s hard for me---you know--- to say I don’t know like if I am Republican or what I am. You know I’m like everything in one, I guess.”

**AES:** “Gotcha, hey, well thanks so much for your time.”

**RSP:** “I appreciate y’all...”

**AES:** “Umm, so this is a, a Amazon gift card, $15, just…”

**RSP:** “Thanks.”

**AES:** “Thank, thank you.”

**RSP:** “Thank you, I appreciate y’all.”

**AES:** “You bet. And um, this is just for you, just so you know we are legit, so this.”

**END OF RECORDING.**