

Respondent: ID#12502

Age: 32 years

Interviewer: Christopher

Date: 8 July, 1999

Transcription done by: Violet Liyaya

I: Fine and you

1st R: Fine

I: Thank you, have you already done these?

1st R: These

R: Yes

1st R: Yes I have done

I: Is Mr. W around?

1st R: Mr W? Yes he is around

I: Should I excuse these?

1st R: Mother, is father there? He is wanted (children making noise)

(Someone greets the interviewer)

I: Sorry

2nd R: Eh, how are you?

I: Fine and you?

2nd R: Fine

I: Thank you. Are you very busy?

R: No

I: Okay, I remember yesterday you chatted with my friends?

R: Yes

I: Okay, I put the names here

R: Eyah.

I: So I thought that maybe if I can find one person to chat with, who is on the road side

R: Ooh.

I: So, thought of here and there, that if they are coming from there, they can see me

R: Eeh

I: So I don't know if we can chat here, are you not busy?

R: No

I: Okay. Yesterday with whom you were chatting with be was...with me to just wanted to chat with you and I wanted to know the history of here, and some things.

R: Okay.

I: So may be we can be walking and take this direction

R: Ooh

I: Because I wanted to buy medicine there.

R: Okay

I: Can I find Panado there?

R: Ooh yes

I: (interviewer yawning) I took Fansidar the day before yesterday...if you take Fansidar you are supposed to be taking Panado

R: Eeh

I: What is the boundary of this village? Here?

R: Oooh, yes

I: What about there at the grocery?

I: That is another village.

I: There?

R: Up to that house.

I: Up to his house?

R: Yes, with burnt brick.

I: Oh there I know its boundary

R: Eya.

I: There were there are flowers. Sugarcane-they are too small

R: Eeh (greet his friend)

I: (give respect) Wawa, aah from there to the road may be ten villages.

R: More than that, up to ...?

I: Yes.

R: Iii, more than 10 villages, because ...let us count from here, from here, there is M [village]...

I: Ooh

R: Eeh, all these houses are in K [village], up to the grocery is K [village].

I: Aah

R: There is T [village].

I: Oh

R: So if we can walk like this going forward, there is N [village].

I: N started from here?

R: No, N started from there, where there is the first house.

I: O.k.

R: So if we walk like this, this side is K [another village, most of the villages mentioned here start with the letter "K" and "N"]. So if we walk in K like this, it is N we have entered.

I: Ooh, eeh, there.

R: If we get out of N, that means there is Nk.

I: Eya

R: After Nk, there is Ku, after Ku is Md.

I: Ah yes.

R: So this side there are two villages, there is Ka and Cu.

I: O.k., o.k. The day before yesterday I saw there was a few at, oh yesterday, when we wanted the chief.

R: Eh

I: He was there.

R: Ooh, eh.

I: Many people here are Muslims, not so?
R: Yes.
I: But there are also some Christians?
R: Yes, there are.
I: Who are more, the Christians or the Moslems?
R: The Moslems.
I: The Moslems are more?
R: Yes, Moslems.

I: But do they have change there (at the grocery)?
[the owner answers].
I: The Christians pray at U, not so?
R: Yes, the Roman Catholics.
Shopkeeper (SK): How re you?
I: Fine, do you have change if we take Panado and Fanta?
SK: There is no Fanta, but change...
I: So please help us, I want Panado.
[the SK told them to wait
I: People here depend on bicycles, not so?
R: Yes.
I: I see many women on bicycles.
R: Bicycles only.
I: When going to the maize mill.
R: Mmm (someone greeted the interviewer)
I: there is no Fanta?
2nd Shopkeeper: No, it's finished, it didn't come yesterday.
I: Ooh, I have to take it with water.
I: Goats for sale, can they be found here?
R: They are scarce.
I: Scarce? I met with some there.
R: Eh
I: They took the goat they said they had bought, I don't know where. They said that they bought it for K400.
R: K400, it was a small one, not so?
I: Yes, small.
R: Ooh
I: I think nowadays the big ones reach around seven or eight [hundred Kwacha].
R: Seven or eight--so do you want a small one or a big one?
I: A small one, for relish.
R: Oh, a small one.
I: Is it here?
R: Ah no.

I: (laughing) How you have asked is as if it is there.
 R: Eh eh.
 I: (...), these times they are scarce, but in February...
 R: In February there are too many.
 I: In February, aah
 R: Because they are just keeping.
 I: Eh
 R: If the time reaches, they are very cheap.
 I: It's near?
 R: Ah eh
 I: We reached there?

 R: Eh
 I: I thought it's far.
 R: Ah no
 I: Very near.
 R: Near here.
 I: Pains here and there in my body.
 R: Ooh eh
 I: Mmm
 I: Let us sit at that tree.
 I: Yes, there.
 I: Here, we can sit under the tree, yah, thanks.
 R: Did you drink the water?
 I: Yes I have, sure.
 I: So what my friends were doing yesterday...
 R: Eh
 I: ...some do with tapes and some write, but I just chat with people only.
 R: Ok
 I: I just wanted to know about the customs and history here.
 R: Ehe
 I: I think the boy explained to you yesterday...
 R: Eeh
 I: ...that we come from the University at Zomba.
 R: Mmm
 I: So we want to chat with people so that we can learn.
 R: Mmm.
 I: Because some cheat that we are from the government.
 R: Mmm
 I: No, we are from the University, we want to learn.
 R: Ooh
 I: So I just wanted to chat for a short time about customs, because sometimes we hear about the

custom of hyena (*fisi*).

R: Mmm. Custom of hyena?

I: Yes, I want to ask what this custom is like? Because here the regimes are different.

R: Eeh

I: But if you go to Central region--you have that hyena here, I think they say hyena, not so?

R: Yes.

I: Yes, so how is this custom like?

R: The custom of hyena?

I: "Ah, we have found her a hyena, that girl, ah we have found her a hyena".

R: O.k., ya ya, alright (both laugh).

I: Have you ever heard?

R: Yes, I heard.

I: So I wanted to know what it is?

R: That story was talked here recently.

I: O.k.

R: In the village, that story...

I: Who were you talking with?

R: I was talking with another older man in the village.

I: O.k, eh

R: Ehe, you the male (*wamamunewe*)...

I: Eh

R: ...so the people of the village see you with (inaudible)

I: Ooh (both laugh)

I: But they have medicine, not so?

R: No, they don't have medicine.

I: Ooh

R: Her relatives tell you that "brother, go home and sleep", they don't tell you the truth, but the elders know that someone wants to enter in this house.

I: Ehe

R: So they don't tell you, but they speak that maybe you can know. So you go there. So people want to enter that house, oh oh.

See? That's all, the hyena has entered in the house, so that's when you hear that the hyena is here and there.

I: Ooh

R: Yes, because it can't fail.

I: So is it happening nowadays, or was it happening long ago?

R: Now, to some, now it is not happening, because...

I: So do you mean that three quarters of us men, do they have partners? Because...

R: Mmm

I: ...as you said, they are following the customs, can he have a partner while he is married?

R: The man?

I: Yes, it can't fail.

I: Are there many who have partners outside?
 R: But some of us we do fail, but three quarters, they try and they manage to do it.
 I: It is difficult, because if one can then for only four days [not clear], they soon become tired.
 R: You see?
 I: So you say you were talking with...?
 R: I was talking with a certain man
 I: Were you talking about the story that happened?
 R: This same story
 I: Eeh (they both laugh)
 R: So he was hiding that iii medicine and so it happens like this so here we say that
 I: Eya
 R: Where there are
 I: There you have taught me
 R: So there you have said, I want where about that they hide from us and have partners outside, or maybe we men we are doing that too much?
 R: Here, let us pretend
 I: Eeh
 R: Some if their husbands are away, they accept us but some refuse.

 I: They refuse?
 R: But some three quarters do accept, because what happens
 I: They accept
 R: Much three quarters...
 I: You are saying the truth
 R: Much
 I: Women, you can't trust a woman
 R: Aah, so some they don't accept how ...
 R: Eeh, so the custom of there, some are afraid that if I do this, it is the sane like me, I am also married
 I: I am also married
 I: So it is found, on the story we said that men we found that we walk with women, it's that same. I am also a man. If I can say the truth not so?
 R: Mmh. I am also a man and more over we walk in the fields
 R: Mmh
 I: As of now I am here, my wife is there
 R: Mmh
 I: So you can't fail that if you can look there and see another
 R: Eeh
 I: So what exactly makes us to have another partner. Our wife.....so shy do we do that we men?
 R: For example how we are talking here, is the same
 I: Eh to see the buttocks
 R: Eh, and see the back how she walks
 I: (laughing) that iih but this one.

R: But it is not new because if you can go somewhere you go to M [district], you see you go where else B [district], M or somewhere.

I: Another reason is that as you have said that if he is following customs (*akakhala mmipingu*)

R: Mmh

I: So person only be doing that you wake up, you wake up.

R: And keep quiet up to nine months you are at home waiting

I: No so for men it is like that in the morning...the body temperature is high (*thupi latentha*)

R: Eeya

I: Aah body temperature is high

R: Eeh

I: So you say ah no let me rest somewhere

R: Let me rest

I: Let me rest

R: Eeh that resting make many things to start

I: That's what starts many things, oh ok.

R: Eeh

I: So now, how you have talked about custom if it is like that, so you have said that for example you while you were a boy have you ever done that?

R: No, I am saying that it is like that (both laughing) because its nature.

I: (a child was making noise so the interviewer was speaking to the child). You go buy sweets.

R: Ah to me from when I was a boy up to now. Oh this do not fail

I: Do not fail (*sizimalephera*)

I: That since you were a boy, and you are in marriage you didn't fail?

R: Oh don't fail (both laughing) eyah.

I: What about two years ago or last month did you have another partner?

R: Partner, ah.

I: Laughing, because if we can say the truth, we men even me or that driver we walk with

R: Mmhu

I: If we go to the field we can say that you let us go there that people should not know

R: Mmhu, should not know

I: Aaah, so here if we can see, so there mainly we men, and the story of AIDS, for ...me how can you advice me? If you can advice a person

R: Mmh

I: I am saying that I go in the fields

R: Mmh

I: I go to different places

R: Mmh

I: So for example I've come in this village I want a woman and say that brother W.

R: Mmh

I: I find a woman for me

R: Eeh

I: So how can I know that this woman, aah, on the story of AIDS, how can I know that this woman
R: Mmh
I: Have AIDS
R: Mmh
I: How can you advise me on the story of AIDS
R: Ok, there, there can be a condom
I: No, I mean for example, a girl passes here, a well looking fat girl
R: Mmh
I: So me say that, brother is that girl of this village?
R: Mmh

I: And you say yes so I say ah how can I know that she can't harm me? On the story of AIDS, how
can I know, she is healthy, good looking with dyed hair is passing
R: Ok
I: Eeh
R: Eh there...
I: So you live in this village you know her so I say that this woman have buttocks look so you, how
can you advise me, if you can advise a person?
R: Ok, for example, me I am...
I: Ya ya ya ya ya
R: Eh
I: Ok, but is it possible in the village to know that this one has AIDS?
R: No
I: If he is walking on the road
R: No we can't know him
I: We can't know him
R: Yes
I: But how can we know a person
R: Ok, who is
I: No no no, leave how the sick person appears
R: Eeh
I: But that if a person have AIDS and is walking on the road, can we know that he has AIDS?
R: No
I: You have said no, not so?
R: Yes
I: So if a person, a woman is passing here
R: Mmh
I: She looks healthy
R: Mmh
I: And you know her
R: Amh
I: You know him

R: Mmh
 I: Or you can tell him to wear a condom
 R: I can tell him like that because of how things are nowadays he must use that.
 I: *Chishango*, because the wife is now?
 R: She moves around
 I: Oh, she moves around that means we can have a doubt on her because she moves around
 R: Ehe
 I: I meant, how can we have a doubt because of moving around, her behavior?
 R: Her behavior and her doings
 I: Because some are single
 R: Eeh
 I: They are looking nice and they don't get married
 R: Mmh

 I: So you ask, they don't fail in the village, not so?
 R: Ah, don't fail
 I: Don't fail some girl, ah
 R: Eeh
 I: Some men they look with an eye
 R: Eeh
 I: Mainly this harvesting season?
 R: Ehe, mainly this time
 I: The main point is what you have said that we have to use condoms
 R: Mmh
 I: Even myself
 R: Mmh
 I: If I am walking in the field?
 R: Mmh
 I: Ah I put aside
 R: Eeh
 I: But about the story of hyena is what? Because I never heard before, what you have told me.
 R: Ok
 I: That I am very happy
 R: Mmh
 I: That I will write them clearly...because I wanted about the hyena very much
 R: Mainly
 I: Because we walk...we will go somewhere, may be what happens there, is different to what happens here.
 R: It's different from here
 I: So we learn that we can know customs
 R: Eeh
 I: Sure me, I didn't mention my name at the beginning. Sorry, I am Manyamba.

R: Are you Manyamba?
 I: Yes, I am Mr. Manyamba. My home is N
 R: Alright
 I: At N [place] do you know it?
 R: I know it very much
 I: N [place]
 R: Eeh very much
 I: My home is M village
 R: Ooh so but you are working with?
 I: With the university
 R: Oh
 I: Sure, I was at chancellor college
 R: Now you are working?
 I: We walk in many areas and learn more
 I: So thank you. I am very happy that you were free because it is difficult to waste your time only

 R: Mmh
 I: But it's good when you understand
 R: Mmh
 I: That people want to learn
 R: Mmh
 I: Because some say ah no
 R: Yes, many people when they come last year just saying without going somewhere is not good, because to learn its not only at school but you know things when you walk and see that oh things are going like this?
 I: Like this
 R: So I saw people here saying they should not come here they are saying about obscene languages.
 I: We are chatting stories about us
 R: So if you can go to the hospital, can't you be there?
 I: No so
 R: May be the doctor can be a woman you are a man who is sick so she take off your clothes so how there?
 I: Let's go that I can give you soap.

THE END

Comments: Some information was not heard-what the respondent was saying was not heard.