

**In complete world**

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Shelly Silver

**Dialogue List**

*(Are You Satisfied?)*

Am I satisfied?

With life?

Oh, my God, I ask myself that all the time actually.

Yes.

Pretty much.

Yes, I'm satisfied.

I want a better job, but yeah, I feel satisfied.

Basically, yes, I'm satisfied with my life.

Yes, very much so.

Yes, most of the time.

Yes, I am.

I'm pretty happy.

Yeah.

Most days, yeah.

Pretty much.

I'm getting there.

No complaints.

For the most part.

Yeah, reasonably

Generally.

Generally, I'm satisfied.

I guess as much as I can be. I try not to look too much at what other people are doing and wanting.

As of right now, yes.

Just for today.

Yeah, I'm pretty satisfied.

Yeah, I'm satisfied. You know, I'm satisfied in life.

No, not really.

Could be better.

I could be doing better.

Oh, in and out.

Not completely.

Not entirely.

No.

Yes.

There's always things you could change.

Living in this particular society I'm not satisfied, cause we're living in a society where some people are rich and some people are very poor.

I am satisfied.

I am satisfied.

No, I am not satisfied at all.

No.

No.

Never.

No.

*(Can you describe yourself?)*

How would I describe myself?

Busy. I'm always moving around, I like to explore. I love New York. I love New York!

I'm Persian and Jewish and American.

I'm from Puerto Rico, I'm 32 years old, born and raised in Brooklyn, New York.

Born in South Africa, and then spent a lot of time in the UK and in Atlanta, Georgia.

Born in the West Indies, grew up in England, and came to the United States.

I used to live in Belarus, it's a former U.S.S.R. republic.

I'm from Bangladesh.

I'm from Yemen.

I was born in Norfolk, Virginia in 1931. I survived the Depression, the Second World War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War.

Oh boy...I'm a mom!

I'm a physician. I've lived in New York for 35 years.

I'm doorman in Manhattan at a hotel.

I've been in recovery from drugs for about a year.

I'm a real estate broker.

I'm an attorney working for legal services.

I teach emotionally disturbed children.

Software engineer.

Clerk in market research.

Messenger by day, dispatcher by night.

Hard working young man. Double shift after double shift.

Retired. Twice .

I was a police officer in New York City for 20 years. I'm presently a chauffeur for a real estate developer.

I work for the postal service. I'm actually an artist. Yes. It's not my life's work but — it actually is my life's work—it's not what I do for a living.

I'm a sophomore in high school.

I'm a Columbia University dual degree graduate student in journalism and international affairs.

I study the sun, moon and stars, people, problems, solve problems.

I'm a carpenter, Local 1563 and I am working on 130 Liberty St.

I'm an out-going person, I'm here in Brooklyn, I do construction.

I'm a single, dedicated mom.

Recently married, living in Williamsburg

I got kids, I got two of them, they're grown...grandkids.

I'm a nice guy

Normal guy...normal guy.

Average New Yorker.

A worker. I'm just a worker.

Relatively uncomplicated.

*(Do you feel like you make enough money?)*

Do I feel like I make enough money? No.

Do I make enough money? No.

No.

No.

No.

Right now, no.

No.

No, I don't.

No.

No, not at the moment.

I do, thank God. I'm OK.

I do OK.

I think I do OK.

Yes, I feel like I make enough money to do what I'd like to do.

Yes.

Yeah, oh yeah.

That's probably a rare answer.

Definitely I don't make enough money cause I work about 12 hours a day.

I work 12 to 16 hours a day.

Yes, I make enough money.

I make a decent amount of money.

No. *Why not?* Cause I'm a woman.

I do. Yeah. I mean I set goals ever since I was a kid and I generally meet those goals each year.

No, probably I don't feel as if I make enough money.

No, I don't feel like I make enough money. I don't want to be rich I just want to get a nice house with a backyard for my son.

Never make enough money. I don't make enough money, but I survive on whatever I make.

Well I'm not working so right now I'm not making any money.

I don't work.

I'm currently not working. I haven't worked now in the past year. My company outsourced me.

We don't make a lot of money. We're both educators, we both work for the same organization. I work with young people, I absolutely love what I do, it matters. To make a lot of money doing something that matters is very difficult...without selling out, without having to compromise.

I think I make enough money to live, yeah, survive but to me it's more about not making money but about being happy and achieving an inner peace.

I could be making more.

Yeah, but I want more.

I wish I had more.

First million, you want to make another million - nobody thinks they make enough money. Obviously, I don't think I make enough money.

Money has replaced oxygen and blood—well it's equal to oxygen and blood. You run out of money, soon you run out of oxygen and blood, because you run out of strength.

*(How much money is enough?)*

How much is enough?

Do I have to say?

Life in New York – it's very expensive.

Give me 1,000 a month, 1,500 a month I'll be alright.

I make 300 a week but I would really like 500 a week.

About \$600 a week.

\$700 a week.

\$1100 a week.

30 grand.

2500 to 3000 a month

40,000

40,000 a year

60,000

70...

Like 70 a year would be enough.

\$80,000

\$100,000 a year

About 150,000 a year.

Over 150,000

A couple hundred grand would do it.

About 200,000 a year.

500,000 a year.

Half a million status.

I think that's a tough question. I mean - a million dollars a year, how's that?

500,000 to 1,000,000 annually.

In order for anybody to really live in New York I think you would have to make – I mean - at least a million dollars.

*(Could you tell the recent life of this country as if it were a story?)*

The recent life of this country if it were a story?

The recent life of this country...

You're talking about America?

No, I can't right now.

I plead the fifth on that.

No, it's too long and detailed.

It wouldn't be a good story.

America is a little more than 200 years old, so it's a very young country, it has a very short history of fighting for its survival.

We, as immigrants, we refer to it as the land of opportunity.

We're so fortunate to be living in this country when you see how hard it is for people around the world. I'm not saying that we've always made the right choices...

A long time ago, in a land far away there was an idea of America but it escaped us. So, now we have this.

I would think the recent life of this country is like, violence and more violence.

The story of this country is the story of Dracula. Cannot live in the sunlight. And it cannot live unless it sucks the blood of someone or some class of people. In this society, particularly, working class people.

We keep going around in circles.

Started from slavery, they had the Civil War and now we're still at war.

We fight the same wars over and over again.

I think we're going through some really difficult times.

Yeah, it's going down the drain.

I think we're in a mess.

We're in trouble. And more trouble from within as opposed to outside this country.

We need much stronger leadership than what we have now.

People are really confused and we don't have a good, you know, authority figure to look up to and it's just a real shame.

*(Are we responsible for the government we have?)*

Are we responsible for the government we have?

When you say "we" you talking about the American people.

Um...

We as citizens?

Like am I personally responsible for the way the country is now?

I do think we're responsible for the government that we have.

Yes, we are responsible for the government we have.

Responsibility for our government is on our shoulders and we can't dismiss it.

We have a voice, I mean we're free. What does freedom mean? Like we fought – Martin Luther King, we're in Harlem – Adam Clayton Powell.... You know... Yeah, we're responsible.

Government is people. We are the people, we are the government.

Yeah, we are responsible for the government we have cause we voted for them.

We're the ones that voted the crooks in.

We voted them in.

We voted for 'em.

We voted for them.

If you're not then who is?

Do I feel responsible? No.

No.

No, I don't think we're responsible for it.



I don't think we're responsible for the government, I really don't.

Do I vote?

Yes, I vote.

Yes.

No, not a voter.

No. I don't vote.

I don't believe in voting.

I personally am not registered to vote.

I don't vote, so I guess you could say the fact that I don't vote makes me responsible. But a lot of people voted and the election still went the wrong way anyway, so.

I try not to vote but then people tell me to vote, then I vote and I still lose.

No, actually we're not because our votes really don't matter.

Especially the minority vote. Don't count. Just rip it up and tear it away.

This president wasn't even voted in. He was voted in by the courts.

Well what happened with the vote? What was it, the hanging Chads down in Florida and all those other things we don't talk about anymore. Yeah, yeah we're responsible for it because we let him in and didn't put him out.

I think the government is responsible for the government we have.

Politicians are politicians, they're there to market themselves and get you to vote for them and then they have their own agenda.

We have all these special interest groups that are basically running the country, so....

There's really no one to vote for in this society. Only two parties. and both parties are parties of the rich.

I live in America without living in America.

Am I a part of we, you know, I know it says "we the people" but who is we the people? And I would say some people may be more responsible than other people.

We have some influence. I think as much as we'd probably would like.

People are busy. They're overwhelmed with their lives.

For me there is a sense of apathy among people my age and younger,

I don't even think we care about the government. I think it's just every man for himself. Government-wise and democracy, we don't really see the effects of it.

Our generation is just standing by and letting whatever happens happen. And I don't think that we should do that anymore. We should take a stand and take charge, cause it's becoming out of hand now.

*(Why are we in Iraq?)*

Why we are in Iraq...

Why we are at war?

No, I guess I don't really understand why we're in Iraq.

I don't think anyone really knows, to be honest.

To tell you the truth, I don't know.

Truthfully I don't get the meaning of this war. What is it for?

Truthfully, no I don't.

I don't know.

Oh, girl, uh-uh. You're not taking me there.

You want the truth or you want the political answer?

Cause we have to defend ourselves, against terrorism. Annihilate 'em. And I really mean annihilate 'em. Well I know, you say, "well how do you annihilate a country? There's a lot of innocent people involved." But, unfortunately...Iraq is an example, you got - most of the people there are good people, they want freedom, they don't want to have governments treat them the way they do. But the thing is, how do you get rid of them? And I know it's very harsh but to me, if you have a bad seed you're gonna have to get rid of the whole barrel. You got one bad apple...throw the whole barrel away

I think the reason we went to Iraq is because an administration thought that it would be an easy win and it would help them bolster their narrative as a presidency that was strong against international terrorism.

There was no terrorism in Iraq.

The man who was responsible for 9/11, Osama bin Laden, has gone scott-free.

Looking for bin Laden, why you messing with Hussein?

What happened to bin Laden? Why they don't speak about this man no more, or anything?

We decided to use the opportunity of a horrible act and exploit it so that we could hopefully get pipelines installed that would benefit us financially.

We're in Iraq because we are fighting for the oil.

I think it has something to do with Bush and his oil.

The truth is oil.

I don't think it's because of democracy.

All things the same for another country, being ruled by a ruthless dictator, blah, blah blah, Iraq had oil and other countries didn't.

I think the Middle East needed help, I think, personally. I was also affected by 911 but that's neither here nor there, so....

What we were trying to do is to give the Iraqi people freedom but I don't think that's a simple process. It's not going to happen overnight, that's for sure.

I, personally, I'm probably one of the only New Yorkers that actually believes we should be there. No one loves war, everyone hates war but I think we really need to be there. The Iraqi people are free. They're free because of us. And it's a long, complicated, ugly story right now but if we didn't do anything people would be killed and slaughtered.

*(Do you feel personally responsible for the war in Iraq?)*

Personally?

Me personally?

Do I personally?

Me? No!

Personally, no.

No.

Nope.

No.

No, I don't feel personally responsible for the war in Iraq.

No.

No.

No.

No.

Not at all.

No.

No.

No.

Absolutely not.

Yes.

Do I – no I don't feel responsible. No, I do not.

No. Not unless we supported it, which I didn't, so I'm OK.

No, I do not feel personally responsible for the war in Iraq.

I have a nephew over there, I don't want him there.

We're in New York! How'd we start a war over there? Let them finish their war, bring our boys home.

I wouldn't say we should feel responsible, cause the person who sent our troops over there in the first place wasn't us.

No, I mean I don't think those of us who opposed the war in Iraq are responsible for it. I think the government bears that responsibility--has that blood on it's hands—thank God, not us.

No, because I have no interest in Halliburton.

Cause I didn't think it was a good idea.

Because I have no say over it. The only say and the only way it works is if everybody says something, not just one person.

If I say no, here's my reason why we shouldn't be fighting, that's just one voice in a million.

No, I really don't because...I guess that I'd have to say because I don't really participate in politics, I don't feel personally responsible. But on the other hand, maybe if I did somebody else would be in a position to stop the war so I kind of feel... No, I can't say that I'm personally, I don't think I'm strong enough as an individual.

I don't think we should feel responsible. I think they should listen more to what we have to say. Cause it's our kids out there or our parents or somebody we know.

I feel responsible for the people that are over there because they're our people, they're my people, they're American people.

I think I would think in terms of is the United States responsible for our actions in Iraq and the answer in yes. And it comes from a long heritage, I mean, several hundred years of running a democracy and determining what our roles and responsibilities are world-wide.

I do feel a little bit responsible because before we went in I believed it was a good thing to do.

We wanted to believe everything that was said.

I thought there were weapons of mass destruction. I thought he was a dangerous guy. I thought it should be done.

At first, I thought it was necessary and I would have voted for it.

I'm the type of person that believes that the government tells you the truth and then as I went on, I realized that they didn't.

Bush did a terrible terrible thing and our Senators and Congress people did also... and I feel as if we've murdered a lot of kids for no reason.

No, I don't feel personally responsible for the war, although I share in the collective responsibility since in a democratic country you share in the actions of the government if it performs in a democratic fashion.

I feel that I share responsibility for it.

The whole US citizens are responsible for the war in Iraq.

I'm a citizen. Yeah, I have to. I think we all should.

We went there and attacked those people. They did not attack us. And the country's worse because of it.

I think I am personally responsible, I don't think I always feel it because I don't always want to consciously acknowledge it.

I think when I wake up in the morning I don't feel that, "Geez, what have I done?"

I feel responsible for it, very responsible for it, because I've not been able to do anything real about ending the war and bringing the troops home.

Yes I could have done more to protest their going - but again sense of apathy and impotency...you have a sense that there's not much you can do because you don't have enough support and you can never rally enough people.

This government did a job, I think, of silencing people and saying almost that you were a traitor or sided with the terrorists if you exercise your First Amendment right to speak out against it.

I suppose we're all responsible...It's awful when one thinks of the way the Germans, nobody ever assumed responsibility, whether they knew or didn't know exactly what was going on. I think we all know and we could all do more. I think there's insufficient outreach.

*(Has the war in Iraq changed your life?)*

Has the war in Iraq changed my life?

My life? No, I don't think so.

I don't think so.

I would say, honestly, no. I don't know anyone who's over there. And I really don't even watch the news because that's all they talk about, and so I really don't bother to concern myself with what's going on over there. I know that's awful to say but you're so inundated with it, that if you just block it out completely then it doesn't really exist.

It changes the way I act when I get up in the morning, the way I interact, the news that I listen to or don't want to listen to.

I read the papers I watch the TV. Yeah, I'm affected by it, I'm affected by it. Am I doing anything differently? Not really.

Well, it has because I have relatives that are in that war fighting in Iraq now, so...

The war has made me bitter towards our government, which I always have been, but its made me even more bitter.

It's just made me - angrier.

I don't think that the war in Iraq has changed people's lives as much as it should have.

Gas prices are really high and all that. And we put premium gas in our car so it really affects me in that way. But, sometimes I kind of agree that we should be paying, individuals should be paying more of a price for the war and we're not.

The people most affected by the war in Iraq are obviously the people who are fighting in Iraq.

The soldiers and the soldier's families, without a doubt, and those who are living in Iraq.

But I think that our children and grandchildren's lives will be affected because of this absolutely obscene deficit that has been created by the war in Iraq.

We're fighting a war, they just send the soldiers out there to die. We got to suffer with everything else, as far as our family members going out there and dying and the struggle we have to go through here because of the war.

Our soldiers are just dying little by little and they're all dying young. And then who gets stuck - who be with the family, without no money or nothing? Their own families be without their fathers or mothers.

Our little sisters and brothers and our aunts, you know, and they're all dying.

*(Should the country reinstate the draft?)*

Should the country reinstate the draft?

I don't see an immediate need for it.

Right now, no.

I don't think that there should be a draft...

I hope we don't have to do that.

I would certainly try to dodge it if there were.

No, never. Don't make nobody go nowhere they don't want to go. I was drafted, I was against that. I either had to be drafted or go to jail, so I wasn't ready for that. You shouldn't give anybody that ultimatum.

People are actually getting killed and I don't think you should randomly pick and choose who you're gonna send over there.

To draft someone and say, "I want you to go fight my war, my financial war, I'm going to make you, against your will." That's wrong.

Everybody should have a choice if they want to go to war or not.

People in primarily poorer communities who are not getting chances that they want in their life due to financial hardship or whatnot and joining the military is not only something they want to do, but something that could help a lot of people, there are benefits to it. You know, this has nothing to do with people dying.

Uncle Sam says, "I want you" and then he plays a very good - he has a very good advertisement that you can get a very good education and you can see the world...but the reality is how can a dead man have a good education?

Should the U.S. institute a draft? I've thought so for a long while.

I would.

Yes.

The draft is not good for anyone but I think it would be more equal for everyone.

...where not only people who don't have a lot of hope, and they look at the military as a way out, would get a chance to serve their country.

If you're gonna sacrifice say middle class and poor people, I mean black, white, whoever, then I think everybody should have stake in it. And everybody meaning if there's a draft then millionaires, middle class, poor people, everybody will have to just go to it, then maybe they will think twice in going to war.

*(Does equal opportunity exist in the United States?)*

Equal opportunity? No.

Equal opportunity? No.

No.

No.

No.

No.

No.

No.

No.

No, I don't think equal opportunity exists in the U.S.

I know that equal opportunity is not existing.

You're probably talking to the white guy, so I don't know.

I think it exists in the United States more than anywhere else in the world and I've lived in many places in the world.

I'm gonna say yes but I'm sure there's gonna be plenty that are gonna say no.

There are equal opportunities - if the person wants it bad enough I think they can get it.

It's all about what you want to make of it.

Oh, definitely, if you want to take advantage of it.

I don't really feel like that there's too much discrimination going on lately. I feel like there's equal opportunity.

To a certain extent.

To a certain extent.

Up to a point... up to a point.

It does. For some. Not for all.

Equal opportunity exists but certain people have to work harder for it.



You got to fight for everything, whether it's equal opportunity or just food, anything.

I don't think it exists for everybody because, take a look around you. You can see it for yourself.

Different places you go in and you see different races seem to work in particular areas and you know, it seems very divided.

Do you see us owning anything to much here? Do you see us with stores? Corporations?

One day I'm walking down the street from 96<sup>th</sup> street and when I cross 94<sup>th</sup> street a cop asks me, "where you going?" And I say, "I'm going home," and they say, "you don't live that way, nigger. You live that way," and pointed me back to Spanish Harlem. And that's been my life in a nutshell.

There's a lot of racism still going on in this country.

We try to pretend that we're really accepting of everyone but we're really not.

Different groups, honestly, other than the white male, are still not given their fair shake.

We're just allowing women to even think of becoming president. We're just beginning to think in terms of leadership of color.

Come on, there is no equal opportunity but...no, there is not. There is opportunity but it's not always equal let's put it this way.

I think it's definitely the wealthy who get everything... They take over daddy's business when they're not necessarily deserving. They get into the better colleges and are therefore able to do more with their lives.

Woah, to me it's not really more about racist or anything like that. It has to do more with economics – like where you were raised really. Cause I know Caucasian kids that were raised in the same neighborhood as me and going through the same hardship that I got to go through just to get somewhere, you know?

If you got money, your kids will be educated, they'll find out what their gifts are, they'll have teachers who focus on those gifts and talents and really get them to work those out and play with them and get those creative juices flowing. Otherwise, your kid is stuck in the system, regurgitating information to pass a fucking test. Equal opportunity exists if you have money. Period.

I believe that equal opportunity does exist in this country, however, the country hasn't convinced the people that it exists yet. If we all treated each other as equals the government wouldn't play no part in that. And that's the problem. Everybody sits back and relies on the government to create laws how to do things when they know just the difference between right and wrong. We don't need the government to tell us what's right or wrong.

*(Do you feel you have a voice in your country?)*

Do I feel as if I have a voice in the country?

In this country, no.

No.

No. No voice.

No.

It's so hard to say.

No.

No.

It gets lost... It gets lost.

I don't know if I've ever tried to have a voice, but I don't know that I would.

I feel that if I wanted to have an active one I would be able to get it.

They have a voice but a lot of our people, a lot of minorities don't exercise—they don't know their rights.

A lot of people don't vote, can't vote, won't vote, whatever. So they don't know who these people are who are supposedly making decisions for us — we need to find out first of all who they are, where they are, and then we can put some pressure on them, "Listen this is what we want as a community."

Slavery was geared to keep certain people down and you have people reacting in a certain way, they don't think they can change things. So it's just like that slave mentality, you know what I'm saying, and I believe that's part of the problem.

I take some of the blame, the people have to take some of the blame because they sit by, even in local government, we'll sit by, we won't go to the meetings, we won't even go out and vote. And when changes are made for us we tend to bitch about it, which we allow it to happen because we choose not to have a voice.

Everybody's has a voice it just depends on is everybody gonna to speak up. One or two voice ain't gonna change nothing. You gonna need a whole lot of voices to even try to change anything.

I think I have a voice in my community, not in the country.

In my community, I probably you know, have a voice when we go out to demonstrate and protest certain injustices that occur.

I've got a voice in my community.

In my community, yeah. In my country, no.

My community I do, my country, no.

In the community, yes.

Hell no! I don't have no voice in my community, I'm just a woman.

I think that the only voice I have is in my restaurant.

Unless I have a gun to my head and I'm threatening to shoot me and somebody else my voice really ain't going to get sounded...and I'm not saying I'm going to do that, just making sure cause I'm saying that on camera. I ain't saying that's what I'm trying to do.

One shouldn't expect just to be given a voice in one's country. I think that that's something someone aspires towards, having a voice of any kind, much less a voice in your country. I think that maybe the question is implying does the country give the individual the voice, well I don't think it's required to. I think that we all have the ability to speak up but it takes a lot of doing to speak up.

Like right now. Whenever I can get a chance to say what I need to say then maybe somebody here can keep it continuous. But too many people don't care no more. *Why?* Why - because they just want to get what they need, to get through life. Instead of trying to build something with everybody they just building for themselves.

### **(Does global warming exists?)**

That's an interesting question, does global warming exist?

That's so interesting because I read a book recently and I don't remember the name of it where the author was saying it's all a myth.

I never understood global warming. I just don't get that.

My daughter's always telling me about that, but even when I say, "Ok, I believe it." I really don't know that much about it.

I really don't know much about it.

I don't know what global warming is. I don't think 99 people out of 100 don't know what it is. And it could be nothing, we don't know.

I'm kind of on the fence about it... It could, it could not.

Hmmm. Yes, but I think it's exaggerated.

I don't believe in it, no.

I don't really believe in global warming.

I don't believe in it cause I have a fairly strong scientific background and I don't feel its true. I think it's a bunch of hype.

I don't see any change in the weather.

Looking at the published data, there is no doubt that global warming is something that is very real.

Global warming is obviously the greatest threat that's ifacing the world today.

It's warm out; stuff is melting.

Our water and ou2 tides are getting higher by my house.

The seas all messed up, the tides...

I'm a fisherman. I'm out in the woods everyday, I see the difference.

Yes, I think global warming exists.

I do think global warming exists.

I definitely think that global warming exists.

To some extent.

Of course it does.

It does exist.

I think it does.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

Sure.

Yes.

Yes.

Absolutely.

Yes.

*(Do you feel personally responsible for global warming?)*

Do I feel personally responsible for global warming?

No, not at all.

No, actually, I don't

Not at all.

Of course, yes.

Of course.

Yes, of course.

Me personally, no.

I could say we are.

We are responsible.

No, I think it comes from a whole trajectory of human behavior and it's not just me.

Everybody's responsible as far as I'm concerned.

No.

Yes, because I know there are some things I could do without and I still want to do with them.

75% of our electricity is produced out of the coal, which is the largest source of the greenhouse gases so we are very, very much responsible.

Americans are the most responsible.

I think Americans are particularly responsible.

I don't feel responsible for it because it was offered to me, all these luxuries that we have such as air conditioning and driving...and we didn't know at any time that this was existing.

I don't feel personally responsible.

But now that its been brought to our attention I think that we should make more of an effort.

I feel collectively responsible.

I wouldn't take full responsibility. I think that as citizens living in this country, I think we all have a part of it.

People in general are definitely responsible for global warming. And I think as an individual, part of a society that is devoted to mass consumption, I think I'm complicit in that. But to the extent that I as an individual try to make conscientious decisions I'd like to think that I'm actively reversing the trend.

I drive a car, I use electricity. Anybody who does any of those things is part of the problem.

No, I do not feel responsible for global warming.

Cause I have children and they've had me recycling for years.

Cause I don't drive a car, I don't pollute, I always throw everything in the garbage, I'm not melting stuff.

I don't do much.

I'm just one consumer.

I don't think I'm an ultra-consumer of electricity and gas. We hardly ever use our air conditioning, on our weekend house we don't have air conditioning.

As an individual, whether I drive a big SUV or ride my bicycle isn't going to make much of a difference.

Well, you know if we were all dead we would consume a lot less resources, that's the simple fact, you know what I mean? If there were half as many people on earth, we would consume half as many resources. There is a human strain on the environment, is the answer not to be human?

I wish I could say that I lived in fear every morning of what's going to happen 200 years from now.

Governments will pay lip service to doing things without really doing anything and most people are aware of the issue peripherally and not really wanting to do anything about it.

If it were a volcano shooting up through this park and people all on fire or whatnot, that would be really a terrible, a terrible thing.

Long-term, I think we're fucked, really. As a species, we're a crap idea, really, when it comes down to it, I think long-term. We're destroy the very resources that we rely on.

*(What should your government be doing for you?)*

What do I think our government should be doing *(for you)* for me? For me?

For me?

For me?

Me, personally?

I never thought about it in such a personal way?

Is there anything the government should be doing for me personally? No.

I don't know.

For me personally, I'm OK. I feel like I'm ok.

For me personally? Not much.

I would say as little as possible.

I don't want them to do nothing for me.

I really don't feel like they owe me anything.

I see the role of the federal government as providing a safety net for people who need help. I don't consider myself to be one of those people necessarily.

I don't think the government should be doing anything for me. I think the government should be doing something for the American people as a whole.

The government should be insuring that we're safe from terrorism but at the same time protecting our civil liberties.

I think the government should not only be protecting me but should be standing up for what I believe in and for representing me justly.

They should actually pay attention to the people that elected them, you know? It's like they get elected to office and they forget all about us.

My main concern when it comes to government is education.

I just want my kids to be in the best damn schools possible. Like really, that's what I want them to do for me personally.

When I was in high school it was just like, yeah, it's on the board, write it down, learn it, take a test, I hope you pass it. It's not like if you see a student failing, you care any. We hardly had any teachers that were like, "Chris, I see you're not doing too good. You need any help, you think you need tutoring?"

Compared to the United States, the other countries, particularly the place where I came from, like India and Russia, people are very, very competitive.

We had books missing pages, the teachers had to read it out loud. So, you know, I don't think that's cool at all.

Don't you notice that when they come out of school that's when they get in trouble or girls get pregnant? So I think they should have some places for them to go so when they come out of school they don't have to be out there, running around, getting pregnant, doing drugs, selling drugs.

Giving opportunities...

Provide healthcare for me.

The problems that everybody has: medical and housing.

More jobs. Better jobs.

Poverty, you got to get rid of poverty. Once we get rid of poverty all types of other good things are going to happen.

Well, I would love them to just have me a visa.

Lower taxes.

Give me more tax money back.

Give me reparations, baby, for my next generation.

*(What should you be doing for your government?)*

What I should be doing? What do you mean by what I should be doing?

Shades of John Kennedy.

Ask not what you're country can do for you, ask what you can do for you country.

What I should be doing for my government? Um...

Me?

Paying taxes.

I'd start a revolution but I've forgotten how to do that.

Doing for the government? Yeah, kicking it in it's big ass.

Well, you can only vote. There is nothing else you can do about it.

Definitely voting...

I vote.

I should probably be voting. I mean I read the paper, I stay informed.



I should definitely vote and I should definitely know who and what I'm voting for.

We should all get out and exercise our voting rights...cause that's the only voice we really have.

I'm doing my part. I'm trying to keep these kids out of trouble, trying to keep these jails empty, which might be not be exactly what they want.

I could do a lot, I'm a productive human being too.

When you think about this question you get this grandiose feeling, "my God, I should really change what has to be changed." But I'm just a little pipsqueak, one drop in a big wide ocean. And what should I be doing in that big wide ocean? Doing the best I can to see that the country is fair and square to everybody, and provides in the most meaningful way for the needs of it's citizenry.

We should be holding our government accountable for not doing things. They need to be held accountable, people need to actually sue the government for not providing for it's own people. And for sending people over there to give up their lives, and for what? Somebody needs to hold the government accountable.

*(Are you optimistic about your future?)*

Does the future look bright for me?

Am I optimistic about my future?

Sure!

I am.

Definitely.

I am very optimistic about my future.

Oh yeah.

Yes.

Yeah, I'm optimistic.

Somewhat. More optimistic than pessimistic. I have to think that way, yeah.

Yes I am. I am optimistic about my future.

Yeah, I am.

Yes, I am.

Yeah, I am. I am optimistic.

Yes, very optimistic.

I have them, I have to be optimistic, you know what I'm saying. Give him the ball. Give him the ball, Sydney. I have to be optimistic. If I'm not then they suffer and that will not happen.

Meaning if I think I'm going to survive, yeah.

I'm still breathing. That's optimism right there.

I'll make it. I'll do whatever I'm supposed to do. That's how I've been surviving in the States by myself since 19.

My future I feel optimistic about. I don't know if I feel optimistic about my grandchildren.

I actually am someone who does come from a wealthier family and I know that I do always have every opportunity...and I think that definitely helps with my optimism, is that I know I have something to fall back upon and I don't have to live everyday struggling.

I would probably be a little more optimistic if I had more stability. You know, I can come with a mindset alright, you know what, I'm going to come and be able to pay my bill with this, and if I get cut or I don't work as many hours I have to figure out a game plan. So once I have more stability, then maybe I'll be a little more optimistic.

*(Are you optimistic about the future of the United States?)*

Am I optimistic about the future of the United States?

The future of the U.S...

Sure.

Yes, I am.

I think so.

Very.

It'll always be here. The United States will always be here.

The United States has gone through it's troubles before and they've always come back.

I'm optimistic about the future of the country, yeah. I think when people have enough they make the changes.

Someday the citizens of the United States will wake up , hopefully, and say, "listen, this is enough."

Not close enough yet. Something else bad has got to happen, unfortunately.

I hate to answer that the way I'm going to answer it, because I'm really not a pessimist, I'm very optimistic, and we've survived a lot of things, I remember Pearl Harbor and how devastating that was. I would like to think that I could be optimistic but I'm very shaky about it.

It's very hard for me to sound optimistic.

I, unfortunately, am not optimistic about the future of the United States.

America's not very popular.

We've lost a lot of our stature. We've lost a lot of our respect.

I think the idea of a comparison between the U.S. and Rome does have some place... I'm referring to the Roman Empire which has fallen for the reason of it being rotten from the inside.

People take it for granted that the United States must persist, that it can't come to an end. I think it can.

I'm just really to a point of frustration with the United States, with New York, with the government. I mean, whatever happens, happens, you know, I just pray for the best.

I really only care about my future now, honestly. I don't know where this country's going now but I know what I got to do. I mean, I do care, I'm sorry, I do care about the future in the sense that it affects me.

We're going to continue in the wrong direction, where as with my own fate, even though it can be affected by that, I mean I still am the master of my destiny. I believe—I think I have to believe my future is going to be a positive one.

*(What are you most scared of?)*

What am I the most afraid of?

Honestly?

Scared of?

What am I most scared of?

Nothing, really. Really, nothing. No. I'm really not. Nothing I can think of. Somebody asked me that the other day and I said the same thing.

At this point, not too much.

Nothing.

I'm scared of nothing.

Nothing really.

Personally, I'm not really scared of anything. Because I think if something is gonna happen it's gonna take place.

Whatever comes, comes. Life's not guaranteed.

9/11, I was downtown, working down there and people said to me after were you afraid. I wasn't afraid, we all have to go some way or another and I'm not afraid really.

Actually ain't too much to be scared of. Life is life. Fear is only going to do is hold you back.

Failure, I'm most scared of failure.

Failure.

Failing myself.

My own failure.

Just turning 44, still working where I'm working now. That's my fear...

When I die I want to look back and say I had a good life and I did good things .

I want to accel in life, I want to go somewhere. I don't want to be a star or anything like that but just to be able to look back and say hey, I worked towards that and I'm here now. Rather than a lot of my young con - my other brothers, older than me, and they're just drug dealing, hustling—doing a lot of things that I don't want to be doing. And they're older, they got kids. You know, you got to get responsible, you got to live.

I don't mean I want to be president, I just mean there's people who make the world a little better and there's people who make it a little worse. And I want to make it a little better.

I think I'm most scared of being lonely.

I fear loneliness.

Being alone.

Failure/loneliness.

Being alone...being alone.

Being ill that I can't get around.

If I were completely disabled and helpless.

Disease.

Disease.

Disease, that's all.

Death.

Death.

I'm most scared of dying.

I can walk right out into this street right here and taxi can come—Boom!

People that I love dying.

Losing my son.

I'm most afraid of losing one of my kids.

Losing my wife. I've been married 30 years now and she's my best partner.

Probably random violence.

Sometimes when they're out here and they're shooting at night. That's the only thing I'm afraid, that I might be passing and I might get shot by a bullet.

Terrorist activity.

Terrorism.

Terrorists. Terrorists coming down here one day and I just get blown up in one of these buildings because of my government making wrong decisions and we've got to pay for it

We got people out there who want to do harm to us, who we did harm to, and it works both ways.

I think I'm most scared of people being unfeeling, desensitized and going through the motions of life without really living life.

A little scared of – I think of hearing the rhetoric through history and through today, that a woman's sexuality is very powerful so - I'm not really scared of it but I'm kind of conflicted about it.

Oh, bugs. Bugs, I don't like bugs.

Maybe scared of my own desires.

Where I'm gonna end up.

Dentists, I think.

Getting older.

My wife.

Good looking women.

Monsters.

Jesus Christ.

My children's future.

I'm afraid of not seeing my kids graduate from school or not having the money to pay for their college. Cause I know if you ain't got an education these days honestly you're not gonna make a nice way of living.

Well what I'm afraid of is getting like a two-class society: the very wealthy and the poor. And not having a middle class. Cause I really think the middle class is the strength of our government, or of our country I should say. And it seems as though, because of economics and decision-making by our government, we're working our way towards a two-class society and I think that's bad for the country.

I'm scared to be poor.

Poverty.

Not able to pay my bills and out on the street.

Not being able to provide for my family.

I'm most afraid of not being able to get a job, not being able to pay rent and become homeless...and resort to crimes and going back to jail and stuff like that, I'm afraid of stuff like that.

What am I most scared of?

People who have money.

*(Is there anything you'd like to add?)*

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be heard, I appreciate it very much. I'm glad you came up and gave me this microphone.

I appreciate you coming to interview me and exchanging ideas and showing that democracy could exist between the people themselves.

I love this country. God bless America and I hope that the war would end soon.

I just wish peace and happiness for everybody.

I wish this interview would be in Spanish because I would be expressing myself better.

Off camera I will tell you, cause you never know who's listening.

I hate to be sitting here talking and my face is going to the camera nation-wide, world-wide, neighborhood-wide I don't know. But you all just had the great wool pulled over your eyes. We just had the wool pulled over our eyes.

There's some things I want to say but I don't know who this tape is gonna reach.

What else can I say about this incomplete world? Can't say but too much.

*(Could you tell us your name?)*

My name is Jason Pennington.

My name is Allen Endin.

My name is Tony Eaton.

George Guzman.

Serena Taggart.

Javier Ruez.

My name is Joanna.

Lisa Piekxa, my name is Lisa Piekxa.

Margaret.

Jay.

Stephanie Thomson.

First name Nan, last name Tran.

My name is Alexander Garcia.

I'm Suzanne Marshall.

Michael Neworth.

Richard Keary.

Mildred.

Andrew Montes.

Patrick Shaw.

Loraine DiProspero.

Jill Jackson.

Anthony Banano.

Michael Perez.

My name is Keesha.

My name is Anne.

Robert.

Muriel.

Jeff.

Patrick.

Manny

Danielle.

My first name is William Hudson. My second name is Ogbar Shiham Shibad (sp)

Michelle McBrian.

Jonathan Bodrick.

Julia Grunnevit

Lina

My name is Sandy Weil.

Ahmed Shihab- Eldin

Christopher Gordon

Dina Gunster

Crystal Lee

Ashrini

Shirin Sufian

Joseph Rosenberg.

Alexander James Thomas.

My name is Felix



Caitlin

Perry Sales

My name is Ali Fata

Nick

Mara

My name is Mila

Jacqueline

Sally

John Lee

Kirstin Harris

Newsome, Ronald.

My name is Gibran.

Julian Niccolini

Jason Fisher

My name is Iftakar Mohammed

My name is Hadia Falami Bahati

My name is James C. Horton

Thomas Johnson

Steven Richardson

Ed Wheelan

Jill Kadetsky

Dorian Winslow

Jadeen Schreiber

Anthony

Bob

Lindsay

Cynthia

Colin Wilson

Nora

Ras Yonas

Sean

Kelly Venture

Samuel Carere

June Schneider

Larry Smith

Andrew Barret

Bob DiCarlo

My name is Orlando Heir, I live here in Jackson Heights, 35-46 74th Street.

## CREDITS