**Transcription of Interview with Woman from Pakistan (PK)**

**I = Interviewer**

**PK = Interviewee from Pakistan**

**L = Liz from the Bridges Programmes**

**I: Ok, so first of all I’m just gonna ask you some basic questions about you just to clarify things and then we’re gonna talk a bit more about equality. So where are you originally from?**

PK: I’m from Pakistan.

**I: And what is your native language?**

PK: Urdu.

**I: Urdu. How long have you been in the UK?**

PK: Around ten, ten years.

**I: Ten years. And how long have you been in Glasgow?**

PK: That’s the same.

**I: The same?**

PK: Straight come to Glasgow.

**I: Ok.**

PK: Yeah, nowhere else.

**I: Ok. What is your status?**

PK: We have British passport.

**I: You have British passports, ok. When did you get that?**

PK: Yes.

**I: When?**

PK: Oh when. Three years ago.

**I: Three years ago.**

PK: Yeah.

**I: So when did you get your leave to remain?**

PK: Hmm four

**I: Four years ago?**

PK: Four, four-five years ago.

**I: Ok, so then you applied for**

PK: Five years ago.

**I: Yeah, and then you applied for citizenship after that?**

PK: Yes.

**I: Can I ask you how old you are?**

PK: I’m… 79…

**I:** *[something makes a lot of noise in the background]* **That’s very noisy. Can you?**

PK: 31

**I: 31**

PK: Yeah, 31.

**I: Oh, you’re from 79, I thought you**

PK: Oh no

**I: I thought you said you were 79, I was like ‘no, I don’t think so’. Ok, you’re from 79?**

PK: I think 31.

**I: You think 31, right. Ok. How many children do you have?**

PK: I have four

**I: Four!**

PK: Four boys.

**I: Four boys, my God! Oh there she is. I’ll just stop this [*An employee from the Bridges Programmes brings new batteries for the recorder*]. Here we go again. New batteries. Erm, what age are your boys?**

PK: Erm, the wee one he is six and the third one he’s seven, eight, seven, eight and ten.

**I: Ok, so they’re very close to each other.**

PK: Mhm.

**I: Yeah. Are you a single parent?**

PK: No.

**I: No, you live with your husband?**

PK: Yeah.

**I: Where do you live?**

PK: In Springburn, in Glasgow.

**I: Yeah. What type of accommodation?**

PK: It’s like [unclear] blocks, a tenant.

**I: A tenement?**

PK: Tenement house, yeah.

**I: Yeah, ok. Do you receive any benefits?**

PK: Er, working tax credit or child benefit, that’s it.

**I: Ok. So you’re not on job seeker’s allowance or?**

PK: No.

**I: No. Do you have a job?**

PK: No.

**I: Have you had a job in Glasgow?**

PK: In… no, no.

**I: Have you… did you have a job in Pakistan?**

PK: No.

**I: Okay. Erm, do you have… do you go to college or anything now?**

PK: Not yet. I will actually apply for the college to study more high English, because in future I want to do social course or child care, any of them. And they were saying there’s no place in the college so I need to wait till August.

**I: To August? Yeah.**

PK: So just now I am sitting at home to study some my driving test. I’m doing this right now so nothing else.

**I: Have you been to college at any point?**

PK: Yes. I have been in the college, because I don’t have any English when we was… when I was came here, so all my English I have learned in Glasgow.

**I: Ok, yeah. Did you do any education in Pakistan?**

PK: Yes, I complete my primary. All I finished my primary so. After that, you know it’s – we are in Pakistan so our culture is not… when girls are 18, 19, 20-year-old they have to get married so I don’t get time to study more further, so.

**I: Ok, so you got married and?**

PK: And then after married a year I came here in Glasgow, so. I complete my study I hope so here. I finish my study here.

**I: So you’d really like to study?**

PK: Yeah, because my kids they were going school. My kids and my husband they leaving home every morning nine to – nine o’clock and between nine and two I’m free, so I don’t have anything to do, so I [unclear] so I decided to study more to do something in the future, so I can maybe handle my children very well their, with their studies or some…

**I: So you get a bit**

PK: [unclear]

**I: you get a bit bored when your…**

PK: Obviously. All day nothing to do, sometime you’re just watching TV again and again to get nothing – I don’t think so, I didn’t get anything from TV.

**I: No, there’s a lot of bad TV.**

PK: I know.

**I: Yeah, ok. So would you just like to tell me a bit about yourself? What’s important to you?**

PK: Actually I’m a very – very simple and – I’m very simple person. I, I just, I am just like that in… I cannot break a heart anyone’s. So even though I get my… I put myself in trouble, but I can’t break the heart the other person who will trouble me or whatever the reason so. [Long pause]. I’m actually really good. I’m a six brother of my… I’m a sister of six brothers so my parents they love me so much, so.. I don’t have a daughter as well, so I just want to spend my life like a… no one can rule me. I can spend my life my own way, because I know which country I am belong but now I’m in Glasgow so I wanted to do something my own that I can proud of on myself and that [unclear] can make me more confident so I can thinking more or think to do something really good for my family and for myself that can one day I just one my parents and my family they become proud. I can say I am proud of myself right now as well. Do you know why and how, because I know I have – when I was studying in school I hate English – my god it’s hard. So now I’m learning English. I can… I realise myself nothing – nothing is more hard if you were keep trying hard you can do it. I complete… I learn English and there’s more many thing like a spiritual – I’m a Christian – so like a spiritual, I get something really really good. I have ability, I’ve learned ability to complete a task no matter how hard it is, so I just begin like there, but I am – in my way, I am really good, I know. I’m really good. I know I’m not bad, I [unclear] – I’m not so good but I’m not bad either. So I trust myself and I know what I am doing, what I am thinking, it’s right. Or where I am confused only the person who can help me and show me the way of right it’s my God.

**I: Your God, ok. So your Christianity is really important to you?**

PK: Yes, really, really, really, really important. Someday, somehow I am confused – I am struggling something. I ask my husband, I ask my mother and sometime I share with my I mean friends – they tell me but I’m not satisfied until I go the God, ask him ‘tell me’ and I cannot say I test my God, but I know whenever, whatever I ask him, like passionately or desperately I needed something you know where I am confused he right away give me an answer and I am pure satisfied. And that’s how I can… I think, I trust myself [unclear]. I know one day I can do something really good to my own. That’s the [unclear] I have.

**I: So what would you say is more important to you? Is it your Christianity or is it for instance being a mother or?**

PK: Both.

**I: Both? Yeah, equally important, yeah.**

PK: Both yeah. Because God makes me mother, which is very precious from God – being a mother. So both are really, really important in my life, so.

**I: Is your background important to you as well? Your culture, where you come from?**

PK: Obviously. Obviously, it is. If I had a daughter then I’d teach her like we’re – we’re in this country right now where we have to wear our clothes and where we have to go like the way… even in this country, they were - this is also very, I mean, I’m not saying that I don’t like anything from there – it is everything good, everything nice and right. I like it, but in our culture if you can know – wanted to know about our culture, so I can say only our culture is the main thing is the respect to the elder. The more main thing.

**I: You think that doesn’t happen here?**

PK: No, no, I didn’t say that. No, I didn’t mean that.

**I: No, ok.**

PK: No, I’m sorry, I didn’t mean that, but I can say like I give you example; if your son, if you had a son, and your son called me my name – in our country it’s not nice, but in here they were saying it’s fine. I teach my children if the person you don’t know or they’re elder, they’re oldest than you, you’ll have to respect and you will say not the name. [Unclear) to say like hello lady and mrs and like ‘auntie’. In our culture if my children called you ‘auntie’ I don’t have – because I will think he give you respect, but you will maybe say ‘I’m not your auntie’, because I know… this is a wee bit different, but nothing else more I’ve seen in here. Like I’ve met Scottish people, I attend the parties, I have some Scottish friends and I know about them. And I know I heard about their children, what they were thinking, what they were expecting from their children. It seem like our culture. So it’s nothing much difference, so I can’t see any much difference. No way, no.

**I: Ok. So are there other things that are different from your culture to the Scottish culture?**

PK: No.

**I: No?**

PK: Er, no, not much. Maybe, maybe, maybe I’m more advanced now because I go out to see the people, to meet the people to get something, to get something and that’s why I’m saying it’s not much different. But really didn’t see anything different, I don’t think so. Study wise, they’ve, they’re really good. Same as like in our country, study wise. And I know only the food. Food is very…

**I: Yeah, food is very different.**

PK: And the clothes, they are obviously different, but no matter.

**I: You were talking about that when you’re a girl you have to marry and – when you’re young?**

PK: Mhm, yeah.

**I: Yeah, is that… do you see that as different from here?**

PK: Yeah, this is a different, sorry. Yeah, this is a different when our parents choose someone for our…

**I: Ok, so your parents chose your husband?**

PK: Yeah.

**I: Yeah. How do you feel about that?**

PK: Erm, actually mentally I was not ready for it, because that time I’m studying, but at the same time my dad he wasn’t agree that he don’t want to get married her, me, my marry so fast, so. They were actually refuse them two or three times, the boy who comes to our house. So they just keep coming when – you know my auntie and they were saying ‘oh, if it’s the boy is good, the house is good, he earn good money, at least go ahead’. So it was like that now, so I had to go ahead.

**I: So then you have to?**

PK: Yeah. Well, if there one thing. If that time I had another boyfriend or they choose my parents the boy, the boy would choose my parents or if I like someone or I would say my dad ‘I would choose someone, I like someone’, maybe they were saying ‘right’, but that time I don’t have anyone. And mentally not ready and when is my married I don’t know what is going on, what is the thing we have to going through. Nothing, nothing at all, I don’t know anything, but in this country it’s very good. [Unclear] tell – tell the children. I mean when they were going to high school, they will tell all the things. So I don’t know that time. In our culture very rare to know this thing. In our country, they were not teaching like the stuff between the boy and girl. Like the pregnancy, how to get baby and all that, but in this country, children know.

**I: So you think that’s a good thing?**

PK: Obviously, because you know why? Even not in this country – I’ve seen in this country, but now when the time is passed and passed I’ve seen also in my country, I’ve heard the people, I mean the young girl who gets pregnant and at least in this country I’ve also seen the girls get pregnant in the small age, so at least to tell them not – what you have to do if they won’t, something though so what precaution they have to do, what protection they have to do first, so it’s like that. But in our country if the girl expected before the marry from the boyfriend, they will just kill them or

**I: Oh my god.**

PK: throw them away. It’s like that. So I think this is the good thing.

**I: Yeah. So would you say it’s easier to be a woman here than?**

PK: It is, yeah, it is.

**I: Ok.**

PK: It is much, much, much easier I can say. But now if I go back and I’m – my married is what? Ten years I’ve been married – so if I go back ten-fifteen years and bad so I can see my country, but now it’s much better than before. Yeah, now even in Pakistan womens had to go to the work, to office job or teaching work, I mean nursing and all that, they… if, if my brother’s daughter wants to be a nurse now, my brother wouldn’t stop her, but before ten-thirteen years ago, people were saying ‘no, you’re not allowed to go job and this and that’. Same as like now in this country. I think it’s really good, because in this country womens have a freedom. They have a – they give them a freedom to think about yourself, even you were busy in your life or you were busy with your – looking after your parents or your husband or your house, you also have to think about yourself elsewhere. This is important thing in this country, which is, I really like it. I really, I really appreciate the, I mean, queen. She’s so great, I really like it. At least womens get respect and in our country women don’t get any respect from their husbands or other mans. In this country, if I go what I’m wearing – if somebody see me they can’t touch me, but in our country we can’t wear anything to go out, and someone sees you, someone grabs you, they raped you, they this and that. So many happening, so in here, I had so much freedom, so much nice. They were, they were right away if anything happens, they will right away get action, but in our country they get action, but they don’t take any. I mean result, we didn’t get any results so it’s like that. So I always think about women in this country, I really appreciate them. This is the good law, at least they will give them freedom to the women. Even, do you know, when I was coming in this country now, I’m just – just like typical Pakistani, typical Asians – I can’t go out with my scarf, I feel scared for if someone sees me. Like this is the main thing in our country, not covering, so I feel scared. Or… Now you can see me, what I’m wearing and if I wearing only t-shirt to go out, no one can see me, nobody can touch me, nobody can see me. They were just laughing and in everywhere this is happening, the boys were whistling you, saying ‘hi’, this is the normal thing, no worry, but I’m really happy to come this country. And you know, my all confidence it’s not before, it’s – I’m – that all my confidence I get in this country from last ten years. That I can make myself go out alone, even in the night, even in the day time, even in the train, even in the lift or busses or a taxi. So I can go myself. Even if I made sometime my travel alone in like France, like other countries, I can go alone. I know I can’t get in trouble – I know it’s happening, sometime it’s happening also in here, but… yeah. I – whom you see – me – I’m not like that before. I’m completely changed.

**I: You changed a lot?**

PK: A lot, a lot changed. I’m completely changed. I know what do I need to do. Before, before my marriage no. I mean after my marriage, I didn’t even look my husband’s eyes if we had an argue, but now I can shout him back. At least, I have my self-respect as well, so he needs to…

**I: That’s good, stand up for yourself.**

PK: Obviously, you have to. Until the woman cannot stand up the man, they just… They will just feel that she is nothing. It’s not nice.

**I: No, true. So let me just ask you, if you tried to imagine that you were a white Scottish person, how do you think you would look at you?**

PK: If I am a Scottish person?

**I: if you were, yeah. How would you describe [interviewee’s name] if you were a Scottish person?**

PK: I describe her full of passion, full of courage, full of things, that she can do it no matter how hard it is. I’ve seen in, in as [unclear] white ladies only this. They are lot of courage. They are sometimes even I now, I know I can – I tell you that I am much confident – but I’m not that much confident, that much in the white ladies are confident.

**I: Ok. Do you think when Scottish people look at you, do you think they see your nationality, that – do you think they notice that you’re different?**

PK: I don’t think so.

**I: No?**

PK: No. Thanks God till I’m here. I’ve, I’ve seen – I’ve met the people, even the black African, the white Scottish, sorry, for some junkies as well, so they see me, but they didn’t say me anything. That’s good, never.

**I: Ok, so you’ve never experienced any discrimination or?**

PK: Never. No, never.

**I: That’s good. Good.**

PK: I’ve heard many Asians were saying they get something from the white mans. They sometime abuse or they just like looking them the hate eyes, but thanks God, I never.

**I: Ok, great. Can you explain to me what equality means to you?**

PK: Equality. How can I say. I don’t know what equality [unclear]… I don’t know.

**I: Do you think you have equality? That sounded a bit weird, erm.**

PK: Like?

**I: For instance do you know what is meant by equal opportunities?**

PK: Equal… no.

**I: No, that everyone despite where they come from, despite their skin colour, despite their religion, that everyone is treated fairly and in the same w… and equally? Have you heard about this?**

PK: Actually I don’t have any experience.

**I: So you think you’re being treated fairly here in Glasgow?**

PK: Yes.

**I: Ok. So do you think you have better opportunities here than you did back in Pakistan?**

PK: Yeah. In Scotland I do. No, I can’t think of go back, no way. No, no. No way. No, not any cost. No chance. I’m happy to here. I spend with my family ten years in this country, so not more, but at least I wanted to give this country something.

**I: So you would like, you would like to work here?**

PK: Obviously.

**I: Yeah, ok. Have you applied for a job here before?**

PK: Not yet, because like two-three hours job cannot, nobody give you. Or first thing my kids are small. Although they are in – they are full time in school, but still till they all go to the secondary school no, I don’t think so I’m working – I’m gonna do the work. But I really sometime want – I want to go, but when I thinking ‘who can give me work for two-three hours? No one’. Or at least three-four hours like ten to two. Who can give me this? I don’t think so, but I don’t know. Yeah.

**I: So have you considered putting your children in childcare?**

PK: I am, but I just raise them at my own hand.

**I: You want to raise them yourself? Yeah.**

PK: Yeah. Do you know, if I start work now, I’ve seen in this country, I start work, my husband is also work, I’m come back home with my [unclear] to give them cooking, give them maybe one hour I spend with them, but in this one hour I can’t to listen them the story for whole day, I can’t help them to do homework, I cannot need to know what they were doing in school, what they were thinking about me, what they were thinking about them or what’s in their mind, so – I cannot, so I don’t want to lose my children. No. Because being mother, children are, children are our first priority from anything else. They are first, so because you know this is the age they need parents’ time specially from the gift or from the parties, they need the time. I think that, I don’t know about yourself, I think that. Because even Asians or even Scottish people, I’ve heard the stories and they were doing the hard work for their kids, but now the kids were not living with them or like they were desperate, desperate that their kids were, went on the wrong path or this and that, so I just don’t want to see this. Because God has send me in this country, God give me beautiful family, loving husband and beautiful children, so I just want to spend the time with them. When they were in high school, they all go in high school, then I will start work definitely. I’m not gonna stay home.

**I: Have you, have you had any voluntary jobs here?**

PK: No.

**I: No, ok. So you think you’ll be able to get a job once you apply for it?**

PK: I think so. I trust myself. I have a confident, but…

**I: What do you think might prevent you from getting a job?**

PK: Prevent er…

**I: Do you see any barriers?**

PK: [long pause] I don’t know. At least they need to know where you are working before or you having any experience, work or… I think language obviously. And you’re confident.

**I: Yeah, ok. So you think it might be a problem that you don’t have any experience?**

PK: Maybe.

**I: Maybe.**

PK: Like if I… No. Like if I wanted to work in BHS as a packing woman or hanging the clothes, they also need to know the qualifications or work experience. Or if I want to do or get a job from McDonald or they and they beginning they give me a job like mopping or cleaning the tables and wash up and bathrooms, they also to know qualifications I think. Or work experience. Is it? I think, I think.

**I: So what you’re saying is, you would do any job to or?**

PK: I will do any job if I can. Because erm, in here they can’t see you, they just want to see the person who – at least earning something. Like… at least they give you respect because you get something from your own hard-working and you’re not getting from the councilling, sitting or eating or getting counc… no, something, some money from the councils so. It’s not nice. No matter for me if I get any job, no matter for me, but before I get refused from any application, I just wanted to give them all the [unclear] obviously.

**I: So you’re very optimistic about it. That’s good. Good. I’m not trying to take that away. I’m just asking you questions, so… Have you ever about something called the Equality Act or the Public Sector Equality Duty? Have you heard about these things?**

PK: No.

**I: No. Do you what you – what rights you have here?**

PK: Rights?

**I: Yeah. Like human rights or rights for benefits or rights for services? Do you know what your rights are?**

PK: What my right? Hmm…

**I: No? That’s fine, I’m just er…**

PK: My right is first I think my self-respect. Yeah, I don’t know.

**I: Ok, no worries. Would you mind telling me a bit about your everyday life back in Pakistan?**

PK: Everyday life?

**I: Yeah.**

PK: Er, every day in the morning I wake up and I [long pause] and I make a tea and make a… I mean, to do some cleaning, make a tea and then my mums wake up. She also have to do some cleaning, then she make a br… chapattis for us. And then I ready, I make myself ready to go to school and my small brothers. They were also go… need to go to school, so we all get ready. And we would go to school and after that my mum she cleaned the rest of the house and then she go to work. Then I come back in the afternoon, one o’clock, from school, I change my clothes then I also cleaning some of time, if anything left my mum for me. And so, and after that I give my brothers to lunch. I’ll, afterward I’ll playing sometime with my brother or sometimes I play with my friend. She’s live in the same street where I live, and in the evening – by evening, I als… nah, again I need to clean the house and I…

*[Liz enters the kitchen]*

*L: Hello, [interviewee’s name]. How are you?*

PK: I’m ok. How are you?

*L: Not too bad, thanks.*

PK: And I need to cooking by evening for dinner, like chapatti and vegetable. I give all of them, then my mum come to work, then we go to sleep, there as… and doing that time I also have to study, but when I had my exam and that time my mums give me rest to complete your exams first and then you do some work. Because my mum she’s also working like, like go to someone’s houses and wash the dishes, and the mopping, kind of this.

**I: Housing thing, yeah.**

PK: Yeah, it’s like this.

**I: So it was you – you were sort of in charge of the house when your mum wasn’t home?**

PK: Yes.

**I: And you were taking care of all the house work and yeah?**

PK: Yes.

**I: Is that because you were the oldest or because you were the girl or?**

PK: Because I’m the girl and I’m in the second number, and no other girl or no other woman in the home. That’s why I need to do this. And when I do this, my brother they also help me.

**I: Ok, they did?**

PK: Yeah, they also help me, so even I had an small [unclear] my mum had a small baby as well, I also need to look after them when she goes to work. She leave him with the neighbours. When I came back from school I take him so all the… I mean, I can say I have a lot of experience to how to raise up children or cleaning the house, how to treat them whenever, whenever they needed, so it’s like that.

**I: So you didn’t feel like you were treated unfairly or any…**

PK: No way

**I: No.**

PK: No way. No. Thanks God, no way no. My brother noticed sometime that I feel lonely when they were playing with their friends and I feel lonely because I don’t have any sister, and they didn’t like me to go friend’s house to play because of culture, so I also don’t like to go every day my friend’s house to play, no way, no chance. So they were playing with me, like cricket, like skipping, badminton and cricket. Or like, I don’t know how to call it, but they give me such a good company, my brother. They give me such a good company. Yeah. We listening music together sometime. We get together some money and we rented our video or get mo… or get movie to watch ourselves before the mum and dad come home. Actually I had a really, really, really good time before my marriage and after my marriage I also had a good time. So.

**I: Ok, that’s good. So what about your life here in Glasgow? I know you’ve already talked a bit about it, yeah.**

PK: Yeah, but in Glasgow are the same situation, a wee bit hard.

**I: A wee bit hard.**

PK: You know, because when I get married, I already told you, I’m not that much old, mature, to handle anything. When I was came here, oh my God. How do I look after kid. Even though I had experience, I raise up my small brother, and how to change the nappy and give him feed and what he want this time and what he want this time, so. Because it’s really, really hard first time, I’m really far from my house, from my brother, my in-laws, my mum and dad. And the second thing, I had a baby when I was came here and I’m also pregnant at the same time. So few months I had another baby so I got three – two babies, so I need to look after them. I need to go to the doctor my own self. I need to go to college my own and my mind it’s also really desperate because I’m all alone and I’m Asian and I was very scared from the white people. I’m scared to go to the lift. I lock my – I have a double door. I locked two of them door and I stayed at home all day and just watching from the window what’s outside, so… but by the time, by the time, so I am better and better and better.

**I: Yeah, you seem good now so. Yeah. But did it also affect you a lot that you were an asylum seeker at that time?**

PK: Yeah, much, much, much it affected. But its’ really hard because we don’t know another minute, another month, another week what we are going to face. What we are going to receive from the NASS [Editor’s note: National Asylum Support Service], from NASS support and all that, so it’s really, really hard. Really desperate whenever from my window some kind of letter comes ‘oh my God’. Might be the letter from the NASS, what they were going to say, what this and that, so it’s really hard time we spend it. My mind is actually so much stressful like at the same time I’m pregnant, I have kids, to do this, even we both have so much arguing each other. I’m not actually, but he’s arguing obviously whenever he desperate, like saying some hard word to me, obviously he says, heself from this [unclear]. So NASS tension, my pregnancy, and I, I don’t know the English and I’m far from my family.

**I: That’s a lot**

PK: It’s very like very, very, very tired, very tired. But all thanks to God, he listen our fears or…

**I: Does it affect you a lot now as well that you’ve been in that situation or that you are a refugee now? Does that affect you? Or you’re not actually, you have British citizenship, but…**

PK: No, not anymore. Not anymore.

**I: Ok, that’s good. Right. So you said you’ve never experienced any discrimination in Glasgow. Do you, do you have any…** *[Interviewee seems to realise something]* **Sorry?**

PK: I remember now. Last few months, I was came in here in Bridges, because they were teaching us some work experience – I attend for a six day course. One day my husband need to go work early and he dropped me early here. I didn’t know that in this Bridges if I, if you come early you can come in. I didn’t know that. I stayed outside in the bus station. I was standing there and the one man came. He’s quite old like 50 or 60 and he just come to me and was talking so nicely and I’m also talking because he was talking very nicely. So I’m fine. Afterward he was saying ‘oh, where are you living, what’s your name, what age are you?’, this and that. When he come to my age, I’m… I’m just ‘eh, what he asking? Why he need to know my age?’ And he was saying ‘come’ and when he was saying that ‘come to my house some time’. ‘Oh my god’ what he was saying – that time I just… my face is pale, I’m shivering. Oh my god. He was saying… because naturally I just catch his attention, what’s in his mind, what he going to say, what he expecting from me. Or I think he’s expecting I’m a that kind of woman. I’m really… I feel ashamed of myself, oh my god, what he was saying. And one man and one lady [unclear] and they were standing on the bus stop at the same time and they were looking at me and I feel so ashamed ‘oh my god, what am I going to do, where am I going? What I need to do?’ I was feel so bad, oh my god, he need to know my number; ‘give me your number, come home some time my flat’, this and that, this and that. So only this, but this I think ten-fifteen minutes to give me so much depression. Oh my god, what kind of [unclear]. Am I looking like that? I just look in my clothes, look in my face in the mirror. ‘Am I looking like that? Was that why he asking? Oh God, I’m not like that. Why he asking me. What, what. What these things mean? What does he mean?’ And he asking this kind of question. Oh my god, it’s such, I can’t tell you. The whole day I was so desperate. Oh my god. Only that.

**I: You don’t need to worry about that. You don’t look like that at all.**

PK: I know, I know, when I tell my friend, one Scottish friend, he was saying ‘maybe you were not on the right place’. ‘Don’t you dare saying I’m on the not right place. I was standing on the bus stop’. He was saying then you go right away to the police. Oh no way. I said ‘no, I’m not call the police. I don’t want to create any problems as well’. I know I’m in trouble, but I just don’t want to create a problem for you. I don’t know what kind of woman I am. At the same time I was saying myself ‘oh my god, [interviewee’s name], who are you? What you were doing? Just call the police. Just say to him, I’m gonna call the police or he will run away’. Oh my god, so bad.

**I: Some people are just, yeah, you shouldn’t pay attention to them.**

PK: But how can I not? If you were standing in the good place or someone come to you and they will start talking. At least you have to give the answer no?

**I: Yeah, yeah sure, but when he says things like that. Yeah, no. Right. So you’ve, you’ve told me that you’ve had help or training here form Bridges. Have you had help from any other organisations?**

PK: No.

**I: No? Ok. Do you think people here at Bridges understand your situation and your needs?**

PK: Yeah, yes, they understand. When I was asylum, I’m on asylum, they also – I was living in that time in Cranhill, so they also come here, because… At John Wheatley College, I don’t have place for crèche, for my kids, who can look after then, but teacher come from John Wheatley College in the Cranhill Parish Church. We were attending the classes in here, even we are about ten-fifteen people and they came here. And that time, same time, the Bridges also come there to give some – give the asylum woman ‘how do you help yourself’, that kind of course they were starting and my teacher she was saying ‘you need to go, [interviewee’s name], there’, so I attend their course as well in Cranhill. So they are quite good at that times, so they are very helpful or very good in this time. Two times I am with the Bridges Programmes, so they are – they are really good. They understand the situation, they aiming handle your situation, they can, they help you, they give you some, I mean, some kind of formulas like that you can use wherever or in which situation you are, so they are quite good. They are understanding people.

**I: Ok, that’s good. Do you think your think your needs are different from other people’s needs? Like, or native people’s needs?**

PK: No, I don’t think so. Because when we were on asylum, some other people are also asylum, we are the same need, they give us the same everything, and obviously I need, they maybe need. And even now I am having a British citizen, I have a… the the Scottish people, the British give us full rules like that white people have it. So I can’t see any difference, no. Any different need, no.

**I: So you think, for instance, if you were looking for a job and you had some help to find it, you would need the same kind of help as a native person?**

PK: I think, yeah, they will.

**I: Ok.**

PK: You see people like that, when I was struggling, I was like of course I wanted to do something and she helping, the college and the lady. She understand, she was saying ‘oh, I understand your problem, I know, but this and that, so’. I think they understand, the – even I’m a Asian or I’m a Black African or I am from India or from any country, any other country. So they treat me like they are treating their people.

**I: Ok, yeah, that’s good. What do you think would help you to get a job when you’re done with your studying?**

PK: Who help me?

**I: What, what would help you?**

PK: No, I don’t know.

**I: Ok.**

PK: What would help? Like my certificates, what I study.

**I: Yeah, your qualifications.**

PK: Yeah, and if I also in volunteer work, this is also can help me after I give them the name where I’m volunteer or if I had another work experience. This is – these things can help me find a job.

**I: I just have one last question then. What do you think the future holds for you?**

PK: Future hold for me. I have a very bright future.

**I: Yeah, that’s great.**

PK: I know. Again you have to let yourself know. I have a very bright future. I trust my God, I know must be choose something for me, good, for me and for myself, but [long pause]. Oh god.

**I: What are you thinking?**

PK: I can make my future bright. Like my children are, they are in good education. My husband he’s a really hard worker, he’s working really hard. And in future I also work hard for my kids, for my family, for – especially in this country, what they give me, they need to deserve it, give them back. At least… as much as you can give them so they can help other people as well. I think that. Yeah.

**I: Ok, that’s great. Well, that’s it from me. Do you have anything you would like to add or?**

PK: I’m just saying to the Scottish people, they’re really good. They are so much helping people. They, it is – I’m saying this because it is my personal experience. I’m not saying the people saying, I’m just saying my personal experience, I’ve seen the people, they are so good, they were so helping, they were so, they – all the time they were smiling and they give what you needs. So I really appreciate the British. Rather than the English, I mean England is also good, but I cannot say that England are bad, but I don’t know, I just like the Scottish people. People were say in England are very, also they are good, but the other – I mean they are good, of course they are good, but

**I: But you still prefer the Scottish?**

PK: Yeah, obviously. You know, sometime my husband would saying ‘I’m having a problem - a work problem in here we can move to Manchester, like in Ireland or in England site’. I said ‘no way, no chance, no way. I cannot move. You wanna go there you find your job there, you go there, but please don’t take me. I don’t want to go’. Because in Glasgow it’s very peaceful. Very nice people, very, I mean, everything you can get what you want. It’s not – it’s not so easy, but at least easy. I can say that. I know also many people are suffering, because they can’t find the good jobs, so this is a problem only in here Glasgow but rest of it is fantastic, it’s good. Everything nice. Yeah. This is my personal experience I’m telling you.

**I: Yeah, that’s good. That’s what I want to hear. Yeah, good, well thank you very much. That’s been very helpful.**

PK: No problem. Thank you to listen my story.