

GLADYS

Extract 1: 6.14- 8.33

HEARING ABOUT GAY PRIDE AND FINDING UGANDAN ASYLUM SEEKERS MARCHING

But time came I was on the bus. Just sitting at the back. Then I heard the ... about three ... three people, which I didn't turn around, talking about ... they were talking about er, their protest, under the Pride. They were talking my language. I said "Oh, there's a protest. Where?" "The Pride, the Pride, the Pride! "Where?" "It's about the gay." Where? "You know, it's in the news! You can buy the cutting when you see it." Oh! It's in the Guardian. So when I saw the Guardian I had to go and make sure where I can find those newspapers they ... where they're talking about. When I read it ... I just waited for the day to go to the Pride ... where the Pride was. It was just in ... er ... from ... Trafalgar Square, Baker Street, around there. So when I went there, I didn't know anybody in the Pride. I was so happy. Singing. Shouting!

The first group I went to was the Stonewall. Taking pictures, it was ... very proud! As the Pride was going on, I came across the ... the Ugandan flag, the Ugandan people, holding the flag. That's when I met Eddie, er, Herbert ... Other people. "Oh! You people!" I was excited! What? "Take a picture of me, now, I'm holding the flag! Now, it's me now!!" I was so excited. Wow! They started asking me questions. "Where have you been? How did you find us?" I say "You know what? It was the magazine. Somebody ... I heard people talking about it in my language. I said "Oh!" In Uganda. Then I didn't turn back because I didn't know who they were." Oh, that was the beginning of my life.

Extract 2: 10.21 – 12.08

FINDING A GAY CHURCH AND AN LGBT ASYLUM GROUP

Once they were talking about ... after the meeting they say "No, we are going to church." "Which church?" "Oh there's a church. Come on, come on with us. We show you where it is. It is for lesbian people." "Oh! Oh!"

We took the bus, we went the bus up to Camden. It was a welcoming bus ... I mean a welcoming church. Everybody was there. Reverend Sharon was ... I said "Wow! This is really new. I didn't know that there's even a church." Then from there I started going to the church. Since then up to now, I do go to the church and I'm met so many people.

Meeting so many people that's when the Edwin, Abbey ... they started say that "You know what? Why don't we organise our group? So that we can ... we can sit and talk about this ... this ... er hatred, and how we're going to go about it. How we're going to overcome this." Then we used to go to Russell Square, sitting on the grass in the Russell Square. About ... about fifteen, ten, something like that. We sat there, we would sign. We would sign our names after that one. They talk about it. You know how to get the lawyers. You need to get ... you know what this is the time now, you can get out of the closet. Once you get out of the

closet, nobody's going to touch on you! Nobody's going to harass you. It's the time to come out!