



Urban Justice Center

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PODCAST SERIES: Jimena

Actual Transcript

Interviewer: Hello, as a first to call to quick. My name is Jennifer Ramirez. It is September 15th, saturday night in the Roosevelt area.

Jimena : Se puede ser en espanol que yo diga.

Interviewer: Ok. Si. Yes, tell her she that can say anything she wants in Spanish. She can talk in Spanish.

Interpreter: Cual quier cosa quieres decir lo puedes decir en Espanol.

Interviewer : Ok. Can you briefly tell us your name, your age, and where you're from?

Jimena : Yeah.. I am 24 years old, and my name is Jimena. I am from Mexico. I started this way when my boyfriend she died. So, I started to go out in the streets because I was depressed. Then I was like not working and I need money so I need to do this.

Interviewer: How long ago did you start?

Jimena: Like four years.

Interviewer: Four years ago?

Jimena: Yea.

Interviewer: Did you come to this country so that you can better yourself or did you come to this country because of that work-

Jimena: No.

Interviewer: Were you trafficked here or did you come here from your own choice.

Jimena: I came right here because I need to help my family. I mean because I have a big family. So I need to work to send money to Mexico.

Interviewer: Have you ever encountered any problems out here in the Jackson Heights area? Have you ever got arrested, harassed, called names, threatened, thrown bottles at by the police from this area?

Jimena: Not right here because-. Sometimes I come here, but not really. I work in Brooklyn. That happens in Brooklyn. Some people- I do not know.

Interviewer: Say it in Spanish.

Interpreter: Recuerda que lo puedes decir todo lo que no entiendes Ingles, lo puedes decir en Espanol.

Jimena: I know. Hay gente que me quiere pegar en la calle haveces cuando se dan cuenta que una persona es transexual . Hay gente que es asi que no le gusta a la gente que es asi. Hay gente que te quiere pegar. Tambien me han querido violar pero, pero me he salvado de eso.

Interviewer: Have you ever – Ask her if she has gotten arrested or called the police.

Interpreter: Tu nunca has llamado la policia cuando has tenido estos problemas?

Jimena: No. Yo tengo miedo que me digas tu estas trabajando aquí, tu no deberias estar aquí afuera.

Interpreter: Tu piensas si tu llamas al policia, ellos te podran ayudar?

Jimena: No creo, por que la policia te molesta. Ellos te molestan. Y por eso -

Interviewer: I am sorry. Hold on. The train is passing.

Interviewer: Has her getting arrested caused any problems for her any – her immigration status?

Interpreter: Si cuando te arrestaron los policias, ellos nunca te dieron problemas en deportarte atrás para donde tu vives en Mexico.

Jimena: No. Pero la ultima vez algo asi me dijeron eso que yo no tenia papeles que me podian deportar.

Interpreter: Ellos te arrestaron por eso verdad?

Jimena: No.

Interpreter: Ellos nunca te preguntaron si necesitabas ayuda para tus papeles o algo asi?

Jimena: La policia. No. Cuando fui al juez me mando a un programa pero no me dijeron que si me podian ayudar con los papeles.

Interviewer: Thank you so much for your time. I hope you have a lovely and blessed time.