

**My Opinion about
Sex and relationships
RTP, Portugal**

Presenter: This is just another group of youths gathering on a Friday night. Daniela, Catarina and Raul are 17 year-olds. For them, sex and love are parallel concepts.

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Translation
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DANIELA - 00:00:37:00 – “I think sex is a sport, indeed an activity, and so is love... only it is made with love, indeed, with feelings.”

RAUL – 00:23:11:13 – “When I did it with a girl for no affection whatsoever, it was very normal... it was just for pleasure. But, for love, it was real passion what I felt for that person.”

CATARINA – 00:08:34:00 – “... Many young people and even friends of mine experience it. They practice sex even just for pleasure. Feelings... are nothing, almost.”
(Journalist) – Living nowadays for the immediate moment, is that a positive thing ?
- I think people are happier, they grab the moment and enjoy it more. But disenchantment can also be higher.”

Virginity has still got two levels of importance : one for the girls and another for the boys...

RAUL – 00:21:51:24 – “...Maybe it used to be like that once, but not so much for this generation. I don't think so.
-And for the boys ?
- For the boys, no !
(Journalist) – Why do you put on that mood ?
- Why do I put on this mood ? Because it is different, for boys. For me, the feeling about sex and love is different from what girls feel. For girls, losing their virginity is a far stronger feeling than for boys.

But, for the girl, is it fundamental to wait for someone special ?

CATARINA – 00:11:57:00 – “I don't think it is fundamental. One does not need to wait for the right person. Sometimes we may think it is, only to find out later that he is not exactly what we thought. But I think it is rather special if it also happens with someone special.”

You meet a boy. On that day, what could happen ?

DANIELA 00:04:53:00 – “I don't know... we might get to know each other better, don't know. Something may happen... we can walk... I don't know.
(Journalist) – Any sexual relations ?
- No, No! Out of question. On the first day, no way! If I don't know him, I'm not having sex with him. No. Without even knowing where he comes from, anything... no!

Friends are still... their confidants for heart matters.

RAUL – 00:24:13:00 – “When we go to a coffee-bar, they ask : Did you enjoy it ? And this, and that... you know...
(Journalist) – Do you go into details ?
- No, I don't describe the act itself. Maybe a few... only.

CATARINA – 00:09:44:18 – Mainly to my friends. If have doubts, I talk with them, I try to get explanations. Or sometimes just to exchange viewpoints.”

Does it still make sense, the saying “Until death do us part” ?

DANIELA - 00:02:33:00 – “I don’t believe it’ll be for the rest of my life. I don’t share such concept.”

(Journalist) – Do you believe in being faithful ?

- No. No. Because... my parents are divorced and I’ve been in an environment where there was no faithfulness. I’d always believed people were faithful. When I found out my parents had not been faithful, it was a tremendous shock.”

CATARINA – 00:10:17:20 – To start a family is really my dream and something to achieve.

(Journalist) – Why ?

- Because it’s important. I think it’s important and that’s where one can feel more complete.”

I am left with the feeling that they were not entirely sincere towards me. After all, I am not a friend, I don’t deserve certain confidences. To be 17 years old is complicated. It is an age of transition where all appears in black and white. There is still a long time ahead and experiences to be lived and to find out all the shades that make up a relationship.