Interview #13 with Sophomore Female “A”

L: What phone do you have? A: The iPhone 3g
L: What apps do you have and fav? A: What apps? Do you want a list of all my apps? L: Sure A: I don’t have that many to be honest, facebook, I have words with friends, bump
L: What’s that?

A: Bump? It’s like this way to like, oh this might be interesting for you, it’s this way to get peoples’ numbers when you have an iphone instead of asking them for their number you just bump your phones together and automatic contact switch.

L: Are you serious? Do you do this often?

A: I mean it’s kind of a joke...one guy friend came up to me and was like hey do you have bump? And I was like no...and he showed it to me and that’s how we exchanged numbers so now when there are iphone users who, it’s fun to...

L: You know, that’s kind of a cute way to hit on someone like if you’re at a bar or something like that and they’re like do you have bump?

A: Some guy tried to use that on me before
L: And did it work? A: I was like hmm...you’re cute
L: Interesting...which app is your fav?

A: Facebook or twitter.

L: Ultimate fav thing about the phone? Why?

A: Wow...um probably, you know this is...for texting I used to have a flip phone and you would have to go from the sent to the like...you couldn’t see your entire conversation and with iPhones it’s so much easier to like see the whole thing and like it’s more fun to do...it makes communication so easy and the fact that I can get email and stuff like that on it like that, and
send emails, it’s just very...

L: It’s nice. A: Yeah. L: So that’s your favorite? A: Yes. L: how important is cell 1-5? Why?

A: Um...I would say probably a 4 just because if I said 5 it would be like my cellphones my life, which it isn’t, and like I can go through, well compared to other people, if my phone dies I don’t flip...I mean if it dies for a day YES, but for a couple hours I’m okay...but like um like yeah I know that sounds so bad but people have to be connected and I feel like if my phone isn’t working or with me it’s hard for me to communicate with people and know what’s going on...it’s scary...I hate losing my phone

L: UGH that is the worst feeling A: The worst. L: I immediately feel nauseous when I lose it...I can’t do this....where could it be?
L: What do you do the most on your phone and why? A: I would say texting for sure. L: Why?

A: I feel like a phone is for calling or texting, that’s the main purpose and I feel like for people our age texting is so convenient, with calling people you actually have to talk to them (giggle) I know that sounds awful but like you actually have to put in the number whereas with texting if they’re in the middle of something they don’t have to respond immediately and like...

L: If you’re in the middle of something...

A: Yeah, it’s a lot easier um so like when you’re doing stuff you don’t need to stop everything you’re doing to talk to someone...so that’s why...I forgot the question

L: That’s what you do the most....how would a male use his cell in a hook up situation?
A: Yes, booty call! (laugh)

L: Yes and what does that mean? Enlighten me, I have no idea

A: (laugh) stop!

L: No because everyone has a different idea of it so...

A: You’re right, you’re right...

L: I’m just trying to get a common definition

A: Guys, drunk or sober guys text you and be like hey what are you doing at 2 am and you’re like oh..(laugh) Hi...

L: So you would say they are drunk OR sober? A: They’re usually drunk... L: I was like yeah...they’re NOT sober A: (laughing) If they’re sober they are pretty creepy L: Yeah he’s BOLD.

A: They’ll be like, where are you? Or what are you up to? Or you wanna hang out? L: What about a female college student?

A: Hm...I guess...it depends on the girl...I feel like girls are a lot less initiative about that sort of thing, they’re not going to be like what are you doing? I mean some girls might, there are some forward girls that would do that but um same sort of thing, it makes it easy because you don’t have to actually talk to them and listen to their voice and feel awkward...it’s kind of like when you don’t hear them or see them it’s more easy to be forward and say things

L: Male college student in dating?

A: His texts probably wouldn’t all be at 2 in the morning (laugh)...he would probably call a lot more than text, he would you know I feel like he would be more consistently keeping up a conversation with her throughout the day, you know it’s just
a great way to keep in touch with whoever you like

L: For a female in a dating relationship? A: Same thing. L: She would use her phone in the same way?

A: Yeah, I think it’s more forward.

L: Ok, how might a male try to restart something he’s been told is over? (explanation)

A: So how would he start it up again? Using his phone?

L: Like he’s been told it’s over, now he has his phone, and he thinks to himself I’m not ready for this to be over, how does he use his phone?

A: He would probably start texting her and...I mean this is kind of a hard scenario...he would probably try to be really sweet and text her something and be really persistent like if he’s really annoyingly into her I can see him being like really obnoxious...

L: What if it was just a hook up? A: Again the booty call. The 2am booty call. L: So you think he would be more sweet and persistent if it was a relationship? A: Yes. L: What about for the female? Reverse roles.

A: I dunno I feel like she wouldn’t use her phone as much I feel like she would much more like go to him in person and talk to him if it’s a relationship thing, I think girls are a lot more less likely to use their phone in that kind of situation because I dunno like I feel like that would be so like stupid, if you really liked someone you would have the balls to go talk to them but if you were going to use your phone same kind of thing as guys, there’s not much of a difference...but I dunno!

L: no no all opinions are valuable...thoughts on racy messages?
A: (laughs) wait that’s hilarious! Racy? L: Yes like suggestive...

A: Yes I mean I dunno...why not? If you like someone you can send them whatever you want to send them it’s up to you if it’s morally okay or not, there’s definitely a line but like I think it’s ok, of course the text at 2 am, that’s fine, I dunno if you’re thinking like sexting, are you talking about like sending naked pictures?

L: Well that was my next question...do you think sending nude photos is ok?

A: If you’re in a relationship I think it’s different than rando...like sending a picture on mass text (laughing) that wouldn’t be ok

L: So if you’re in a relationship you think why not?

A: I mean obviously it’s up to the person and what they think...personally I think it’s a lot less weird for someone to be sending photos to their boyfriend than to a rando person...I mean maybe it’s different for a hook up...I mean if they consistently have a thing I dunno

L: How would you respond if you received a sext from someone you weren’t necessarily involved with?

A: I would feel a little creeped out... L: What would you do? Especially if it was a photo A: (laughing) omg I would probably delete it immediately L: This happens to people! A: I would probably ignore it it L: But what if you knew them?

A: If it was a drunk thing then I would ignore it but if it was like consistent I would (laugh)... sit down and talk to him and be like hey we’re just friends...one of those...has that ever happened to you?
L: No, no it hasn’t, sadly (laugh)

A: Have you interviewed anyone who...

L: Yes totally...people think it doesn’t happen but it’s happening.

A: I bet it does. A rando person or just friend?

L: I interviewed someone who had a friend, a close guy friend, who just decided one night to

A: Send her a picture of his junk?

L: Yeah

A: Number one, girls don’t think that’s attractive soooo

L: Yeah, but then why do guys do it?

A: I dunno. I have an opinion...this is actually a really funny interview. It’s like...what was that case with that wacko senator?

L: Weiner-gate...governor of NY. So embarrassing. A: I dunno...guys are all about their junk so... L: They’re like let me show the world?

A: It’s like a manliness thing but I don’t get it because I’m a girl but like... L: So you think it has something to do with the whole macho thing?

A: Macho...like, I guess they think it’s the same as showing a picture of boobs but honestly....

L: It’s not as cute

A: Guys like that a lot more than girls like other things, let be honest (laughing)
L: Do you think males or females are most hurt? Why?

A: My initial reaction is to say females just because like...by doing what things?

L: like sending them...being involved in sending/receiving...would guys, if something were to happen, who would be more hurt?

A: I think girls are more likely to be hurt because number 1, they’re more emotionally invested in things and I feel like guys are I dunno, a lot more casual about these kind of things, even about the hook up culture and stuff...boys are definitely more casual than girls are but at the same time why am I saying this because like I feel like you’re taught that like from my personal experience I’ve been in situations where boys have been more clingy than I have...

L: Really? I mean I guess that’s totally...

A: Yeah and like it’s where I’ve been like that’s a one time thing and they’re like no let me take to you to ice cream and like date you and I’m like uh uh

L: not interested. How did you tell him? A: I didn’t really tell him he kind of just figured it out... L: You know what’s so sad? When they just can’t figure it out

A: Mm hmm, took him awhile, I mean he like apologized multiple times when he was drunk to me about how awkward he was being and I was like you’re not being awkward just stop

L: Stop talking about it, you’re being awkward NOW because you’re talking about it A: And that’s since I’ve come here too...

L: Yeah, I mean we’re really focusing on w+l campus kind of...so you don’t think males would be hurt by it?
A: I do but I just think generally women would be more affected by that sort of thing. L: different texting styles?

A: I don’t think so...I dunno...

L: Think about, if you looked at two texts, one is from a guy and one is from a girl, what would you look for to help you decide you know which is from which?

A: Format is hard. On the iphone it auto corrects so if you’re going to text without capitalizing it automatically capitalizes a word when you have sentences and stuff...if you’re going to shorten a word it’s going to automatically give you the right word or it will do something really screwy and make your texts really awkward which has happened to me before, like woops I did not mean to say that...but I mean I guess I feel that guys texts are a lot shorter and to the point where girls are more blah blah blah blah blah blah over text and guys will be like yeah meet you there...it’s a lot less

L: Ok then more focusing on content, what would you say with emoticons? Curses? Slang?

A: Girls use more emoticons, it’s more girly L: How do you react when you get an emoticon from a guy? A: I think it’s funny. L: Funny and do you think it’s feminine?

A: No no no I don’t think it’s feminine I think he’s probably joking around or being goofy or something like um a girl could be completely serious, like that frowny face actually means frowny, like a boy using frowny face is usually just teasing...

L: Have you ever consulted about a text?

A: I have consulted when a boy has text me something and I don’t know what they mean, I’ll talk to my friends or my sister, we’re really tight, I feel like with that, like what is he talking
about? Or “do you think he means this?”

L: And when you’re writing do you generally write yourself?

A: I generally write myself but I have before been in a situation where I was like what do I say to respond to this?

L: I’ve literally taken people’s phones and responded for them, they’re like I can’t I can’t do it.

A: I’ve done that before slash just hit the send button…my friend will be like if you don’t hit it now you’re never going to

L: How do you feel without your phone? A: Naked, out of the loop

L: If you left it at home you just…? A: Naked. L: Do you ever turn off your phone? A: Yes.

L: Why or when?

A: When I’m listening to a speaker but not in class, I’ll leave it on in class but put it on silent but like when I’m in a movie theater or doing something where I don’t want my phone to go off

L: you turn it all the way off?

A: I’ve done it before yeah, I dunno.

L: how respectful!

A: Oh and I turn it off when I get on the plane.

L: How long could you go without it, realistically?

A: Like lets say I’m in the library and I left in my room, how long could I stay in the library without walking back to graham lees to get my phone?
L: Yeah or just in general, could you go days without it on this campus? A: I could probably go a day. L: A day? A: Maybe a day and a half?

L: And then what would happen?

A: I would have a freak out... I would probably update my facebook “phones lost!” and tell my friends to look for it

L: FYI, alert the media! A: Just in case someone is trying to get in touch with me L: You don’t want to be that rude girl A: that doesn’t respond L: Yeah.