Interviewer #2 – “L”  
Interview with Female Junior “Jillian”

L: What kind of phone do you have?  
J: Blackberry Torch.  
L: Apps?  
J: Um… I actually downloaded a flashlight app that gave me a virus and deleted my app store so that would be my app. I have the games it comes with but after that all I have is flash light.  
L: So your favorite is…?  
J: Brickbreaker…cus it’s all I got.  
L: Fav thing about your phone?  
J: I would say for this phone I really like that I can access the internet…I didn’t always have a smart phone so it’s a nice thing.

L: How important is your cell 1-5? Why?  
J: I would say 5 because if I don’t have my phone or it’s dead I start panicking, I feel lost without it, it’s like a comfort thing, like I’ll check it all the time even if it’s not flashing or indicating anything, it’s just like a compulsive kind of habit. I have my phone on me. I check it all the time for the time. Even if I don’t look at the time I’ll pretend I am…does that make sense?  
L: You just check it?  
J: Yeah I just like have to have it on me and I feel very uncomfortable if I don’t.  
L: What do you do the most on your phone and why?  
J: I text mostly.  
L: Why?  
J: I don’t like to call people it makes me very uncomfortable. I don’t like to be on the phone with someone unless it’s like I’m calling them saying hey I’m at your house. That’s about as long as the conversation is going to get.  
L: Why do you feel uncomfortable?  
J: I just don’t like … talking face to face is something easy that we’re used to. And then texting is super easy because you can kinda come up with what you’re going to say and take your time but with calling I have nothing to say I can’t gauge the facial expressions, I just don’t like. I don’t even talk to my family on the phone.  
L: Really? Omgosh wow.  
J: Yeah I can’t do it.  
L: very interesting.

L: Can you think of how a male college student might use his phone in a hook up situation?  
J: Well you have the classic booty call. Which I think most w+l girls know about. You’re out at night, usually the guys are only going to text a girl um on a Friday or Saturday night and it’s going to be “hey where are you?” “what are you up to?” “where you at?” “I’m at this party you should come here”…if they’re texting you any time that’s not a Friday or Saturday night then they’re probably a keeper.  
L: So you think it means something different?
J: It means something totally different. It depends on when they’re texting you.
L: Can you think of how a female college student might use his phone in a hook up situation?
J: Um I think there’s a similar situation where the girl would do that type of booty call because it’s not just the guys and um I think girls are more likely to text the next day after a hook up and gauge kind of like hey what’s up? Or anytime during the week like “hey what’s going on?”
L: Like when she’s initially…back to the booty call situation. When she’s out at night how does she, what is she saying in the text?
J: Something like “hey what’s up?” or “hey I’m at the Cabins you should come here”
L: Okay can you think of how a male college student might use his phone in a dating situation?
J: To check in a lot more. Even though we are on a small campus it can be easy to get lost like with time because we’re all so busy so it’s a good way to keep in touch with each other…I know with my past relationship a lot of it was texting just checking in like “hey what are you doing?” “how are you doing?” just gauging each other
L: Touching base?
J: Touching base. Way more often at LEAST once a day in a dating relationship.
L: and for females in a dating relationship?
J: I would say it’s a lot more important to the girl because the girls tend to be more dependent on the guys so if a girl sends a text to a guy and he doesn’t respond we tend to get more stressed out about it. I’m the same way and I know a lot of girls are where it’s like “well…blank hasn’t texted me back…he’s in trouble” … girls do it more to make sure the guy is still interested.
L: How might a male use a cell phone to restart something the other said was over?
J: There would be one or two things that would happen. It would be a drunken situation for the boy, is this a boy or a girl?
L: A male.
J: It’s probably a drunken situation where a guy would either text something to the girl like “hey what’s up? I haven’t talked to you in a while” or the classic call late at night drunken may not even remember sort of situation…I think that happens.
L: What about for a girl?
J: Girls are usually not that forward. Even if they want to reconnect they would rather do it in person than just send a text.
L: Would you say a drunken text or a drunken phone call is more common? For males?
J: Drunken text is more common because it’s less, I don’t want to say dangerous, but less embarrassing, and they would probably say something like, I dunno, probably the same thing they would say for a normal booty call like “hey what’s up?”...like is this dating or a regular hook up?
L: Either.
J: Yeah then it would be something like “hey what’s up? I haven’t seen you in a while I miss you” ummmm “you should come out tonight I really want to see you come out to blank fraternity”
L: Okay to text racy messages? Why?
J: I’m torn on this one. I think it can be good because it’s fun and keeps things interesting. I’ve noticed it can be good in a relationship, in my past relationship things got really dull really fast because both of us were really busy so sometimes a racy text can be inspiring to like help you hold off until the next time or get the other person over there and out of the library...But it’s also bad because once you break up you can never get rid of it, especially pictures and things, I have my regrets...because when you do it you’re not thinking about the long term.
L: Exactly. But you don’t think it’s bad?
J: I understand the positives of it but you have to be ready for the repercussions.
L: Do you think it’s okay to send nude photos? Why?
J: Um...pretty much the same thing. If you’re in a relationship with someone it can make sense at the time to do it but it really is not a good feeling afterward to know that they have those pictures saved to their phone that are usually put on the computer because now with phones it’s so easy to just plug it in and then the pictures on the computer to everyone who wants to see it...
L: Like someone might go on their computer...
J: And see it and be like “oh who is that?”...It is worrying and I wouldn’t recommend it, I don’t think it’s a good idea personally.
L: Males or females most hurt? Why?
J: females. Because the girl can get a bad reputation from it whereas the guy... if a guy was sending, well first of all racy pictures for guys are kinda weird...I don’t really get why a guy would do that or why a girl would want it but I think a guy could pull it off as funny or like I hate to use the word “cocky” but like whereas the girl gets a slutty reputation
L: How would you respond to getting a sext from a fellow student?
J: That I wasn’t hooking up with?
L: Not necessarily.
J: Um...it depends on the context. If it is someone where there is something flirtatious going on or we’re very close friends like this has happened for me and some of my guy friends and I’ll just laugh it off. I usually don’t take it seriously even if somewhere in my heart I know they are being serious if I don’t want to move on it I don’t take it seriously and I just laugh. I won’t respond in turn but I would respond with a “haha” sort of thing.
L: What if you were interested?
J: I would probably respond the same way but maybe add a winky face or something. Like the most practical emoticon that I could think of...because I think it’s uncomfortable if you’re not hooking up with someone to send sexts. I’m...I don’t think most girls are that forward.

L: Different texting styles or ways of writing texts?
J: I think girls are a lot more careful to get across their mood while they’re texting...like sometimes it’s really necessary to put a haha or a smiley face or winky face at the end of a sentence to make sure that the other person knows it’s light heart because you can’t listen to someone’s inflection in their voice when they’re texting...so a lot of girls, like we read into that a lot more when we’re reading texts whereas guys will just send one word answers without really feeling like it means
anything extra whereas if a girl is sending a one word answer she is probably pissed off...whereas if a girl was like do you wanna hang out? I would be like “ya” but if I was a girl I would say “ya! That sounds really fun, yay I’m excited :)”
L: Do males/females favor certain types of content?
J: Generally guys are going to be more into using curse words than girls and girls are going to be more likely to use emoticons because they tend to be cutesy. When guys use them it’s kinda weird, um...
L: in what way?
J: It’s just cheesy. Like if a girl uses it it’s cheesy but cute. When a guys uses it it’s cheesy and kind of uncomfortable. Like unless you’re like really close and dating, emoticons are kind of weird. It’s like winking at someone in public. It’s like a pick up line in a way whereas girls can really use those whereas guys are likely to send more like colloquial type texts whereas a girl might send more structured sentences while a guy is more likely to do one word or curse words or be like “what’s up?” or something
L: Consulting on texts?
J: Oh yeah. The best is when you’re first hooking up with someone and then there’s like the text you “what’s up?” and then you wait ten minutes even though you have your phone on you and you check it immediately, you feel it buzz, you read it, and then you look at the time. 10 minutes later you get back on, I would have like me and all my friends compile a text message that perfectly responds to whatever they said. It’s good to have input a lot, it’s a situation where I know a lot of girls do it. Or if you’re sending an angry text to someone, that’s one where you’ll try to get other people’s opinions because it is tricky with texting because the same thing with emails it is sometimes hard to get your emotions across and you don’t want it to come off lighter or angrier than you want it to. Or you don’t want it to come off as too flirty or too desperate or not interested enough when it comes to text flirting. Sometimes a lot of girls, including myself, will sit there and be like “OMG this guys just texted me this what do I say what do I say?”
L: How do you feel when you’re without your phone?
J: Yeah. Uncomfortable. My phone has started up and dying on me without giving me any warning, probably because I’ve dropped it 7,000 times. This happened while I was in Roanoke this past weekend and I was still checking the phone even though it as black. I ended up having to zip it into a pocket that I never use in my purse so I would stop having like that...it’s like an oral fixation, it’s like a need to have my phone on me...and so it’s, I feel like I’m kind of cut off. Because most people...like if you want to talk to someone at school you text them. OR email them. And I do everything through my phone. I have email on there. It’s my contact with the world, with my friends, my teachers, hook ups, with anyone. So it feels like...it would be like being in public and having your vocal chord removed for a short amount of time.
L: Oh my god.
J: I mean I guess I’m a little intense with it but it sucks to not have a phone.
L: It’s like you don’t have a voice then...
J: It’s like you have no way of communicating, like it’s sometimes you just have to carry your computer with you so you can be on facebook chat and just keep up with facebook....or have a friends phone and use theirs
L: Do you ever turn your phone off?
J: Hell no. NO.
L: Why?
J: Because of what I just said. First of all my mom would think I died, we BBM, if I don’t respond within an hour, she’ll send another one, if I don’t respond within an hour she’s like calling the cops and sending out the dogs to search the woods for my body. Sometimes I’ll like be in the shower and I’ll come back and have like 17 missed calls from mom because I didn’t respond the first time. So like clearly we’re the same way about it but like...I don’t get how people could turn it off. Even when I was studying abroad this summer I couldn’t have my phone on me so I bought this other phone and then like it was still hard for me, at one point it ran out of money and I didn’t have money on my phone and I just felt like, I would follow people around because I was so scared of getting lost, having no way to get in contact with people so I just became a stalker of my friends. They probably loved that.
L: How long could you go without it?
J: To live or to stay sane or stay comfortable?
L: How long at w+l?
J: Comfortably maybe a few hours if that.
L: Then what would happen? What about days?
J: I drowned my phone last year and I had to go a week without it. It was bad. Like I just felt really cut off and I would just, as I said before, I would just have someone with me all the time and I would just tell people oh if you want to get in touch with me contact that person because I’ll be following them around for a week. Like I don’t know how people do it.