‘WHO AM I?’

Please describe yourself in 5 words or statements, in whatever order they come to your mind:

* I am……………………………………………………………………………………………………
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This test, popular in America in the 1960s, should show what are the most important aspects that you think describe yourself.

Once you have completed the 5 sentences in the order that came to your mind, please write next to each a number (1-5) so that it reflects their order of importance (1=most important, 5= least important)

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| **Notes:**   1. For use as a guide / indication of areas to cover. As is normal in semi-structured interviews, the form of each individual interview will vary. 2. This is the Master Interview Guide, including questions for both migrant and non-migrant spouses. Individual interviews will deal with the appropriate sub-sets of these questions. | |
| **Non-Migrant Spouse** | **Migrant Spouse** |
| 1. **The Individual**   Tell me about your family background.  When did your family come to UK?   * reasons * did they come straight to this city? * socio-economic background   Family make-up:   * numbers of siblings * occupations * marriage status (inc. who married to)   How traditional/religious would you say your family is?  Is there any particular attitude in your family to marriages between people from different backgrounds?   * Has anybody you know intermarried?   Do you, or does your family, identify with a particular group?   * Ethnicity, language group, religious sect, class, caste...   What are you doing at the moment?  Have you got family in other countries?   * Who and where?   Where would you say your “home” is? | The Individual Tell me about your family background?   * Where are your family from? * socio-economic background   Family make-up:   * numbers of siblings * occupations * marriage status (inc. who married to)   How traditional/religious would you say your family is?  Is there any particular attitude in your family to marriages between people from different backgrounds?   * Has anybody you know intermarried?   Do you, or does your family, identify with a particular group?   * Ethnicity, language group, religious sect, class, caste...   What are you doing at the moment?  Have you got family in other countries?   * Who and where?   Where would you say your “home” is? |
| Tell me about where you live:   * Where you live? What kind of property they live in (type, size) * Who you live with? * Who owns/rents the accommodation? (if another): do you pay rent? | |
| 2. Life before marriage Can you tell me about your life before marriage?  Where did you live before marriage?   * What was the area like? * What were your neighbors like? * What did you think of your city then?   What did your parents do when you were growing up?  What was the cultural context at home?   * What language did you speak at home? * What social activities did your family engage with? (i.e. family gatherings, community associations…) * What did you use to watch on TV? * Religious practice   How did you think of yourself while growing up in terms of identity?(e.g. religious identity, ethnic identity…)  Tell me about your time at school.   * Experience of education/teachers * Social networks * Qualifications * Aspirations   What did you do when you left school?   * Details of any further education * Details about each job (and periods of unemployment) * How did you get (each job)? * Did you have any problems getting jobs? What do you think stopped you getting them?   Were you involved in any organizations?   * What kind? Who was involved?   We also have some questions about politics:   * Did you register to vote when you were able to? * Did you vote in elections (local/national)? If not, why not? * Were you involved in politics in any other way? (details)   Did you ever experience discrimination?   * Did you know anybody who has? * Did you think you were part of a group who was discriminated against?   What was your social life like when you left school?   * Did you tend to mix with people from the same background? * Where did you tend to mix with people from the same background or from a different background? (see prompts if needed) * Were there any particular places or any particular institutions that made you feel particularly comfortable/welcome? * Who were your closest friends?   How much contact did you have with other countries?   * Had you visited? How often? Why? * Were you in contact by phone or email or any other means? * Did you follow the news/popular culture? * Did your family support anybody in another country, or receive money from anybody in another country? * Did they have business or property in another country? * Did they do charity in another country?   Can you remember what your aspirations were before you got married?   * Career * Education * Where live/housing * Did you fulfill them? If not, what stopped you being able to? | | |

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| 3. Marriage Can you tell me a bit about your marriage?   * Where and when did you get married? * Is the marriage registered, nikah only, polygamous and/or semi-detached etc? * When did you start thinking of getting married? * How did you meet your spouse? * Are you related to your spouse, or do you have any other kind of family connections? * Is that how most people get married in your wider family?   What did you take into consideration when deciding to marry?   * Did you consult anybody? * What were you looking for in your life-partner? (Education, religion, common values, etc.) * Did you ever think of marrying (someone from the UK/India Pakistan – i.e. the alternative)? Why/Why not? |
| **For Transnational Couples:**  Tell me about your experience of coming/bringing your spouse to this country…   * How long did you have to wait for the visa? Did that cause any problems? * What documents did you have to supply (proof of income, accommodation etc). Any problems? * Was there a requirement to do a language test? What was that like? Did they have to learn English? Did having to learn English cause any problems?   Did you have any particular problems when the spouse arrived in UK?   * Was anything different from what was expected? * Was anything particularly problematic? (bureaucracy, the advice you got, financial) * Where there any particular problems for the spouse in settling in? * Did anything/anybody in particular help?   Did they take any language or citizenship classes here?   * If not: why not? If yes: were they useful? Who did they meet at them?   Has the spouse got permanent settlement now?   * If not, why not? If so, how was the process? Any problems? * What difference does having/not having it make?   Have they got British citizenship?   * If yes: was the process difficult? If no: why not? Did they apply? * What difference does having/not having it make?   If you knew somebody from India/Pakistan who was to get married to someone from the UK, what would be your advice? How about the other way round – someone from the UK getting married in India/Pakistan? |
| Life after marriage Tell me about life after marriage…  Where did you live with when you got married? Who with? Why?  Did you have to adjust your way of living after marriage? How?  Was the relationship with the in-laws as you expected? Details.  Did you work/carry on in the same type of employment after marriage?   * Details of jobs and how they got them * Details of activity if did not work * In your family how do you make decisions about career/jobs/looking after children?   How were the financial arrangements sorted out?   * Are finances joined or separate? Where do the wages go? * Do you support any other family members? * How well are you managing financially?   Did you have a plan for the first years of marriage (i.e. change of accommodation, earnings, career, having children…)  What was the cultural context at home after marriage?   * What languages have you spoken at home? (who with, and why – fluency, value) * What social activities has your family engaged with? (i.e. family gatherings, community associations…) * What do you watch on TV? * Religious practice   What do you think of the city you live in?   * And the neighbourhood? * What are the relationships like with your neighbors? Do people mix with each other?   Have you been involved in any organizations?   * What kind? Why? Who was involved?   Are you registered to vote? (If no, why) Do you vote (local/national)? Why/why not?   * Have you been involved in politics in other ways? Details and reasons.   How has marriage change your social life and who you mix with?   * Who are your closest friends? * Where do you tend to mix with people from the same background or from a different background? * Where do you tend to mix with people from the same ethnic group or from a different ethnic group?   **For Migrant Spouse:** Were there any particular places or any particular institutions that made you feel particularly comfortable/welcome?  How much contact have you had with overseas since getting married?   * Have you visited? How often? * Are you in contact by phone or email or any other means? * Do you follow the news/popular culture? * Do you support anybody overseas? * Do you have any business connections or property overseas? * What effect does keeping these contacts have on your life? * If no/minimal contact: why not?   Do you feel your identity has changed since you got married? If so, how?  What are your plans for the future? Do you think they have changed from the ones you had before you got married?   * Education (own/children) * Career * Family * Where to live * Migration   Do you foresee any barriers to these plans? If so, what. |
| Society and Policy Politicians talk a lot about ‘integration’. What do you understand by ‘integration’?   * Do you feel you can be described as ‘integrated’? Why/Why not? * Thinking about the things we’ve been discussing in this interview, would you describe them as ‘integration’ (if not, what alternative?)   How important do you think it is to mix with people from different backgrounds?  What are your views about immigration legislation in UK [language and income requirements etc.]  What is your experience of accessing public services?   * Health care * Education or training * Benefits * In job hunting * Advice services   If you knew somebody who was thinking of moving to the UK, what would you tell them about:   * Education * Language * Work * Discrimination * Media * NHS   How much do you feel your culture and religion is accepted?   * (eg. Choice of clothing, religious practices, dietary requirements, representation in the media)   Have you experienced any discrimination (other than any you’ve already told me about)? |
| Wrap-up How do you think your life would have been different if you had married differently (i.e. in UK/India/Pakistan)?   * **For Non-migrant Spouse (sibling):** Your brother/sister married (alternative option). What difference do you think that has made in their life?   A couple of questions we will ask everybody are:   * How Bradfordian/Bristolian do you feel? (reasons) * How British do you feel? (reasons)   Is there anything else you would like to add?  Do you know of anyone else I could talk to? (Two siblings, one married to someone from the UK and the other to someone from India/Pakistan?) |

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| **Prompts (if needed by interviewer)**  **Meeting places:**  Cafe, restaurant, cinema, Supermarket or food shop, Street market, Shopping centre, School gates Car boot sale, Leisure or sports centre, Religious centre – e.g. mosque, church, Family centre/community centre (e.g. SureStart), Play group, pre-school, nursery, college, Language classes, GP surgery, child health clinic, On regularly taken transport –e.g. bus Community organisation, Job centre/citizens advice bureau, Park or outdoor play area, Parent-teacher association, Neighbourhood group – e.g. neighbourhood watch, residents’ association, Youth group, Educational evening class, Social club Social activitiesChildren’s education/schools (e.g. school governor, running an activity club, PTA organiser, play group organiser),Youth activities (e.g. running a youth club), Adult education (e.g. classes, students’ union official), Religion (e.g. official in mosque, Sunday school teacher), Politics (e.g. local councillor, political party member/activist, Social welfare (e.g. adviser/board member in voluntary groups such as Samaritans, Help the aged, citizens’ advice bureau), Office holders in a community organisation (e.g. cultural centre, community association), Criminal Justice (e.g. magistrate, special constable), Human rights (community or race relations officer, legal advice worker, worker with asylum seekers), Trade union activist Housing/neighbourhood group (e.g. Active member of residents/tenants association, neighbourhood council, neighbourhood watch scheme) |