

**Barbara Hughes**

**Well, I was at my, my children's father and the kids and I we were all at a big CND rally in 1981. And we'd gone down to London in Hyde Park it was. I mean, it was a huge rally and Tony Benn and Michael Foote and Fenner Brockway and all sorts of other people were speaking. And then they introduced these women who were walking from Wales to Greenham Common, to Newbury, near Newbury. And they stood up on the platform and said, what they were going to do, that there were going to protest against the cruise missiles coming to Greenham Common, the RAF base and, and I remember thinking, oh, that sounds, that sounds interesting. I'm going to keep an eye on that. God Little did I know that it would become what it became. Anyway, we went home and I was in a women's group in Richmond where I live. And out of that came our little peace group, women's peace group. Because we were all getting a bit fed up with the lefty blokes patting us on the head and saying things like - about when we mentioned women's issues we would get like, 'Let's get the important stuff out the way, you know, like anti nuclear and then and unions and all the other stuff.' So we were like - anyway, we met up and we used to do actions in Richmond itself, about the cruise missiles because we were, we were very - and then I remember this and then it started to become known that these women were at Greenham Common. So the first time I went down, I think it was 1982, end of '81, beginning of '82, something like that. I used to only go down for actions, I had three little children, and my home set up did not, would not have allowed me to. I would have loved to have gone there and lived I mean, I would have loved it. But it just was absolutely impossible. We weren't living anywhere near family so it just... but anyway, we were down as often as possible to all the big actions and the walking from Greenham to Aldermaston and the, and the chain and the Embrace the Base and the mirrors, all of that stuff. And erm, we used to just get - we used to just arrange it in the Peace Group and we'd get a van. I mean, it was the same time as the flying pickets legislation - anti-flying pickets legislation came out the Thatcher government and we got stopped a couple of times because you weren't supposed to - they applied that to all sorts of things. You weren't allowed to travel.**

What, what was, what was the flying pickets legislation?

**It was their Miner's Strike and different, different strikes that the unions were organising. And it was the Thatcher government and she was anti unions very much so. So they introduced this that you couldn't - the pick - the pickets, because you used to be able to, if you had a protest, or you were picketing something, people would come from other parts of the country and join your picket.**

Right.

**So she brought in anti-flying for - they were called flying pickets, and she brought in legislation against that. You were not allowed to travel to go and**

**picket anywhere else. We got stopped a couple of times. So we had a lot of camping gear and, you know, we just pretended we were going camping in Cornwall. I think Cornwall was one of the places we said we were going.**

**(Laughs).**

**You see them all going, yeah, a bunch of women all soft looking (Laughs). So anyway, but we were allowed to go. So I used to, we got to, when we started, we used to camp at Orange Gate, because that was like the international gate. And you had the chance of meeting all sorts of women from all over the place there. And I really liked that. A couple of times we went down, we would go to Main Gate and see if anybody needed anything and get some water and somebody would say, 'They need water over there.' So we go and get water, whatever. I mean, I know that a lot of women did this. I'm not unusual in doing this. This was just my story about what I did.**

**Yeah. Well, so you were - so you mentioned - there's loads in that, thank you. So there was erm, your family. So you had three little children. And you were going there - so you kind of going on the weekends or how, yeah.**

**I only went down for actions when the kids dad was around and could look out to them. Otherwise I couldn't have done it. My mum was up in Glasgow. I mean, I live in North Yorkshire and I had children. I had twins and another boy who wasn't much older. So they were actually all about the same age which you know, as a, as a parent, I could cope with that, just about. But to ask somebody else and say, 'Hello, here's three children, nearly the same age. They're all toddlers, but it's all right.' (Laughs). No, they weren't toddlers at that time. I mean, in 1981, when I first saw the Greenham Women, do you know, I think back to that - see, my daughter has written a poem about that. Yeah, she remembers her dad holding her up so that she could see the crowd. And she was actually frightened, because people were talking about bombing and all sorts of things. But when I look, think back to that day, and those women standing there talking about what they were doing, I didn't realise - I get quite emotional about this - I didn't realise that it was going to become such a major feature in my life, not only from my own Peace Group activities here, and all over the country we used to do, we used to go over to different rallies and things. And that it would mean so much to me. It became such an enormous part of my development into radical feminism. And, and I eventually did, I was doing my degree in the '80s. And I did a wonderful module that isn't in existence now called the changing experience of women. And when I came back from that summer school in 1988, I have volunteered to work, I volunteer, I volunteered to get, to be a volunteer at Cleveland Rape Crisis, as it was called then in Middlesbrough. It's not in existence now, it was one of those - I think it was about the second or third rape crisis centre to open and at one point, it was the biggest. So and all my stuff from Greenham, the women I met and the workshops I went to and the non-violent direct action workshops, and all the experiences of all the different women I met there, and the take Greenham home, we always took Greenham home.**

**Always, we just, it was just such - I mean, I'm sure, quite sure many, many, many women say this, this, this passion, this feeling of somehow or other, taking that spirit, taking that feeling, and all that energy and all that wonderful women's stuff. There's nothing better than being with a load of women. I mean, it's just the best in the world. Just taking that all back to your hometown. And we started off, we started up a peace camp at Fylingdales, which were the golf balls were linked to in near Whitby, on the North York Moors. There was a listen, it was a listening, please connected to GCHQ. And through the couple of summers, three or four summers, we set up, a pop up peace camp there and we'd go up and live at the side of the road - the kids were a bit older then so they used to come with me and we just camped at the side of the road opposite one of the gates into Fylingdales and er, police were all there and trying to take our names and addresses and stuff like that, we said, 'No.' (Laughs).**

Did you ever, did you give them like fake names?

**No, we just said - well, we used to joke about it and say, 'Do you want what, Minnie Mouse or something?' That was always a favourite amongst anybody. We refused to give addresses if they wanted our address. If you want to arrest me, then you know, I'm not giving you my address. But what they did was they took the numbers of the cars.**

Oh.

**And a few years later, we got stopped on holiday in Portpatrick up in the southwest of Scotland. And they knew that we lived in Richmond and they knew, and they stopped my kids dad on his way hiking back down to Richmond. And they asked him what he was doing, standing at the Stranraer ferry port and he said, 'Well, I've hitched up from my home to see my, my wife and children.' I mean, it wasn't his wife, but he just said wife and children at erm... and they said, 'Yeah, we know you're in Portpatrick. You drive a grey, silver grey Sierra.' And David had said, 'How do you know that? How did you know that?'**

Yeah.

**And somebody else I live near Catterick, which is the biggest army camp, you know, a huge army camp, and somebody had said to me that they were going up for an interview and they'd been shown a list of names and asked if they knew anybody on it. And Paul said to me, 'I'm telling you...' he said, 'Barbara, your name was on it.' I went, 'What? My name was on it?'**

Wow!

**And we used to get letters open. We used to call them the yellow sticker letters. You'd get letters that had been opened in error stickers on them and I was convinced my phone was being tapped and - anyway, of course then**

went all the files came out on the Thatcher governments, they had been listening to peace groups and unions and all the rest of it. In fact, very recently, within the last year, my son who works - I won't say where he worked. But he'd applied to, he was asked to take on a big contract, and he had to do a security, quite a big security check. And he said, he said, 'I shouldn't really be telling you this Mum, but your name came up.' 'My name came up? What do you mean my... (Sighs).' With an old address!

So in what context, like was he asked about you?

Yeah. It was the sort of thing, his security had to give his parents name and address. He had to give his parents names and they obviously did a check. And I'm obviously still on a list. You know, I'm seventy-five, how dangerous am I?

That's amazing.

I was absolutely - I did contact a couple of friends of mine who have been involved in erm, er ... you know, where your name comes up and you discover that you're being monitored and watched and everything, just to see what could do. And there is actually a website I could have gone on to, but quite honestly - then the pandemic thing hit and I thought I haven't got the energy at the moment. But I was really quite shocked about - I mean I was very shocked about that. But then once again, I won't be the only woman that's... when, if you were involved in the peace movement in the '80s when Thatcher and Heseltine were - and Reagan were rampant, and we became like a floating aircraft carrier for America, you know, it's not surprising.

Yeah.

It was a shock. It was like, 'God, that's just bizarre.' So I can't remember why I started to say this.

No, it's really interesting. And that has, yeah, that has come up in a few interviews, actually, women kind of being reminded of that, of that past, you know, kind of coming back up, the next generation even.

I know what it was, I was telling you about Fylingdales.

Right. Yes.

And that was one of the big ones. That would be one of the reasons, not just Greenham, because I took the car to Greenham a couple of times as well. But the Fylingdales thing because it was linked to GCHQ. It's quite a famous thing, the golf balls on the North York Moore. They're not there so much now they've gone more underground. But they would have been very, very, very wary about anybody peace camping linked to anti-nuclear things, you know. And we'd have to signs, we'd have signs up saying, 'Bring Greenham Home.'

So they would erm, they'd like that, 'Oh no, these are terrorists.' (Laughs). But it was, I loved our Fylingdales camp. It was very important and - but we were camped right, quite literally at the side of the road on a piece of grass, between the road opposite the gate, one of the gates to Fylingdales. We used to get out and sort of demonstrate when the shift bus, the shifts changed and the buses were going in and out and people were looking out the window. I've got some great photographs of us dancing in the road. So that was really important. And we used to go all over the country. We had a, we had a stall that we used to set up in the marketplace in Richmond, and it was called the duck and cover company based on the old propaganda films that they used to put out for children, just duck and cover, you know. And you see all the children diving under the desks at school. Black and white thing. And we were called the Duck and Cover company. We used to sell empty tins of beans all stacked up for a fiver each and and it was a spoof thing and you could either buy toilet paper in a row or several sheets or one at a time. And we have different prices for that. It was batteries we, we got the government protect and survive list and we just put things on the stall that came from that.

Oh wow.

You'd get people wandering across going, 'Five pounds for a tin of beans?' (Inaudible)... 'Have, you read the sign?' It says, 'Only, only what is it, so many seconds left. Everything must go!' That was our thing you know, everything must go. (Inaudible). So all that was about carrying on the, you know bringing it all back and doing your own thing in your own area because that was really important. And just the whole being at Greenham was just one of the most phenomenal experiences ever in my life. You know, I'm just so glad I went.

So with Greenham, which action were you there for first?

**Embrace the Base. Hold up the mirrors. The walk, the 14 mile walk.**

Was that the first walk? Because you mentioned that you heard the women from Wales and they were, they were like the first kind of origin story, weren't they of Greenham that kind of thing there first. But the 14 mile walk, is that a different thing?

Yes. Oh yes. I mean, the, the women standing at the CND rally in 1981, was them on the way, they'd gone to Greenham and they'd come to the CND rally to tell people what they were doing. That was at the very, very, very beginning. And that's why I'm saying I remember watching them thinking, god, I need to keep an eye on that, and I'll tell the, I'll tell the women when I get home. We'll talk about, I'll tell them that I've seen these women, and we'll just keep an eye on what happens there. And that's what I mean, that little thought about, I'll just keep an eye on what happens. And then when you look at what it became, it was like, it always reminded me of the first time I saw the

film, Zulu - I mean I hate the film - but first time I saw the film of Zulu in the cinema, and saw Michael Caine and I thought he was quite good in the part and I watched the credits at the end to see who it was. I thought that I could keep an eye on him see what happened afterwards. He became like, like, mega star, not that I like him in particular at all. It was the same thing of, oh I must keep an eye on this and see what happens. And then I didn't realise, I think back to that moment and think god, that became such a major part even though I didn't live there. The whole Greenham just became such a thing for me, I've got all my, I've got, still got all my flyers and the workshop times and, and the songs - I went to a reunion a couple of years ago in Teesside University, not Teesside University, Northumbria University. So I stood up and it's actually on, it's on a it's on a YouTube video. God I've never been in a YouTube video in my life. Singing sailor songs, singing sailor song, you know, they can forbid nearly everything, they cannot forbid me to think. And it's, (Singing) 'You can forbid nearly everything. You cannot forbid me to think! You can't forbid the flowers to grow, and you can't stop my mouth when I sing!' We used to do all the singing, you know, all sorts - the weaving in the web. We are the weavers. We are the web, all of those. I've got, I've got a Greenham songbook and ...

Oh, wonderful. Oh I love, yeah, that's fantastic that you've been able to keep that as well.

Yes. And a friend of mine a couple of birthdays ago sent me a book that had been written about Orange Gate.

And so that's where you were when when you were at Greenham you are Orange Gate, right?

We went, chose that one because we knew that there was women from all over the place. It was - each gate had its own erm, personality, if you like or reason, or meaning, you know, there was - and the Orange Gate was the international one so we knew that we would meet lots of different women there. There was one time I was down - I can't remember what the action was. I know it was my birthday, in December, it was a December one. It was freezing, god. And erm, there was a moment, we were at the fence ... The holding up the mirrors to the soldiers, on the other side was always interesting. We used to say to them, 'Who are you, who you're defending?' You know, we'd say who are you defending?' Anyway, we were pulling the fence and pulling the fence and pulling the fence and there was just, for just a moment, I thought god, we've got enough strength here to actually pull the fence down. It was big, huge, concrete things with the fence around it. Anyway, in front of me a woman - there was police all backed up against the fence like that. There was a woman in front of me and a policeman that was standing in front of her, got his elbow and just went like that to her and knocked her back and she was lying on the ground and we sort of looked, you know, somebody came in took her away and found out later he'd broken her jaw.

Wow.

**There was another bit in that where a policeman's helmet had been knocked off and, and his head had got bashed, and they called an ambulance. And this is the first time I realised, the vindictiveness of the, some of the mainstream press. An ambulance was called for this police officer. And when the ambulance came, we all cleared a path for the ambulance to get through. And he got taken away. And that was the day that the horses were brought in as well and to not frighten the horses, we all sat, we used to sit, if there were, you sit down in the ground, so that - and they would pick their way between, you know, pick their way between you, and we'd all just sit quite quietly. And erm, I read a newspaper article about that afterwards how a policeman had got injured, and we wouldn't allow the, the ambulance through. And that we actually were poking things in the horses, and frightening them. And that I think that was about the first time really - I always knew that some of the press were crap, I know that. But it was the first time it really sank home, just how they could completely completely lie about something. I mean, just completely lie about it. But the media were just absolutely dreadful.**

It's really, it must be a really horrible things, you know, be part of such a, be part of such a thing which you're passionate about, and know that you've behaved in a certain way that you feel is right. And then to see that in black and white, you know, people telling lies about you.

**And of course that stuck, because it was things like the Mail and the Sun and the Express and all the really crap papers, because erm - it's funny, you know, I mean, nobody latched on to the Sun until they did the Hillsborough thing. I always thought that was really interesting. They can say what they like about the women that don't - you know, what they did with Hillsborough was shocking. But then what they did with the Greenham Women was shocking as well. The way it was all ... I mean, I didn't go through anything like the women who lived there went through. I'm not for one second, comparing myself. They were wonderful, wonderful women. And they were like, heroes, do you know what I mean. They were just, they were not there, they were just the, the women who lived there and put up with all that stuff. Tense - I mean, all of it, well you know all about it. So that was shocking. And every time we went down, we would hear more stories about what had been going on with the council and done to them. And we'd go and talk to women that were there. And of course, we always followed at the arrests and the court case, you know all that we followed all that. So I never experienced anything like that, other than you know, being stopped by the police and not allowed into Little Chef which is like nothing. But ...**

Were you ever arrested or nearly arrested?

**No, that's what I'm saying that I never, that never happened to me. Because I was only there for the big actions or a couple of times just went down like for**

**a couple of us just went down just for a weekend just to, well just to be there really.**

And presumably, bring things and be very helpful be impossibly helpful in other ways?

**The group took stuff down, blankets and things like that.**

You're a very necessary part of Greenham life.

**I didn't do very much of that. Don't get me wrong. I'm not saying that I was there every weekend making sure everybody was alright and bringing hot chocolate. I mean, I was - I wasn't. I had three little children and quite a disruptive home life at the time and it was very difficult for me. But I did, I did what I could to Greenham but what my main thing was to bring it back to my local area and try and bring some of that energy and belief and passion and anti-nuclear thing and and I was part of the cruise watch. So we were all in telephone trees and we'd get word that me and a friend would get word and meet up with a couple of them at Scotch Corner, which is on the A1, big, big round about on the A1 and just watch the wagons going past with the missiles, you know, went up to Scotland. There was a lot of toing and froing with Scotland. Yeah, just all of that really. I mean, I wasn't, I was only, I was what you might call a fan and a hanger on rather than at Greenham itself. I went down for the actions and there was thousands of us. I mean, they were big and they were wonderful and just (Inaudible) forever. But my main thing was to bring all that, we used to try and just bring that home and set up our own one at Fylingdales, which was nothing like the Greenham one, but because our situation, my situation was different. We used to just do it. It was quite dangerous as well, camping at the side of the road, there was no real space to park. There was no small space to camp. It was quite - because things used to get flung out of cars that past us, some cars used to pass and honk fairly loudly. But other ones they would throw cans and yell at us and ...**

So yeah, cos I was gonna say, it must have felt quite vulnerable.

**Yeah, sometimes it did. Lying at night, I would think, oh my god, it would just take something to come off the road and plough through us and I used to get quite anxious about that and not sleep anywhere. And I used to take my children up there as well. And I've got some great photographs. We used to just sit in the sunshine and one day we organised a garden party, and we had tables, some, we'd got someone with a van to bring up trestle tables, and we'd arranged it all with the tablecloths and everything. And we'd sent out invitations to various people in Whitby in Scarborough and things like that to see if they wanted to come to our garden party. And I mean they didn't, the mayor of Whitby was never was never going to come to our garden party. (Laughs). We sent them out and we all dressed up and had cakes and things like that, just, I mean, it was very, it wasn't like, I won't, I'm not saying it was like Greenham because it wasn't like Greenham but it was our way of making**



**ourselves visible because of what we'd gained from Greenham. Do you understand what I mean?**

Yeah.

**I'm not comparing it in any way. And I'm not - they were the ones, the women who lived at Greenham were the, they were the heroes, they were the ...**

But as you say, I mean, carry Greenham home, you know, that is like the endearing, enduring kind of message of of Greenham, isn't it? And ...

**Absolutely, and that was, that was our big thing. That was what we did. We did that to the very best of our ability. It was a phenomenal thing to have happened. It's just absolutely blew these things apart, and it did alter the whole thing. There's no doubt about it. They couldn't, this secret, we're going - don't tell anybody we're bringing cruise missiles to Greenham. That went right out the window that got blown apart, because it was on the news, and it just made such a mockery of all their secret, we're going to do this, women dancing and you know. I, I would have loved to have been part of you know, being there when they went through the fence and danced on the silos - that wonderful, iconic photograph of them dancing on one of the silos. I mean, that's just erm ... You know, and I met Helen John. I mean, when I think of some of the women that were there, and to meet them in workshops, and we used to go to - there was, we did stuff before we went on learning to do non-violent direct, direct action. And then there was other things there that, you know, too, if you, some of the big ones, you know, someone would be an observer and someone would stand back and all that stuff. And it's funny, you know, because I'm friends with a bloke in Richmond who used to have a little sort of, a little hippie shop in Richmond. Richmond's not like that at all. My MP is Rishi Sunak, so that'll give you some indication.**

Okay. (Laughs).

**Before that, it was William Hague.**

Wow. Big names!

**And before that it was Leon Brittan. So that'll just give you a flavour of what Richmond's like. So for Mark to open up this little shop in Richmond, it was really success - he's closed that now, he does foot health. I remember one time when he did start to do his foo - and I was standing in the shop chatting to him. And he sai - I can't even remember how it came up. And I said, 'Oh, yeah, I used to go to Greenham.' And he said, 'Oh, a friend of mine ...' He said, 'A really good friend ...' He said, 'I'm not in touch with her now.' He said, 'We lost contact. I don't know how we lost contact. But I knew her for years. And we were really good friends. A woman called Helen John.' And I went, 'Oh my god Mark, you knew her?' And he went, 'Yeah.' Oh my god, she was like enormous!**

(Laughs).

**And he said, 'I've lost contact with her.' He said, 'I knew she went on to do things. A couple of times I saw something in the newspaper about her.' He said, 'But I'd lost contact with her.' So when she died a couple of years ago, I sent him, because he wouldn't have known, I sent him the stuff and said, 'Look, this is her obituary.' But I thought isn't it funny it's like one of these little links again.**

Yeah. And also just goes to show you that these were, these were just women with real you know connections to the real world you know. I think it's so, it's so interesting how, you know, I have a tendency to want to almost like deify you know, these incredible women who started this wonderful amazing thing.

**Me too! (Laughs).**

(Laughs).

**Absolutely. I was very fan girly. If I went down there (Inaudible) I was like a fan girl, you know, and like, 'Oh, I want ...' And there was always a thought in my, I want - I've always been like this. If I meet somebody who I think really knows a lot and, and when I went I met, it was when I first started meeting radical feminists in tutor groups and they'd written books and and I remember sitting there going, I want to be like that. I want to know that, that all that stuff. I want to, I want all that knowledge I want to absorb it all. And I was a bit like that when I went to Greenham, some of the women that, some of the women that would, you'd see them sitting around the fires and and you'd just think ahh, I want - it was just wonderful. And it was reported in the newspaper about how dirty they were and how messy everything was and how sort of disgusting and I'm thinking they're camping in a, they're camping outside an RAF, an American airbase and they've been there for years and you're talking about they looked dirty and they look scruffy and they look ... and they're living in the living in polythene bags stretched over sticks. I mean they would do that - yeah that's because you kept wrecking all their tents!**

Yeah. (Laughs).

**And just the way and they - and yet they were the real, they were, they were important they were such important women, such important women.**

You mentioned every gate had its own kind of personality. So what would you say is the personality of Orange Gate?

**Well that was the international gate. So there was women came, if you would meet ... (Sighs) that was just, that was where you went if you wanted to meet women that came from all over the country every ... I don't know every ... I can't even describe it.**

And other countries as well?

**Yes!**

Yeah.

**And such a mixture of women and such a, you know, black women, brown women, other asian women - just everybody! It was just, it was that, it was I like that, I like that feeling of mixture. I love the mixture feeling of us all and you know it's ...**

Yeah.

**Of course they, the press used to hate that as well. They were that, you know, how much they love black women and how much - and the things that used to get printed about it. I don't, I can't - sometimes I haven't got words to describe what it was all like. It was, because it was so much - some of the winter, it was a bit cold sometimes I mean that was a - one time, the time where we went down, I can't remember that was. That might have been the Embrace the Base or Hold the Mirrors, I can't remember. But I, we haven't taken - because it was so cold, I knew it would be freezing. We didn't, I didn't take, we didn't take a tent my friend and I, we didn't take a tent. We just went down, we ended up sleeping, just taking quilts down and things and sleeping in the car, with sleeping bags (Inaudible) ... freezing. It was absolutely freezing, and then getting up in the freezing cold and going off to find somewhere to have your morning wee was just (Inaudible).**

Yeah.

**But as I say, I was only there, I could go home to my warm bed and my fire and put the kettle on and I could do that. I wasn't - I would have loved to have stayed. I mean I would have, I like camping I would have been quite happy to go through all that. All of it. I wanted to be part of that. But I just couldn't. That's my sadness that will stay with me forever. I just had to do my best with what I could do.**

Yeah, well, that's all anyone could do, isn't it? You know, the fact that you were there is quite huge - to someone like me anyway, that's huge. So ...

**It was wonderful and it taught me, one of the things it taught me, a really deep, deep thing it taught me was the power of women and what it feels like to be with only women. There's something about and I've maintained that, that's another thing that I've done with Greenham. I really only knock about with women, I only erm - I have a few - I've got sons so I've got to be very careful what I say. Although they know! (Laughs). You know, I've told them many times but, it's women that I, that's who I am with, is women. And I'm involved in all sorts of different things. I mean, I went on to work at Rape**

**Crisis, and I used to do police training and Samaritan's training and social services training about rape and sexual abuse. So I'm still involved in a lot of erm, different things.**

Yeah.

**All women's issues. I've always st - that's what one of the main things Greenham taught me was, women's lives. And I'd already been involved in a bit of it, because I was in a women's group anyway. So it's not, wasn't new to me. It just, it just built it, it built and built it and built it and built it till that became my life. Crisis and being involved in training and I'm, you know, I'm seventy I was seventy-five last month. And I think to myself, god, I'm still doing this, nearly 50 years of campaigning about something, you know. But it's tiring, because sometimes with certainly with women's lives, I get a bit despairing sometimes because not a lot has changed. You scratch the surface, and very little has actually changed. And I get fed up. Sometimes I think ah god I feel like I've been fighting this forever.**

Yeah.

**But I know that, and I've always, I've always said that that's one of the big things Greenham did to me, was it politis - it seriously, seriously, politicised and made me into, you know, became a sort of evangelical a bit in the '80s. I was banging on about it every time anybody stopped to say, 'Hello. How are you?' 'Blah blah blah blah blah!' (Laughs).**

It's hard not to isn't it when you've been in that environment and you've been having those conversations and those ideas and you're stimulated that way, and you see it everywhere, and you want to, you know, spread the spread the message!

**Absolutely. That's exactly right. 'So what have you been doing this weekend?' 'Well, actually, I went down to Greenham Common.' 'Did you? What was it like?' 'I don't know where to start!' 'What do you mean?' 'I can't even begin to tell you.' But, 'Rah rah rah rah rah!' You could see them glazing over things, you know. (Laughs).**

That is one thing I'm very interested in actually the kind of, if, with people who were, you know, coming and going to a certain extent, like, the kind of conversations - yeah, how people from the outside would respond, what they would think of Greenham.

**(Laughs). I used to have, I always really liked debates and discussions and arguments. So I'm quite happy to, you know, stand in Richmond marketplace and have somebody say to me, 'So what did you do at the weekend?' And bang on about it and, and we live in, as I say, we're a garrison town so there's an awful lot of the Help for Heroes and all this stuff going on about soldiers and, and RAF Catterick's nearby and everything. So some people would get very, very, very angry. The thought that that I had been to Greenham and I**

mean, like, really angry. 'You're one of those women?' And I would always say, 'No, I'm not one of those women. I'm one of the women that goes down and supports those women.' And erm, ... (Inaudible) ... 'What's it like down there?' I said it's just, I'd try and explain it and I would talk about American involvement in our politics and how dare they, how dare they have so many bases all over this country and ... and you could, I would stand around at the marketplace banging on about all this stuff. And you could see this person thinking, 'I need to get away now, I'm going to the co-op. I just need to find a way of getting away from this mad woman.' Where as other people, other women were really interested.

Yeah.

And wanted to know about it. And it would end up as a discussion about things. That's the best - that's the difference, isn't it? If you talking to somebody that agreed with you, or wants to learn about something - it's not what they call an echo chamber. It's a way of actually discussing something without having to go back to the beginning. It's really tiring having to go back to the beginning all the time.

Yeah.

And sometimes I won't do it with people, because I think, I don't even know where to start. You're so far away from any starting point that I could think, I just can't be bothered, because we're going to end up arguing about some of the basics rather than - you know, it gets tiring.

That is always quite exhausting isn't it, having to, having to do it again and again, and ...

Again and again. And it's not about not enjoying debate. It's just about some people, you know for a fact, before we even start, you're not actually going to change any shred of anything. You know, I still talk about it I say, 'Yes, I went to Greenham.' And they go, 'Did you? What was it like?' (Inaudible).

Oh, well, I'm sorry for asking as well! (Laughs).

No, but it's like you, at least you know about this. You know, it's like when somebody says to you, in the middle of the, you know, what was it like? You think I don't, you, I'm not, I'm not going to pursue this conversation. I'm just here to get some potatoes, I don't care. And you're not going to, you're not going to be interested anyway. So it's difficult living in a little town, in a place like this, sometimes, it is difficult.

And I suppose everyone has their own relationship with the military, their own kind of personal connections. And that must be difficult.

**And there's a lot of it. There's a lot of it. I come up against it. I'm in a little couple of forums on Facebook with it and every now and again at all, it'll explore a bit. And, and then, of course, the Labour Party, I was in the Labour Party but I resigned. And they are just, oh, I don't know. I get really fed up with lefty blokes. So that's really probably one of my main gripes is lefty blokes.**

Oh, yeah. You mentioned that actually, right at the beginning.

**In our local Peace Group.**

Right.

**And that's what made us, you're a women's thing, because we got so fed up, go to Peace Group meetings, and we'd say something about women. And you could just see these men going, '(Tuts and Sighs.)' And remember, this is the beginning, this is the late '70s, early '80s. You know, and they would say things, like, 'Let's get the important stuff done.'**

It's all it's all connected as well! That was one wonderful thing about Greenham wasn't it. And they were connected by ...

**They were all connected - and it was. And I loved the fact that - I mean, people used to hang, we'd hang things on the fence as well. And it was the photographs of the children and I mean, that's what I did it for. I, you know, I did it for me, and for the fact that I had three children, and I did not want to live in a - I mean, I'm a pacifist, as well as being an anti-nuclear person. I didn't want my children - I used to think you, these these men .... And we - because some people would ask me what, why it was a women's issue and I'd say because some of us are really, really, really pissed off with the fact that men are actually running all this. And to me, it's just an extension of what goes on in the playground, you know, they hit each other, and then they get a stick, and then they get stones, and then they kick, and then they fight. And then they get into teenage years, and they kick each other and knife each other and all the rest of it. And then when they get a bit bigger and in power, they actually have access to guns and bombs. And, you know, it's just like this thread of what men have actually done to the world, what they've done to it! I mean, look what they've done to it! Nearly ruined it. I mean, they've just nearly ruined it. So, and we try and explain that to the lefty blokes in the peace movement that, you know, you're running it. We're tired of men, inventing bombs, and then thinking it's a great idea to go and kill people in another country that they don't even know and women get killed and children get killed in these countries. It's not just all, you know, male bonding on the battlefield where we all cry all over each other. It's, it's women and children civilians getting killed and raped and abused and right over their heads - wouldn't even understand what you were talking about. So we'd just look at them, right. We're leaving now. (Laughs).**

Gonna go and do it ourselves.

**We'll make our own Peace group. Oh division, that's never gonna work, division. No, we're going to have our own Peace Group now.**

Wow. It is so funny how they can be, you know, you can be aligned with someone in one way and then - two different experiences just doesn't ...

**And not see it! And not see the impact on women's lives of war and bombs, not see what happened when men all - and I'm not belittling any of that. I'm not saying that, I mean, you know, when young lads of eighteen, and nineteen are going off to fight and getting into all that stuff. I mean, that's, it's tragic. I mean, that is tragic. But there was no, no understanding of what happened with the women left behind and the children and what they did and kept it all going and got jobs and then got thrown out the jobs when all the men came home because it was not right. And they couldn't, it's like, they just did not seem to understand that the impact of all this stuff was different for women. Some of it was the same, but some of it was very, very, very different. And women's health and women's lives and nothing. It was like talking to a wall, I would have got more out of it talking to a wall, more understanding. So we just got sort of fed up with them all. And then of course, we started going to Greenham. That was like, and then some of the more, the more sort of, right on blokes, would all be terribly interested in what was going on at Greenham.**

Yeah.

**'And are men going?' And they've always got to do it. They've always got to say, 'And do men go?' Well, I said, 'No, it's really a women's movement. It's partly women's move - it's women!' 'So no men are there?' I said, 'Well, yes occasionally they come along, and they run some of the food stalls at the big actions and the creches and things like that!'**

Yes, the creches, they are very important, you know, looking after children.

**'The men are not allowed ... ' (Inaudible). 'No, no, it's a women's thing, it's women.' 'Well, do you not think that's a bit sexist? Do you not think that's a bit divisive?' 'No.' It was, they were always like that. Always, you were just like, do you know what I mean, I can't be just talking to you. You're just hold horrible, go away. And there was and that was, it was really upsetting that even men that you knew from your Peace Group that believed profoundly and passionately about anti-nuclear stuff could come out with this shit you know, you just got, you'd just look at them and go, '(Sharp Inhale)'. I, sometimes I get a bit despairing because, because its - sorry I'm going to have to get up and walk a bit. I've got my fire going and it's really hot!**

I'm quite warm actually I've got this heater on, its far too warm!

I know, I'll stand by the window and look out at the rain coming in. But it's disappointing that these men - so I've never had much time for lefty blokes. I hate them really, I think probably hate them and despise them. (Inaudible). Women they always come back, 'Well, not all men are like that. I mean, my husband really ... ' We're not talking about your husband! We're not talking about individuals. This is a system. We're talking about a system. And I think that's what Greenham did for me as well, was introduced me to the fact that there could be another system of women. Of women, powerful, strong ideas - because the ideas that came out, it mean it was just full ideas you know, it was just all that, apart from what the men are doing. But I get, I do get upset because I don't see much has changed in a lot of ways. So I do get a bit despairing of it.

How do you see kind of this generation or the next generation of feminists? Like do you see any takeaways from Greenham or ... no?

No, there's too much liberal feminism about. Not understanding, people get very worried when you say you're a radical feminist. They think, they use radical in the way as though, as if it's extreme, instead of it being about the root cause of things. And there's so many strands of feminism and it's all got very ... (Sighs) ... liberal. You can be what you like. I mean, and I'm just, I'm so anti-identity politics and personality politics, identity politics I'm just, I rage about, I mean I rage and rant about identity politics. Because that to me is just going back to all that stuff in the '80s about individualism as if you're the only, as you as an individual. I mean when I think Margaret Thatcher actually said, 'There's no such thing as society.' And the destruction and the damage, that little phrase did was just horrendous. And it's all about the individual. And it's all about me, me, me and what I want to be in, what I want to look like and what I want to do, without a sense of collective co-operative ... shared thinking and working for the, working for, you know, that's what I liked about Greenham as well, you just felt you were working for a cause, a women's cause. It wasn't about individuals there. I mean, although some of us did go fan-girly with the individuals but it wasn't about the individuals. There was all of us there together, trying to achieve something. And that's what I've always, I've always done in my life is trying to not see myself - to see myself as part of something rather than - that's not to deny my individuality and my own sense of self as me as me. But I do know that, that's why I get annoyed when women say well my husband's not like that, or my boyfriend ... And I think, I don't care whether your husband's like that, not like that. I'm not, I'm not talking about your husband.

Sure.

You know. And my two sons have a couple of times, 'Well I'm not like that mum.' And I say, 'I didn't say you were darling. I didn't say you were like that. But you're part of a system that is like that.' So, and I worry about the young people. I've got six granddaughters, you know, and I worry myself, I worry about them. Because the pressure on them is very different. I mean, it's huge.



**You know, they're all on Snapchat, and Instagram. Well, I'm on Instagram, but you know what I mean? It's, I look at the photographs of themselves they post, and it's all about looks and, you know, yeah. I just worry that there is no political, there's no, I don't feel that there's a political movement.**

Right.

**And I think we had, we had a political, we had the Women's Liberation Movement. And out of that came different things. We had that movement. I mean, it wasn't an organised movement with you know, secretaries and chair people and all the rest of it. But it was definitely felt part of something that was trying to change society.**

Right.

**And I don't feel that now at all. I feel its all identity and ... very, very narcissistic, some of it and very individualistic. And we won't win as individuals. We won't. And all celebrity and, and social media, you know, and I'm not, I'm not denouncing social media. I use social media. In fact, during this last year, I don't know what I would have done without my phone and Zoom and FaceTime. I don't know what, I think I would have gone - because I live on my own. You know my family are around, are near me, but I live on my own, so.**

Yeah, has it been hard?

**It has been very hard. The physical contact has been very hard to live without. I'm in a bubble with my daughter now and two of my grandchildren.**

Nice.

**But I don't see, I mean I bang on at them all the time. The older ones are great. They think, they think like, 'Oh, I've got a really cool Nana you know, she knows things!' (Laughs).**

I bet they do, yeah!

**And I've got one of my grandson's, he comes down my daughter's eldest boy, he comes down, we have wonderful conversations and to talk to him about all sorts of things. Erm so I still feel as if I'm passing some of it on. But I do think that we lack - women, lack a movement. There are different movements, and I do webinars with the Women's Human Rights Campaign on a Saturday and a couple of monthly ones and things and they have speakers from all over the world. There was a wonderful one was on the other night. They're from South Korea. Did you see that?**

No, I didn't no.

**It's on YouTube. It's South Korean radical feminists talking about how they've managed, what they've done in order to try and promote women's rights in South Korea.**

Wow.

**It's really good. It's run by - I can't remember, I don't whether it's the human rights, Women's Human Rights Campaign. They've got some really, every Saturday, they run a webinar on Saturday afternoon, that's well worth checking out. You'll see women from all over the world talking on that. So there is a movement and women do sometimes come out saying things like what we need is another women's movement. That's what we need. We need another Women's Liberation Movement to get some of that, to break into some of that individualism and identity stuff. So anyway, that's my thoughts for the day! (Laughs). (Inaudible).**

Well, I did ask! (Laughs).

**I do worry about the latest, I don't think there's much cohesion sometimes in the younger women. And it is all about looks and that depresses me because I think oh god. And gender stereotypes, I just worry so much about gender stereotypes. I just think we should be - this shouldn't exist anymore! Really strong. And it shouldn't. It shouldn't be here, we - you know, I look back, I mean I had twins a boy and a girl twins. And you know, when I look at what they wore in the '70s, and then the backlash, of course, became unicorns and glitter. And just backlashed happen. Backlashes are hard to deal with.**

Yeah.

**I think backlashes are really - there was, there's always big backlashes against things.**

Oh, one thing I was wondering about is erm spirituality, at Greenham erm, and some of the different practices like the pagan practices and the Wiccan practices and things like that.

**Ah yes, I well, I'm an old hippie.**

Yeah.

**Way back in the '70s I was, you know, interested in all sorts of stuff like that so, but I - I like these I like some of this stuff as part of my life rather than, you know, I know women that are very pagan, and women that are really into Wiccan witch, all that stuff. I'm very interested in it and I've read lots of stuff and I've been to workshops and all sorts of things like that. But I, I just have it in my life rather than - I was brought up very religious, I was brought up erm, I was brought up Baptist. I was a Sunday school teacher up till I was twenty-four.**

Really!

(Laughs). People that know me well always go, 'What!' Used to go to Sunday school, church on a Sunday. Did Sunday school in the afternoon and erm, or after church. And then I did Bible study classes on a Wednesday night. And everybody that knows me really well, when that, when that event, when that comes out in a conversation they're all going, '(Laughs). Really?' I said, 'Yeah, and I've still got some books that I won in scripture exams.' I've still got some books, from the '50s, that I won in a scripture exam once. Anyway, there was a big thing happened in my life, which I won't go into because that's not really important. I just sort of woke up one morning almost not figuratively speaking anyway, and thought, 'What a load of fucking shite.' Excuse my language but I thought, what am I doing? What am I doing? And just went, went I just became became somebody that just didn't believe in any external god or anything of any shape whatsoever, much to the horror of my family, of course. They were not culty or anything, it was just like, my grandmother was heartbroken. Oh, right up til she died when she was nearly ninety she said, 'I pray for you every night darling, that you'll come back to your faith.' 'Nana, please don't pray for me anymore. I'm not going to come back to any faith.' So - but I would also say I'm quite a spiritual person in that a lot of my so called Christian teachings is what led me to peace and co-operation and society and sharing and caring. All that, I know has come out of, that's what I've brought with me from the religious teachings. And then I would seek out other things It's like that, other things that were all to do with loving the earth. And, you know, I've been, I've been, I was a vegetarian in 1971.

Right.

In the in the days when nobody was a vegetarian.

Yeah.

It was definitely weird.

Very weird I'm sure!

So I had all that as well. So I became a vegetarian because, not only because of animals, but because I realised through my exploration of the world, and nature and all the rest of it, that the Earth couldn't actually sustain that - it couldn't! And the way we were living was going to cause terrible damage to the earth. I mean, it gives me no satisfaction that fifty years later, that's exactly what's happened. So I, that was all that. So I'd sort, you know, I - and that came from meeting women who were pagans and into witchcraft. This love of the earth and love of - and wanting to look after the earth and care for it, and all the rest of it. And then about twenty-odd years ago, I became a vegan. So that sort of stepped up something. And so, as I say, it doesn't give me any pleasure to be sitting, listening to the news now and them talking and

recommending that we eat less meat and all the rest of it. And I think, god, some of us have been banging on about this for fifty years, you know, it's just really depressing. So that's my, that's my involvement with things that are spiritual. I would think that I do have a form of spirituality and form of love of the earth and, and sharing, which is what a lot of these different groups are about. Without naming myself as that, I wouldn't call myself a pagan, and I wouldn't call myself a witch. I feel that would be a different thing for me, it would mean, I would have to, you know, that - even though a lot of what I do is all part of that, you know, do you understand what I'm trying to say? I don't know whether I've said it very well.

No, absolutely, absolutely. Because sometimes we don't all fit into the neatly into one thing, do we? But we can have interests ... and obviously at Greenham it was such a place of you know, eco-feminism and that obviously lends itself to this kind of pagan way with nature and things. And there were a lot of rituals weren't there, in terms of like the equinox and seeing in things like ...

I mean, I still, you know, I'm very aware of, I mean, they're all incorporated into - you know I do light candles, and I do think about things, I do go out and stare at the moon and I do go out and connect with the moon when it's full and connect with it, when it's crescent, and what that means, and the passing of time. I'm very, very interested in the passing of time and the naming, and what and how we name time we actually name it so that we sort of, we can only understand time, because we've named bits of it. It's like anything, if you name it, you can understand it. So we've named it all like seconds and minutes and hours and days and months and years and decades. And when we've got names for all these things, and, and in amongst all that is the solstice the and the pa - and I'm, I'm, I'm from near Glasgow and growing up, it was always New Year that meant more to me than any Christmas thing. Christmas always felt not the same as New Year. I feel as if I've always - because that, that was part of the old Scottish traditions were all about the passing of the time - of passing of time and the passing of the year. So after their bells after midnight, I, you always had made sure you had something to eat and drink so that that would make sure that you would have something to eat and drink for the rest of the year and you cleared out your rubbish and my Nana used to get rid of the old ash and put the ash outside so that she didn't take the old ash into the new year with us and I kept a lot of that going. And that's all very steeped in pagan ceremonies and ...

Thanks. I was wondering if a kind of defining memory of Greenham or if there was one, if there's one memory that sticks out?

Yes, that pulling the fence.

Yeah.

For that, I'll never, ever forget that moment. That feeling that went through me when we were pulling the fence and we were managing to get some of the

wire away from the cement posts. And just for that second or two I felt that the strength of us women could actually pull the fence down. It was just such a moment of God we're so strong we could actually just pull the fence down with a bit more going on we could do it. I mean it didn't happen, but we pulled some of it down but - and that was without bolt cutters and without slipping anything or picking the things that attached them to the posts. But it was just that, it was - I can't describe the feeling. It just washed over my whole body, this strength.

And all it was was you pulling, that was it?

We were, we had hold of the fence and we were like doing this, pulling like this and pulling. And the police were all there and everyone was panicking. They were all panicking and we were pulling. And it was giving! Do you know I mean, it was giving! We were like - ah we were doing this. And there was just the feeling that, for me that - it only one section. I don't mean we were all doing it but certainly, we were all doing the fence. We were all at the fence and we were all pulling the fence. But where I was we just - we were looking at each other going, it was just amazing feeling such strength! I had felt as if I had such strength in my body. And that was to do with being with a whole load of women that were all focused on the same thing. But that was the same time as the policeman got injured and the horses thing happened, that was that as well. Sometimes they all - I have difficulty now sort of separating out some of these actions from - and there's a little moments, one of the other moments when we held the mirrors up to the base. That was very profound and saying to them, 'Who are you protecting?'

Did you have any conversations with any ...

Just asking who you - sometimes you'd be wondering about and there would be a soldier, or policeman sitting on the other side. And you'd say sometimes some 'What are you doing there?' And this got (Inaudible). 'We're protecting things.' 'Protecting what? You're protecting weapons that have the potential to wipe us all out with a press of a button, you know, or a phone call from one person to another. You would just wipe all this out, so what would it matter, what why does that matter then if you're protecting something that has the potential to destroy everything? What are you protecting?' And you could see them thinking, 'No, I can't get into these I don't know.' And they're not of course, they were not allowed really to say - some of them are just nice lads all standing there, you know. Interesting that it was all men. We used to say that sometimes, 'Have you seen you all? Have you seen the lot of you? You're all blokes, look at you!' (Laughs). 'And we're all women and you're all men. It's very meaningful this!' (Laughs). Yes, so that's my moment is that fence moment. That will always - I mean, there's lots of them. But that's sort of always stood out for me that feeling of strength and power.

Yeah, it sounds very Greenham.

**Yeah. (Laughs). Some of its very Greenham. It is very Greenham. I'm sure you've had lots of this before. I mean, I'm just, I'm probably repeating, I'm probably saying the same thing as we all had that, all of us had that feeling if you will Greenham doing something, everyone would have that Greenham feeling. Everybody would have that feeling. And going home, the journeys home we'd be singing, still singing some of the songs and and talking about just, god, what have we just been at? What have we just done?**

Yeah. Wow. Wonderful. Yeah. And the friends you were with, that you travelled with, did you notice any kind of changes in them because of Greenham, or?

**Yeah, well some of the set out the Fylingdales thing so ... And we all, and we, and they were part of my Peace, they were part of my Peace Group, you see. So we did all these actions. I mean, I remember we all dressed up in sort of hoods and things and carried - we'd made a, one of us, one of them, couple of them had made this paper mache cruise missile that we carried through the streets in Richmond and then stood in a silent vigil in Richmond marketplace. I mean, they must have just thought in Richmond we were just absolutely mad. We didn't care.**

How did that go down?

**I don't think they understood really - I don't know that they understood any of it. And another time I wrote this little song, and we all dressed up and went and we had instruments, you know, we had things that clapped and banged and shook and all the rest of it. And we stood round the walk tower and sang this song and made lots of noise, got great photographs of that. So that was what we did, we did that. We all went there for a specific reason, to be part of Greenham and to do things. To do things, to do actions. We did actions, we did, we had them planned out, we did one a month a few years. We just did constantly did things, or brought out the duck and cover stall, just for a laugh sometimes to see people's faces. Peace Christmas cards in the market before Christmas, you know. We got a lot of abuse from people because it's a military town and got a lot of abuse. Other people would take them and say, 'Oh, I'll have a look at that.' And, and other people were saying things like, 'Good luck with what you're doing. I really agree with you.' You know, so there was a whole mixture. We did, we did things all the time. We had a big peace picnic down beside the river and, and all that, you know, we just were inspired by things to do.**

Yeah. Great.

**Greenham-y things. (Laughs).**

Greenham-y things - great! Carry Greenham home.

**Well, yeah it was our version of bringing Greenham home. Everybody, all of us, I think had different - women would take different things home, I know**

**that. We are individuals, in reality, but we all should be part of something. We all you to be part of something that we can achieve far more together we could be far more together than we ever can really.**

Yeah. What would your dream be for the future? In terms of -

**(Gasps).**

I know, I know, it's too big, it's too big a question.

**Too big!**

But I mean, in terms of, you know, the direction of feminism, maybe or in terms of kind of ...

**I would like to, it does get talked about in some of the groups I mean, about a new Women's Liberation Movement. A new one that's more it's fit for purpose for this day and age, involving the digital revolution and things that's happened. I mean, that's, you know, that's not going to disappear. But we need to - but I would, I want you see, I would like everybody, I like I would like all women to be radical feminists because and it to be understood what radical feminism is about, what it actually is. It's got really good clear analyses of all sorts of different things. I mean, I, I don't know every wom - women aren't radical feminists. Because we need to, to be radical feminists you've got to appreciate where the root of all this has come from. And the root of all where all this has to come from is the way men are running the world. And that's the way they've always run it. But the damage has been done by men. And again, it goes back to not - let's not go into individual, individual men, but talk about systems, that's what I would like to see. I'd like to see these things being taught as what a system is, what an actual structure and system is, and what patriarchy is and how it's running everything. I would like young people to understand that that's not about hating men. It's not about wanting to kill them all, or destroy them. It's about recognising that they are running it. Everything. They're running all of it, every single aspect of our life is being run by men. And that needs to change. I used to do a workshop on this. I used to, it used to be called Women's Position in Society. And I drew them as little houses in a circle and they have roofs and I used to say, 'Who's in the roof space of this? Who's actually running all this?' And of course, it's men that run it all. And that's, the reason I put it in a circle I said, 'Because it's global, there isn't a single society or country anywhere that it's not run by men.' And if you just, and I said, 'And feminism ...' and I used to say that, 'Feminism, for me, radical feminism for me, it was actually us all sitting in a circle with a cup in the middle of the room. And we'd all see the same cup, we wouldn't, we'd see it all from a different position.' So and then I said, 'If we all get up, move round chairs, we would all then see the cup from that person's.' So some of us wouldn't know that it had a handle. Because the handle would be the other side from where we're sitting. But if I got up and swapped places with somebody in the other side, I would see that it had a**

**handle. And I said, 'That's all feminism is. Feminism is just a different way of looking at the same thing.' And I said, 'We just need to know that radical feminism is trying to find out where all that has come from.' I don't want to sound as if I'm telling you stuff that you already know. I don't want to sound all teachy and -**

Not at all.

**But that's what I would like. Feminism being taught for what it is, or what it actually is, which is a way of looking at the same thing differently.**

Yeah. I was I was just thinking as you were saying that I studied sociology at college level. This is sixteen, seventeen years old. And I was taught radical feminism was exactly that thing of man hating, wanting to kill men or like put men on the one side of the equator and women on the other and all of this! And I was taught that! So I was of the impression that I was, I was definitely a liberal feminist because there's no way i i want to kill people! So you know, it sounds absolutely terrifying. And I was just thinking as you're saying that god I so wish that I'd of had some easy to understand and you know, workshop like that they would have put it in such a different way.

**Yes because I say that, don't be afraid for the word radical. It's not it's not what people try and make it out to be. It doesn't mean extreme or off the wall or anything. It literally means what the word means which is root.**