SEPARATION OF SEXES

(Could a girl have a boy or man friend--not her husband or brother or cousin, but just a friend?)

Well, they'd just be friends. And they always just say "That's my friend."

(What word would they use for that?)

I don't know. If this boy say that this girl is his friend--I don't know how. Cause it's one boy and girl. Now some of them, they always just played together.

(Back some time ago, was it all right for little girls to play with little boys?)

Not very long ago they start playing. Since they went to school—that's when they all play together. But long time they didn't do that. (You mean a long time ago girls and boys didn't play together?)

No. Until they went to school, and that's where they played together—learn to play together. But yet it wasn't—their people wasn't satisfied that they played with boys and girls together, but they finally got used to it. Now it's worse.

(Is there some reason why--if you remember people talking about it and complaining about it--what kind of reasons did they have for not liking it?)

Oh, they just didn't want them, you know, some of them they know too much. Like bad words and things that people wouldn't like their children to know. They used to say they learn from the other children. They wanted their kids to grow up in a good way, I guess. (pause) You know, as I tell you, I can't just go ahead and make up things.

(I know it, and I'm glad of it, too.)

Just what I know. But I can't just go and say it was like this and that.