

Q = Main interviewer (Cath)

Q2 = Second interviewer (Alex)

A = Mum (Denise)

B = Dad (Travis)

C = Child 1 (Jeremy, aged 11)

D = Child 2 (Cerys, aged 9)

Acamera, the screen's over the ice with, I'll put the cameras on you.

Q Oh wow.

A To snog each other or to do a dance, so you're either a kiss-cam or dance-cam gets a little reward. So they really work with entertaining the audience, and then the audience go....you know.

Q It sounds amazing.

A Yeah. And then, so I had one, they do have tickets that the ??? Steelers, so you pay £1 for a ticket, I think 50% goes to Steelers and 50% goes into a prize drawer that goes out at the end of the night. There is generally a grand and a half to two grand in that pot, it's got a better chance of winning a grand on that than in the lottery. Or you get to win a car, a Steelers car.

Q Oh right.

A Yeah, they're alright, they know what they're doing to keep their audience ???

D Car! We need a Land Rover one.

Q I was just thinking about kind of like ear defenders for my...

A It's not a Land Rover one, they're just like nice little, I don't know city cars.

Q Does Jeremy wear ear defenders at all because I was just thinking...

A No.

Q No?

A I wasn't sure when I first took him. But he's not...he's not...he's been on the spectrum of one of those things where like back in the day, I don't know, you'd just say he was a bit of a geeky kid or something do you know what I mean, I don't think it would have ever got a name. And the worst symptomatic he ever got was under the care of the teacher who diagnosed him, but he basically was with her for two years and he just went downhill like this for two years, and at the end of that two year process was exhibiting behaviours that made her go 'I think you're somewhere on the spectrum'.

Q OK, right yeah.

A But it was like 'yeah I think that's more fuck more with you and what you were doing with my son'. But yeah. Like he first went to a festival when he was 3 months old. Every year we go to a festival where, you know a couple of thousand knights bat each other around with armour. He is in big noisy events and he copes with them, he just needs to have a space that he can retreat to when he needs to.

Q Yes, that sounds....yeah.

A In the Steelers, it's not a problem to move him around in the seats, so it's not chaotic. They hate you moving if the ice hockey is in play, you're not allowed to move from your seat because the players can get hurt if they're distracted. So it's a controlled crowd, and also it's a crowd with purpose and union, because when the Steelers get a goal for example you do a chant and we all ??? and you have a 'whoosh' to celebrate. Show him the celebration.

D You kind of....whoosh.

Q That sounds really good.

A And there's a lot of like, you know it's like football, there's all the chants that you use ??? you know at least 'let's go Steelers' and you can clap in cheer and so...

Q2 Sounds like a good time.

A It's a fun crowd that you're in unison with and ??? rather than a threatening chaotic thing. I think that helps.

Q Yeah. I always find I never know when ear defenders are going to be necessary, do you know what I mean?

A Jeremy has never had them so I don't know.

Qyeah, and then he doesn't want them. And then other times he's really constantly like 'why didn't you bring them' and I'm like 'I didn't think it would be like this'.

A Yes. I mean I've never had a concern about him in crowds. As I say when he was like 3 months old I took him to this festival, and this festival everyone is in costumes because it's a Medieval Festival, I didn't have a Medieval costume but I did have a Tigger Disney costume and I thought 'I'll stick my baby in that and carry him around with me in my front pouch' and he was facing forward to the crowd. And the entire crowd, like everyone saw a baby in a Tigger costume and went 'oh that baby's so cute'. And Jeremy learned like people that weekend, he learned to smile back at people because everyone he met came up and went 'oh hi' with this big beaming smile next to him. And you could really see that he picked up colours and shapes and all sorts, like he learned a lot in the midst of all that chaos. But when I was back at home a lot of it was just me and Jeremy and silence, you know, so it was quite a transformation back home. But you could see the difference and how much he developed out of the chaos. So yeah. Sometimes you ??? sometimes you just throw them into the mix.