

Conversation with Niki and Raminder

Interview recorded 02 Oct 2021

Part 1: biographical details

R: So, Niki!, So, who are you ? Who, in your own words (Niki "I know !") I know you as a fifty something person and you've got some dogs ,you've got some kids, and I see you wince! erm but it's not really about what I think or what my perception of you is. So, what do you think of yourself?

N: I know! I did...cos I saw that question "who are you?" and it's something that you...you..who sits in the mirror and goes "who am I?" You don't . well, like at your funeral you think people might go like "well, Niki was this..what was she?" it's a very interesting question and it's not one , yeah I didn't come up with a... I'm probably a failed millionaire...I'd love to be (Raminder laughs, Niki joins). I keep thinking one day it'll happen, and you know, no. Erm, don't know, I.. Who am I, I'm many different, I have been many different er...things, I...err yeah , who am I ? I'm a sixty-something mum and grand-mum and dog-rescuer and bluergh err , a wife to some extent (Raminder laughs). Err I don't know, it's a very good, it's a very difficult and interesting question, because I, it might be easier for someone else to describe a person, than for you to describe yourself perhaps.. is that, I don't know!

R: I mean, I, if were asked that question and the roles were reversed, I... I'd have a difficult time answering too.

N: Yeah, it's [cut off]

R: So yeah, really what it's about is trying to get a handle on someone's sense of themselves, how much time they spend in their own heads, what is their own mental image, right, because a lot of people think about how they come across to the world and how they want to be in the world. " I am an aspiring model , or I am an aspiring this that and the other" and they're not afraid to tell you such a thing and I think that tells you something.. I think that tells you how much time they spend in themselves vs how much time they spend almost...really being present with other people. Erm, again, yeah, so no right or wrong answers.

N: There is no...I suppose I do spend quite a bit of time on my own now, because I haven't been working and haven't been in a paid job for a few years now and so I probably do spend more time..most women of my age are still going to work, and I'm not, I'm fortunate enough that I don't have to. So I spend a lot of time at home on my own , with the dogs and basically doing my own thing quite a lot, so, maybe that's where...probably if you'd asked me that question before , you would tie your identity up with what you do quite often, so a few years I'd have said I'm a probation officer and uh..but that's not who I am, that was my job, (laughs), so, yeah, it's.. there is no quick, easy answer, but I did get described by one of my managers as "feral." I was very flattered by that and thought, yeah, I'll take that! (laughs).

R: I mean with them glasses, I'm not inclined to disagree.

N: (laughs), well, yes, they have got animal print on them actually. Err, I'm surprised I managed to stay in paid work for that long, because I'm not very good at taking direction, unless I respect them, or think they know what they're talking about. So yeah quite tricky. I mean the probation thing did teach me an awful lot as well because I came into contact with people who I probably wouldn't come into contact with during the normal course of life so people who'd done some pretty tricky things in their lives, but I found them so interesting, and to the point where, well, I wouldn't be best friends with them, but I wasn't like, doesn't worry me, people who have done, committed crimes, really because they still are just people, and they usually are quite interesting! So yeah that probably changed me a bit, you **do**, change I think, as you go through your decades in life, you completely change. You know, you in a couple of, you know if we're all still here in a few year's time, we'll all be different in 10 years time, in 20 years time, because you're doing different things, you're not, I'm not bringing small children up any more, I'm not fighting a divorce, I'm not finding myself homeless, so I'm in a comfortable, my life is quite comfortable materially, but no-one's life is ever... you never know what's coming emotionally, you just don't know, because it changes from day to day. So probably, who we are, changes on a fairly regular basis.

R: Yes I'd be inclined to agree. In your capacity as a mother and a grandmother, you will be more maternal than would be, having a chat with me and in your capacity as uhh, dog-mum, well that necessitates a different type of communication, right?

N: Absolutely, A lot of shouting. "Shaddap!" "Stop barking!" "What are you eating?" I think the one thing I would like to say about myself is, I like to try and maintain a sense of humour at all times, if possible.

R: I think it's working.

N: (laughs), because I think that you have to see the humour inside of life, cos if you don't you might as well give up now and be dead, so there's humour everywhere if you look at it, if you look for it, and I think part of it, I was speaking to a friend the other day and he's been a bit down in the dumps I said "you need a dog," and he's like "do I?" He's like you, he doesn't really know anything about dogs, and I said "dogs?" "they're always happy!" They just wake up and they're like "yeah, I'm alive! Yeah! And I think being with dogs, maybe that rubs off on you a little bit.

R: I have heard that.

N: They keep you sort of... They have their annoying moments, but they're just sort of in the moment. Alright, some of my dogs have had shitty pasts, and probably came from quite difficult circumstances, but now they're here, they're like.. "yeah, I'm alive, I'm getting fed, I've got a sofa to sit on, and that's kind of like important to keep remembering those things because people get very hung up on the minutiae of life and "Oh I won't have my holiday this year" and "we haven't decorated the house" and "I haven't got the latest this" and that sort of just unimportant really. Health? Your health, and yeah, being..just finding something funny, in the day if you can.

R: Yeah, I think that's fair enough, so erm, you talk about humour and that being an important thing to find in life, and do you have some other sort of spiritual persuasions, you know, if you were to kind of look at the world "as is," is there a religious framework or grand view of the universe almost, that you can kind of say "this thing did this."

N: No. I am, I have no religious persuasion at all, I don't really like organised religion, I think it causes a lot of misery and angst in the world and harm and I struggle with organised religion **[Niki discusses some personal examples where those near her have made choices she does not agree with, but has come to terms with, despite the emotional toll they took on her.]**

R: OK.

N: Personally no, I don't have any religious. and you know even with monitoring the telegram group, I don't like people posting stuff either for or against religion because I think it...it you can't single one out against the other, they're all equally as... not relevant in my view and so erm, I think we'd all be a lot better off without it, but that's my view. **[Redacted]**

If you've been immersed in a strict religion from a young age, I think it almost... seems like, it's a very big ask, I think for people to leave it. Um, and I watched a lot of stuff about um. The, what's the one that John Travolta and um...

R: Scientology?

N: I've watched a lot about Scientology, cos there's a girl called Leah Remini who's really into it, she was brought up into it, and I've watched a lot of her stuff and it's like erm, when you're in it, it's almost like you can't see it for what it is and what it's doing to you, it's a bit like when you're in an abusive relationship, you keep making excuses for the person and their behaviour and "oh yeah that's ok they don't mean it," so I think it's a bit like that isn't it. So, it's a big ask. **[Redacted, personally sensitive]** maybe some people need that in their life.

R: Yeah, I just just remember... I know what series you're talking about because I think I watched all the episodes, er with Leah Remini, and the best bit I thought was just where, she's a bolshy Italian American isn't she, and somebody said something to her and she just goes "fock awf" and that was it (laughter).

N, There's a new season now, she's still doing it, I mean she wants to bring them down, it's kinda like her mission I think, in life! so good for her because I think they've caused an awful lot of...destruction in people's lives and we still don;t know what's happened to David Miscavige's wife, the guy who runs it now, because she's not been seen for years!

R: There's been some talk that she was sighted and she's a shell of a human being, but then again that's not a surprise to anyone, and I do see some parallels actually between post-covid brainwashing and people who have been through the Scientology meat grinder and we'll cover that a bit later I think, but that's..do you know what I mean? like, there's a lot of er people from the Scientology community or ex scientologist and they they do talk quite in depth about their own post-traumatic stress experiences, and I'm kind of thinking "you know, there's a lot of overlap here."

N: Yeah, Yeah. I think there is actually. Yeah. Although you don't expect this to be done by the government do you? (laughs) It's a pretty big operation to take on the whole, well the whole world, but ambition, you have to admire their ambition, I guess.

R: So if, if organised religion isn't really your bag, how is right and wrong made? What makes something right, and what makes something wrong?

N: That is another very good question and I do think although the bible is full of a lot of bullshit, and a lot of quite violent stuff, I never read it but got bits and pieces obviously but, I think the whole thing about, yeah you know, where does it come from, where does morality come from, is it from your upbringing, cos obviously I've met a lot of kids who have had terrible upbringings and so when they get to be adults they don't really have a moral compass, because they've never been given one from a young age, if your parents are drug addicts and thieves and are involved in criminal acts, then er, you kind of think that's OK, normal, so I guess it comes from environment to some degree, depending on what sort of education you got and I think that everyone's moral compass is slightly different [Redacted] I don't think morality, doesn't necessarily...Everyone bends things to suit themselves, really, I don't know.

I think mine comes from my family, just kind of quite an ordinary family, I guess growing up in the 60's, uh you were a bit afraid of teachers and policemen and uh your elders to some degree, so maybe, now I see a difference in the generation that's coming up, the "me generation," I call them the mcdonald's generation, who want everything instantly (Raminder: with fries?)...yeah, I think an interesting one is with music, when I was growing up, if you wanted a record or to listen to something on the radio, there wasn't much radio, some pirate radio, there was radio 1, erm top of the pops once a week, you would save up for a record and you'd go and buy it and you'd play it over and over again, well now, people don't pay for music anymore, it's all free! They just, or they have streaming service. Everything's changed and yeah, don't know. Right and wrong, I can't tell you really, I think there's a lot of mixed up factors of things, but at the end of the day we all make our own judgement about what's right and wrong and, that's quite a big question isn't it?

R: It is, it is. I've spent a fair amount of time thinking about it, so I can appreciate I could give you a back of the fag packet answer but, you know, the thing is, that's not universally applicable, nor should it be.

N: No, Is it always wrong to, just lately, I've thought there's some people I could quite happily bash over the head with a frying pan and not think twice about it really (laughs), whether I'd regret it afterwards, I don't know, if I didn't think I was going to get into trouble, I think, there's probably have been people in my life I could quite happily bump off. (Laughs)

R: I think that's a fairly universal thing, I've thought with a lot of people "life would be easier if this person just wasn't here."

N: Yeah, yeah. I've seen some pretty horrific things done to animals, defenceless animals, which really upsets me and, I do have a dilemma every day of my life because I choose not to eat meat, because I say to myself If I had to strangle or kill the animal, involved, then that's not gonna happen, I can't kill something so that I can eat it, so that's one of the reasons I stopped eating meat, but my dogs are all raw fed. Now, I know that's a good diet for them, that it keeps them, healthy it's very good and I've got rescue chickens and yet here I am doling them out meat that someone else has killed so that they can eat it and something that has been raised, you know that's a big moral dilemma in my head, every day.

R: I suppose it's interesting thing you're seeing that because, it's that whole thing of of something can be morally prescribed or proscribed (you either should do it, must do it or shouldn't or mustn't do it) um and if that thing crosses a certain principle like, preventing animal suffering, then yeah, not eating meat helps do that, but yeah, the difficulty comes in squaring up something which doesn't help that along, like wearing leather shoes or indeed raw feeding your dogs. You know many times, people don't stop and take note of those contradictions. The fact that you're able to say "I'm in the middle of this" and see there's a sort of like crossroads where..they don't quite stack up... it's rarer than I'd like it to be.

N: Yeah I think everyone should think about it, but you know, it's the responsibility of owning an animal that needs a certain diet. Mean if they could factory make meat, which I know they're working on now, some people go "(gasp) I could never eat that, that's frankenstein" I don't see that, I see that as quite a useful scientific advance if they can take a cell, grow meat from it, then fine, I'd happily feed it to my animals, I might even eat it myself, you know? Nothing died, that's all good, so I'm actually quite down with that idea, but lots of people are really offended by the idea of growing meat in a laboratory. Don't really understand why but there you go.

R: Yeah, I mean that's a strange debate. In effect beer is grown, you have your wheat, your hops, your whatever and it's fermented by yeast, you take the booze and you do whatever to it and that's it. It's in effect, it is grown. People swill down beer as you well know.

N: Where were we? Right and wrong, where does It come from?

R: Yeah, but, you know, to you also, what is a Human? Is it a biological being? Is it a meat sack, basically with some bone, or is it a transcendental vibration flowing through space or whatever they call it.

N: (Laughs) A human being? I think we're the biggest parasite on the planet, frankly.

R: That's very agent Smith. I like that. You ever seen the Matrix?

N: Yeah, we've taken this beautiful plant and we've basically raped it and pillaged it and frankly, ruined it in many ways. I think we're a disgusting species (laughs), a lot of us! So yeah, I don't really like most, lots of humans. There's some very nice humans, yeah, anyone who, there are some good humans but there are some *bad* humans and we're just not a very nice species, I don't think, all in all. Uh, I'm not saying it's a good idea to wipe a lot of us out, but I can see why the planet might benefit.

R: Well, that's the drive behind trying to get people to have less kids isn't it?

N: Yeah, yeah.

R: Yeah

N: And maybe that isn't a bad idea, but I don't really like the way they're going about it at the moment, but there probably are too many of us on this planet, if you actually stop and think about it, can we sustain it? I don't know, I'm not going to be here in a hundred years so...

R: You don't know that, they might come up with something tomorrow and then you'll get to see the whole shitshow to the very bitter end.

N: Mm. I'm not sure, not sure I really wanna. Having, now watching my parents in law deteriorate into their old age, I don't want to get that old and that incapable (laughs).

R: No, I mean, that's fair enough. So, you're kind of thinking "Ok, we're a locust horde, we're parasites, and that sort of thing, you sort of bought up in the preamble almost when we were talking about dogs, like, the human is an animal almost, not 4 legged, doesn't bark, doesn't wander around naked but that's where it begins and ends...So is the human an animal, except one that wanders around with clothes on?"

N: Yes! We are an animal! Look at how people have started fighting over toilet rolls and bloody petrol! I mean, yes! We're basic! When it comes down to it, we are utterly basic, we can't stand in a supermarket aisle and go "well there's 8 packets of toilet rolls here, I'll just take the one and leave the others for my fellow humans." No! We want them all and if anyone wants to get them off me, I'm gonna fight them for for it. No! We're very basic. And If the rules of society were to, you know [collapse?], you could see how quickly we would descend into anarchism, completely, if there's real shortages, I do think, seriously we need to get a gun (laughs). I don't know. But, take away the veneer of civilisation, if you like and we just descend very quickly into survival of the fittest.

R: I think you're right.

N: Yeah, I think I am. If people are gonna fight over toilet rolls, there's no hope is there really. I mean, toilet rolls, that's not even food (laughs). Yeah. It would be very scary.

(we have a chat about film)

R: I think I know the answer to this one and you probably do, but let's just get it for the record. How would you feel if you weren't invited to a party? Are you more comfortable in groups or on your own?

N: (whispering) Don't care. (Laughing) I'm quite relieved actually if I don't...If we hear someone's getting married and we're not invited, we're like "thank fuck." (Raminder Laughs). No, I don't care. Years ago I might have been a bit upset. I think I got a bit upset once when a friend of mine, she was blurting to me that her husband booked this big house for her 40th or something and I didn't get an invite for that, and I was really fucked off actually- why TELL me you're having it, then don't invite me? Cos I can't even say "No thanks, I don't wanna come." So, but I don't think now, no, I really don't care (laughs).

R: So is it kind of like, a kind of "you take me or you leave me," "I am who I am, I don't necessarily know who I am, but this is who I am."

N: Yeah. It has to be now, it has to be. I think you get to the point where you just think "I can't try and bend myself into the person you want me to be," erm and I'm not going to, so, yeah that's basically it. I think the old thing about "treat others as you would like to be treated yourself is kind of a fairly ..an aspiration, a sort of aspiration to try and be like that although I am very..I am quite judgy, I'm judgy of morbidly obese people and (laughs), we went to Legoland couple of weeks ago, I've not been to anywhere like that for ages. I was

absolutely shocked at the amount of vastly overweight people trudging around there and I was like “what has happened to the population! Do people not look in mirrors?” like, really literally, horrifically overweight and you just think wow... no wonder, people are gonna, they will die, because they’re all gonna die of heart disease or whatever. Yeah. But parties, no. I’ve done my partying I think. I’m really not bothered anymore. I’d just sit in the corner...and observe, I like to observe, I’m a bit of a watcher (laughs).

(we talk a bit about Stand in the Park), key quote, N: “I don’t think I did it to make friends, I don’t really know why I thought, well I thought I’m not really doing anything else and I’m really moaning a lot about this, what’s going on, So I should do something, and that seemed like something I could do, but that’s one of the reasons.”

Part 2: health policy

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R: What is Covid, and what’s a lockdown? What do those 2 things mean to you?

N: Well. Covid obviously, there’s an illness going around, like a flu, it’s been blown up to make us believe it’s something a lot worse than it really is, the tests are shit and this...I think Covid is a means to an end of something else. It’s not about our health, what I think I’ve concluded.

The lockdown again, it **just** seems to me there’s no logic behind any of it, there’s no science behind any of it and it just seems more like..it has to be...I mean I’m not a conspiracy theorist (I think we’ve had this conversation) and I’m quite sceptical of most conspiracies, but because none of it makes sense there has to be something else, behind it, because, this has never happened in our life, no it’s never happened in a whole world thing where they’ve just tried to lock the world and ruin the economy and ruin people’s businesses and stop us seeing our families and all that shit, so there’s... There has to be more to it because people aren’t dropping down dead like flies are they? Because If they were, we’d all know somebody.

R: Quite.

N: Well, we don’t or a lot of us don’t.

N: I don’t know what it is, there’s lot and lots and lots of theories out there. There’s something and it could be to do with...(sighs) the whole UN agenda 2030 thing. I knew the vaccine thing was coming because I started watching the HighWire 3-4 years ago and they’ve been talking about this adult vaccination program that they knew America was going to try and bring in. So kinda knew they were trying to do something with vaccines for quite a long time, so whether that’s tied with it, you know, maybe, I don’t know. But this isn’t a vaccine they’re giving everybody so...it’s something else...

R: Indeed (Niki laughs). So, it's like a definition thing, for a lockdown, mandatory business closures, mandatory restrictions on gatherings in the plainest sense of the word.

N: It's an overreach by the government into our own risk assessment and our own lives and because it's so unprecedented, because they did all that, well, other people started to think "Oh well it must be really serious then because look how, my god, they're doing this to protect us all!" you know, they're not. They're not doing it to protect you. They're doing it for some other reason. So, but that's how they've managed to grab people, people are stupid though. I mean that's the other thing, that's the other thing I think you kind of realise is like, people are pretty stupid. Erm, they don't think anymore.

R: (sighs), yeah, well, I mean, so yeah, where's this going then? What is new Normal?

N: The New Normal?

R: Yeah, we hear that phrase bandied around by lots of people, many of whom... it would be better if they weren't here...(Niki Laughs) but, erm it's a phrase that seems to be entering the lexicon, so er, what does it mean to you?

N: Well.. to me it's just bullshit, and I won't be, I will never...well if they want us to have all this vaccine passport shit and all this like, well I don't, no! And I won't participate in whatever society there is left, I just, I don't care. The vaccinated can go off and do what they want and, but there's surely, you keep thinking to yourself, "there must come a point where even the most obedient," like you don't know about this guy, but [name redacted]'s got this friend on facebook, his name is [redacted] and I've had so many arguments with him that I banned him, I blocked him in the end, well he's blocked me as well, because he's so complicit, so compliant going "the government are doing it for own own good, lalalalala" and it's like even, surely there must come a point even in someone like that's life when they line up for their booster jab of this and yet they still been told they've got to wear a mask, Surely something in their head must go "hang on a minute, this seems a bit much." (laughs) I don't know! I really don't know.

We're in a state of flux aren't we and you're constantly surprised by the utter rubbish that comes off of mainstream when I do bother to watch it. Though I don't know what the new normal's gonna be, I can't, I don't know but I don't want anything to do with...if it's to do with, I don't wanna be tracked and traced and have my bank account monitored and, no thank you.

R: One of the things that did stick to me actually is on the stand telegram, you were, there was a discussion on how to slip through the net of showing vax passes for nightclubs I think and there was you saying "I ain't doing that, to try to bypass is to comply with it in some way." I found that quite admirable and in some ways, it galvanises my own stance. To self-exempt, or whatever is to in some way accept the legitimacy of what is going on.

N: mmm. Yeah, like when I went to the restaurant and they wouldn't let me in because I wouldn't give them my details, people just went "give them fake ones." No!, No! No no no! Not doing it! No! Because then you are...not even trying to bypass it, you're kind of going along with it aren't you to some degree. Yeah, I just can't do it, I just don't... If other

people want to, that's up to them if they want to play that game, but why would you if you don't believe in any of it?

R: Yeah. Is it a kind of thing of one should, or one does eventually have to suffer for their principles? Erm do you see what I mean? If somebody's a vegetarian and they've come from being a vegetarian, some of my friends have from eating meat, then what they've done there, is they've privileged animal welfare over a bacon sandwich, to put it crudely. Even though they might really like bacon, it ain't on the menu anymore, right? And I'm kind of wondering if there's a similar kind of attitude in that, of not going along with the sort of surveillance, biosurveillance state, because you don't believe in it and therefore, regardless of the inconvenience, you don't want anything to do with it.

N: mm. Yeah, definitely. I...I've worn a mask right, once in all of this and that **was** when I fell down the **stairs** early on in lockdown and my husband dragged me to the hospital, late at night and they kind of...I was so indignant I took a selfie with this mask on going "grrrr," but I took it off quite quickly because there was nobody there! And that's the **only** time I've ever worn one and I will.... I know lots of people who don't agree with it, I mean even my mum she goes "oh no, I don't agree with it, but I'm just gonna put a mask on because I don't want any aggravation." WELL THEN YOU'RE COMPLYING AREN'T YOU! You know, you have to stand up for it, even if it means you can't go in somewhere, is there anywhere you wanna go in that much, really, I don't know.

Obviously it's not been put to the test massively for me because I haven't been put in the situation where, you know if I needed a life saving operation and they said, "well you can't have it unless you have your vaccine" that's a tricky thing isn't it, it's like well I need this surgery but you can't have it unless you have it [the jab], I don't know, until I'm put in the situation I can't say. I think I..I'd like to think I'd say no, still, don't want it, still not having it, so I'll just die from whatever it is that's killing me then! (laughs, Raminder: you'd go down as a covid death!). Yeah, It'll be like she died a martyr true to her beliefs (!), don't know. It's very easy to say, yeah I'm never gonna do this, but so far, I don't think I've compromised my stance, so far.

R: I think that's fair enough.

(R talks about his own experience in taking off the mask, we talk about the local doctor's practice and their masking policy, and mask altercations) N: "I don't know where it comes from because I'm not particularly confrontational, I might come across as quite confident, I'm not really, but I felt so...what's the word, insulted and just no! I don't know where it comes from, I really don't."

R: So tell me a little bit about when Bojo went along and said "you must stay at home." You know, how messed up did life get and how about that of those who were close to you?

N: Really, to be honest, actually it didn't really have a massive effect on my day to day life. My husband can't work from home, so he went to work every day, my youngest son doesn't work outside the house anyway, he's doing stuff inside, you know his crypto stuff, so it didn't affect him. My mum's retired so she's next door anyway, er, I didn't stop seeing my other son, who's got a removals business and he still carried on doing that, they were quite busy actually and my daughter in law's family weren't down with it at all, so the only people who it maybe affected, it affected my husband's mother more because they, she

was up in Northampton and they were quite stranded and we had to find some help for them, locally, cos we didn't really wanna drive up there, I mean I would have done if I needed to but, we didn't really want to...

But erm, we actually moved them last year, they moved, we were trying to buy a house for them in the middle of it all actually so that was a bit weird, but yeah, my day to day life wasn't that much affected because my husband was actually quite good because I hurt my ankle right at the beginning of lockdown I couldn't go anywhere anyway, so I couldn't drive, so I was sort of a bit stranded anyway and he was getting the shopping, so, I was probably pretty lucky in lots of respects because I wasn't massively impacted.

Apart from I did find it weird if I went into town, I did take my mum into town once or twice because she wanted to do some things and I found it so weird how all the shops were closed and umm, but yeah I wasn't I think I was very fortunate in the fact that I didn't..I was just bewildered how people were **just** going "oh I can't see my grandchildren," just go and see them! Have them round, what's wrong with you! But no.

Raminder: hmm.

N: But we fell out with a few people, but then we had that over Brexit, so that's nothing new, is it? no.

R: Well, it's division on division on division isn't it? Well, you talked about [redacted], but I guess there's many [redacted] and actually, so you know, what did you sort of, when you look at the mass of the public and Joe and Jane average, what did you think about their response to the measures? You mentioned briefly about compliance and the shock thereof but what more can you tell me about that? Why was it a shock? Why was it like "oh my god this is nuts?"

N: I don't know I think I just probably thought the British don't really like to be told what to do, I thought, I thought people were much more independent minded and more..."you want me to do *what*?" "No I'm not doing that. No, it really shocked me how compliant people were and we used play this little game because we overlook the Shell petrol station from my landing window, you know and we'd look out there and see things coming in and be like "ok they're gonna put a mask on" and you'd see these big burly blokes getting out of their vans and they'd get out their mask and put it on, and I... what? I was just...I don't even think I've gotten over it yet.

Just shocked at how easily people went for it and how they didn't even bother to research to say "well is this mask actually gonna save me?" you know, it doesn't make any sense, people rushing to make masks, buy masks and I...I'll never get over that I don't think. I think it was just a complete surprise to me. Oh and a long term friend told me she couldn't be friends with me anymore because, I've known her since we were like teenagers, she couldn't be friends with me anymore because of my attitude.

R: Charming (Niki: OK!)

(R talks about his own impacted relations)]

R: I think the [damaged relations go across both sides, that's the reason I've written what I've written at times and the kinda sheer shock actually of what people think and don't think about."

N: "That seems to be the theme, we just seem to be like "what, what what?" (laughs)

R: and it does grieve me a little bit that there's people I can't really look in the eye any more .

N: mm. I'm absolutely sure that some friendships are irreparable now, yeah. And frankly, the attitude of people who are very much "you must do this and must do..." is like, I don't even think I want to have anything to do with you any more because clearly you're not who I thought you were, so there's that as well.

R: Yeah.

N: But I know I'm an exception because I have seen, am on a lot of facebook groups and have seen a lot of people whose adult children think that they're insane, and can't understand why they won't get vaccinated, and I'm very fortunate that my family's all pretty much on the same page. [Niki divulges some personally sensitive information about some people who have undergone coerced vaccination. She says she would rather not lie to people about precautions she has, or hasn't taken and likens a coerced vaccination to getting a large tattoo on one's arm because someone else told them to.]

R: Well yeah, this is the thing we talked about media and the kind of, you've got Del Bigtree's Highwire and I'm in full agreement, the BBC should be ashamed of themselves, so. Where do you get your news from?

N: Yeah, well, I'd been watching the Highwire for some time, I think I told you this ages ago, when I started looking into vaccines, just idly thinking "oh what vaccines will my grandson be getting now he's popped into the world?" and then I fell into that "Oh, fucking hell" (laughs), changed a bit, ok they're jabbing children right left and centre now and then a lot of things started to make more sense to me when I started watching the Highwire, because they were talking about ADHD and autism and everything and then I did a lot more reading and stuff, looked at Sherri Tenpenny and lots of other... so before this all blew up I suppose I was always... which is fortunate because had I not been already a little bit "ooh what is going on with vaccines having not really given it a huge amount of thought before, I may may have well been a bit more taken in, I'd like to hope not but who knows?

I'd already been bashing on about it for quite a while and getting my kids to watch, especially my eldest son to watch stuff about because I was really worried about my **Grandson** getting his MMR and "I think you should delay it and" so, yeah I'd kind of already opened that door, peeked in! Like "hello!" and sort of wished, ooh I shouldn't have looked down this hole, but yeah, so I knew, where was I, ah yes my news, yeah so then I found UKColumn, which I find quite interesting, I think they're all a little bit religious on there but they don't push it (R: Alex Thompson used to preach and stuff I think")

[Niki gives opinion on the presenters]....I still think they give a pretty balanced view and they've been a voice of sanity through all this, erm so I do watch that, and I've started watching Pandemic Podcast with Dan Astin-Gregory but I find him a bit waffly.

R: He's quite umm, he talks a lot.

[More on the pandemic podcast]- Key quote, Niki: "I have a very very low boredom threshold, so **if** someone doesn't interest me quite early on, I'm just like "no bye" (laughs).

N: I like that Australian guy on Sky News, he's funny as anything, that old guy, what's his name, don't see him, he's so to the point, he's criticising Megan and Harry this week, going.

R: Is the guy who looks like father Jack, but in a suit?

N: Yeah, I think that's right, he's quite old, he's in his 60's but he's very on point (laughs). I like him. So yeah, I've watched a fair few things, I kind of go off things.

[N talks about reaching a saturation point with the Highwire, and trying to get more people to watch it.]

N: People can't listen to long interviews, can they? They're so used to their news in kind of like, 3, 2 minute sections you ask them to concentrate on anything that's a bit longer, they can't do it! Even a relation of mine who's pretty educated, he asks me "what do you think, what do you think" because early on I said to him "that Fauci's a fucking criminal," he goes "he's not," "I said he bloody well is." And he wouldn't have it, he goes "I think he's alright," yeah ok whatever, "watch this then" you know and I ask him to watch things, given he's educated, you'd think he'd have the ability to watch something that lasted longer than 5 minutes, but I don't know. You have to lend yourself to it, don't you? You have to take some time out and listen to it.

R: Yeah, I think part of this as well is the messaging, you know the other side have been pretty horrendous in ramping up fear, anxiety. UKColumn does a pretty good dissection of this, so what do you think the impacts have been of that messaging and how do you feel the messaging surrounding this "stuff" has been handled?

N: It's horrendous. It's criminal. Bordering on criminal, I think the way the media have all said the same thing, well they're all owned by the same people aren't they so what do you expect, there is no free, no journalism any more I don't think, I think the only people who are doing true journalism are the people who are not getting their paychecks from big corporations, so it's all now homogenised isn't it, it's all one, you can see, I'm sure you've seen it on the highwire where they show you the little snippets where they take all the different news channels and they're all saying the exact same sentence.

R: Not on highwire, but I have seen that stuff, yeah.

N: Yeah. It's like a script, they're all reading from the same script. They're all using the same language, the same terminology, so it's like mass brainwashing, is what it is. There is...and that's why I like UKColumn, they are actually talking like human beings rather than reading from a script, so it's awful, absolutely awful, I think there's one girl, Anna Brees, I think she does supposedly something a bit more...she's an ex BBC journalist or something I think.

R: I think she's ex ITV, curly blond, not blond ginger, she's kinda curly haired right?

N: No, that's not her, she has got a Youtube channel now called the Anna Brees something...I don't know. I've watched her a few times, I'm a bit on the fence about her, I don't know. I don't know. That's the thing isn't it, everyone's full of like "oh they're all controlled opposition and they're this and they're that" and you're like OK, so... is there nobody left that I can actually believe in any more? (laughs), so it's all got a bit scary out

there, its like oooo-eeeeer. Where do you get news from? I don't know, it's certainly not off mainstream media though that's for sure, Unless it's that Australian guy.

R: Was it ever before?

N: Well, yeah was it? That is it, that makes you distrust everything doesn't it now and partly, I think why I learnt to be a bit sceptical was because of the research and background I did into the whole MMR thing with Andrew Wakefield and because every time you see Andrew Wakefield's name mentioned in mainstream news, it says "oh the discredited doctor," well anyone who's done an hour's worth of research into Andrew Wakefield knows that's not true, knows the full story and knows exactly what happened to him, [he] was basically gaslighted out of his job, so as soon as I see that I think "that's not journalism that's just somebody copying and pasting something from somewhere else," they've done no research of their own so then you think yeah, well it's all bullshit isn't it? So, yeah, I don't know I've completely...I never thought our television would be so quiet in our house, because we just turned it off.

R: Was that around the time the shitshow kicked off? Or was it a culmination of things?

N: About, yeah when it all kicked off, I just said I'm not watching this any more, because it was just fear mongering, fear porn all day long. Pandemic this.

R: I have to admit, that is something very similar to what happened with me, once the BBC...I can't really describe it, but it got more and more dystopian ans time went on, as we went from Jan 2020 to March 2020, there was a point where I just thought, "fuck this, I'm not watching this any more, I'm not reading BBC news any more." You know, I used to have the today program on in my car when I drove to work. I don't any more. It's pretty terrible and certainly one of the things that I've seen is people... not only do the media recycle their own talking points, they absolutely do, but then people who you know and love do the same thing too, right, so you can enter into something of a socratic debate with them, right and you kind of have a good approximation of what they're gonna say, because they've lifted it straight off...whatever.

N; Yep Yep, they're just repeating what they've seen and they're not giving any thought to it, they're not applying any logical thinking, they're not going. When you say to them "don't you think that this whole going into a restaurant and putting your mask on when you walk in but taking it off when you sit down when you go to the toilet.." Think! Think! It's like, you just want to get people and shake them don't you!

(N talks about the effect of masks) "I can't understand why people can't, the I think if you're that stupid then quite frankly, you deserve whatever you catch. I know that's really mean, but it's kind of like the Darwin awards isn't it?"

[We then talk about the drawbacks of reaching people]

[N talks about reading Sucharit Bhakdi's book and how people have **started** exploring things outside their usual knowledge base] "When you look at the people who are coming out and saying this is wrong, why are they saying that, what's in it for them? It goes back to the Andrew Wakefield thing/ Your whole perception on everything changes so much."

N: So why has [Bhakdi] bothered to write it [his book]? Maybe because he's quite a good person, and you know, he's not an anti-vaxxer, because suddenly everyone who doesn't want a vaccine, suddenly they're an anti-vaxxer.

R: He's quite credentialled, as are a lot of these people, I can get access to people's publication records and so on, so forth and yeah they were trying to say Mike Yeadon was a janitor at Pfizer and things that he is not, whereas his publication record says otherwise.

N: What's in it for him? What is in it for him? Why would he come out and say this? And I think that's what people aren't looking at isn't it, they don't think OK, so if you're gonna risk your career, because they've been quite a few doctors haven't there who've come out, who were saying quite early on, "we're killing people, we're putting them on ventilators and we shouldn't be doing this and it's really bad for them." They had nothing to gain, nothing.

R: And they haven't made themselves scarce which I think is also the very interesting thing because I remember when Yeadon actually got big, and his first outing was kind of on the Delingpod back in July 2020 and he said "If I'm wrong, can somebody please tell me where I'm wrong?"

N: Yes, exactly and he was asking people, wasn't he to come and say "come on, let's have the debate, let's have it." And Cahill, Dolores Cahill was the same wasn't she? She said "I'll happily debate anybody." I'm kind of in two minds about her, I've heard some kind of weird stuff about her so I'm not too sure of her actual motivations but, yeah there's been too many people who have nothing to gain but have a lot to lose who clearly know much more about the subject than me and I think why wouldn't I listen to them, over someone like Chris Whitty, who, or P Vallance, who I don't find very credible, Or believable.

R: And these debates should be had!

N: Yeah, Absolutely, why aren't they being had?

Part 3, the future

R: More generally then, how has this affected the way you relate to others? I mean, you seem like quite a family person, so I guess in that sense, not a whole lot has changed.

N: No.

R: But erm, in your interactions with Joe and Jane Q. Public, when you look at a throng of people, let's say and they're all going by doing their business, has the way that you look at them changed since all of this stuff went online?

N: Well, if they're wearing masks, yeah my automatic assumption as soon as I see someone who's in a mask is "they might as well have "idiot" across their forehead."
(laughs)

R: Say how you feel!

N: Well, they may as well have, because I just look at someone who's out, especially if they're out in the street, wearing a mask, I think, "well, you're either very scared, or you're very stupid." (R: hmm) and it could be a combination of both, I assume, but I...I just wouldn't waste my time, any more... I've got a friend who's mum's not very well and hasn't been since she got jabbed but she wears a mask and everything, and I really like her but, I just think "[redacted], why are you so taken in by this?" and yeah...it's definitely changed my opinion of people and I don't think that will ever go away, now. Some people, you'll just never...It's irreversible isn't it really...Maybe if all this dwindles away and is a distant memory, maybe, but I get the feeling that it has created a big wedge.

R: Less...less trust? Less ability to predict somebody's behaviour as something gets introduced?

N: Yeah. And also how...er, you could see a lot of spitefulness, and a lot of...cos I know a lot of people say things differently when they're typing it and it's like, you see some nasty things on facebook, but hmm the general sort of thing about "oh well if you won't have your vaccine, or you won't wear a mask, then you shouldn't get treatment from the NHS," it's kind of very black and white, whereas I didn't see that from...this side, the sceptic side, we just seem to have more like, concern for other people, like maybe you're harming yourself by wearing a mask or you know, please go and see your family, don't cut yourself off, whereas we seem more benign, they were more...cancerous almost (laughs), like raaar! Yeah, that's what it seemed to bring up.

R: I think Biden's behaviour surrounding the vax mandates substantiates that quite nicely. So, yeah, in terms of relationship to the state, like I'd happily pay my tax and all the rest of it and I'm sure plenty of others were happy enough taxpayers and generally had something of an..OK relationship with those who govern us. How about now?

N:(Pause) Yeah. I mean, I've always thought they hold their hand out a little bit too much on the old tax side and we don't always get good value for money, but you just kind of accept it, you accept it as you're a citizen of a fairly safe country and a fairly well run country and we don't...Well, I'm not political, and I didn't get political until Brexit and I've never been interested in politics *at all*. I don't find the subject interesting in any way, but I think I am much more aware now of the people who are running our country, they're distant! It's a distant thing, it doesn't really impact on your day to day life *normally*.

Now, I think I have a much less...I don't trust them, I mean I've never really trusted politicians I don't think, but I....there's one or two that have stood up against it all, but then they've stood up and said "blah blah blah" but then they go queue up for their vaccines! Well it's like you're giving me a mixed message here! I don't...I don't know, I wouldn't... If I

could leave this country and go and live somewhere else that wasn't down with all this, I'd go. If I had the choice, If I was a millionaire and I could just choose to live anywhere, I wouldn't move here, I think.

R: Don't blame ya.

N: (laughs), I'd get out, but I don't know where I'd go, I'd have to buy an island obviously and make my own rules, that would be kind of fine (R laughs).

R: It's always fine when you're the boss right?

N: Exactly, yeah totally.

[We talk about telegram group administration and it segues into discussions about where we get our information from, John Dee's Almanac, Gato Malo are named.]

Key quote, N: "One thing Covid's done is made us all look into things we probably would never have looked into before, you know, maybe not you so much because you're already in the sciency world, but for a lot of us, it's like tackling subjects that are quite alien, really, I suppose."

[R discusses the possibility that the reason this state of affairs has persisted is due to people's unfamiliarity with the microbial world, N talks about how she's looking out of the window, and sees people wearing masks].

R: Have you established a trend, have you got a predictive model now of who's going to muzzle up and doesn't?

N: No. No, It's quite hard actually to tell, erm no. You can't always tell at all, but it's not so much now since the mandate...since they've said "please wear one if you can," there's a lot less people, but at one point, it would be, only very few who wouldn't put one on as they went into the shop to pay, very few. Yeah, even one girl I saw her get out of the car and she had like dreadlocks and pink and green hair and she was quite hippy looking, I thought "she's not gonna put one on, surely," nah, she did.

I thought she looks like a rebel, she's never gonna wear one, and men, the men surprise me, how compliant the men are, very, it's just something I'll never be able to get used to that whole mask thing...and they're just pulling them out of their like pockets and out their glove compartments and you know off the dashboard, it's like "oh yeah, that's gonna do **so** much for you." (laughs)

R: It tells of a strange future and it's, it's gone on for some time, this bloody rubbish.

N: Well, the mask wearing, must be like what, 18 months, easily now! Surely?

R: Well, 14 if we say from the 24th of July. People were kind of obviously doing it beforehand, but the uptake increased when that SI was introduced, so yeah, 14 months.

N: Long time!

R: Yeah. In light of the vax passes erm, the muzzle mandates, the muzzle decrees, how do you think this is all going to end? You know, what do you think the future's gonna look like?

N: It's a very big question, another big question! You have some big questions!

R: Need a big answer.

N: Yeah, and it's I don't know, I mean, you couldn't have predicted this could you? Not in a million years I don't think. No, I really have got no idea. I'd like to hope people would go (claps hands) "what is this shit" but then I saw something this morning saying this video about this next thing they're bringing out with a vaccine that's got Ricin? In or something?

R: What?!

N: Yeah, where did that come from? I'll send it to you. And it's like "oh ok, that's the next thing is it?" "Covid hasn't killed enough people off, so this is out next phase." I don't know, so no, it's very unpredictable. It's like living in a **movie** that you don't wanna be part of. I'm an extra in a film that I didn't sign up for and I'm not getting paid for. So, yeah, I don't know. I really have not got a clue what our future looks like. I know what I'd like it to look like! Whereas all this shit goes away and people go back to some semblance of normality, but, I don't know.

I think what it holds at the moment, if they carry on vaccinating children in the way they are, I think there's gonna be a lot more younger people dying and having serious adverse reactions, whether that will make people stop and think a little bit more, I don't know, I'd

like to hope so, but I don't know. But you know the whole anti-vaccine movement, it's only if you go and look for it, that you find it, like Children's Health Defence, the Vaxxed Bus and Vaxxed the movie, you know they've gone round on their big bus, they have interviewed people whose children have been vaccine damaged and each story is a little tragedy of its own and yet most people don't know about this because until it touches your life, until you are directly affected by these things, you don't care! It's just nothing to you! If you've lost a child, or a child that you...know has been vaccine damaged, then you wake up. By then it's too late!

R: Hm.

N: There's a guy called Nick Catone, (Sports Personality) he's in America, he lost his little boy to a vaccine injury and he posts a picture of him every day. You know his little boy was not very old when he died, he was a toddler. And each time you read one of his posts, he goes "Night night Nicholas, I miss you with all my heart" you know and you just think "that guy's never going to be right again," he lost his child unnecessarily to something he thought was doing the right thing, by having his kid vaccinated and his kid died. You never come back from that.

R: They say there's no greater tragedy than a parent burying their kid.

N: Absolutely, and from something that didn't need...he probably didn't need that vaccine.

R: Hm,

N: But that's what people are like, they go along in their own little bubble, in their own little world and until something pokes them in the arse and goes "hello," they're oblivious. They just think it's not true "oh it must have been something else." No, it wasn't. It was a vaccine death. And they're very common, much more common than people know, but people don't look into it and I think that's the sad part and because they don't want us to look into it, I mean it's about money isn't it? When it comes down to it, Big Pharma, I didn't really know this but Big Pharma, they... it's all about money, money money money. Money.

(We talk about how drugs are advertised in the US, R talks about the opioid crisis and antidepressant adverts, N highlights the conflicts of interest in Big Pharma) N: "There's a lot of people with conflicts of interest in these things, people in governmental positions who've also got shares in things and fingers in pies, it's all the corruption, you know it goes on but like, mostly doesn't affect your life, you just like, no kinda goes over your head. It's bought a lot of things home, but not to everyone of course. Sad."

R: So what do you think is motivating all of this? Is it power and money, or is it a cabal of Freemasons, I don't know drawing dicks on a blackboard? I dunno.

N: (Laughs), I don't know, but that thing that they did, when they had the pretend pandemic, you know "this is what would happen" (R: SPARS).

R: I think they called it SPARS, the SPARS simulation.

N: They had this thing didn't they, they had this big convention and it was all like "this is what we would do and lalala" and then a little while later, out comes this and Fauci was saying something like "yeah, the next thing that hits is gonna be a worldwide flu thing" or whatever, so maybe there was something. I don't know, and I don't know we'll ever really know. It's interesting how so many countries are all following the same, kind of agenda, that is quite interesting because normally what's happening here won't be happening in Australia simultaneously and that is very creepy and dystopian and there's clearly something whirring away in the background that we don't truly know about erm, and will we ever?

Who can say? It's all very well, people say, Dan Astin-Gregory, I heard him saying "This is exciting times we're living through isn't it?" (laughs) no! That's one way of putting it, like I could have probably done without this sort of excitement frankly, but there you go, but yeah I don't know, I mean I still don't know anyone who's died of covid but I do know people who've died from post-vaccine [injury], but I don't know if it was the vaccine but it seemed quite, like coincidental and somebody who needed heart surgery after his vaccines, where he didn't have an obvious heart problem before that.

R: Yeah, I mean yeah the messaging around it, the vaccine and the kind of almost, like an ostrich burying its head isn't it, that something seems to be happening and some people are being written off after being jabbed and I think it's quite strange, how promoted this vax has been, up to and including the coercion that's surrounding taking it, so what's your take on all that sort of stuff?

N: Its horrible. Horrible. Sinister. Horrible, sinister, dystopian, scary, all of things. Makes my blood run cold. I...I don't... somebody posted an advert that's been run in a lot of things about why all 12 year olds should be...and why you should get it done for everybody else and...I don't know. It frankly horrifies me. That is how I feel by it, it is horrible. Horrible. I didn't like the fact that people were giving their children Gardasil cos that's a horrible vaccine and that's caused an awful lot of damage and they don't need it, it's a completely unnecessary vaccination, doesn't prevent anything and this now is just like another level and I just think it's...awful.

The one thing I would do, If I could, like if you had a magic wand for the day, well, I'd get some of the people who have been speaking out and clearly understand this is wrong, I want them in positions where they can do something about it. That's what I would like. So that those people, their voices are heard and listened to and all these people, I don't know whether they're lying, or they're misguided, I don't know what they're doing. Is it money? I don't know.

Probably somewhere, because the world's run on money isn't it, I mean, maybe it's to do with obviously, where did all this money come from, where did Rishi Sunak find all this money?! That we didn't have a little while ago and we were all bankrupt and all of a sudden, "I can print as much money as I like," yeah. I've probably said to you before, I'm quite glad that I'm not younger when this has happened because the thought of what might be in store is not very nice, it's my grandchildren I think, well, their future's not gonna look anything like our past did, possibly. Don't know.

R: So, yeah. On that cheery note, is there anything you'd like to ask me?

(N asks me about how I'm going to analyse the data, I talk about mechanics of the work) N: "is there a thing about us having some doubts about things that were already happening?"

N: just because someone tells you something, you just want proof.

R: You must have seen some of these horrible headline that surround those who are opposed to the current measures, and for the sake of dramatic effect, I've got a few saved. So we've got "Anti vaxxers want to kill your babies, stage a coup and cause another lockdown." "This is what we do about anti-vaxxers. No job, No entry, No NHS access." "It is only a matter of time before we turn on the unvaccinated."

N: They're horrible aren't they, they're just like, replace unvaccinated with any other word. Black. Jewish. Disabled. Horrible. So divisive.

R: When I look at you, I'm not looking at someone who deserves any of those things. Quite the opposite, and I think, I won't necessarily publish the transcripts verbatim [redacted], it's to show that these people [unvaccinated, anti lockdown] don't have 2 heads, they aren't dribbling out one side of their mouth, is a good start in showing these people do not...

N: The dog's humping my leg!

R: Deserve vilification (laughs)

N: She's a girl. Go figure.

R: See, Anti vaxxers, not just nice people, but also quite tolerant. That's a rainbow moment if ever I saw one.

N: That's what I mean! You can't label people anti-vaxxers, that's what annoys me about that title, like when you watch a lot of people being interviewed on the vaxxed bus and they come in and they go "why are you an anti vaxxer," "well, I had my child vaccinated, and my child has now got autism and cant speak and wears a nappy. Does that make me an anti vaxxer, because I clearly wasn't when I took my child for their vaccine." So it's a horrible horrible title that they're putting on people. Vaccine hesitant, vaccine sceptical, you know I can live with, but anti-vaxxer is a just..to drum up division, hatred, prejudiceall those things, **it's** the words, it's very psychological.

R: It is a very loaded term, I will give you that and it's not far off what I would call a dog whistle. [then talks about view on coerced vaccination]. How many people really deserve ostracism and shame for the medical choices they elect to, or not to take?

N: No, No and completely agree with your stance there, you never used to go to people and say "have you had your flu vaccine?" and you went "no" and people just go "alright" (laughs) "aren't you worried?" "nah." It's never been anyone's business either, what vaccines you have or don't have unless you're going to a country where you need one to get in, or they advise you to have to get in,which I've had to have when I've been abroad, been to Africa, had to have yellow fever or something. I've had vaccines in my life, my children have had vaccines, would I give them them now? No. I don't think I would actually. If I was being a mum, knowing what I know, I wouldn't.

R: that's fair enough, I suppose when the kids are old enough, it's their decision on what to put into themselves.

(Some general chatting and catching up. Niki agrees to some follow up questions which are at the end of this transcript.)

Part 4: Follow up questions

These were posed to Niki, who answered in writing after the initial, voice interview, based on particularly interesting points of our discussion. Her responses are published verbatim.

R: You said lockdowns are a state overreach, why do you say that they are?

N: lockdowns. Never before in peacetime have we had such restrictions placed upon us. (and even in the war I don't think they reached this far) I thought we lived a democracy but the draconian and arbitrary restrictions placed on not just us, but around the world just did not make sense to me at all. There was no science that I could find behind any of the rules/mandates/regulations. If I can see a logical and proven reason for doing or not doing something then that's fair enough and I will consider it, but nothing that was being tabled made the slightest sense to me. We are not a nation of children we are adults who should be able to make our own risk assessment when it comes to our health. Making some businesses close but allowing others to remain open because they were deemed 'essential ' was so discriminatory it ought to have been illegal in my view. Other countries were doing different things, nothing was cohesive or joined up. To me it was utter incomprehensible madness. The only thing that would have changed my mind is if I had literally seen people dead and dying in the streets. Then I might have believed it was necessary.

R: Why has your opinion on people changed?

N: I don't think my opinion of people I don't know - so outside of my circle, has changed that much, as I already viewed a proportion of the human race as pretty unworthy, and that I'm not going to like them or want to engage with them, spending half an hour on facebook will show you why I reached that conclusion. But my opinion of some people in my 'circle' has definitely been affected. Partly because people haven't bothered to educate themselves beyond listening to MSM, which immediately tells you they have no interest in things which take an effort to find out about. I also have no tolerance for anyone who tells me to just take a vaccine and do it for other people, they are making it seem like its no big deal when in fact it is a very big deal indeed. I would not expect someone to have a medical procedure just so I can 'feel safe' what does 'feel safe' even mean? I had a very judgy letter from an old friend who was so on her moral high horse because I said I wasn't doing masks or sanitizing my hands in shops - she basically said that I just didn't care about anyone else's health because of my lack of compliance with those things, and that she herself would be devastated if she caused someone's death by giving them covid. Obviously from that statement I am a cold blooded heartless killer and she is mother teresa. Somehow she went past the point of no return. And it is such a poorly thought out accusation - I have grandchildren and an elderly mother - why would I behave in a reckless way if there was a chance I could harm them. She doesn't have kids but somehow she is a far more caring and compassionate and considerate person than me. Thats just one example. But when those sort of exchanges have taken place they cut pretty deeply and make you question the point of continuing a relationship with the person involved. Sometimes perhaps it just takes something quite BIG for you to see past someone's mask.

R: You mentioned hobbies like art etc, what are your hobbies?

N: There are things I enjoy doing when I manage to make time or make the effort . I can draw a bit, I can sew, I have done some ceramics, occasionally I crochet - I make things....random thingscrafty things, upcycle clothes, make things for the grandkids, I bake sourdough bread on a weekly basis - that's partly out of necessity as I do not get on well with shop bought bread and I started making sourdough at the start of the first lockdown and haven't stopped since then. We have the dogs and the cats and I keep a few hens (mostly rescue hens from egg farms) and have a very bolshie cockerel who attacks me most days. I listen to music and I do like to read although find it harder to make the effort to read books in the last couple of years. I like bingeing tv shows with the hubby.To keep the brain working I do a crossword or two a week if we've picked up a free paper from waitrose - I will also do a sudoku and a codeword game - most of the games in the times I can't comprehend and I cannot do cryptic crosswords at all. But I think its important to try and keep your brain ticking over a bit. Oh I play wordfeud against the hubby - we nearly always have a game on the go. I can never understand people who say they are bored - I don't seem to ever get bored - I can always find something to do or to occupy myself. (checking my crypto wallet lol)

R: What caused you to start speaking out, and rebelling in your own way?

N: Thats quite tricky to pinpoint. I definitely have become more confident in my opinions and voicing them as I have got older. I can sort of remember when the news began filling up with these headlines of this 'deadly disease' and thinking to myself gosh this sounds rather awful - is it really true - but we see this sort of thing on the news and it all seems far away - like with Zika virus - remote - maybe nothing to worry about it wont come to UK. But it got more and more pervasive very quickly and I realised that if I kept listening to the 'news' I would make myself susceptible to this repeated message of 'everyone is going to die'. As I had already been talking about vaccines in general and had done a lot of reading and delving into them, I had got used to people mocking me and disregarding what I was saying, so it wasn't much of a leap to just carry on in the same vein really. Once you heard other more learned people speaking out against the mass media hysteria it became easier to stand firm and not be swayed by the nonsense being force fed worldwide. I have never been really worried about not going along with what the rest of the world thinks. Maybe thats just part of my make up. A character or personality trait that I can't change and wouldn't want to. So thats the answer I guess - its just the way I am. If you think something is wrong then say so. It won't necessarily make you popular but thats not important - being true to yourself is what counts.

R: Why are vaccine passports bad?

N: Well what is there to say about this, why are vax passes good? For a start they are useless in 'proving' anyone's current health status. Because as we are all now aware the gene therapy jab cannot stop you developing covid or stop you

transmitting it - or so it seems. So the 'passport' or health status information that is being slyly implemented has to be more about monitoring people and their movements and behaviour generally. It also does not take into account people who have contracted covid and recovered naturally so they do not need an 'immunisation' and it does not take in to account the people who would be unable to tolerate an injection of this kind due to allergies or a particular health issue. Also as this is not a deadly virus - the vast majority of people will naturally recover from it, then there is no basis for implementing a compulsory vaccine. (which doesn't even work) It will create a two tier society and is so discriminatory it has to be stopped. Also unless it is universally adopted then it is bound to fail.