

Transcription of Fe [taximan]

Silvi Naçi

7:50 length

[00:01] taximan: I once in my life I chose a girlfriend...I'm sorry I am speaking like this ...I had a Polish girlfriend

[00:05] artist: ...uhuh

[00:12] taximan: It made an impression on me because...unlike Albanians... well she was in the University and very quiet girl...and she didn't want any money from me...not for rent or anything

[00:19] artist: So she didn't want any money from you?

[00:34] taximan: This polish girl, she would never touch my money or steal anything, not even a cent, and you might say well that I've dated some bad women before... she wouldn't touch anything, she would stay at home without food and never ask me for even ten euros to get some food. As for her, I bought her endless gifts, believe me or not, in my whole life I never did this for any woman, it was her character.

[00:56] (indecipherable conversation)

[01:24] artist: Do a lot of men here in Tirana pay women in exchange for sex?

[01:31] taximan: Here yes, they are very stupid, this I don't like..and since we are just talking, in Belgium there's many conditions, not just for prostitution, but there are bars...

[01:46] (indecipherable conversation)

[02:02] artist: I have heard there's a big gay and lesbian community here in Tirana, do you know about this?

[02:09] taximan: What? gays? yes normally, many

[02:14] artist: Where do they go out here? I have seen a video that Vice made on being gay in Albania and there's a lot of violence towards them here...

[02:34] taximan: Like they hit them? yes normally

[02:37] artist: why?

[02:39] taximan: Because that's the mentality here, if you see two women here kissing its normal, but if you see a gay man...its a different thing...

They killed one guy some years ago, I was in Belgium. They thought it was a woman, and they stabbed him to death, it's what I heard.

[02:50] (indecipherable conversation)

[03:12] (indecipherable conversation)

[03:31] artist: Were they trans?

[03:33] taximan: What...there's no trans here, just simply dressed like a woman. To see trans in Belgium they look completely original like a real woman.

[03:46] artist: I feel terrible about this.

[03:48] taximan: Normally, now they stay at home as I've seen on TV, before they used to stay outside and whoever saw them they would swear at them, hit them, it's a problem.

In Belgium they go out freely, they don't care.

[04:11] artist: Well that's how it should be, in the States we have pride week, everywhere. We celebrate it everywhere, there's pride.

[04:19] taximan: You are kidding me? what's there to be proud of?

[04:23] artist: Why do you say that? What's the problem?

[04:25] taximan: I don't know, I just can't stand it, if it were two women, it's a pleasure to watch...

[04:29] artist: But it's not any different, why?

[04:33] taximan: No, religion forbids this, I am Muslim, my religion forbids it.

[04:36] artist: so then it's ok with your religion for two women to kiss?

[04:38] taximan: Well it doesn't bother me.

[04:41] artist: Well then it shouldn't bother you if it's two men then?

[04:47] taximan: I have beaten a gay man before, it was 2007, were were in a bus, I thought it was a woman first, until my friends said: hey stupid it's a man. The police came but I ran, they didn't catch me. It's the mentality here.

[05:11] artist: I am asking you what the difference is between two women and two men?

[05:15] taximan: There's a lot, I am a man, and maybe it doesn't leave an impression on you.

[05:16] artist: No it doesn't, they aren't doing anything to me or anyone.

[05:30] taximan: Well this doesn't interest me, I am not going to go mess with them. If they talk to me I just don't react very well, I don't know I just can't stand it.

[05:54] artist: I understand, I just don't believe I would be able to come back and live in Tirana and be able to handle this small way of thinking.

[06:07] taximan: Why? There's a lot of lesbians here and no one bothers them, but with men it's a totally different thing.

No one bothers the women, you can't go up to them and kiss them, simply some people may watch, maybe they like it, maybe they don't, but people won't say anything, they won't condemn them. But it's different with men...

[06:35] artist: That's what I don't understand why...

[06:43] [they continue to speak in Albanian... not translated]