



English: Personal Experiences

Derek Simpson

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I was born in Sheffield in 1944 into a relatively poor, in fact extremely poor background.

I think mainly everyone spoke the same way - it was a basic centre of an industrial city, working class area, heavily labour area so it, more or less everyone was on a par.

I don't think I've ever made any attempt to speak properly to people because they're in some position or other. I think I, I would say that I, I try sometimes to speak more clearly when I'm doing a media thing where it's likely to be seen by a number of people. And not necessarily important people just ordinary viewers. And that's more because I'm self-conscious that broad Yorkshire can be unintelligible. You can, you can, you could get into a, what did he say? And you're trying to convey a message. You're trying to make a point. So you try to make an effort to make at least language not a barrier to understanding the point.

I don't think I make any special effort. Whether I'm meeting a Prime Minister or anybody of note to, in fact actually may be the opposite. May be just, may be just a little bit of rebel in me suggests that a bit of an inverted snob type of thing. Ay this is how I, ay this I how I talk. If you can't follow it, tough.