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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** I am rolling whenever you're ready. All right. What is your name and where do you go to school?

[00:00:05] **Speaker 2** My name is McKenzie Hobbs, and I go to Chelsea East High School.

[00:00:10] **Speaker 1** What issues matter to you personally?

[00:00:13] **Speaker 2** I'm really passionate about abortion rights, gun control and drug control.

[00:00:21] **Speaker 1** Why are abortion rights important to you?

[00:00:24] **Speaker 2** Well, with current events, certain rulings were overturned in the Supreme Court, and it almost feels like guns have more rights than women. And that should never be the case, especially when there are living beings that are being forced to have children that they do not want.

[00:00:47] **Speaker 1** Why is gun control an issue.

[00:00:52] **Speaker 2** With everything going on in the United States right now? It is an absolute mess, specifically in Texas, but there are problems here in Wisconsin. A couple of weeks ago there was a football game and there was supposedly a gun there. I'm not sure if that actually is the case. Allegedly there was a gun, but I find it kind of scary that when someone did say that there was a gun, I wasn't surprised. It was kind of like, oh, this happens all the time. You know, it wasn't it wasn't shocking. And that's that's terrifying.

[00:01:33] **Speaker 1** So what do you think elected officials should do about abortion rights? Can you include that in your answer?

[00:01:42] **Speaker 2** Yeah, I know you're talking about. Yeah, no, for sure. I don't even know where to start. I do not even know where to start. I think that abortion should be legal for all people. All people, no matter what the circumstances are. Because you telling someone that you have to raise a child that you do not want or that you have to carry a child for nine months, maybe even seven months. That is unacceptable. That is absolutely unacceptable. So I think that we should make abortions a constitutional right and we shouldn't leave it up to the states whatsoever. I think that would that would be the route. That is where we start and we go from there.

[00:02:32] **Speaker 1** What do you think elected officials should do about gun control?

[00:02:35] **Speaker 2** Where do we even start with that? First, I think that we should make the legal age of being able to purchase a gun a lot higher. Being 18 and able to have and carry a gun. Unacceptable. Unacceptable. There is no reason as to why a senior in high school should be allowed to have a gun legally. No reason. I also think that we should do more background checks on the people that are purchasing guns. We should do more background checks on people that are carrying guns as well. Like there are people that have guns already who should not have guns. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:03:21] **Speaker 1** And what do you think elected officials should do about gun control?

[00:03:27] **Speaker 2** Being in Milwaukee, where drugs are a very big problem here. People die due to drugs all the time. And once again, it's one of those things where it's like, oh, well, are we surprised? Are we shocked? I honestly don't even know where we should start. I don't. And I think that's even more scary.

[00:03:52] **Speaker 1** How important is the right to vote to?

[00:03:55] **Speaker 2** Extremely important. I find being able to vote like an opinion, just like everyone should be able to have an opinion. Everyone should be able to vote because a vote is essentially her opinion on who should be in office.

[00:04:15] **Speaker 1** Right. One thing that's very much on people's minds now is school safety. Did students like yourself think about that.

[00:04:23] **Speaker 2** Going back to the football game that I was at? School safety is essential to the learning environment. You shouldn't go to class fearing for your life. You shouldn't. That is absolutely unacceptable. It's just sad. But I. I don't even know where to start. Like, it's just saddening to think about. I think that there should be more protocols put in place to make sure that we aren't bringing weapons into school. I know that Wauwatosa West, they do have metal detectors. I know a lot of people might think that that's excessive. But if that is what it takes to make sure that people feel safe, that is what we need to do.

[00:05:17] **Speaker 1** What is it like to be on the cusp of adulthood in the current economic climate?

[00:05:21] **Speaker 2** I'm very excited, actually. I have my own job, so I think I'm financially stable at the moment. I'm also looking at a lot of different colleges. I'm looking at very important scholarships that would help me not have a lot of debt. So I'm feeling pretty good.

[00:05:47] **Speaker 1** How do you think rising costs will impact you?

[00:05:50] **Speaker 2** Hmm. I do. I think it depends on, like, what area, like, food wise bacon is $18 pack right now. Hmm. That's kind of scary. So no more bacon for me, but, I mean, you kind of just gotta adjust. What more is there that I can do? I'm okay with it for now because I am financially stable, but I am a little scared that inflation might rise even more. And I guess we'll just have to see when we get there.

[00:06:31] **Speaker 1** What issues in your part of this state are people older than you you're not talking about they wish they were.

[00:06:38] **Speaker 2** I think people have just normalized so many things and we're just not talking about it like just everything in general. Like we can go back to gun control. There are a lot of mass shootings. Well, I wouldn't say mass shootings, but there are a lot of shootings in Milwaukee specifically. And I should be okay.

[00:07:05] **Speaker 1** Yeah. Okay. Okay. Do you want to start over at the shooting?

[00:07:08] **Speaker 2** Can you ask the question?

[00:07:11] **Speaker 1** What issues in your part of the state are people older than you you're not talking about?

[00:07:15] **Speaker 2** I think that people are becoming desensitized to a lot of different subjects. We can go to shootings specifically like although we talk about shootings and we're like, Oh, that's crazy. Then we move away from it. And you could put any different problem, and we just become so desensitized to it. So I think just not talking about everything is the problem, not just one specific subject.

[00:07:48] **Speaker 1** Is there anything else you want to say?

[00:07:50] **Speaker 2** No, I don't think so. I think we're good.

[00:07:52] **Speaker 1** You got everything? Yeah. All right. Thank you.

[00:07:54] **Speaker 2** Yeah. Problem? How do I take this out of my shirt?