**A045C921\_220929E0\_CANON.mp3**

[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** Him rolling in the rear. Can you tell us your name and where you go to school?

[00:00:04] **Speaker 2** My name is Lily Olson, and I go to Black River Falls High School.

[00:00:07] **Speaker 1** What issues are important to you?

[00:00:10] **Speaker 2** It's a big one right now, but Roe v Wade is definitely something that sticks out to me.

[00:00:17] **Speaker 1** Why is that important to you?

[00:00:18] **Speaker 2** It's important to me because as a young girl who still has like the rest of her life ahead of her, knowing that a choice like that has kind of been stripped away, it's scary. Like knowing that if I couldn't afford it or if it was like if I got sexually assaulted or something like that, like I would still have to carry the baby. And even if I could die in the process, or if I knew the baby wouldn't make it, I would still have to have it. And as a 15 year old girl whose best friend is was 14 and gave birth to a baby a few months ago, knowing that she wouldn't have had a choice if she didn't want to keep it. That's a little nerve racking. If she wouldn't have made those really bad.

[00:01:02] **Speaker 1** What would you like elected officials to do about it?

[00:01:05] **Speaker 2** I would like them to talk to the public a little bit more because it felt like in this instance we didn't really have a say or I shouldn't say we, but like the adults, like it wasn't really a vote. They kind of just were like, okay, we're going to overturn it. And Wisconsin didn't have any laws against it, so it kind of just happened.

[00:01:28] **Speaker 1** How important was the right to vote to you?

[00:01:30] **Speaker 2** I think the right the I think the right to vote is very important because it gives everybody the possibility to give their word, you know, how they want to see the things instead of just a small group of people voting every time we get the word from the public. And it's not just like the Supreme Court.

[00:01:52] **Speaker 1** One thing that's on people's minds right now, school safety. How much the students like yourself. Think about that.

[00:01:59] **Speaker 2** I think about it quite often as a high school student and as a sister. Of course, all my siblings go to a different school, so I have like siblings in a different school. And it's nerve racking knowing that people would put kids that young in harm's way. And it could happen at any moment. You know, it's nerve wracking.

[00:02:20] **Speaker 1** Yeah. What do you think should be done about it?

[00:02:23] **Speaker 2** I think we're in like a small town, but, you know, it's getting closer to us. Like it's happened a few times in Wisconsin. And I feel like we have very good precautions, like we have the doors locked most of the day. We have a police officer that's always around and you have to buzz in to get into the school. So I think we're pretty good and we have the drills. Sometimes I feel like we do intruder drills more than we do like a fire tornado. But, you know, we're on top of it.

[00:02:50] **Speaker 1** What's it like to be on the verge of adulthood in the current economic climate?

[00:02:54] **Speaker 2** It's a little nerve wracking knowing that my generation is kind of going into kind of a bad economic state and knowing that we'll kind of have to pick up the pieces a little bit and that adults are kind of just letting it kind of crumble and fall through and we just kind of have to step up and go for it.

[00:03:18] **Speaker 1** Have you thought about what you'll do after high school?

[00:03:20] **Speaker 2** I have thought about it and I would like to go to college. I would like to get a degree. It's really expensive, especially now. And by the time I graduate, I'll probably be more expensive. But I would like to get out there and have a degree and do something good.

[00:03:37] **Speaker 1** What do you think elected officials should do about the cost of college?

[00:03:42] **Speaker 2** Unfortunately, there's not really anything we can do with inflation, but I don't know. That's kind of a hard question because I don't really know if there's anything we can do.

[00:03:53] **Speaker 1** How does the job market seem to you?

[00:03:56] **Speaker 2** It seems like there's a lot of jobs that don't have enough people, like teachers, for example. They're always looking for more people. We always had subs. There's always like these missing spots and there's a lot of open spaces and a lot of kids that won't be able to afford college and get those degrees. So we'll probably have a lot of open areas.

[00:04:20] **Speaker 1** Witness. She was in your part of the state. Are people older than you you're not talking about?

[00:04:25] **Speaker 2** I feel like we didn't really talk about when Roe v Wade was overturned. We haven't really touched on when the whole BLM riots were happening. It was happening very close to us and we didn't really talk about it and stuff like that. We kind of just turned our heads to the side because we're a smaller state.

[00:04:51] **Speaker 1** Are there any other issues you want to talk about?

[00:04:56] **Speaker 2** I just feel like people are super judgmental these days and they need to let people live their lives, not how they think they should live it, but how they want to live it. You know, let everybody do their own thing.

[00:05:09] **Speaker 1** Yeah. Great.

[00:05:10] **Speaker 2** Thank you. Yeah. That was really bad, though. That was really bad.

[00:05:14] **Speaker 1** All.