

WOMEN, POLITICS, AND ACTIVISM SINCE SUFFRAGE

COPH OHP_270



Center for Oral and Public History California State University, Fullerton

OH 5337

Narrator: DR. THERESA MONTAÑO
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: April 19, 2014
Location: Eagle Rock, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:04:12
Transcript: none
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Dr. Theresa Montano, a professor of Chicano studies at California State University of Fullerton. In addition, she is also a union activist and former student activist in Los Angeles. The purpose of this interview is look at student activism from the 1960's to 1990's. This interview is part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Project. Specifically, this interview explores her role as a student organizer and participant in the Los Angeles Walkouts of 1968 and the anti-Bakke decision. Dr. Montano's Chicana activism during her time as a college student is also a constant theme throughout her interview. In this narrative, Dr. Montano reveals that she was a part of the first class to desegregate Huntington High School in Los Angeles and that she campaigned for Bobby Kennedy in 1968 as well. Dr. Montano grew up in a union family and became active in unions ever since.

OH 5343

Narrator: CYNTHIA JANE MINSTERCHENG
Interviewer: Gabriela Zimmerman
Date: October 08, 2013; 10:15 A.M.
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01 hour, 16 minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pp
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral interview with Cynthia Jane MinsterCheng , Communications Organizer for NationBuilder, former Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) National Board member, and International Board member. She is an alumna of Wellesley College, where she majored in Peace and Justice Studies. This interview was part of an oral history project for Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis’ History 492A Community History course. The purpose of the interview was to gather on Cynthia’s activism over the years and her involvement with WILPF. Topics discussed include: Cynthia’s early childhood; her brothers’ drug use and how she coped; her participation as a child in the Michael Dukakis presidential campaign; her college experience at Wellesley; how she defines feminist; how she became a member of WILPF; how she assumed a leadership position at WILPF; the motivation behind her activism; her activism as a member of the National Board and International Board of WILPF; challenges she faced with regards to her activism; accomplishments as WILPF member; what she learned about herself as a member of WILPF; WILPF Los Angeles activities; internal problems in WILPF; the effects of 9/11 and the Iraq War on the peace movement and WILPF; Changes in the peace movement and WILPF; the formation of the Code Pink organization; the strategies used by peace activist organizations; and the future of the peace movement and WILPF.

OH 5344

Narrator: MARIA ROSA LOPEZ (b. 1950)
Interviewer: Kevin Cabrera
Date: October 11, 2013
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:31:30
Transcript: final; 30 pages
Ephemera: photograph; recording log; field notes

Abstract:

This is an oral history of Maria Rosa Lopez, a cofounder of Hermandad Mexicana in Santa Ana, California. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history, details of her local activism, and role in the historic Santa Ana rent strikes. Specifically, this interview details Lopez' early life and family background in Mexico City, Mexico; shares how her single mother supported the family; discusses her siblings; how she and her mother reacted to a family tragedy; goes into further detail about the family's hardships; her grandparents' background and a reflection on her mother's strength; growing up in Mexico City and the traditional foods and clothing; America's influence in Mexico City in the 1960s; details her education from primary to higher; discusses the *Partido Socialista* and why she got involved with the student movement; goes into detail about the marches she participated in against Mexico's government, and talks about the change she hoped to accomplish; the student massacre in Tlatelolco; shares the difficulties she faced during the protests; her time studying architecture at the *Escuela Nacional de Arquitectura* in Chiapas; discusses her time and experiences living with Indigenous communities in Chiapas during the 1970s; how the student massacre shaped her; moving to the United States and adjusting to life and work in Los Angeles; involvement with Hermandad Nacional de Mexico and co-founding the Hermandad Mexicana in Santa Ana; her experiences being in a male-dominated field as well as lobbying against the government's immigration laws, such as Simpson-Mazzoli; discusses the Santa Ana rent strikes in the eighties and her specific involvement; explains the role of the undocumented tenants during the strikes; the role of mothers and women in the movement and their accomplishments; the City of Santa Ana's reaction to the strikes; her reaction to seeing the dismal living conditions of the renters and the misconduct and abuse by their landlords; explains the importance of Hermandad Mexicana's to the undocumented community; being a role model to undocumented parents and children; briefly discusses Cesar Chavez coming to speak at the rent strikes; discusses winning the rent strikes and court case, the tenant's reactions, and the aftermath; shares her regret of not recording more data from the strikes; what motivates her to keep advocating for immigrants and change, as well as challenges she has faced; thoughts on women in activism; shares various political campaigns she helped organize; ends the interview with discussing her pride and belief in the Mexican culture, belief in self-betterment, and the power of education.

OH 5345

Narrator: CYRENA NOUZILLE
Interviewer: Eric Ortega
Date: October 18, 2013
Location: Agoura Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 45 minutes 22 seconds
Transcript: Partial transcript; 11 pp
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Cyrena Nouzille, founder and proprietor of Ladyface Alehouse and Brasserie in Agoura Hills, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project on behalf of California State University and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview is also part of Professor Natalie M. Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, the interview discusses Nouzille's early life growing up, living on a ranch in Oregon and how it changed her views on food production; her college experience and learning fermentation sciences in biology labs; how she was an active homebrewer before founding her business and shares early experiences touring West Coast breweries; comments on the welcoming experience she had when learning to homebrew; opening a business with what appeared to be minor experiences in gender prejudices, which she attributes to simple social mistakes; discusses the importance of education among new women beer drinkers and overcoming the ignorance of many beer drinkers about what represents craft and artisanal brewing; how she founded a women's beer club; and finally, discusses beer naming and the importance of locality and history when marketing a new beer.

OH 5346

Narrator: DR. LOUISE ADLER (b.1943)
Interviewer: Kate Tello
Date: October 22, 2013; 12:30 p.m.
Location: Lake Forest, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:23:39
Transcript: final; 28 pages
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history with Louise Adler, spouse of (deceased) chairman of the Orange County Democratic Party, Howard Adler and cofounder of Women in Leadership (WIL). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Adler's involvement with WIL and her job as professor in the CSUF Education Department. Specifically, this interview talks about Adler's single-parent childhood and educational background; explains how she became involved with politics; recalls bird-dogging and work as voter registrar; remembers hearing President Kennedy's "Ask Not" speech and describes Orange County's reaction to his candidacy; tells how she met her husband, Howard Adler, on Congressman Hanna's campaign and why they married; recalls living in Washington D.C. in the 1960s and her involvement with anti-war demonstrations and the New Mobilization; comments on Congressman Hanna's connection to the Koreagate scandal; explains why she went back to school for her education doctorate; recalls being hired as the first female tenure track professor in CSUF's Education Department; documents the department's personnel and accreditation struggles; explains why she co-founded Women in Leadership (WIL) with Carol Barnes and Marilyn Brewer and why they created it as a political action committee; describes how WIL vets potential candidates; explains how WIL defines "moderate" and why candidates have to be pro-choice; talks about the Republican "War on Women"; describes how feminism has changed between 1960s and current generation; explains why she opposed the merger between St. Joseph and Hoag hospitals and how WIL got involved; describes why she considers herself an activist and what motivates her to continue; and finally, talks about what she's most proud of through her work in WIL.

See OH 5653 in Orange County Politics Collection

OH 5347

Narrator: CARMEN VALENCIA
Interviewer: Natalie Navar
Date: October 23, 2012
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:06:17
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Carmen Valencia, housewife and activist for Mothers of East Los Angeles (MELA). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project on behalf of California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The interview is also part of Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. This interview discusses Valencia's early years in Los Angeles, California; describes memories of the Depression and how she had to move to Mexico as a child; her living situation while living in Mexico and her subsequent move back to California; explains her experiences while in primary and high school, her mother and father's Mexican pride; the importance of being bilingual; various jobs she held while growing up; describes her marriage to Ross Valencia, family life, children, community, and how his political career affected the family; comments on the importance of church life; her participation in MELA, including meetings and marches; the proposed state prison in Boyle Heights, California, and her community's reaction; motivations for participation; how MELA rid the community of the bad odors and toxins; the church's role in MELA; and finally, comments on the transformation of Los Angeles from her childhood to the present.

OH 5348

Narrator: GENEVIEVE HUIZAR (b.1932)
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: October 26, 2013
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:58:11
Transcript: final; 17 pp
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Genevieve Huizar collected for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to better understand mothers in grassroots movements. Specifically, how the identity of motherhood serves as a catalyst for activism. This interview discusses Huizar's childhood, growing up Latina in Riverside and Orange County; talks about her son, Manuel Diaz, who was shot by police in Anaheim, California; talks about interaction with governmental entities in Anaheim, including city council and police department; talks about founding the Young Survivors Legacy Support group; reflects on how family has coped with the loss of Diaz; comments on how she became an activist; describes rallies and protests she attended; explains how awareness of her son's death has impacted use of force by police in local communities; speaks about changes she would like to see in the police department; describes the influence that activism has had on her personal life; why she doesn't consider herself a feminist; and finally, shares how others should work to end police brutality.

OH 5349

Narrator: JUDY DESJARDIN
Interviewer: Jessica Truckey
Date: October 21, 2013
Location: Yorba Linda, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:13:03
Transcript: Partial
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Judy Desjardin, a grassroots Republican Party activist and former president of Pat Nixon Republican Women Federated (PNRWF) in Orange County, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Interview is also part of Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on Desjardin's involvement in Republican Party politics. Specifically, interview discusses Desjardin's family background; how her father, most of all, contributed to her initial interest in politics; how Desjardin balances time with family and involvement with PNRWF; recounts her history with PNRWF, and the story behind its name change from Yorba Linda Republican Women Federated to Pat Nixon Republican Women; thoughts and admiration for Pat Nixon; talks about recent activities and fundraisers conducted by PNRWF; comments on current issues, including AB32, Obamacare, and the recent government shut down; how PNRWF welcomes various speakers to their meetings, from nonprofit organizers to Republican candidates; discusses her involvement in the Tea Party and comments on its perception by the media; involvement with the Nixon Library; comments on the recent division between federal and foundational sectors of the Nixon Library; recalls incident of hecklers during the speech of a military official at the Nixon Library (protesting the war in Iraq); and recollects attending a protest at the Yorba Linda Community Center.

OH 5350

Narrator: ANNA BARVIR
Interviewer: Patricia Cervantes
Date: November 1, 2013
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 15 Minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Anna Barvir, president of Orange County Pride. This interview was gathered for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to better understand gay women's activism in the struggle for equality. Specifically, this interview deals with Barvir's personal experience as a lesbian, residing in Maryland and California, actively involved in promoting gay rights; talks about her involvement in Gay for Good, Orange County Lavender Bar Association, Whittier LGBLSA, and other LGBT groups; discussion of California Proposition 8, and why marriage is important to obtain LGBT equality.

OH 5351

Narrator: DONNA NACCACHIAN
Interviewer: Richard Hartman
Date: November 5, 2013
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:41:59
Transcript: Partial; 10 pp
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Donna Naccachian, Major Donor Officer at the Orange County Rescue Mission (OCRM) in Tustin, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project, headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie M. Fousekis' oral history course, which focuses on community history. Specifically, interview discusses OCRM programs which reintegrate the homeless into society, through a faith-based initiatives; OCRM facilities, which include the Village of Hope, House of Hope, in Orange, the Double-R ranch, near Warner Springs, and the Hope Family Housing site; Naccachian's revelation that she was raised by her maternal grandparents, who were Armenian immigrants; her youth growing up in Montebello and being a longtime member of the Girl Scouts; employment history at Uniroyal, Hawaiian Cargo, and radio station KYMS (a contemporary Christian music station in Orange County); how she became acquainted with the motel families (also referred to as the motel kids) through Linda Dunlap, the "Band-aid Lady;" Naccachian's initial hiring by Jim Palmer, President of OCRM, as his assistant; how her current position involves outreach to donors, providing feedback, and reporting on the status of programs; how The Cheesecake Factory restaurant donated the dining room and kitchen at Village of Hope; additional involvement of HomeAid; and how she arranges visits, gives talks, and arranges for others to speak on behalf of OCRM.

OH 5352

Narrator: GRACE AARON
Interviewer: Gabriela Zimmerman
Date: November 15, 2013; 12:22
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours 40 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Grace Aaron, Treasurer of Women's International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Los Angeles. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project, headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie M. Fousekis' oral history course, which focuses on community history. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Aaron's activism with WILPF and her involvement in the peace movement. Specifically, this interview discusses Aaron's early years growing up in New York; her experience at Queens College; involvement in the anti-Vietnam War protests; drug use and counterculture of the 1960s; her experience as a Scientologist; living in Lincoln Heights, California; activism and achievements with Peace Action; the effects of the first Gulf War on the peace movement; her involvement as a member of the board of KPFK and Pacifica Foundation Radio; her involvement with WILPF Los Angeles; founding of the Social Uplift Foundation; challenges facing WILPF; the impact of social media on activism; greatest achievements and challenges as an activist; and what she has learned from being an activist and member of WILPF.

OH 5354

Narrator: DONNA ACEVEDO
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: November 5, 2013
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1:30:06
Transcript: final; 27 pages
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Donna Acevedo, a community activist in Anaheim, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project, headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie M. Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is explore grassroots activism from a mother's perspective. Specifically, this interview discusses Acevedo's foray into activism after her son, Joel Acevedo, was shot and killed by Anaheim Police, in 2012; how her son's death marked the second police shooting in Anaheim within two days, which sparked local uprisings; how Acevedo uses her role as a mother to advocate for police and city council reform; reflects on growing up in Anaheim, the police department, neighborhood safety, and community representation; explains her distrust of the police report concerning her son's shooting; how she lived in Anaheim all her life; how commitment to her community is demonstrated by continued efforts to make direct change, consistent attendance at Anaheim City Council meetings, and ongoing discussion with the Anaheim Police Department.

OH 5355

Narrator: TING SU
Interviewer: Eric Ortega
Date: November 25, 2013
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 57 Minutes
Transcript: verbatim; 24 pages
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Ting Su, cofounder, co-owner and self-proclaimed Director of Tyrannical Studies / Den Mother of Eagle Rock Brewery in Los Angeles, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about women's contributions in the brewing industry. Specifically, interview discusses Su's early life and family experiences in Naples, Florida, as part of a Taiwanese migrant family; how her family was a "restaurant family" and owned several dining establishments; talks about working for her family's business; discusses importance of palate development as a child and how that led to being able to discern particular qualities of beer later in life; meeting her husband working on a physical therapy doctorate at USC; involvement with the historic Maltose Falcons, a home brewing club in Los Angeles; how she is in charge of the business operations and legal paperwork at Eagle Rock Brewery; opening a brewery in a major metropolitan like Los Angeles; difficulties and benefits therein; Eagle Rock Women's Beer Forum, which is hosted once a month by Su; describes the goals and reasons for starting a women's beer group, including promoting equality in the beer drinking community and furthering the public's education of craft brewing; and finally, a discussion of Eagle Rock Brewery's future, Su's predictions and hopes for the craft brewing community at large.

OH 5356

Narrator: URSULA KENNEDY (b. 1936)
Interviewer: Natalie Navar
Date: November 26, 2013; 1:35 p.m.
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:53:11
Transcript: final; 31 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2)

Abstract:

An interview with Ursula Kennedy, resident of Newport Beach and the first woman mayor of Tustin. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, interview discusses Kennedy's first memories of leaving her native Chula Vista [California] for boarding school in San Francisco; talks about continuing education at public school in Chula Vista; mentions childhood memory of the campaign for Thomas Dewey (1940s); discusses her grandparents and parents and how they influenced her; recalls the bombing of Pearl Harbor and her sudden awareness of war; speaks about the effects of World War II; discusses relationships with her siblings, childhood challenges, and early role models; recalls how her parents' political views as strict Republicans shaped her own; shares other background information such as her parents' careers, meeting her husband on a blind date, and her own educational background, including her time at San Diego State (and later Cal State Fullerton); remembers her decision to go to law school in her late forties; recollects how she first got involved in politics in Tustin, her election to the city council in 1978, and taking on local pollutant Thiokol Dynachem Corporation; discusses main goals and challenges of serving on the city council, including being shunned by other council members; talks about her campaigns and raising funds ('78, '82, and '86); recounts how gender affected her role as a councilmember; discusses the role of motherhood and councilmember; remembers how she finally became mayor after six attempts; speaks about the role of the Republican party in her career, issues that were important to her, as well as memorable moments and achievements while serving on the council; comments on the political climate as a "good old boys network," and her own leadership style; mentions how she hopes the role of women in politics has evolved and how she always had a drive to persevere in politics; recalls what motivated her as a councilmember; shares memorable stories during her twelve years in office; describes why she believes women should participate in politics, and what she would tell them; discusses how she is proud to be the first woman elected to the Tustin City Council as well as the first woman mayor of Tustin; and finally, details how the city council votes and operates internally.

OH 5357

Narrator: ALICE NAVAR (1926-2014)
Interviewer: Natalie Navar
Date: December 02, 2013; 3:30 p.m.
Location: East Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:21:00
Transcript: final; 24 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Alice Navar, a longtime resident of Los Angeles, California, and union worker for the International Chemical Workers Union (ICWU). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, interview discusses Navar's early years in Los Angeles, California; describes living with relatives in El Paso, Texas; comments on her first marriage, her first three children, and the various companies she worked for during the 1940s; discusses marriage to second husband, Raul Diaz Navar, his personality, and the three children she had with him; talks about the differences from living in El Paso and Los Angeles; describes the neighborhood of Los Angeles in the 1930s and 1940s, the presence of zoot suiters and music they listened to; recalls how her parents met and her father's job working for the Southern Pacific Railroad, her close relationship with her sister; comments on aspirations and heroes as a youth; values she learned from her family; educational background; describes her job working for Wilhold Glue, Inc. in Los Angeles, and the skills she received from the factory and union; recalls how she learned English and her father's views on language; her father's reasons for settling in Los Angeles; describes second marriage to Raul, how she met him, how they fell in love, and the different places they moved to in Los Angeles; recalls her inspirations for joining the ICWU, her love for people, and motivations while working there; discusses her household while she worked; how she dealt with managers, employees, and union workers at Wilhold Glue, Inc; describes her activism with the union and how the ICWU formed.

OH 5358

Narrator: TERRI NIEBUHR
Interviewer: Richard Hartman
Date: December 3, 2013
Location: Placentia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:06:45
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history with Terri Niebuhr, resident of Placentia, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, interview discusses Niebuhr's upbringing in Long Beach, California; family background; how her grandmother taught at PS106 in New York; how her father worked for Armco Steel National Supply Company in Torrance, California, but later earned a B.S. and become a metallurgist; Niebuhr's high school years at Long Beach Millikan High School; earning a B.S. in Human Services from California State University, Fullerton, in 1997; her work with the Episcopal Service Alliance, World Vision, and the Interfaith Shelter Network; and finally, discusses her current position as director of His House.

OH 5359

Narrator: TAYNA LOPEZ
Interviewer: Kevin Cabrera
Date: December 2, 2013
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:08:52
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Tayna Lopez, Director of Hermandad Mexicana Nacional, in Santa Ana, an organization that fights, defends, and advocates for immigrants and their families. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to learn more about Lopez' role as an organizer for immigration rights and reform. Specifically, interview discusses Lopez growing up with extremely political and socially-active parents; how they shaped and influenced her as a person, and in choosing a career; talks about moving to Puerto Rico during high school, while her mother cared for her grandmother; talks about her role as a leader to assist undocumented immigrations apply for citizenship and, more recently, assisting Dreamers; remembers going to meetings and apartments, as a child, when the Rent Strike occurred in Santa Ana, in 1985; how she is a product of the second generation of activists and how she seeks to educate the public about their rights.

OH 5361

Narrator: KAREN CLARK (b. 1944)
Interviewer: Kate Tello
Date: November 22, 2013; 11 a.m.
Location: Corona del Mar, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:06:36
Transcript: final; 20 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Karen Clark, retired law partner with the multi-national firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, and founding board member of Women in Leadership (W.I.L.) a political action committee dedicated to getting pro-choice female candidates elected to public office. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview talks about why Clark went to law school and joined Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP; talks about how her political ideology aligned between her law practice and activism; shares why she became an activist; recalls experiences campaigning for fair housing and *Roe v Wade* in Michigan; talks about the creation of Women in Leadership (WIL) with Louise Adler, Carol Barnes, and Marilyn Brewer; explains how WIL defines "moderate" and why candidates have to be pro-choice; describes how WIL vets potential candidates; discusses why WIL supports local candidates; explains why WIL decided to support Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez; comments on how Marilyn Brewer's political ideology has changed since founding WIL; talks about the Republican Party's "War on Women"; explains why she opposed the merger between St. Joseph Health and Hoag hospital, how WIL got involved, and why these mergers challenge reproductive rights for women; discusses the importance of WIL's legacy in the 2013 (and beyond) political climate; talks about why "choice" issues will remain relevant in the future and why she thinks *Roe v. Wade* will be overturned; and finally, reflects on how to encourage young women to become activists.

OH 5362

Narrator: GLORIA MURPHY
Interviewer: Jessica Truckey
Date: December 4, 2013
Location: Anaheim Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:52:26
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Gloria Murphy, a grassroots Republican Party activist and former president of Pat Nixon Republican Women Federated (PNRWF) in Orange County, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, interview discusses Murphy's birth in Chile; how she lived in several countries throughout her lifetime, including Peru, Panama, and the United States; attending the University of Texas, where she majored in history; her husband's service in the armed forces; recalls her first vote for Dwight Eisenhower, whom she heard speak at Rice College; talks about living in Massachusetts and being voted chairman of the Republican Party; recalls attending the Republican National Convention, in which she was proud to help elect the first African American senator; how she made connections with other politicians, and participated in Massachusetts campaigns; serving as PNRWF president in 2000, and again in 2008; her role as president, organizing campaign offices, increasing membership to three times its original size, and changing the name from Yorba Linda Republican Women to Pat Nixon Republican Women Federated; and finally, her focus on Tea Party activism and working closely with the Orange County Conservative Coalition.

OH 5363

Narrator: SUSAN LAVACARRE (b. 1968)
Interviewer: Patricia Cervantes
Date: December 26, 2013
Location: West Hollywood, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:12:30
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: field notes, recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Sue LaVacarre, Major Gifts Officer at Lambda Legal, Western Regional Office. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to better understand gay women's activism in the struggle for equality. Specifically, this interview deals with LaVacarre's younger years living in Chicago and attending Catholic schools; her experience coming out to her parents and family; activism and involvement in promoting gay rights; involvement in organizations such as the Democratic National Committee LGBT Leadership Council, the Feminist Majority Foundation, and the Human Rights Campaign; discusses motivations for being continuously active in progressive organizations.

OH 5364

Narrator: DR. DONNA NICOL
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: February 25, 2013
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:24:15
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Donna Nicol, a Women and Gender Studies professor at CSUF and academic activist. The purpose of this interview is to explore academic activism both as a student and as a professor. This interview is part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview encompasses Nicol's childhood, which helped shape her future activism. After dealing with her father's death and her mother's battle with drugs, Nicol lived with her grandmother and great grandmother in Los Angeles, California. She talks about her experience as a multi-racial woman, who was perceived as black by everyone outside her family; speaks about her grandmother's involvement in the community and how she organized a co-op for Compton when Nicol was a child; helping her grandmother organize for better food access, which sparked her career as an activist; recalls being a college student at CSUF, active with the Black Student Union and helping to write for alternative newspaper *The Onyx*, where fellow activists highlighted issues black students faced due to educational inequalities; how her entire student career was filled with involvements in various organizations, such as Sigma Gamma Rho; speaks about her current position as professor at CSUF in Women and Gender Studies, where she encourages students to become politically active; and finally, how she is also engaged in organizations like Help Me Help You, in Long Beach, California, and continues her work in Sigma Gamma Rho.

OH 5413

Narrator: DOMINQUE MENDEZ
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: May 8, 2014
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:10:19
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Dominique Mendez, Southern California intern coordinator for the California Faculty Association. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to explore student activism from the 1990's. Specifically, this interview deals with Mendez's transition from community activism to student activism, during the Pete Wilson years in California; speaks in depth about organizing against California Propositions 187 and 209; how she organized for immigration rights and was an active member of the Chicano Department at CSU Dominguez Hills; growing up in the Rampart area of Los Angeles; police harassment and the inequities of poor people of color; attributes growing tension and activism of the 1990's to the structural inequities experienced by fringe communities of color today; and how her work embodies a progressive approach to activism for both students and communities alike.

OH 5455

Narrator: MONIKA BROOME (b. 1936)
Interviewer: Kevin Kipers
Date: October 1, 2014
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital (restricted by narrator)
Length: 01:24:00
Transcript: final; 21 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Monika Broome, president of the Democrats of North Orange County (DNOC) and former teacher. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Broome's political activism within the Democratic Party in Orange County. Specifically, interview covers Broome's early childhood in Europe, during the outbreak of World War II; migrating to the US; early political interests and pushing for legislative changes in education; decision to become a teacher and early experiences therein; settling in Orange County; important local issues, such as Coyote Hills; provides her personal comparison of Democrats and Republicans; thoughts on feminism; her involvement in Democrats of North Orange County, what efforts the organization implements in campaigns, voter registration and precinct walking; thoughts on men vs. women's leadership; being a Democrat in once Republican county; campaigns and voter discrimination in Orange County; how her family supports her activism; the challenges of midterm elections; the need for more women candidates; and finally, the pride she holds for both her teaching career and political activism.

OH 5456

Narrator: JANYCE MESLIN
Interviewer: Enith Marcos
Date: October 6, 2012
Location: Mission Viejo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:01:27
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Janyce Meslin, an Orange County immigrations rights activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding female activists in Orange County. Specifically, the interview covers Meslin's upbringing in Rochester, Minnesota; involvement in the antiwar movement during college; describes the Children of Chernobyl project and how it changed her views on activism; moving to Orange County in 2004, and how she became involved in immigration rights activism through her church's affiliation with OCCCO (Orange County Congregation Community Organization); what inspired her to create a program called Friends of OC Detainees, designed to end the isolation of immigrant prisoners in Orange County jails and detention centers; describes the struggles of being a female activist, what she witnessed when she was jailed while protesting against Bill 1070, in Arizona; describes her role on the Unitarian Universalist Church's statewide organization Unitarian Universalist Justice Industry (UUJI); and discusses new role as director of social change development in the CIVIC organization.

OH 5457

Narrator: EVELYN KNIGHT (b. 1933)
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: October 6, 2014
Language: English
Location: Long Beach, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:09:48
Transcript: final; 35 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Evelyn Knight for the Women, Politics, and Activism since Suffrage Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Evelyn Knight was a community organizer and Civil Rights activist in California, from the 1960s to the present. The purpose of this interview was to understand how women define political activism. Specifically, this interview discusses Knight's early years in Africatown, Alabama; family history; experiences as a college student at St. Louis University; activism in Long Beach, including the Long Beach Improvement League, environmental activism, State of Black Long Beach Project, and the Discover Your Roots Project; participation in a United Farm Workers march, as well as the 1965 March for Voting Rights in Montgomery, Alabama; reflects on her participation in the Los Angeles United Way, People Coordinated Services, Third World Conference on Women, Free Speech Movement, and the Black Panthers; reflects on her community organizing methodology, definition of feminism, women in leadership, how activism has changed over time, and her future projects.

OH 5458

Narrator: DONNA MYROW
Interviewer: Kristin McGowan
Date: October 8, 2014
Location: Palm Springs, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours 15 minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs (2), photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Donna Myrow, founder of *LA Youth*, and activist residing in Palm Springs, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to learn about Myrow's activism and work regarding *LA Youth*. Specifically, this interview covers Myrow's personal and family story, including her mother's escape from Czechoslovakia before the Nazi Invasion; first experiences working in the community as a child; personal experiences witnessing segregation and growing awareness of the Civil Rights Movement; watching the Watts Riots on television; involvement in the Watts Writer's Workshop; her work with the Fredrick Douglass Foundation; grassroots participation during the Vietnam War; Supreme Court decision of Jan 3, 1988, which censored the student press, and how it led to the creation of *LA Youth*; how *LA Youth* grew throughout the years and how she created a tight community that still exists today; the impact of *LA Youth*; difficulties they faced; her work on the newspaper *L'Original* in South Los Angeles, difficulties she faced there; how activism has changed throughout the years and why women should be more involved; what feminism means to her; and finally, reflects on her activism and what she is most proud of.

OH 5459

Narrator: PATRICIA ANN ROMERO
Interviewer: Rebecca C. Romero
Date: October 13, 2014; 6:19 P.M.
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 34 minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph (1), photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Patricia Ann Romero, elementary school teacher and vice president of the Brea Olinda Teachers Association (BOTA). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The interview was conducted to discuss Romero's involvement with the teachers' union. Specifically, the interview deals with Romero's early life as a child growing up in the 1960's and 70's, which includes a lengthy discussion on both family and gender relations; early adulthood revolving around her job at Disneyland; courtship with her future husband; extended education at California State University, Fullerton, where she was awarded a Bachelors and Masters in Education; early teaching career; reasons behind her involvement with BOTA and North Orange County Teachers Association; various injustices that have been brought to her about teachers working conditions; and finally, a reflective section on feminism and politics.

OH 5460

Narrator: PATRICIA MALAGON
Interviewer: Cristal Sanchez
Date: October 9, 2014
Location: Cypress, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:49:06
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs (3), photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Patricia Malagon, queer woman of color and grassroots activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to record Malagon's life experiences and the clash between cultures and identities which influence her activism. Specifically, the importance her sister as Malagon grew into her own identity and became an activist; how she began her activism in Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MEChA) at University of California, Riverside; working as a community liaison for the La Habra City School District; and serving as secretary of DeColores Queer Orange County, in Santa Ana, California.

OH 5461.1

Narrator: TISH LEON (b.1951)
Interviewer: Janelle Vannoy
Date: October 15, 2014,
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 01:19:17
Transcript: final; 22 pp
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Tish Leon, feminist, activist, and co-president of OC NOW. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Leon's activism and work with local grassroots organizations. Specifically, this interview talks about Leon's childhood in San Diego and the challenges of growing up as a first-generation American; shares how her parents influenced her activism; describes what job opportunities were actively available for women of her generation; talks about experiencing sexual harassment and gender related discrimination on the job; describes her involvement with NOW [National Organization of Women] including: their commitment to current issues facing women today and interaction between local chapters vs. national organization; explains why it's important to recruit younger members; describes NOW's involvement in the fight against human trafficking; talks about her work with Chicanos Unidos and why they oppose local gang injunctions; comments on challenges of balancing her politics with activism; defines Chicano vs. Latino; describes her leadership style and how men and women lead differently; shares what local issues motivate her activism including helping a group of mothers advocate with law enforcement to find their daughters abducted from Santa Ana; challenges of working with the local government; describes the benefits of the sunshine ordinance; defines feminism; speaks about how to inspire passion for women's rights in younger generations, describes what she values most about being a feminist and activist; and finally, explains why she'll always be an activist.

OH 5461.2

Narrator: TISH LEON (b.1951)
Interviewer: Jael Mueller
Date: June 9, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:30:00
Transcript: final; 47 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Guadalupe “Tish” Leon, an Orange County activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on the role of Latinas as activists and political leaders in Orange County. Specifically, the interview talks about Leon’s involvement with Latino Health Access (LHA), including how the organization was founded, her relationship with America Bracho, and roles as executive assistant and HR manager; describes her work with the Mexican American National Women’s Association (MANA); explains why she joined the National Organization of Women (NOW) and path to becoming vice president; speaks about her involvement with the Santa Ana Parks and Recreation Commission and how this work made her a better activist; talks about her work at the Public Law Center, including fighting gang injunctions in Santa Ana, California; comments on her appointment to the Community Redevelopment and Housing Commission in 2014, and involvement in local redevelopment projects; and finally, discusses her work with the Santa Ana Collaborative for Responsible Development (SACReD) and achievement of the Sunshine Ordinance in 2012.

OH 5462

Narrator: LORRAINE PRINSKY (b. 1946)
Interviewer: Susan Oweiss
Date: October 16, 2014
Location: Huntington Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:20:00
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photographs (9)

Abstract:

An oral history with Lorraine Prinsky, retired CSUF professor of sociology, Coast Community College Trustee, and political activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to talk about political activists in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Prinsky's Jewish upbringing and early childhood in the Bronx, New York City; explains why her parents moved to California in 1957; describes her dad's lunch counter businesses in New York and Los Angeles, California; talks about her mom's Turkish roots, speaking the Spanish dialect, Ladino, and why she only spoke English with her children; recalls coming of age in the 1960s including: her involvement with the Free Speech and Anti-War Movements at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); describes attending the Century City Peace March in 1967; speaks about her work with Timothy Leary at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute and why she pursued graduate work in organizational research at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) with Dr. Jim March and Dr. Jerome Kirk; compares student activist activities at UCLA vs UCI; talks about why she married her first husband and moving to Orange County; describes her research with Dr. Kirk about adolescent users of psychedelic drugs; recalls how she was hired to work at California State University, Fullerton and developing the first service learning class; talks about meeting her second husband, their marriage and family; discusses why she ran for Coast Community College Trustee and how her work in the academic community prepared her for the position; talks about how the board navigated the budgetary restrictions during the recession; discusses her relationship with fellow board members Jerry Patterson and Jim Moreno; describes her struggle with voting on a local union supported bond and partisan fallout; explains why she considers herself a feminist and how she describes the term; compares leadership styles between men and women; talks about her professional accomplishments and awards; talks about the role faith has played in her life; explains why it's important for women to be involved in politics and challenges they face as working professionals; shares advice to young women interested in a political/activist career; and finally, explains her research with Dr. Jill Rosenbaum about the effect of rock 'n' roll lyrics on teenagers.

OH 5463

Narrator: XIOMARA CORPEÑO
Interviewer: Jael A. Muller
Date: October 15, 2014 3:00 P.M.
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours 11 minutes
Transcript: final; 43 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Xiomara Corpeño, Director of Community Education at CHIRLA [Coalition of Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles]. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The interview discusses Corpeño's work as a political activist within worker's rights and immigration reform movements. Specifically, her work with CHIRLA and other grassroots organizations, such as SCOPE/AGENDA [Strategic Concepts for Organizing for Power and Education] and HERE Local 11; discusses her childhood in Los Angeles, adversities she faced as the daughter of Salvadorian immigrants, which inspired her to fight for equality; shares activist college experiences at UC Riverside and Universidad del El Salvador; speaks about inequalities in the political system that contribute to the conditions of immigrants; discusses her role within, and current issues faced by CHIRLA; talks about gender roles within activism; the definition of feminism and the effects of being mother and organizer; mentions economic disparity and why social justice is important; shares advice for those wanting to be involved; and finally, discusses her legacy and how she would like to be remembered.

OH 5464

Narrator: LILLIBETH NAVARRO (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Salvador Delgadillo
Date: October 17, 2014
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:33:26
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1); recording log; field notes

Abstract:

This is an oral history of Lillibeth Navarro, cofounder of Communities Actively Living Independent and Free. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her activism within the disabled community. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview discusses Navarro's early life in the Philippines; acquiring polio as a child, which took away her leg function; her experience being confined to a hospital, missing her family but forming meaningful relationships with other disabled patients; the roles of her parents and grandmother; the influence of the International Focolare Religious Movement and how it changed her life; college years at the College of the Holy Spirit in Manila; working at the Minister of Social Services helping the disabled community; her journey to the United States to study at USC; her several arrests as a result of being an activist; the issue of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS); the evolution of the ADA Movement [Americans with Disabilities Act]; the differences between disabled men and women; her co-founding of Communities Actively Living Independent and Free, her responsibilities therein; fighting off discouragement in her work; compares her childhood in the Philippines to present day; previous job history; life balance; differences between men and women's leadership; her definition of feminism; and finally, advice for those wanting to be involved.

OH 5465

Narrator: ROSEANN SLONSKY-BREAULT (b. 1948)
Interviewer: Rebecca C. Romero
Date: October 17, 2014
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 2 hours, 12 minutes
Transcript: final; 43 pages
Collateral: Photograph (1), field notes, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with, Roseann Slonsky-Breault, president of the California Federation of Republican Women (CFRW). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, the interview discusses Slonsky-Breault's early childhood in New Jersey; college experiences at the University of Delaware; meeting her husband and the evolution of their relationship; early influential role models; early gender messages and expectations; how she was always urged by her parents to get an education; early career in various textile shops in New York City and her transition into teaching; her initial membership with the CFRW; why the Republican Party appeals to her; tensions between Republicans and Democrats; the various goals and committees of CFRW; the role of CFRW during elections; how not all Republican women fit the stereotype; challenges she faced while president of CFRW; how she advocates for political dialogue; proud moments as CFRW president, RNC delegate, and working on Rudy Giuliani's presidential campaign; goals for CFRW's future; speculates why young people and people of color tend to avoid the Republican Party, and what could make the Party more appealing; why she believes it is important for women to be involved; provides advice for those wanting to be involved; and finally, discusses her definition of feminism.

OH 5466

Narrator: CAROL NOLAN
Interviewer: Conrad E. Negrón
Date: October 17, 2014
Location: Coachella, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 37 minutes
Transcript: Partial
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Sister Carol Nolan S.P., Director of Providence in the Desert, located in Coachella, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Nolan's faith-based activism. Specifically, this interview covers Nolan's musical upbringing in Illinois, which motivated her to join the sisterhood after entering college at St. Mary of the Woods; discusses how her passion for music allowed her to perform mission work by teaching violin and piano to elementary school children; how this passion eventually led her to teach English in Austria and Taiwan; recalls how during this time, she developed a desire to move to a location where no one was helping the less fortunate; how she carried her philanthropy to Southern California and established the Providence in the Desert ministry, which deals primarily with teaching music and English as a second language to farming families in the Eastern Coachella Valley; how Democratic Women of the Desert took notice of Nolan's work and awarded her with the Volunteer of the Year award in 2014.

OH 5467

Narrator: REYNA PINEDA GUTIERREZ
Interviewer: Alma Ochoa
Date: October 18, 2014
Location: Ontario, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours, 42 minutes
Transcript: Partial
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Reyna Pineda Gutierrez. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Gutierrez' activities during the FSLN (Sandinista National Liberation Front) revolution and Contra war. The interview covers a broad perspective of Nicaraguan women's life, involvement and impact during the revolution. Some of the major themes the interview deals with are her recollection of Nicaragua's social structure during 1960s, and the detrimental effects political polarization between Somoza and Sandinistas had on many families; the factors behind her family's migration to Los Angeles, California and her sentiments as a young adult in a foreign world; recalls her initial invitation into to the Nicaragua solidarity movement, and underground activities both in the states and in the jungles of Nicaragua; explains Nicaragua's culture of machismo, and Luisa Amanda Espinoza fight for women's rights; describes the legacy of Nicaraguan women's revolution within the broader Nicaraguan revolution; she differentiates Nicaragua's nationalist struggle from FSLN's Marxist ideology, and the driving force behind her activism; reflects on the deteriorating effects activism had on her motherhood; and concludes the interview by defining what it is to be a revolutionary and an activist.

OH 5468

Narrator: LUCILLE POLACHEK
Interviewer: Heather Robinson
Date: October 21, 2014
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 9 minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Lucille Polachek, a campaign organizer for the Democratic Party. This interview was gathered for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, the Center for Oral and Public History, and is part of Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Polachek's history and involvement with the Democratic Party. Specifically, this interview includes Polachek's Jewish family background in Ohio; joining the League of Women Voters in the early 1950s; shares memories of John F. Kennedy and Bobby Kennedy and how inspiring they were as leaders, which compelled her to volunteer; recalls the night of Bobby Kennedy's assassination; social issues of the 1960s; working on other campaigns for Ed Edelman, Jimmy Carter, Michael Dukakis, Walter Mondale, George McGovern, Tom Bradley; why the Democratic Party appealed to her; discusses how men and women lead; affects of her activism on her family; explains how her volunteer work turned into a career; and finally, provides opinion on the current state of the Democratic Party.

OH 5469

Narrator: SUMMER ALBAYATI-KRIKECHE
Interviewer: Jonathan Blackwood
Date: October 22, 2014
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours 4 minutes
Transcript: Partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Reverend Summer Albayati-Krikeche, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kern County. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. This interview specifically deals with the spirituality and religious relationship that Albayati-Krikeche connects to her activism work within the larger society; childhood and family life; family's history of activism, including participation in the Underground Railroad, and helping to smuggle Jews out of Iraq and into Israel; talks about growing up in Santa Monica and moving to Mariposa, California, and eventually Orange County; talks about her family owning a restaurant in Orange County during her high school years; college years at the University of California, Irvine; how she was raised and defines gender roles within her family and community; leadership skills and leadership styles; personal experience being a religious leader and activist, who also happens to be a woman; defines it means to be politically courageous; defines herself as a feminist and an activist and details why it is important for young women to become involved in political activism; gives a personal statement for why it is important for the youth of today to be involved in activism and grassroots efforts.

OH 5470

Narrator: FANNY GARCIA
Interviewer: Kristoffer Bachmann
Date: October 26, 2014
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 7 minutes
Transcript: Partial
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Fanny Garcia, a veteran, conscientious objector, and peace advocate. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the experience of women in activism, with an emphasis on how being a veteran affects this process. The interview covers Garcia's reasons for joining the Army; her experience in Basic Training at Fort Leonard-Wood; her experience in the Army and the process taken to realize she was a conscientious objector, and how this affected her decision to become active in the peace movement; describes how the desire to escape economic hardship, difficulties in adapting to Army life, growing awareness of the overseas wars, and her transition to veganism changed her outlook on the Army and its mission. Garcia also discusses her growing understanding that the Army was training her to kill and how unsettling this realization was; details what her work in the Military Families Speak Out organization consists of; difficulties in explaining this to her family, and how she believes the current generation is not involved in the peace movement.

OH 5471

Narrator: SANDY NARANJO
Interviewer: Jonathan Lozano
Date: October 24, 2014
Location: National City, California.
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 39 minutes
Transcript: final; 28 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Sandy Naranjo, a staffer at United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 135. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in labor movements and unions. Specifically, this interview discusses Naranjo's childhood in San Diego, California; her activism and employment while at California State University, San Bernardino; her early exposure to labor movements and unions; her internship with Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and employment at United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 154; details union involvement in the 2003 Southern California Supermarket Strike; her accomplishments at UFCW, such as the unionization of Viejas Casino in San Diego County; her goals for the union and future growth; and finally, her definition of feminism and how it relates to labor movements and unions.

OH 5472

Narrator: BEVERLY CIELNICKY (b. 1937)
Interviewer: Brian Pastore
Date: October 28, 2014
Location: Fountain Valley, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 00:56:59
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Beverly Cielnicky, pro-life advocate and president of Crusade for Life. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Cielnicky's involvement in the pro-life movement. Specifically, Cielnicky's childhood in Madera, California; explains how she got involved with the pro-life movement and Crusade for Life (CFL); shares story of Bernard Nathanson and his role in the film "The Silent Scream"; comments on the strategies of Crusade for Life and the importance of educating people on abortion techniques; reflects on the early days of organization and her family's reaction to her involvement; talks about the differences between abortion laws in California and Massachusetts; discusses the impact of the Therapeutic Abortion Act of 1967; speaks about the challenges of balancing family life with activism; shares her goals as president of CFL and challenges she faced as a pro-life advocate; why it is important to have a female presence in the pro-life movement; discusses the differences in how men and women lead; describes her greatest accomplishments while serving as president of CLF; talks about Californians for Life; rates California regions in how supportive they are of the pro-life movement; defines feminism; talks about changes in the pro-life movement since she started and how today's young people are more courageous than her generation; discusses why it is important for women to be activists; speaks about how she was perceived as a stay-at-home mom by other women; how she notices the media giving more attention to pro-choice women; talks about the future of the pro-life movement and what volunteer opportunities are available for young people; explains why the younger generation gets involved; talks about what alternatives would be available to women if abortion became illegal; and finally, reflects on her personal legacy; shares her hopes for the future of the pro-life movement and Crusade for Life.

OH 5473

Narrator: ANGELIQUE “GIGI” TSONTOS
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: October 29, 2014; 12:00 P.M.
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 54 minutes
Transcript: Partial
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Angelique “Gigi” Tsontos, the Executive Director of the Women’s Transitional Living Center (WTLC) located in Orange County, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis’ oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Tsontos’ work and activism against domestic violence in her local community. Specifically, this interview deals with Tsontos’ formative years with her conservative upbringing and instilled values of hard work, in Kansas, including her parent’s jobs, values, and gender roles; Catholic education; introduction to social work as an undergraduate at University of Kansas, and graduate student community work at Columbia University; her 2-year involvement with water borne diseases and AIDS prevention with the Peace Corp in Mali, West Africa; briefly discusses first supervisor job at the University District Youth Center for homeless youths; discusses working at the WTLC and her goals based on prevention and creating awareness, educational program for children and individuals, origins of the organization, and community partnerships; her thoughts on the NFL and domestic violence in the media; explains the challenges and rewards of social work with WTLC’s motto “Trauma Informed Care”; compares male and female leadership in domestic violence and social work; briefly discusses her husband and European in-laws; reflection on teenage years in the Midwest and standing up to her conservative relatives; being a modern feminist; her interest in adoption and foster agencies, as well as relinquishing her daughter at a young age; desire to continue spreading preventive awareness, and future animal activism.

OH 5474

Narrator: NANCY BECKER-KENNEDY
Interviewer: Salvador Delgadillo
Date: October 29, 2014; 4:00 P.M.
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hours 52 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Nancy Becker-Kennedy, actress, comedienne, author, and activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. This interview discusses Becker-Kennedy's early years in Chicago; the accident that left her paralyzed; trials and tribulations of her grandparents as they escaped Poland and Jewish persecution; discusses the unique relationship between the younger and older generations of Jewish people; discusses how her family dealt with the Great Depression in Chicago; describes her family dealings during the Bolshevik Revolution; describes family dynamic and the hardships of being part of family that is not happy; parents' marriage and ultimate divorce; her community's views on divorce during that time; how the younger Jewish community combines their Jewish faith with eastern philosophy; being a child of the sixties and participating in social protests; describes her time in the Young Socialist Alliance; views on Trotskyism; attending the United Farm Workers meetings as a child; opinions on the social status of African Americans during that time and its impact; discusses her fight for equality for the disabled community; discusses her personal injury, which led to involvement with the disabled rights movement; Rehabilitation Act of 1972; A.D.A.P.T.; her creation of Disabled in Action, with the help of Judy Heumann, a key figure in the Disabled Rights Movement; discusses the evolution of In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and its connection the Olmstead Act; speaks about her time in the entertainment industry, acting on television shows "General Hospital" and "The Louie Anderson Show;" describes working as a comedienne and in the news department at KCET; and finally, explains the evolution of the disabled actor, noting there were none on television to her being one of the first.

OH 5475

Narrator: DR. KIMBERLY SALTER
Interviewer: Janelle Vannoy
Date: October 29, 2014; 9:00 A.M.
Location: Laguna Niguel, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 29 minutes
Transcript: final; 29 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Kimberly Salter, activist and co-director of the Orange County Chapter of the National Organization for Women. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on Salter's career as an activist and her work with the National Organization for Women (NOW). Specifically, this interview talks about Salter's childhood in Pasadena and why her parents valued education; how her mother going back to work created great responsibility for her; explains why she became an activist; reflects on her childhood role models and why she became a counselor; talks about the challenges of going to college as a female in the 1960s and why she protested the Vietnam War; explains how her parent's political ideology influenced her choices; talks about how she met her husband; describes how her activism affected her immediate family; talks about her work as organizational psychologist; explains why she became involved with the National Organization for Women (NOW) and how the organizations mission has kept her active; speaks about whether NOW is a grassroots organization and the struggle to raise funds; compares her roles as president of California NOW vs. the Orange County chapter; describes differences between California NOW chapters; talks about the issues NOW has promoted including: reproductive freedom, pay equality, and human trafficking; explains why NOW picketed Hobby Lobby; describes how NOW is recruiting young members and the importance of the Adalente conference; talks about work in other activist organizations including: American Association of University Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, Association of Women in Psychology, United States National Committee for UN Women, Southern California Chapter; explains why she supports combining activism and education; talks about her work with the suffrage centennial; describes her leadership style; compares differences between how men and women can lead; defines feminism; talks about how maintains her motivation; and finally, talks about different types of activists.

OH 5476

Narrator: SARAH KHAN
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: November 6, 2014; 9:00 A.M.
Location: Pleasanton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 54 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description; clippings

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Sarah Khan, Economic Security and Project Specialist at the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence (API Institute), and board member of the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Khan's work and activism against domestic violence. Specifically, this interview deals with Khan's formative years with her idyllic upbringing, active childhood, and Catholic school education in Kashmir, India; discusses family's move to New Delhi in 1990; culture shock she experienced as a Muslim minority; briefly discusses secondary education; mentions her parent's jobs, values, and gender roles; discusses growing up in a patriarchal society; discusses move to the United States and introduction to domestic violence advocacy work at the Unified New Cassel Community Revitalization Corporation; discusses moving to California in 2004; her work at Maitri as a Program Coordinator, Program Director, and Executive Director; her current job as the Economic Security and Project Specialist at the Asian Pacific Islander Institute on Gender Based Violence, and her thoughts on asset building; Building Economic Support Together (B.E.S.T.); reflects on Chris Brown, the NFL, and domestic violence in the media; discusses difficult scenarios in the direct services field; compares male and female leadership in domestic violence; briefly discusses her grandfather's instilled values; thoughts on her "couch activism" and feminism; her son's early activism towards homelessness and animals; desire to continue asset building work and intersecting it into immigrant and refugee communities; reflection on 9/11 and the marginalization of Muslim women; and finally, expresses her dream of domestic violence services to not be objective.

OH 5477

Narrator: PEGGY TROTTER DAMMOND PREACELY (b. 1942)
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: November 11, 2014
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:51:21
Transcript: final; 45 pp
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Peggy Preacely, Civil Rights activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to understand how women define their political activism, and particularly to discuss Preacely's participation as a Civil Rights activist during the sixties and seventies. Specifically, this interview talks about Preacely's upbringing in Pittsburg and Harlem; describes her family's history of activism, including her parents and great uncle, William Monroe Trotter; recalls her educational background and studies at Hunter College, Boston University, Simmons College, Berkley College of Music; talks about her personal involvement in the Civil Rights Movement including: sit-ins, freedom rides in Crisfield, Maryland, North Carolina and the Mississippi Freedom Summer; describes her involvement with SNCC and what it was like to attend their workshops; discusses her work with improving voter literacy in Lee County, Georgia; reminisces about her ancestors: William and Ellen Craft; talks about her involvement with the Anti-War movement and trip to the Soviet Union with Women Strike for Peace; describes being involved with the Anti-Draft Movement in Boston, MA; describes her contribution to the book *Hands on the Freedom Plow*; explains why she joined Black Women Organized for Action in San Francisco; recalls meeting her husband and how she balanced her roles as activist and wife; shares about current social involvement including involvement with the African American Network for Violence Free Relationships/Interval House and work to combat human trafficking; explains why it's important to preserve black history; discusses her work with the Black Women's Health Project in Los Angeles; compares leadership styles between men and women; explains why it's important for women to be involved in activism; shares advice she gives to young people; talks about how her faith affects her activism; and finally, reflects on her life as an activist.

OH 5478

Narrator: ELLEN “ELLE” KURPIEWSKI
Interviewer: Conrad E. Negron
Date: November 6, 2014; 4:00 P.M.
Location: Rancho Mirage, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours
Transcript: none
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Ellen “Elle” Kurpiewski, retired flight attendant for United Airlines and former president of Democrats of the Desert, in Riverside County, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis’ oral history course. The purpose of the interview is to gather information regarding Kurpiewski’s career as a flight attendant, legislation for which she lobbied, and her experiences within the Democratic Party. Specifically, this interview discusses her formative years, moving around the country, due to her father’s position in the Air Force; attending Florida Atlantic University; how she acquired a taste for activism during this time; how her interest in activism increased after becoming a flight attendant in 1969; her involvement in the Association of Flight Attendants; lobbying for the in-flight smoking ban and duty-time legislation; reflects on the 9/11 terrorist attacks; how she was the first flight attendant in history to run for United States Congress (45th District) in 2002; how this experience led to her role as president of the Democrats of the Desert; opening the Democratic headquarters in Cathedral City, California, in 2008, where she volunteers to this day; and finally, reflects on receiving the Harvey Milk Leadership Award from the LGBT community (2014), and the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Democratic Women of the Desert.

OH 5479

Narrator: KARLA TURNER
Interviewer: Rebecca Romero
Date: November 11, 2014
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:51:45
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Karla Turner, junior high school teacher and president of North Orange County United Teachers (NOCUT). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, the interview discusses Turner's early life, growing up in Southern California during the 1950s and 60s, including a lengthy discussion on her family's educational background; her educational drive as a child; involvement with the church; her love of music; early involvement with teaching and her dissatisfaction with private schools; her move into public schools and early involvement with the teacher's union; recalls various injustices that she and fellow teachers have faced; and finally, brief reflection on feminism and politics.

OH 5480.1

Narrator: JEAN WATT (b. 1926)
Interviewer: Susan Oweiss
Date: November 12, 2014, 9:30 a.m.
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:54:29
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Jean H. Watt, environmental activist and retired Newport Beach City Council member. The primary purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her role as an activist in the fast-developing, urban region of Orange County, California. The interview is part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis' History 493 Oral History course. Specifically, this interview talks about why Watt became a nurse; how she met her husband; compares lifestyles in San Francisco vs. Pasadena; explains why she moved to Newport Beach; reminisces about family vacations on Balboa Island in the 1930s, and how the area developed; talks about her children; describes how her work with the Parent Teacher Association and Girl Scouts led to environmental activism; explains why SPON (Stop Polluting our Newport) was formed in 1974; talks about SPON's efforts to restrict urban development and expansion of John Wayne Airport; comments on the importance of volunteers in non-profits; describes the formation of Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks, and why they believe in protecting the natural lands, waterways, and beaches of Orange County; talks about her greatest challenges as an activist; reflects on her work with the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, Orange Coast River Park, and the Yosemite Association Board of Directors; reveals how she dealt with husband's suicide; talks about election to the Newport Beach City Council and her determination to support environmental causes; describes her leadership style; talks about how activism has changed for women since the 1960s; compares how men and women lead; explains how she balanced home life with activism; talks about how motherhood shaped her activism; defines feminism and explains why she is not a feminist; and finally, reflects on why women became involved with environmental activism.

*** The first half of this oral history was lost due to a technical error. See session two for the first part of the interview. ***

OH 5480.2

Narrator: JEAN WATT (b. 1926)
Interviewer: Susan Oweiss
Date: November 19, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:05:27
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

Second session oral history interview with Jean H. Watt, environmental activist and retired Newport Beach City Council member. The interview is part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis' History 493 Oral History course. Specifically, this interview talks about Watt's formative years in Pasadena; explains why she looked up to family members; describes immediate family's hierarchical structure and gender norms enforced by parents; shares memories of paternal grandfather; describes family's ties to Balboa Island and why they bought property in 1931; explains academic connection between high school and college in the Pasadena School District; recalls instances of discrimination against minorities in Pasadena City College men's and women's clubs; remembers nursing school; recalls participating in home front war efforts to support WWII troops and wartime rationing; talks about why she and her husband chose to settle in Newport Beach; explains how motherhood influenced her activism through her involvement in the Girl Scouts; why she formed SPON (Stop Polluting our Newport); talks about balancing city council legislation between environmentalists and Irvine Company supporters; how grassroots activism influences elections; talks about challenges she's faced as an activist; talks about current politics (2014); and reflects on her future activist endeavors with the countywide organization: Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks.

OH 5481

Narrator: JULIANA NASCIMENTO
Interviewer: Oscar Yea
Date: November 7, 2014; 2:00 P.M.
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 41 minutes
Transcript: partial; 11 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description; student paper

Abstract:

An oral history of Juliana Nascimento, a grassroots activist who is a part of Students for Quality Education (SQE) at Cal State University, Los Angeles. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Nascimento's activism in Students for Quality Education. Specifically, this interview deals with Nascimento's early life growing up in Brazil; the values that her parents taught her; her religious background; her work with Students for Quality Education and Students United to Reach Goals in Education; the importance of helping undocumented students get financial aid; her motivation as an activist; her definition of feminism; and finally, what she is most proud of.

OH 5482

Narrator: JOAN BASILE (b. 1938)
Interviewer: Brian Pastore
Date: November 11, 2014
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:42:48
Transcript: none
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Joan Basile, pro-life advocate and former administrator of Mary's Shelter. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Basile's involvement in the pro-life movement and running Mary's Shelter. Specifically, this interview talks about Basile's childhood and educational background; shares memories about her parents and sisters; what it was like moving often as a young person and how it shaped her character; impact of parents' alcoholism on childhood; shares story of her religious journey and why she converted to Catholicism after meeting her future husband; talks about husband's career path and job at Ford Motor Company; reflects on race relations at university (UC Santa Clara); explains why she wanted to be a teacher and subsequent teaching experience at the diocese level, St. Cecelia's, and Mater Dei High School; how supportive her husband was during her time in school; Father Norbert's influence to take active role in pro-life movement; involvement with Operation Rescue and praying at abortion clinics in L.A.; husband's and children's support of her involvement in pro-life; defines pro-life; discusses children's lives; counseling at crisis pregnancy shelter; talks about effects abortion; describes why she took over Mary's Shelter; speaks about challenges leading non-profit organization as a volunteer; describes mission of Mary's Shelter; describes how space is allocated between county need vs. available beds; talks about fundraisers for Mary's Shelter and non-profit Home Aid; challenges with neighborhood that opposed Mary's Shelter; speaks about continuation of pro-life movement in Arizona; shares the influence prayer has on her life; defines the term activist; shares hopes for the future of the pro-life movement; talks about movie "October's Baby"; reflects on greatest accomplishments; talks about the future of the Mary's Shelter and importance of volunteer support; discusses why it's important for women to be activists; defines the term feminism; talks about changes in pro-life movement since she started and importance of encouraging men to be vocal pro-life supporters; advice to young women who want to become involved in activism; and finally, reflects on her personal legacy.

OH 5483.1

Narrator: MARY HORKBUCKLE (b. 1942)
Interviewer: Norman Zeledon
Date: October 2014.
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:53:25
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Mary Hornbuckle, former mayor of Costa Mesa and current vice president of the Coast Community College District (CCCD) Board of Trustees. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to collect details on Hornbuckle's life history, teaching career, and public service work on the Costa Mesa City Council and CCCD Board of Trustees. Specifically, this interview details her move from Denver, Indiana, to Costa Mesa, California, with her husband in the 1960s; recalls her family life and childhood aspirations; her decision to devote thirty-four years of work to early childhood education; her involvement on the Costa Mesa City Council in the 1980s and the non-partisan politics she practiced; describes the polarization of local politics in Orange County; her decision to run for the council in 1984 and her campaign platform which focused on slow growth and major building developments; challenges with immigration while on council; her thoughts of being a woman on the council; her family's response to her decision to run for council; becoming mayor in 1990; her role in the construction of the Costa Mesa Senior Center; talks about her decision to run for 70th California State Assembly District against Gil Ferguson; the importance of having women in politics; discusses the current state of the United States of America politics; her role as president on the Board of Trustees for the CCCD and her work with student success rates; the importance of children having a head start in early education; her memories of Costa Mesa in the 1960s; discusses feminism and its movement in the 70s and 80s; recalls meeting former prime minister Margaret Thatcher; shares what her work schedule is like and what she would like to pursue next; talks about her domestic and international travels; goes into further detail about her Assembly run; her work and experiences as a pre-school teacher and director at St. Mark Community Preschool; what she would like her legacy to be; closes the interview with the development of Costa Mesa TV as well as being invited as mayor by the Orange County model engineers to Fairview Park for a symbolic railroad event.

OH 5483.2

Narrator: MARY HORNBUCKLE (b. 1942)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: August 25, 2016
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:05:43
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photographs (2)

Abstract

An oral history with Mary Hornbuckle, former mayor of Costa Mesa and current vice president of Coast Community College District (CCCD) Board of Trustees. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history, details of her teaching career, and public servant work on the council and CCCD Board of Trustees. Specifically, this interview details her family life and childhood growing up in Denver, Indiana; she recalls world-related discussions held with her parents such as the Great Depression; shares the impact her mother had on her; gender roles she experienced in the 1950s; discusses the opportunities for women in her hometown; shares how she met her husband and their courtship; goes into detail about her educational background in early childhood education; her early political engagement with local politics such as the homeowners association and League of Women Voters (LWV); her decision to run for Costa Mesa City Council and campaigning with, Mesa Action; her local political ties and campaign platform; her time as mayor and advocating for the Costa Mesa Senior Center; the issue of immigration while on council; thoughts on the differences between female and male leaders; how she was treated during the campaign as well as her experiences being a woman on the council; her decision to run for CCCD Board of Trustees, her work experiences, and the issues of Measure M Bond and Orange Coast College Plan (Vision 20/20 Plan); what she believes it takes to make an effective leader; her vision and goals for the CCCD; her continued involvement in local politics; explains her leadership style; how being a woman affected her work; her family's response to her campaigning; her children's involvement with local politics; the differences in challenges women and men face while getting involved with politics; the dilemma of getting young women and young minority women involved with the LWV; briefly discusses her current goals and retirement plans; her thoughts on the 2016 United States Presidential Election and Hillary Clinton; closes the interview with what she is most proud of and shares advice she would give a young woman wanting to get involved in politics.

OH 5484

Narrator: LINDSEY HORVATH (b. 1982)
Interviewer: Joshua Anderson
Date: November 16, 2014
Location: West Hollywood, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:53:40
Transcript: Final; 33 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1); field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An interview with Lindsey Horvath, community activist and member of West Hollywood City Council. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Horvath's involvement in women's rights and gender equality activism. Specifically, this interview discusses Horvath's outspoken formative years in Ohio and Nevada; early messages about gender roles; early role models and being an overachiever; her activism as an undergrad at Notre Dame University (mainly as an advocate for LGBTQ); family values and how her Catholic faith influenced and encouraged her activism; moving to Los Angeles and how she became involved in local activism and politics; women's rights and the issue of choice; founding the Hollywood chapter of NOW; intergenerational relationships between feminists, and trying to improve those through the Bridge Project; her experience on the West Hollywood Women's Advisory Board; becoming a city councilmember and effecting change; advice for women wanting to be involved; her involvement with Running Start, an organization which encourages young women to run for office; comments on other women's campaigns, such as HeForShe and One Billion Rising; the roles of men vs. women; her definition of feminism; and finally, her proudest accomplishments.

OH 5485

Narrator: ANA MIRIAM BARRAGAN
Interviewer: Enith Marcos
Date: November 17, 2014
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour, 2 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Ana Miriam Barragan, the first Dreamer Coordinator at the University of California, Irvine (UCI). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding female activists in Orange County. Specifically, the interview covers Barragan's upbringing in Guadalajara, Mexico, and how she illegally crossed the Mexico-United States border in 2000; describes struggles her family faced as immigrants, as well as difficulties she faced at school; talks about college years at California State University, Northridge, (CSUN) and how the lack of support and resources for undocumented students motivated her to fight for the creation of a Dreamers Resource Center; discusses various workshops she provides to the immigrant community, which provide information on AB540, the California Dream Act, driver's licenses, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and finally, describes her role as Dreamer Coordinator at UCI and resources she provides for undocumented students.

OH 5486.1

Narrator: ANGELICA SALAS (b. 1971)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: November 14, 2014
Location: Los Angeles, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:19:09
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photographs (8)

Abstract:

An oral history with Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition of Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles [CHIRLA]. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Salas' life history and political activism within the immigration reform movement. Specifically, this interview details her family background and history in Durango, Mexico, and immigration to America in the early 1970s; her childhood experiences crossing the United States-Mexico border; discusses the hardships and difficult realities that contemporary immigrant children face; her parents' work history and the sacrifices they made; the danger and fear of being undocumented; her childhood and family life in Pasadena, California; shares how her family became legalized in 1986, through the Family Fairness Act and Immigration and Reform Control Act; her childhood aspirations and the importance of education and history; college years at Occidental College, during which her passion emerged; initial involvement with CHIRLA; talks about her Chicana identity; her family's involvement in the 2006 Mega March-United States immigration reform protests; her courtship and marriage to Mayron Payes, an immigration organizer at Center for Community Change and the Fair Immigrant Rights Movement [FIRM]; discusses her role as a mother and activist; further discusses her college years and activism within Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán [MEChA]; reflects on the passing of Proposition 187 and the work she has done since then to create awareness and policy changes for undocumented children; talks about her experience at CHIRLA; how she is most proud of her immigration work and creating immigration reform as a national issue; she concludes the interview recalling her turbulent meetings with President Obama, regarding immigration rights and reform, and the ongoing struggle the movement has had with the United States Government.

OH 5486.2

Narrator: ANGELICA SALAS (b. 1971)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: December 8, 2014
Location: Los Angeles, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:00:52
Transcript: final; 16 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition of Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles [CHIRLA]. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. A second interview which covers Salas' life history and political activism within the immigration reform movement. Specifically, this interview details Salas' reaction to Proposition 187; her start at the Coalition of Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) after the passage of 187 in the State of California; dealing with the aftermath of Proposition 187, as well as the discriminatory effects waged on the community; her bittersweet reaction when Proposition 187 was ruled unconstitutional; discusses the decision to focus immigration on women and children, using their stories as a method of gaining recognition and bringing the issues of immigration to a different platform; her thoughts on President Obama's Executive Order on immigration reform and the future of the immigration movement; discusses the challenges she faces within her work and how she balances her home life; what it means to be a public servant and advice she would give a young activist; the sexism she faces in her line of work; her thoughts on feminism; the differences between political activist and organizer; discusses her future plans of combating economic policies; how her activism has shaped the person she is today and what political courage means to her; shares reactions and feelings about May Day 2007; closes the interview with what she is most proud of, and the importance of recognizing the strength of the immigration reform movement.

OH 5487

Narrator: MARIA CHRISTINA KREACHBAUM
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: November 13, 2014; 11:00 A.M.
Location: Bellflower, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hour 31 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Christina Kreachbaum, the Director of Community Outreach at Su Casa ~ Ending Domestic Violence, a nonprofit, community-based organization. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Kreachbaum's activism against domestic violence. Specifically, this interview discusses Kreachbaum's formative years and brief family history; relocating to Southern California and education in Orange County, California; mentions her parent's jobs, values, role models, and gender roles; discusses being "color blind" until the age of twenty-four; family's Filipino heritage; briefly discusses her family's work in activism and politics; discusses her decision to do peer counseling and volunteering at Su Casa; discusses her current job title at Su Casa as the Director of Community Outreach, methods of empowerment, and community outreach; describes domestic violence training manuals she helped compose; briefly discusses ways of adapting programs to fit the growing numbers of Asian and Pacific Islander clients; reflects on Chris Brown, the NFL, and domestic violence in the media; difficulties of funding nonprofit organizations with a social focus; briefly discusses the emotional challenges, as well as being a survivor of domestic violence; how her role as a mother affects her activism and balancing home life; discusses the differences between men and women's leadership; her thoughts on activism and feminism; desire to receive a Master's degree in nonprofit management, focus more on family, and immigration advocacy.

OH 5488

Narrator: ANILA ALI (b. 1966)
Interviewer: Kevin Kipers
Date: November 19, 2014
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:35:45
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Anila Ali, a teacher, activist, and politician. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about her activism in human rights and politics within the Democratic Party in Orange County. This interview was conducted as part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Project for Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis' Oral History class at California State University, Fullerton and the Center for Oral and Public History. The interview covers Ali's childhood from her birth in Karachi, Pakistan, moving to London at age ten and traveling between the UK and Pakistan every summer; discussion of dealing with classmates who held racist attitudes toward her as a child; operating the All Pakistan Women's Association at a young age; describes political ideology; why she felt a need to break out of Pakistani tradition; mentions what prompted her to immigrate to the United States in the mid-1990s; story behind meeting and marrying her husband with a little background on him; why she considers human rights her biggest passion behind being an activist, especially on issues of empowerment for women and ethnic minorities; involvement with the American Muslim Women's Empowerment Council; chairing the International Leadership Foundation; founding the Irvine Pakistani Parents Association; serving on several boards in Irvine; dealing with domestic violence issues in Irvine; work with the Democrats of Greater Irvine; how she first associated herself with the Democratic Party and why it suited her better than the Republican Party; retells the story of being greatly inspired by then-Senator Obama after meeting him, reading one of his books, and then campaigning for him in 2007; describes her leadership style; explains reason for wanting to run for the California State Assembly in District 74, and her greatest successes while campaigning even though she lost; makes mention of wanting to run for that seat again in 2016; challenges of being a Democrat in Orange County; description of differences in how men and women lead; points to issues she believes are more important to women than men; provides her personal definition of a feminist; highlights what she enjoys most about being active in the political process and her proudest achievement as a politician and activist.

OH 5489

Narrator: ROSALYN HACKWORTH (b. 1961)
Interviewer: Johnathan Lozano
Date: November 20, 2014
Location: San Diego, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:59:56
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history of Rosalyn Hackworth, Secretary Treasurer for United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) local 135. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding women in labor movements and unions. Specifically, this interview discusses Hackworth's family life and upbringing in San Diego; discusses father's involvement in the Navy, parents background, and brief life histories; life leading up to her involvement with the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135, as its first African American (and female) Secretary Treasurer; details her role and accomplishments; explains the unique contributions women make to the Labor Movement and unions; the 2003-04 Southern California Supermarket Strike and her role with negotiations and managing union workers; discusses the exhausting labor of her work; her goals and hopes for the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135; her definition of feminism and how it relates to unions and labor movements; discusses being a woman in a male-dominated workplace and her experiences with sexism; reflects on her activism.

OH 5490.1

Narrator: ROSE ESPINOZA
Interviewer: Kristin McGowan
Date: November 24, 2014; 9:35 AM
Location: La Habra, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour and 49 minutes
Transcript: final; 29 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Rose Espinoza, activist and founder of Rosie's Garage in La Habra, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, the interview discusses Espinoza's family life, including parents' immigration to the U.S.; living in the "Red Camp" migrant community as a child; career history, including work at Olsen Brothers as a drafter; noticing gang activity in her La Habra neighborhood and its negative effect on the community; working with local housing associations to help low-income families; why she founded Rosie's Garage, how it flourished with the help of the media, and its far-reaching impact; transition from a volunteer organization to non-profit; what motivates her; how education changes low-income neighborhoods and quells gang activity; how activism has changed for women, and how women can be involved; what feminism means to her; and finally, reflects on activism and proudest accomplishments.

OH 5490.2

Narrator: ROSE ESPINOZA (b. 1951)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: April 8, 2016
Location: La Habra, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:13:34
Transcript: Final; 36 pages
Ephemera Photographs and clippings

Abstract

An oral history of Rose Espinoza, current La Habra City Councilmember and former mayor. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Espinoza's political career. Specifically, this interview discusses Espinoza's upbringing in a migrant camp and living among citrus pickers; describes how gender roles were enacted in her household; explains her commitment to the community through her founding of Rosie's Garage; remembers when MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund) asked her to consider running for city council; discusses experiences of running (and losing) the council race three times; explains campaign strategies to win her fourth attempt; reflects on the news of her council victory, and later becoming the first Latina mayor in Orange County; describes her sixteen years in office; details challenges and success while in office; comments on how politics impacted her family and how she dealt with the challenges; explains political climate when she took office, and how divided the council once was; shares views on how men and women lead; speaks about challenges women face when running for office; provides views on feminism and women's expected role in society; and finally, provides advice on getting involved.

OH 5491

Narrator: DARLING M. RODRIGUEZ
Interviewer: Alma Ochoa
Date: November 24, 2014
Location: La Puente, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours 4 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description

Abstract:

An oral interview of Darling Rodriguez, a Nicaraguan woman involved in the youth resistance movement during the Sandinista National Liberation Front's political takeover of the Nicaraguan government. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Rodriguez was involved in the *Juventud Sandinista 19 de Julio* brigades, which were dispatched by the government to provide healthcare and education to the poor. The purpose of the interview is to understand the motivation behind women's involvement during the Sandinista Revolution. This interview specifically deals with Rodriguez' childhood, growing up in a poor community in Estelí, Nicaragua; family background and structure; witnessing death and destruction in a war-torn country; motivating factors behind her involvement with the youth movement, and the daily functions of the health and literacy brigades; the differences and similarities between the Somoza and Sandinista, parties and how both failed the nation and its people; traditional gender roles in Nicaragua; Nicaraguan women's strong character; Rodriguez' views on feminism; Nicaraguans' false perception of America, and her appreciation for this nation; and finally, reveals that the movement meant a new beginning for Nicaragua and its people.

OH 5492.1

Narrator: ZOE NICHOLSON
Interviewer: Joshua Anderson
Date: November 22, 2014
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:06:45
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description; copy of author's book

Abstract:

An interview with Zoe Nicholson, a militant activist who advocates for equality, primarily of LGBTQ, ethnic minorities, and women. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Nicholson's involvement in women's rights and gender equality activism, through her participation in both the Second and Third Waves of feminism. Specifically, this interview talks about Nicholson's childhood and early life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; discusses family life and how being raised Catholic affected her activism; recalls initial involvement through the antiwar movement and how she later became involved in feminist activism; remembers her fast for the ERA in 1982; reveals she was agoraphobic and how her involvement with the Veteran Feminists of America (VFA) helped her overcome; talks about ideas behind The Bridge Project and how she introduced it through the VFA; discusses abortion as a women's rights issue; expounds extensively on the importance of militant activism as opposed to moderate activism; remembers establishing the Pacific Shore Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) because she wanted to have a militant chapter in Southern California; and finally, discusses how she does not wholeheartedly support male feminism, but does support the idea of celebrity feminism.

OH 5492.2

Narrator: ZOE NICHOLSON
Interviewer: Victoria Macedo
Date: November 18, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:13:58
Transcript: none
Ephemera: Field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Zoe Nicholson, a 50-year equality activist, speaker, writer, and organizer. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Nicholson's activist history, particularly in support of the LGBTQ community. This interview was collected for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton. Specifically, this interview discusses Nicholson's various activities as an activist, particularly in historical movements regarding peace, labor, LGBTQ and women's rights; recalls earning her B.A. in Theology at Quincy University, and M.A. in Religion at USC; remembers opening a women's bookstore in Newport Beach, California, called The Magic Speller; recollects joining forces with six other women in Springfield, Illinois, for a 37-day public fast, in support of the Equal Rights Amendment; mentions her passion for suffragist Alice Paul; and highlights the significance of activism and reflects on her accomplishments to date.

OH 5493

Narrator: KAREN STOYANOFF
Interviewer: Jonathan Blackwood
Date: December 2, 2014; 11:00am
Location: Fountain Valley, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 40 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Reverend Dr. Karen Stoyanoff, associate minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Anaheim. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. This interview deals with the spirituality and religious relationship that Stoyanoff connects to her activism in the larger society. Specifically, her family history and the conservative nature of her Midwestern upbringing in Rockford, Illinois; her childhood being a Caucasian girl growing up in the upper-middleclass of the 1940s and 1950s; her years at Northwestern University, along with Leadville Lombard Theological School; how she was raised and defines the gender roles within her family and community while growing up; her leadership style, along with several of the projects and groups with whom she has engaged; her personal experience as a woman engaged in the feminist movement of the 1960s and how her experiences have shaped her into the woman she is today; defines what it means to be a feminist, along with why activism and justice work are important; hesitantly defines herself as a feminist—with many specific caveats—and as an activist; details that it is important for all young people to become involved in political activism; identifies her belief that the struggle for equality for women is actually less of concern to her now, because she feels there are more pressing matters that have not yet been addressed, such as homophobia, ageism, and ableism; finally, Stoyanoff gives a personal statement for why she believes the youth of today need to be involved in activism and grassroots efforts.

OH 5494

Narrator: CARIE RAEL
Interviewer: Oscar Yea
Date: December 1, 2014; 1:00 P.M.
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 42 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Carie Rael, a student grassroots activist. Rael is a part of Students for Quality Education (SQE) at Cal State University, Fullerton. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her activism for Students for Quality Education. Specifically, this interview deals with Rael's early life in Anaheim, California; values her parents taught her; religious background; work with Students for Quality Education; participation in the occupation of Langsdorf Hall, a sit-in protest at CSUF which advocated against tuition increases and fees; participation in the letter writing campaign to Governor Jerry Brown on Valentine's Day, advocating for affordable education; participation in the protests against the CSUF 'student success fee' and confrontations with CSUF President Mildred Garcia; work with the Cultural and Public History Association at CSUF; motivation as an activist; definition of feminism; and finally, what she is most proud of.

OH 5495

Narrator: ANGELA RODRIGUEZ
Interviewer: Cristal Sanchez
Date: November 25, 2014; 4:30 P.M.
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 8 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs (3), photo description

Abstract:

An oral history of Angela Rodriguez, part-time Human Rights Campaign activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to learn about Rodriguez's activism and how she balances it with school and work. Specifically, her childhood and family history; her mother's influence as a teachers' union representative; how Rodriguez grew up around activism with an interest in politics and social change; starting her own path of activism by participating in charity drives with her sorority at the University of Iowa; growing up in Anaheim, California; talks about the It Gets Better project; advocating for the Human Rights Campaign; being discriminated against for her race; canvassing with her mother in the Anaheim City School District as a youth; completing her Master's Degree at California State University, Long Beach; and finally, talks about working at the Disneyland Resort, where she has worked for six years.

OH 5496

Narrator: JEAN ARDELL
Interviewer: Heather Robinson
Date: December 2, 2014
Location: Corona Del Mar, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour 6 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photograph, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Jean Ardell, President of the Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her involvement in the Democratic Party. Specifically, this interview discusses Ardell's beginnings in education and what compelled her to switch her registration from Republican to Democrat in a defining moment; finding her place as a Democrat in Orange County; participation in the Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club; how she was hugely successful in finding new ways of growing the party's numbers in a predominately Republican county.

OH 5497

Narrator: DIANA COLIN
Interviewer: Jael A. Muller
Date: December 3, 2014
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hours 44 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: Field notes, recording log, photographs, photo description

Abstract:

An oral history with Diana Colin, and immigration reform This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The interview discusses Colin's life and role in the immigration reform movement and being a Dreamer. Specifically, Colin reflects on growing up undocumented, and the effects it had on her childhood and family life; speaks of opportunities given to her through the passing of AB-540; discusses her acceptance into California State University, Fullerton, and her role as President of the Alliance for Students for Equal Education (ASEE); political involvement with the California Dream Network (CDN) under the Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA); her experience meeting President Obama in 2013, as an effort by CHIRLA to represent "Dreamers" and other undocumented youth; and finally, her hopes for immigration reform and the role of women in the movement.

OH 5498

Narrator: JODIE EVANS
Interviewer: Kristoffer Bachmann
Date: October 2014
Location: Venice Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:13:50 (*first section of interview cut off*)
Transcript: final; 21 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Jodie Evans, longtime activist and founder of Code Pink. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the experience of women in activism, with an emphasis on the peace movement. Specifically, the interview covers Evans' early years of activism, including the Las Vegas maid strike; initial foray into politics with Jerry Brown's first administration; describes managing Brown's presidential campaign in 1992; how she never expected to beat Bill Clinton; mentions her influences; discusses how being a woman affected her activist experience and how she sees people getting radicalized currently; details her work in Code Pink; being against the war in Iraq; getting arrested due to protests; activism in Ferguson, Missouri, after the controversial shooting of Michael Brown; reflects on how women and minorities have more input in changing the political system; describes her frustration with the patriarchy and the lack of accountability for crimes such as torture, names the Bush Administration and Dick Cheney in particular.

OH 5534

Narrator: MANUELA “NELLIE” CAUDILLO-KANISKI (1932-2018)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: June 4, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:48:01
Transcript: final; 38 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Manuela “Nellie” Caudillo-Kaniski, current Executive Director of the Mexican American Women’s National Association (MANA). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on Latina activists and/or political leaders in Orange County. The interview discusses Kaniski’s early life in Orange County; describes living conditions with her family, and attending a segregated Mexican school in Santa Ana, California; speaks about living with grandparents, who were migrant farm workers; discusses motivation to join the United States Marine Corps, obstacles she faced for being a woman in the military; meeting her husband; speaks about joining the faculty of Santa Ana College where she became involved in the community, especially assisting the female student population; describes her longtime work as a counselor at Santa Ana College (for 24 years); mentions the array of issues faced by students; details her involvement with the Adelante conference for young women; discusses her role as Executive Director of MANA and its community outreach programs; and lastly, how she plans to continue her activism.

OH 5535.1

Narrator: GENEVIEVE BARRIOS-SOUTHGATE (b. 1942)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: June 2, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:34:12
Transcript: final; 12 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Genevieve Barrios-Southgate, current Director of Community Programs at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on the role of Latinas as activists or political leaders in Orange County. This is part one of a two part interview. Specifically, this interview covers Barrios-Southgate's early life in Anaheim, California, and family history; talks about her family's local grocery store; mentions early role models; discusses how she attended a Mexican school; expounds on the role of her father, Cruz Barrios, an active member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) particularly during the *Mendez vs. Westminster* case; provides memories of LULAC; recalls racial discrimination she faced in high school, and within her neighborhood; how the term Chicana/o has changed; discusses moving out of state to pursue a job opportunity with U.S. Senator George Murphy in Washington D.C. and the impact that would have on her life and career; closes the interview with the reactions she faced from her community when she left for Washington, D.C.

OH 5535.2

Narrator: GENEVIEVE BARRIOS-SOUTHGATE (b. 1942)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: July 1, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:27:18
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Genevieve Barrios-Southgate, current Director of Community Programs at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on the role of Latinas as activists or political leaders in Orange County. This is part two of a two-part interview. In this interview, Barrios-Southgate discusses how she started as a community leader through her work in education; how she promotes Mexican culture through *Relámpago del Cielo*, a folkloric dance group; shares her experiences attending Santa Ana College and transferring to California State University, Fullerton, where she earned her Bachelor's of Arts in Chicano Studies; recollects her involvement in Mexican American Women's National Association [MANA] and becoming the organization's president; discusses her work with *Hermanitas*, a program MANA offers; talks about relocating to Washington D.C. and the impact the move had on her life; shares how she met her husband; recalls moving back to California and family dynamics; reflects on the political climate in Orange County and Washington D.C.; shares how prejudice motivates her to strive higher; discusses her work at the Bowers Museum, her role as Director of Community Programs and her intent to reach out to the Latino community; speaks about her work with the Kidseum; emphasizes the importance of volunteers; shares how and why she started the Latino Arts Council at the Bowers; shares details on the cultural festivals she plans; remembers her decision to become Democrat; reflects on women in her community and the opportunities they have; shares how she balances home and work life; talks about the different ways men and women are treated; provides her thoughts on feminism; mentions issues she would like to explore further; closes the interview with how she is most proud of her mentorship, and gives advice to a young person wanting to get involved in her line of work.

OH 5566

Narrator: **ABBE LAND** (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 21, 2014
Location: West Hollywood, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:00:01
Transcript: final; 34 pp
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Abbe Land, former West Hollywood Mayor and City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Land's time in elected office, as well as her work in the community. Specifically, this interview talks about Land's childhood and family life; the challenges of being raised in a single-parent household by an alcoholic mother; recalls her parents political involvement; reflects on her childhood role models and school memories; speaks about her college years and experiencing religious and cultural discrimination for being a Jewish woman and northerner; explains how she got her start as a woman's rights activist; shares initial impressions of Southern California; describes her work with the Coalition for Economic Survival; documents the development of rent control in West Hollywood; talks about how West Hollywood was formed and her role in the process including being involved in the planning commission; explains why she ran for city council in 1986; talks about her work on the city council and as mayor including advocating for HIV and AIDS awareness, LGBTQ equality, developing a West Hollywood lesbian health bill of rights, and marriage equality; shares how she balanced her professional and political careers; tells about her involvement in Women in Municipal Membership, Feminist Majority Foundation and the L.A. Free Clinic; describes how her work on the rent control issue helped make her more electable; shares what political and social issues are most important to her: women's rights, gun control, and environment; explains why she established a West Hollywood Women's Advisory Board; recalls attending March for Women's Lives rally (1992 and 2004); explains why she considers herself a feminist and how she defines feminism; talks about experiencing gender discrimination while on the city council; shares how she responds to political critics; talks about why she ran for state assembly (1994, 2006), campaigning, and how she felt when she lost; describes the transition to life post-city council; why it's important for women to be involved in politics and how culture with women in politics has changed since the 1980s; describes her leadership style; compares how men and women lead; and finally, shares what she is most proud of her in her life.

OH 5567

Narrator: GLORIA J. WILLINGHAM-TOURE (b. 1945)
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: June 4, 2015
Location: Long Beach, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:08:47
Transcript: verbatim; 39 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Gloria J. Willingham-Toure, chief executive officer of Afram Global Organization Inc., a nonprofit charitable organization based in Southern California, and the founder of its Village P.r.o.j.e.c.t.s. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Willingham-Toure's life history and community-based work and experiences. Specifically, this interview details her family background and childhood growing up in Little Rock and Holly Grove, Arkansas; recalls parents' and extended family's early encouragement for her to follow her dreams; details family's history in Civil Rights, which included her maternal grandmother's involvement within the NAACP, as well as her paternal grandfather's local activism; reflects on her many mentors and how they helped her overcome racial barriers; remembers being in the second cohort to attend Little Rock Central High School after the Little Rock Nine desegregated the school; recollects college background and earning her Ph.D. in Education; discusses decision to go into nursing and becoming an RN; explains her dissertation work and research on nursing and attributive brightness; talks about her involvement with the Veteran's Affairs in Shreveport, Louisiana, and how she was the first African American to hold the position of Associate Chief of Nursing Education; recollects her teaching and partnered learning experiences at California State University, Long Beach, within the Department of Nursing, which included Health on Wheels; remembers her academic leadership at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center in Saudi Arabia, as well as her cultural adaptation; recalls her work and experiences as the first Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Fielding Graduate University; discusses how she founded Afram's project group, Village P.r.o.j.e.c.t.s. and its goals; shares her involvement in the United Nations Forum for the Eradication of Poverty; reflects on her 2006 trip to South Africa to study the educational healthcare systems in Johannesburg; expresses her desire to learn and know how healthcare issues are addressed globally; reflects on her work and experiences with the G.R.E.E.N. Foundation; provides her thoughts on community organizing, activism, and feminism; shares examples of how gender and race affected the way people see her as a leader; explains why social justice is important to her, as well as the role of faith in her activism; reflects on how her work has shaped the person she is today, why it is important for women to get involved in activism, and finally, gives advice to young women wanting to get involved.

OH 5578.1

Narrator: JOY PICUS (b.1930)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 9, 2015
Location: Reseda, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:49:53
Transcript: final; 49 pp
Ephemera: photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Joy Picus, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Picus' political career. Specifically, this interview discusses Picus' early life in Chicago, Illinois; college life at the University of Wisconsin; meeting her husband; moving to Washington D.C. and involvement in the League of Women Voters (1950s); migrating to the San Fernando Valley, California, in the early 1960s; involvement with the American Association of Women Voters; Picus' first attempt and defeat running for Los Angeles City Council (1973); second attempt and win in 1977; early memories on the Los Angeles City Council; interactions between men and women councilmembers; most important issues while serving on the Council (particularly the issues of garbage and recycling, and making Los Angeles a family-friendly city); her work on the Public Works Committee and Personnel Committee; The Joy Picus Childcare Center; challenges and accomplishments while serving on the Council, including the infamous Rodney King incident; what it takes to be a successful city councilmember; and finally, Picus' leadership style and general observations on how women lead.

OH 5578.2

Narrator: JOY PICUS (b. 1930)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: May 12, 2015
Location: Reseda, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 1:24:45
Transcript: final; 24 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (9)

Abstract:

An oral history of Joy Picus, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Picus' political career. Specifically, this interview discusses Picus' youth in Chicago, Illinois, and family history; talks about the importance and inspiration of Eleanor Flexner's *Century of Struggle*; describes involvement with the League of Women Voters, how she chaired *Baker v. Carr*, and how (future co-councilmember) Pat Russell mentored her through various ballot measures; explains working with the Observer Corps, her interest in education studies, and her involvement with the American Association of University Women; details the type of women involved with the League of Women Voters during the 1950s, and the awakening of feminism during that time; remembers the issue of pay equity, and the supportive role Mayor Tom Bradley's office played with the agreement; comments on the lack of awareness that constituents had about childcare policies and the subsequent building of the Joy Picus Child Development Center; describes involvement with many women's organizations, such as the National Council of Jewish Women, Girl Scouts, and Women For;; discusses her council loss (1993), circumstances and afterthoughts; recalls her post-council years serving on various board; talks about the differences for women in politics today than when she was in office; and finally, explains her motivations while she was office.

OH 5587

Narrator: MICHELE MARTINEZ (b.1979)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: July 8, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:08:08
Transcript: final; 32 pages
Ephemera: photographs (11); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Michele Martinez, current Santa Ana city councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Michele's career on the city council. Specifically this interview covers Martinez' youth as the daughter of an addict mother; moving to Santa Ana at age eleven and how the city became her real family; mentions her run for mayor of Santa Ana in 2008 (challenging Miguel Pulido), and the political mudslinging that came with it; early aspirations to become a police officer; meeting Mark Press, owner of Gold Coast Baking Company, who changed her life; her first campaign, against incumbent Fortino Rivera, and winning a seat on the council in 2006, the youngest person to do so; important issues from her campaign and how she was treated; negative publicity and lack of support; her Latino allies from local cities; plans to return to Los Angeles after her term is up in 2018; how she was received during her first months on the council; her leadership style, and differences on how men and women lead; her affiliation with NALEO [National Association of Latino Elected Officials], SCAG [Southern California Association of Governments], HOPE [Hispanas Organized for Political Equality], and Alliance for a Healthy Orange County; second mayoral run in 2010; how the city of Santa Ana recovered from near bankruptcy; being treated differently than male politicians; why more women do not serve in elected office; her thoughts of feminism; how her political experience has shaped her as a person; her advice to young girls involved in politics; how she sees herself in the future; and finally how she is a proud CSUF Titan alum, and hopes to do more positive work in her remaining term.

OH 5621

Narrator: ERNESTA WRIGHT
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: July 21, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:49:47
Transcript: final; 16 pages
Ephemera: photograph (1); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Ernesta Wright, community advocate and executive director of The G.R.E.E.N. Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Wright's career as a local activist. Specifically, this interview talks about Wright's childhood in Santa Ana, California; what messages she received from her parents about gender and leadership; describes her educational background; talks about the role of religion and the church in her life; experience with faith and community based organizations; how education prepared her for work on the G.R.E.E.N. Foundation and role in the business world; explains Money Making Mondays and Connect the Dots and how these events encouraged networking within the African American community; talks about organizing Women with a Purpose, Black History, and Culture Fair; describes the purpose of The G.R.E.E.N. Foundation (Gathering Resources to Educate and Empower through Network); how faith based organizations impact communities; how the Affordable Care Act aided health screening efforts amongst African Americans; talks about the African American Marriage Movement; compares benefits to health conferences vs. expos with community members; shares long term goals for G.R.E.E.N.; how she describes her leadership style; importance of volunteers to the organization; defines public service; explains why she considers herself an advocate vs. activist; defines feminist; how her race affects how people view her as a leader; explains her approach to reach communities not ethnic groups; challenges to running The G.R.E.E.N. Foundation; talks about what she's most proud of in her life; describes the role of faith in her advocacy and the importance of politics in her work; why it's important for women to be involved in politics and how men and women differ in leadership approaches; and finally, shares advice to young women who wanted to become activists.

OH 5622

Narrator: DR. BETH RAYFIELD
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: July 8, 2015
Location: Los Angeles, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:00:48
Transcript: None
Ephemera: photograph; field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Beth Rayfield, Director of Development at the Collation of Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the lives of women activists currently involved in providing resources and knowledge to the Latin American communities in Los Angeles and the surrounding areas. Specifically, the interview covers Rayfield's life and events that led to her becoming socially involved; college years at University of California, Irvine; her involvement with founding UAW Local 2865; becoming involved with Strategic Actions for a Just Economy and East LA Community Corporation, where she started as a development assistant, later promoted to Director of Development and Communications; joining CHIRLA, where she found success with her membership program and "Culture of Fundraising;" how every employee is involved; how she has grown CHIRLA's fundraising campaign, through grant writing, individual donations, and membership program; how CHIRLA is a stand-out fundraising model among non-profit organizations, thanks to her; discusses role of women in her field; and finally, shares her feelings on being an immigration activist in the Latino community.

OH 5623

Narrator: GLORIA DE LA TORRE WYCOFF (b. 1931)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: July 22, 2015
Location: Lake Forest, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:15:32
Transcript: final; 55 pp
Ephemera: photograph (1); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Gloria de la Torre-Wycoff. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on Latina activists and/or political leaders in Orange County. The interview covers De la Torre's life, including events that lead to her becoming socially and politically involved. Specifically, her childhood in Los Angeles; her brother, John Ruben Moreno, the first Latino elected to the California state legislature; her early roles as mother and wife; re-entering college at 46, attending CSU Fullerton, and University of Southern California; her involvement with Comisión Femenil Mexicana Nacional (CFMN); being honored by President Jimmy Carter; motivation to establish Casa Victoria, a shelter for teen girls, in Whittier and the San Fernando Valley; writing her book *Scarred by Scandal, Redeemed by Love: The Triumph of an Unmarried Mother*, a Memoir, a personal account of her youth and complicated family history; accomplishments of her children and grandchildren; meeting her second husband; working on various political campaigns, including Gloria Molina; roles of women, and in particular, Latina activists; proud accomplishments; and finally, her continued involvement in her community with the National Organization of Women (NOW) and Mexican American Women's National Association (MANA) of Orange County.

OH 5624

Narrator: DR. MINNIE DOUGLAS
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: July 31, 2015; 4 PM
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:07:18
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: field notes, photo (1)

Abstract:

An oral history of Minnie Douglas, a former nurse, instructor, and public servant in the City of Long Beach, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect Douglas' life history, details of her nursing career, and public servant work in health and education. Specifically, this interview details her early life and family background in Bastrop, Texas; her parents involvement with the Civil Rights Movement; her experiences studying nursing at Prairie View A&M College and why she chose to go into this field; goes into detail about the higher education degrees she earned leading to her Ph.D. in administration in higher education from Pepperdine University; she discusses becoming a nursing instructor at Long Beach City College; her teaching style and student reactions; her role in helping Compton Community College receive accreditation from the Board of Registered Nursing; becoming the first African American coordinator of Student Health Services at Long Beach City College and her work goals; talks about her work with the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services and Leadership Long Beach; she discusses why and how she became involved with the Greater Long Beach American Diabetes Association and explains the challenges of preventative health care in communities of color; her involvement with and the mission of St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation; her appointment to the Arts Council of Long Beach; her role in developing Better Learning After School (BLAF) and the purpose of the program; talks about her role as chairman of the California Conference of Equality and Justice and the Restorative Justice Program; she explains the impact and importance of Restorative Justice for children of color; she explains her leadership style; her definition of a public servant and how she considers herself a humanist; her thoughts on and definition of feminism; the importance of the education system for children of color; recalls attending segregated schools and the issues she witnessed such as placement; the formation and importance of the Advanced Placement Collaborative by the Long Beach Unified School District; her thoughts on contemporary United States politics; the differences in how men and women lead and how she stays true to herself; ends the interview with explaining how her nursing career and public servant work shaped the person she is today.

OH 5625

Narrator: PAULA WOOD
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: August 19, 2015
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 01:26:32
Transcript: final; 27 pages
Ephemera: Photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Paula Wood, the Executive Director of Success In Challenges, a nonprofit grassroots social service agency that serves the Long Beach community. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Wood's community involvement and investment in Successes In Challenges. Specifically, this interview details her childhood in Michigan, Oregon, and California; her father's work with the Urban League; her mother's career in education from a teacher to a high school counselor; parents' activism in civil rights, including her father's participation in rallies and meeting with leaders like Julian Bond, former chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) who helped establish the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and Roy Wilkins, former NAACP executive director and participant in the 1963 March on Washington, the 1965 Selma to Montgomery marches, and the 1966 March Against Fear; her mother's activism in church and Alpha Kappa Alpha; her parents' religious backgrounds; her involvement in Holman United Methodist Church and Jack and Jill of America; discusses earning her Bachelor's in Sociology and starting her Master's at Cal State University, San Jose; working with Oakland Parks and Recreation, United Way, and Children's Home Society; reflects on how she and her husband started a church in North Long Beach and a nonprofit called Keys to Success, now known as Successes in Challenges, in 2001 to increase literacy abilities of youth in their community; how Children Defense Fund's Freedom School was incorporated into the nonprofit in 2005; describes Minty and Me, a leadership mentoring program started by the church; discusses retirement and hopes for the program's future; gives advice to young women interested in community service; reflects on her life and passion for the church and nonprofit.

OH 5626

Narrator: HELEN TORRES (b.1969)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: August 25, 2015
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:17:27
Transcript: final; 41 pages
Ephemera: photographs; clippings; field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Helen Iris Torres, Executive Director of Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on Latinas involved as activists and political leaders in their communities. The interview covers Torres' early life in Puerto Rico and her family's move to Michigan, when she was two years old; discusses life in Detroit and being raised by a single mother; talks about her mother's re-marriage and the family's move to a Michigan suburb, where they faced discrimination; speaks about her time at Michigan State University, where she became part of the Latino Community on campus; speaks about moving to California to pursue a career within the Latino community; discusses how that opened opportunities for her; details her time at United Way of Greater Los Angeles, where she held the position of Community Relations Manager; defining feminism; leadership style; and finally, discusses her Executive Director role at HOPE, the history of the organization, its mission, programs for training the next generation of Latina leaders, and uniting the leaders of today.

OH 5627.1

Narrator: THERESA SMITH (b.1969)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: October 1, 2015
Location: Placentia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:06:44
Transcript: final; 46 pp
Ephemera: photographs; clippings

Abstract:

An oral history of Theresa Smith, a community activist against police brutality. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview deals with Smith's upbringing in Upland and her mixed raced heritage; talks about challenges she faced in her childhood; describes work experience at unemployment agency; shares memories of her role models; talks about how cultural gender roles influenced her ideas about education and activism; compares life as a Latina in Upland, California, vs. Orange County; struggle with racism within her family; shares about her ex-husbands and children; talks about importance of community and knowing your neighbors; recalls how she heard her son, Caesar Cruz, was shot by in an officer-involved shooting with Anaheim, California, and how she found out he died; describes how family and friends reacted to his death; how she walked through the grieving process; comments on media coverage; describes her memories of events leading up to and including her son's death; talks about her inaccuracies between official police reports and her understanding of what happened; comments on lawsuit Smith's family filed against the Anaheim PD; compares how her view of police officers changed after Caesar's death; defines community policing; shares why police should be held accountable for their actions; explains why she became an activist against police brutality after her son died; describes her relationship with other mothers of local officer-involved shootings; talks about founding the nonprofit LEAN (Law Enforcement Accountability); describes relationship between the community and Anaheim PD; recalls her involvement with Assembly Bill 953; comments on obstacles she's faced in her activism and how she overcame them; shares what keeps her motivated as an activist; describes her leadership style; talks about how she reacts to people referring to her son as a gang member; explains her solution to police brutality; and finally, describes her community involvement including: Pico, OCCORD, Project Kinship, and organizing local event, Coming Together, in Anaheim.

Note:

Interview ended unexpectedly because the memory card ran out of space. See session 5627.2

OH 5627.2

Narrator: THERESA SMITH (b.1969)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: October 22, 2015
Location: Placentia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:15:32
Transcript: final; 46 pp
Ephemera: photographs; clippings

Abstract:

A second session of the oral history with Theresa Smith, a community activist against police brutality. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about her Smith's faith has motivated her activism; why it's important for women to be activists; defines feminism and explains why she does not consider herself a feminist; and finally, shares what she is most proud of her as an activist and in her personal life.

OH 5628

Narrator: SUZANNE DARWEESH (b. 1934)
Interviewer: Bonnie Massey
Date: October 7, 2015
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:44:28
Transcript: final; 29 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1); photograph description; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Suzanne Darweesh. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Darweesh's experience as a woman activist. Specifically, this interview covers her youth in Ithaca, New York; her experiences in college and at Union Seminary in New York City; her time in Northern California with the Interfaith Committee to Aid Farmworkers, including her training with organizer Fred Ross; her time spent serving in France and Algeria; teaching in Iraq after she married; her husband's Kurdish experience; her experience living in Iraq, including a brief imprisonment, and her family's escape to the United States; her involvement in local Orange County activism, including Amnesty International, the United Nations Association, the League of Women Voters, Women For., Women of Wisdom at the California Institute for Women, Get on the Bus, and the Orange County Interfaith Committee to Aid Farmworkers; her motivation in activism; why she considers herself a feminist; the role of her Christian faith; and finally, women's roles in activism.

OH 5629

Narrator: PAULINA “PAVIS” ALVARADO
Interviewer: Mariana Bruno
Date: July 6, 2016
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English and Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:55:37
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph (1); clippings (6)

Abstract:

An interview with Paulina “Pavis” Alvarado for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Alvarado’s activism history, particularly in the city of Santa Ana. Specifically, this interview discusses Alvarado’s upbringing in East Los Angeles and Santa Ana, California; her parents’ working class background; recalls her father’s role in the student movement, in Mexico, in the 1960s; how her mother pushed local schools to serve better food to its students; her family’s religious background; how her father wasn’t afraid to bend gender norms; recalls briefly living with her family in Michoacán, Mexico, as a child, and how it was different from the United States; how growing up in Santa Ana, heavily steeped in Latino culture, shaped her; how she rarely spoke English and never saw Caucasians in her neighborhood; values she learned from her family and community; attending Santa Ana High School and her musical involvement; how she liked reading books much more than going to school; early forays into activism during high school and visiting the collective space El Centro Cultural de Mexico; putting on punk shows; engaging the local youth at El Centro, and building a youth movement; her work in local community organizations that forge unity, pride, and artistic expression; what she learned while visiting Mexico and engaging with the native Mayan population; her anti-police brutality work with Copwatch Santa Ana; police relations in her neighborhood of South Anaheim; the controversial killing of Martin Angel Hernandez by Anaheim Police (2012) and the subsequent uprising that ensued; resistance measures taken to protect the youth against police; formation of the Young Survivors Legacy Support Network; how she uses music and instruments in her activism; how and why she considers herself a community worker; how her family responds to her activism; how she describes her leadership style; why she is passionate about working with youth; challenges in her activist work, including *machismo*; what she enjoys most about her work; differences in how men and women lead; how she is treated as a woman doing this work; advice she would give women in grassroots movements; why it is important for women to be involved; proudest moments of her activism; why she considers herself an advocate for women’s rights, rather than a feminist; and finally, discusses the impact of her work.

OH 5630

Narrator: ROBERTA “BOBBI” DAUDERMAN (b. 1943)
Interviewer: Moriah Schnose
Date: October 13, 2015
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:17:56
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An interview with Bobbi Dauderman, founder of World Vision in Orange County, California, and board member of Women in Vision. This interview is a contribution to the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also part of Dr. Natalie M. Fousekis’ oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather Dauderman’s life history, current advocacy and philanthropic work. Specifically, this interview discusses Dauderman’s family life and childhood, raised by a widowed, single mother in the 1950s, and how it affected her views of women in American society; discusses the role that her upbringing and faith had in shaping her activism; how she became involved in political activism while living in the Dominican Republic with her husband; how she worked with government agencies to arrange for adoptions of Dominican orphans by American families; her involvement and experiences with Bread for the World in the eighties, a U.S. nonprofit that lobbies at the federal level for improved food programs, domestically and abroad; how she established World Vision in Orange County, California, to fight human trafficking; her work with Women in Vision, community work with education and graduation rates; discusses her work with Beyond 5 Task Force; speaks about how she was introduced to the issue of human trafficking, from a representative of World Vision, a Christian, non-profit based in the United States; major obstacles she has faced in her advocacy against human trafficking; reflects on a lifetime spent as an activist and why ending human trafficking is so important to her; her thoughts on women in politics and activism; and finally, describes her role as a “connector;” how she has brought people together, to connect them with the challenges faced in our local and global community.

OH 5759

Narrator: ROSSANA PÉREZ (b. 1958)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: October 13, 2015
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English; some Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:18:12
Transcript: final; 33 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history with Rossana Pérez, cofounder of El Rescate and Clínica Msr. Oscar Romero. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to better understand Pérez' life as an activist and refugee from El Salvador. Specifically, this interview discusses Pérez's formative years as a grassroots student organizer in El Salvador, months before the country's civil war began; remembers particular wartime events, such as the disappearance [and assumed death] of her husband; recalls her imprisonment, where she was tortured; retells her journey from El Salvador to California, and how she became involved with Salvadorian refugees during the 1980s; explains her organizing efforts with the Central American community and her involvement with organizations such as El Rescate and CARECEN [Central American Resource Center]; recollects her participation in establishing the first Central American Studies program, and the first Central American Research Institute, at California State University, Northridge; reflects on what it means to be a feminist and an immigrant activist; and finally, discusses her book, *Flight to Freedom: The Story of Central American Refugees in California*.

OH 5760

Narrator: CATHY WARNER (b. 1943)
Interviewer: Andrew Kelly
Date: October 14, 2015
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:09:34
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Cathy Warner, current mayor pro tem and councilmember of Whittier City Council. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Warner's life history and public service work. Specifically, this interview details Warner's early family history in Whittier, California; discusses childhood, family life, and involvement with the YMCA; remembers her father's and extended family's military service and participation in local politics; recalls decision to attend Fullerton College and dental school at the University of Missouri, Kansas City; shares how she met her husband and their courtship; reflects on her role models; recollects decision to move back to California and entering motherhood; shares husband's involvement with the Burgundy Street Singers; discusses working in her family's periodontal practice; reflects on her decision to attend the School of Policy, Planning, and Development at the University of Southern California; remembers early involvement in her community through groups such as Brownies, Girl Scouts, YMCA, and church; explains why education is important to her; recalls her introduction into politics while in high school and later involvement on the Whittier Union High School District Board of Trustees, Cultural Arts Commission, and East Whittier School Board of Education; remembers decision to run for city council in 2002, campaign strategy, and victory; explains her family's support in her running for city council; reflects on her experiences being the fifth woman to serve on city council, as well as adapting to life as a councilwoman in a mostly male setting; shares challenging issues faced while serving on the school board and city council; shares what she believes makes an effective and ethical councilmember; talks about the types of opponents she faced; expresses the unique and important contributions women make as councilmembers, and why she believes few women serve on city councils and local government; provides advice to young women wanting to get involved in local politics; shares thoughts on feminism; and closes the interview with what she is most proud of in her political life.

OH 5761

Narrator: MARILYN BUCHI (b. 1938)
Interviewer: Stephanie Gallardo
Date: October 21, 2015
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 01:30:53
Transcript: final; 24 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Marilyn Buchi, current president of Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHS) Board of Trustees and former president of California School Boards Association (CSBA). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to better understand Buchi's involvement in her community through education and local politics. Specifically, the interview covers her family life, childhood, and parents' backgrounds; her role models and aspirations; the gender roles in her family; her memories of attending Sacred Heart High School in Los Angeles; the benefits of attending Immaculate Heart College, and why she chose to attend and major in mathematics; her work and experiences at Standard Oil; shares how she met her husband and the start of her family; explains why and how she became involved with Hermosa School and the PTA; goes into detail about her initial decision to run for FJUHS Board of Trustees; her past leadership involvement with the La Habra PTA Council; discusses running for Orange County's California School Boards Association (CSBA) and her experiences; her family's response to her decision to run for the FJUHS Board of Trustees position; discusses the importance of education; goes into detail about why people are the most important issue to her; shares how she managed her home life and work; shares that the greatest challenge for the FJUHS Board is funding; explains how her greatest accomplishment serving on the CSBA was bringing governance training; how she became involved with California Women Lead, what drew her to the organization, and the importance of getting women elected; the training and resources California Women Lead uses to prepare women to become leaders; shares the community organizations she has been involved with such as, League of Women Voters of North Orange County, Assistance League, and Operation School Bell; further details her PTA experiences; discusses the unique contributions women make as activists; talks about varying personalities and understanding and learning how to work well with others; her thoughts on feminism; her daughter's successful career as a medical doctor; important issues FJUHS Board is dealing with, such as managing bond money and ensuring the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) are accomplished; her thoughts on current United States of America politics; advice she would give a young woman wanting to get involved in politics; why she believes there are few elected women in office; shares how and why Lynn Daucher is her role model; closes the interview with discussing how she is most proud of her family.

OH 5762

Narrator: BEV PERRY
Interviewer: Taylor Depoto
Date: October 15, 2015
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:55:43
Transcript: final; 48 pages
Ephemera: Photograph, photograph description, field notes, recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Bev Perry, former mayor of Brea. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History, and as part of Dr. Fousekis' oral history class. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the experiences that shaped Perry's participation in politics. Specifically, this interview covers her childhood growing up in Southern California, and the support she received from her parents for her education; talks about the opportunities provided by her undergraduate experience at the University of the Pacific; addresses her role as a resident assistant, and getting her master's in college student personnel administration at the University of Southern California, where she met her husband; emphasizes how her mom was a strong model, and how her mom instilled the importance of participating in politics; touches on her own political alignment as a moderate Republican, and stresses how she seeks to find common ground; talks about learning patience and how she applied that in her work; comments on her love of politics but dislike of campaigning, and criticizes the increase in partisanship since her time in office; talks about her role as mayor of Brea during the Orange County bankruptcy; goes into more detail about her marriage and time spent in New York; discusses her bakery, and why she left it for politics; recounts entering politics and her involvement with the redevelopment of Brea's downtown; highlights how her time on the Parks and Recreation and Human Services Commission helped her campaign; describes how she didn't feel that she was treated differently because of her gender; details her work with the city council, the issues they tackled, and the challenges they faced; she talks about her efforts to protect that Chino-Puente Hills; explains how she has no interest in high office, and that she still remains involved as a community member; addresses how obtaining an education has changed over the years; details her belief that women can make unique contributions to politics; recounts how her mom encourage her to try new things, and discusses how, despite the limits of the time, she never felt like she couldn't do something because of her gender; emphasizes how the support of her husband was crucial to her work; explains how she considers herself a feminist, and that she has noticed and appreciates the upswing in female participation in politics; advocates the importance of having core principles; recommends that women coming into politics build connections; explains the nature of her Christian faith and her openness to other points of view; and finally, concludes with talking about the accomplishments she is proud of, accomplishments, and hopes that they motivate others to participate in politics in the future.

OH 5763

Narrator: DR. SHIRLEY McCracken
Interviewer: Andrew Kelly
Date: November 6, 2015; 10:00 A.M.
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:25:10
Transcript: final; 35 pages
Ephemera: field notes, recording log, image (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Shirley McCracken, former Anaheim city councilwoman. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview deals with McCracken's childhood growing up in Rochester, New York; parochial high school and college years; importance of her Catholic faith; early political messages; joining the Sisters of Saint Joseph and living as a nun; teaching years; obtaining her Masters in Mathematics at Marquette University; her move to California and teaching in Anaheim; meeting her husband; her involvement in various women's community organizations; obtaining her PhD in Managerial Leadership from La Jolla University; her campaign for Anaheim City Council in 1996, and her subsequent eight years on the council; dealing with challenges of being on the council; important issues and achievements while serving; leadership of women versus men; her involvement in various committees and projects; why it is important for women to be involved; views on current American politics; definition of feminism; and finally, shares proudest moments.

OH 5764

Narrator: BEVERLY O'NEILL
Interviewer: Taylor Depoto
Date: November 10 2015
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:08:39
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: field notes, recording log, photograph (1), copy of O'Neill's book

Abstract:

An oral history with Beverly O'Neill, former mayor of Long Beach, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about O'Neill's time in office, and the way her status as a woman affected her political career. Specifically, this interview covers O'Neill's early life, including growing up in Long Beach, her college experiences at Long Beach City College and CSU Long Beach, and her marriage to college classmate, Bill; her initial leadership experiences in student government, including one that culminated in her becoming college president; decision to run for Long Beach mayor in 1994, and her three terms in office; discusses an unprecedented write-in campaign to circumvent the rule against candidates appearing on the ballot more than twice; her involvement in the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown Long Beach, after the loss of naval patronage; her service with the US Council of Mayors and their dealings with Hurricane Katrina; and finally, reflections on her political legacy, and the ways in which women can make a difference in politics.

OH 5765

Narrator: ANA SIRIA URZUA
Interviewer: Mariana Bruno
Date: November 5, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English and Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1 hour, 21 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: field notes, recording log, photo (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Ana Siria Urzúa, community organizer for Santa Ana Building Healthy Communities, and longtime El Centro Cultural de Mexico volunteer. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Urzúa's trajectory in her political development through El Centro Cultural de Mexico, volunteer teaching the Son Jarocho classes, becoming a *responsable*, and supporting other movements, such as the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. Also discussed, her experience at University of California, Irvine, (UCI) and how she was exposed to the Cross Cultural Center, where she participated in Reaffirming Ethnic Awareness and Community Harmony (REACH) and learned how to facilitate political workshops; internship for the UCDC program in Washington D.C., where she organized for affordable housing preservation; working for the Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Development (OCCORD), after college, and leading a voter registration campaign; she was later promoted to community organizer, working against the Platinum Triangle; working in Santa Ana as a community organizer, she led campaigns against the Renaissance Plan and the Station District, as well as launching a campaign in favor for the Sunshine Ordinance to support the urban development of Santa Ana suited for longtime residents.

OH 5766

Narrator: ANNA L. PIERCY
Interviewer: Stephanie Gallardo
Date: November 18, 2015
Location: Cypress, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:25:00
Transcript: None
Ephemera: field notes, recording log; photograph (1)

Abstract:

An interview with Anna Piercy. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to collect information about Piercy's activism and political involvement in the city of Cypress, and serving on the Anaheim Union High School District. Piercy currently maintains her influence on the school board to ensure she can represent teachers, parents and students, while using her past experience as Cypress mayor. Specifically, the interview covers Piercy's early life; why she chose to become involved in the local government of Cypress; how she balanced life as a mother, mayor of Cypress, and teacher; compares her experiences as a school board member and mayor; describes various part-time jobs, including college student; how she focuses on representing those who elected her; explains why she became a member of the Anaheim Union School Board; explains the importance of insuring students and teachers have a voice in the educational institution; comments on the importance of women in politics; and finally, shares her views of contemporary America.

OH 5767

Narrator: CAROLYN TORRES (b. 1983)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: November 21, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:56:58
Transcript: final; 41 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Carolyn Torres, a community activist organizing against police brutality. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to collect information on Torres' experiences in community activism and organizing. Specifically, this interview details Torres' family life and childhood growing up in Santa Ana and Moreno Valley, California; the relationship with her extended family; importance of education during childhood and young adult years; details family history and cultural identity as a Chicana; involvement in MEChA [Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán] during her college years; difficulties she faced during childhood and with family dynamics; importance of mental health and therapy; role models, mentors, and early opportunities with GATE [Gifted and Talented Education]; reflects on the mixed gender role messages she received; thoughts on feminism, activism, and community organizing; opinions on women in activism and feminism; candid experiences within predominately white spaces; underlying discrimination and racism she faced; her introduction to police brutality in Anaheim, and the disunity amongst Latina/os; continuous feelings of being "othered" in her community because she is college educated; discusses being an educator in Watts while living in Long Beach and doing activism in Orange County; talks about her dislike for non-profits with regard to her activism and organizing; involvement with community organization Chicanos Unidos; describes challenges of being an organizer; what motivates her to keep going; discusses the Anaheim uprising of 2012, in reaction to local officer-involved shootings; explains the Townsend gang injunction in Santa Ana; how she is most proud of her research and thesis work; closes the interview with her thoughts on the importance of women in activism, and how she believes she has helped change her community.

OH 5768

Narrator: JEAN FORBATH (b.1930)
Interviewer: Bonnie Joy Massey
Date: November 20, 2015
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:08:44
Transcript: final; 28 pp
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Jean Forbath, Orange County community activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview covers Forbath's experience growing up in Hollywood, California; her time at the Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles; introduction to her late husband, Frank Forbath; involvement with the migrant farmworkers aid movement and César Chávez in Orange County; her and her husband's founding of the Catholic charity "Share Our Selves" (SOS) and how she helped run the organization for twenty-three years while raising seven children; mentions involvement in various fights around fair and affordable housing policy in the city of Costa Mesa; describes her involvement as a board member of a variety of organizations: Save Our Youth, Orange Coast Interfaith Shelter, Orange County Human Relations Commission, Feedback Foundation and Cal Optima; talks about why she considers herself a feminist; reflects on her role as wife, mother, and member of the Catholic Church; shares thoughts on leadership and activism; and finally, reflects on how SOS impacted volunteers' lives.

OH 5769

Narrator: MELISSA GRACE HOON
Interviewer: Moriah Schnose
Date: November 23, 2015: 12 P.M.
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 2 hours, 52 minutes
Transcript: None
Ephemera: field notes, recording log, photo (1)

Abstract:

An interview with Melissa Grace Hoon. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Hoon's involvement in the fight against human trafficking in Orange County, California. Specifically, this interview discusses the inspiration she drew from writers such as Thoreau and Emerson; how being raised by abusive parents contributed to her activism; how she uses journalism and yoga to understand herself and her own pain; Hoon's involvement with Women Escaping A Violent Environment (WEAVE) and the Orange County Task Force; helping victims of human trafficking with emotional health; the unique characteristics of human trafficking in Southern California; and finally, reflections about her life, activism, and the role of women in politics and activism.

OH 5770

Narrator: DORA OLIVIA MAGAÑA BURGOS (b. 1961)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: November 27, 2015
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English and Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:26:17
Transcript: final; 52 pages
Ephemera: field notes, recording log, photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Dora Olivia Magaña Burgos, cofounder of Clínica Monseñor Oscar Romero and founder of El Centro Cultural Centro Americano in Los Angeles, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Professor Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to better understand Magaña Burgos' life as an activist and refugee from El Salvador. Specifically, this interview covers her childhood; formation of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), a revolutionary movement in El Salvador which fought fascist dictatorship and advocated social justice for the poor; Magaña Burgos remembers her years as a grassroots student organizer in El Salvador; recalls her dedication and collaboration with the FMLN and other socialist groups in El Salvador; narrates the pain and grief of losing friends in combat; reflects on her experience as a woman organizer in combat zones; recollects the time she was captured and tortured; shares her fearless desire to defend and fight for the poor; provides her strong views on feminism, women's roles and her prideful activism during the war; discusses her contributions to the Latino community in Los Angeles, including her work at Clínica Romero; explains her interest in mental health issues pertaining to the homeless; details her long-time project with Centro Cultural Centro Americano, which offers a creative space for Central American artists and a place for healing from the atrocities of the war; and finally, talks about her poetry—which helped her heal—and three published books, in which she illustrates the memory of students and friends lost in combat.

OH 5789

Narrator: NORMA BRANDEL GIBBS (1925 - 2019)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: October 14, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:22:34
Transcript: final; 38 pp
Ephemera: photographs (4); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Norma Brandel Gibbs, former (and first female) city councilwoman and mayor for both Seal Beach and Huntington Beach. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Gibbs' career in local politics and community activism. Specifically this interview covers Gibbs' youth in Chicago, Illinois, as the daughter of Swedish immigrants; the challenge of having tuberculosis as a child and being bedridden for long periods of time (which continued throughout her life); spending a year in Berlin post-World War II; moving to California in 1957 to teach at Cal State Long Beach (as the only woman in the Psychology Department); meeting her husband; balancing motherhood and career; recalls running and winning a seat on Seal Beach City Council in 1960; first days and accomplishments on the council; having to resign from the council due to a bout with tuberculosis; relocating to Huntington Harbor; her family's reaction and support to her political career; running for and winning a seat on the Huntington Beach City Council in 1970 (as the first woman to do so); the experience of fostering seventeen-year-old, male, twin, Iranian refugees in her home; relationships with male colleagues on the council; accomplishments of Huntington Beach City Council, including updated library, city hall, central park, and senior center; the issue of open space in Huntington Beach; her role as mayor of Huntington Beach in 1975; starting Interval House, a shelter for battered women, and community pushback; receiving a Lifetime Achievement Medal from President Barack Obama; reasons why she did not seek a higher office after serving on Huntington Beach City Council; what it takes to be a successful elected official; and finally, differences in how men and women lead.

See also OH 2599 in Huntington Beach Collection

OH 5790

Narrator: BETTINA DUVAL (b. 1960)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: October 23, 2015
Location: Santa Monica, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:50:18
Transcript: final; 17 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Bettina Duval, activist and founder of CaliforniaLIST. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Duval's involvement with CaliforniaLIST and her work as a political activist and fundraiser. Specifically, this interview talks about Duval's single-parent childhood and role models; shares memories of her political involvement at Berkeley; describes how she got involved in politics; recalls working on John Glenn and Mondale-Ferraro campaigns; shares how she met her husband and why they moved to Southern California; explains why she created CaliforniaLIST; describes the organization's purpose and why candidates have to be pro-choice Democrats; describes political climate during early 2000s and candidates CaliforniaLIST supported; talks about the structure and day-to-day operation of organization; challenges of running political fundraising network; why she re-branded to California Women's List; talks about why there are so few women in elected office; speaks about her involvement in the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica and Parks and Rec Commission; compares how men and women lead; discusses challenge of balancing home life with activism; defines feminism; discusses the current state of American politics; shares impact activism has had on her life; what it takes to be a good political candidate; why it's important for women to be in politics; shares advice for women interested in politics and/or activism; and finally, reflects on impact of feminist movement.

OH 5799

Narrator: ADA BRICENO (b.1973)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: October 29, 2015
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:02:12
Transcript: final; 40 pages
Ephemera: field notes, photographs

Abstract

An oral history with Ada Briceño, current secretary-treasurer of UNITE HERE 11, and founder and board of director of Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Development (OCCORD). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather her life history and details of union activism and political involvement in Orange County. Specifically, this interview covers Briceño's early life and her parent's life histories; how her father was an economist that worked with the Somoza government and was forced to flee the country with his family when the Sandinistas took over; she details how her parents emigrated from Honduras due to the Nicaragua Revolution, and their settlement in Miami followed by Los Angeles; how they made a new life for themselves; the challenges she and her family faced; how she came to understand economic and social injustices while in a union; describes how she was scouted by a union office to become a receptionist; recalls her early political and activist involvement; the differences between San Pedro and Orange County; briefly discusses her courtship and husband's union involvement; explains how she got her start with UNITE HERE 681, her decision to run for top officer, and how she become the first Latina elected to the office of president; her role in the Labor Movement and the racism and intimidation she faced; how and why she helped found OCCORD; Her work with Measures L & M, and how she helped to redistrict Anaheim named the People's Map; how and why under her leadership, UNITE HERE 681 merged with Los Angeles UNITE HERE 11; difficulties she has faced in her work; her work with Local 11 and raising the minimum wage in Los Angeles and LAX corridor; talks about the union recognition at Angel Stadium and Disney; the dynamics and demographics of her non-profit, OCCORD; how CCCORD aims to offer training and opportunities for Latina/os; recalls the options available to her growing up; how being a woman affected her work as a union leader; advice she would give a young Latina wanting to become active in their community; her home and work life; her thoughts on feminism; what she is most proud of in her work and what she believes her purpose is; recalls staging a work stoppage with the band Ozomatli in 1999; closes the interview with discussing her son.

OH 5800

Narrator: AMERICA BRACHO (b. 1957)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: December 2, 2015
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:51:20
Transcript: final; 43 pages
Ephemera: photographs (21); materials

Abstract:

An oral history of America Bracho, community activist and executive director of Latino Health Access. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Bracho's childhood in Cumaná, Venezuela; describes growing up with activist parents; explains why she became a physician and worked in rural towns; how her experience in rural Venezuela influenced the future model of Latino Health Access to use *promotores* (community workers); talks about her childhood and professional role models; describes how a childhood polio fundraiser inspired her to become a community activist; explains why it's important to use children as *promotores*; compares cultural gender expectations with those of her family; describes coming to the U.S. in 1971 and experiencing racial discrimination; explains why her family went back to Venezuela; talks about fulfilling her dream working as a physician in rural Venezuela; speaks about her involvement creating a regional bioanalysis lab; describes how her dad inspired her to affect change; talks about the political climate of Venezuela and the importance of political party over academic or professional training; speaks about her work with the Detroit, Michigan, AIDS community and her efforts to expand the official definition of AIDS to include women; explains why it was important to make literature available to the Spanish speaking population; recalls why she moved to Orange County Southern California to start the radio program, "Familia y Su Salud" (Family and Your Health); describes her preconceptions about Southern California and her initial impressions; tells why she settled in Anaheim Hills; talks about the positive affect her radio show had on listeners; documents the first Latino health needs assessment in Orange County; speaks about creating Latino Health Access (LHA), role of the *promotores*, and why they chose to target diabetes as a local health crisis; describes the positive results from LHA including: creating a local park, influencing political policy through the Santa Ana City Council, and hosting *tamalada* fundraisers; explains how press coverage (HBO and TEDMED) raised national awareness of LHA; challenges LHA faces including: fundraising; shares how she balances her professional and personal lives; talks about how she sees her life post-LHA; explains why she considers herself an activist; speaks about the importance of being wholly present in life and dangers of dividing life by gender and cultural roles (i.e. woman, wife, doctor, sister, activist); defines feminism; talks about how she stays motivated professionally; and finally, shares what she's most proud of in her life.

OH 5801

Narrator: JENNICET GUTIÉRREZ (b. 1986)
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: November 9, 2015
Location: Van Nuys, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:17:59
Transcript: final; 20 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2)

Abstract

An oral history with Jennicet Gutiérrez, an undocumented transgender activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her life and her pursuits of social justice. Specifically, this interview details her experiences growing up in Tuxpan, Jalisco, Mexico; her mother's background, role as a housewife, and economic situation; her family dynamics and the importance of a family unit; immigrating to California, detention centers, and how the experience changed her life; discusses the importance of her grandmother; briefly shares her experiences with schools in Mexico and California; issues with language barriers and experiences with racism growing up in California; her childhood dreams of being a dancer and choreographer and the importance of dancing; transitioning to a woman and gender identity; surviving as transgender women in Los Angeles; her experiences in jail; her pursuits of social justice; discusses her most notable protest and act of civil disobedience, interrupting President Obama at a LGBTQ speaking engagement at the White House in June of 2015; explains the disconnect LGBTQ advocates have with the transgender community; she goes on to speak about issues that she advocates for; the experiences of trans and queer individuals in detention centers; her experiences in the trans-community; and her hopes for the future.

OH 5802

Narrator: MARY OCHS (b. 1948)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: November 17, 2015
Location: Downey, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:14:43
Transcript: final; 45 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Mary Ochs, former Organizing Director for Center for Community Change, and current member and consultant for The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) Board of Directors. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Ochs' activist history. Specifically, this interview details her childhood and family life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; parents' backgrounds, work history, and political involvement; early role models; growing up in a unionized area and the heavy influence of Civil Rights and the labor movement; discusses the political climate of Milwaukee during the 1950s and 1960s; racial tensions and civil unrest in her community; family dynamics and gender roles; early political engagement and attending the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Social Work; details her student activism and organizing; involvement with the United Migrant Opportunity Services; volunteer work on a welfare rights campaign; post-college work in Indianapolis, Indiana, for the Indiana Welfare Rights Organization, Indiana University Urban Education Program, and Human Justice Commission; moving around the country due to her organizing work; decision to move to California in 1981, working at the Organizing Training Center in San Francisco; initial goals when she first began organizing; involvement at the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and California Proposition 187; how she decides what issues receive attention; becoming the organizing director for the Center for Community Change, in both Washington D.C. and Los Angeles, in 1996; how she successfully organized the Alameda Corridor Jobs Coalition and won local hiring and job training agreements; shares challenges and obstacles faced by organizers; discusses the importance of collaborating with outside organizations; her work with the Justice for Immigrant Coalition and Inland Youth Coalition; details the various boards with which she worked; experience serving on CHIRLA's Board of Directors; reflects on the changes women faced in organizing efforts since she first started; experiences working in male-dominated areas and the differences in male and female leadership; factors preventing women of color from being activists; thoughts on feminism and issues she would like to explore; closes interview with how her work has shaped the person she is today and what she is proud of.

OH 5803

Narrator: ANTONIA HERNÁNDEZ (b.1948)
Interviewer: Jael Muller
Date: November 17, 2015
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:12:10
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: Field notes; photographs

Abstract

An oral history with Antonia Hernández, Executive Director of the California Community Foundation (CCF). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on activist Latinas in Southern California. This interview specifically discusses Hernández' childhood journey from Mexico to East Los Angeles; learning English and the challenges of assimilation; education at East LA College (ELAC) and UCLA; involvement in the Chicano Movement; early ambitions as a teacher, then deciding to attend UCLA Law School; becoming a legal aid at the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice, and the Legal Aid Foundation, where she worked on the infamous *Madrigal v. Quilligan* case; becoming friends with Gloria Molina; working as the first Latina on the United States Senate Judiciary Committee (for Senator Ted Kennedy); joining the litigation team at Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), achieving several legislative victories for Latinos (including the 1982 Voters Rights Act), and later becoming President and General Counsel; her leadership style and proud achievements; recruitment and hiring by California Community Foundation and its goals for the future; CA Proposition 187; family and balance; being a Chicana feminist; the different expectations for men and women; the role of faith in her work; and finally, why activism is so important.

OH 5804.1

Narrator: NURY MARTINEZ (b. 1973)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: January 15, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital; video
Length: 00:54:22
Transcript: edited; 31 pages
Ephemera: photographs; campaign materials

Abstract:

An oral history of Nury Martinez, Los Angeles City Councilmember and environmental activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Martinez's time spent in office as well as her work as an environmental activist. Specially, this interview talks about Martinez's childhood and adolescent years in Pacoima, California; why her mom's job at Price Pfister was so important; tells how her parents met and why they immigrated to the United States; talks about why it was beneficial to have socially progressive parents; shares memories of her first job at an HIV and STD prevention clinic; discusses the challenges of being an ESL student; talks about when Price Pfister announced they were moving to Mexico and how it motivated her to protest the closure with her mom; shares how the closure influenced the economy of the San Fernando Valley; reflects on her childhood role models; talks about her social activism during high school, why she attended Cal State Northridge, and her passion for the HIV and AIDS community; tells how she became involved in politics and what she learned from her first campaign; shares how she met her husband, Jerry, and why they married; explains why she decided to run for city council and how her parents reacted to her decision to run; tells why her election to the L.A. Unified School Board was one of two memorable elections and what it was like campaigning while eight months pregnant; talks about the challenges of being a working mom including: logistics of nursing her daughter while working full-time and serving on the L.A. School Board; discusses how the media compares female candidates to their male counterparts; and finally, talks about improving L.A. City Schools through her tenure on the school board.

OH 5804.2

Narrator: NURY MARTINEZ (b. 1973)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: February 19, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital; video
Length: 01:00:09
Transcript: edited; 29 pages
Ephemera: photographs; campaign materials; video

Abstract:

This is the second session of the oral history of Nury Martinez, Los Angeles City Councilmember and environmental activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Martinez's time spent in office as well as her role as an environmental activist. Specifically, this interview speaks about Martinez's work with Pacoima Beautiful, why she took the job as executive director, and her work converting superfund site of former Price Pfister; talks about the challenges of being a working mom including: logistics of nursing her daughter while working full-time and serving on the L.A. School Board; explains why she ran for L.A. City; shares how she overcame contentious runoff and reorganized her campaign strategy to reach constituents; shares how it felt to win the City Council election; describes her first days as councilmember and the experience of being the only women on the City Council; talks about why she thinks women hold themselves to a higher standard than men and why more women don't run for office; comments on how the value of her role as a Latina City Councilmember; and finally, talks about what issues are most important to her as a councilmember including: combatting prostitution and human trafficking in the 6th district and improving local neighborhoods.

OH 5804.3

Narrator: NURY MARTINEZ (b. 1973)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: September 23, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital; video
Length: 01:00:00
Transcript: edited; 32 pages
Ephemera: photographs; campaign materials

Abstract:

This is the third session of the oral history of Nury Martinez, Los Angeles City Councilmember and environmental activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Martinez's time spent in office as well as her role as an environmental activist. Specifically, this interview talks about what it takes to be an effective city councilmember; how her time on the San Fernando school board helped her transition to the city council; what issues are most important to her as a councilmember including: homelessness, the environment, education, and human trafficking; questions why more women aren't elected to local office; describes her fellowship program, Ready for Women and how it benefits young women interested in politics; why she considers herself a feminist; talks about her unique perspective as a Latina on the Los Angeles City Council and what's it's like being the only female on the city council; describes her leadership style; talks about her efforts as chair of the Energy and Environment Committee; how women (including 2016 Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton) are judged differently than men as political officials; shares advice to young women considering running for political office; talks about why it's important for women to be in politics and how women look at community issues differently than men; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election will impact future women running for office; shares about her experience watching Hillary Clinton accepting the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination in Philadelphia; why her husband is her political mentor; how she balances work and family life; shares humorous anecdotes about her daughter and her interest in politics; and finally, shares what she's most proud of her personal and professional life.

OH 5805

Narrator: DONNA ELLMAN-GARBER (b. 1925)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: January 23, 2016
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:23:26
Ephemera: photograph; copies of speeches
Transcript: final; 44 pages

Abstract:

An oral history of Donna Ellman-Garber, former Beverly Hills Mayor and City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time spent in office as well as her time spent working in the community. Specifically, this interview talks about Ellman-Garber's childhood in Chicago, Illinois; shares memories of her parents education and employment; her exposure to local politics and ties to the Chicago mafia; shares how she met her first husband in Chicago; explains why she attended business college; describes the experience of husband joining the military and accompanying him to Japan during the Korean War; talks about serving as Gray Lady in Japanese hospital; talks about sea voyage to Japan; explains why she and her husband settled in Beverly Hills; shares how Glenn Anderson's campaign for Lieutenant Governor peaked her interest in politics; explains why she ran for city council; talks about being the only woman in a male-dominated city council; shares about her predecessor Phyllis Seaton's experience of being on the city council and how their leadership styles differed; recalls her first campaign and influence of councilmember George Morgan; describes the challenges of serving on the Beverly Hills City Council including: infighting, land battles, and creating new hotel ; shares what political accomplishments she's most proud of: creating in-lieu parking, senior housing, and art; talks about her relationship with fellow councilwomen; explains why she helped found California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research (CEWAER); reads portions of her speech, "The Road to Politics"; compares how constituents treat male and female officials; talks about legal ramifications of accepting free flight to London while serving on the council; shares stories from time as mayor including attending U.S. Conference of Mayors in D.C. and meeting King Gustaf of Sweden; explains why she took a break from the city council; talks about meeting her second husband; describes her life post-politics; shares what it takes to be a successful political official; describes her leadership style; describes adapting to political life post-divorce; defines feminism; talks about current state of American politics; explains how political experience shaped who she is today; and finally, comments on why there aren't more women in elected office.

OH 5806.1

Narrator: DIANN RING (b. 1943)
Interviewer: Janelle Vannoy
Date: January 21, 2016
Location: Claremont, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 00:10:00
Transcript: final; 5 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract

A brief description of Ring's biographical background. Interviews cuts off unexpectedly. Researchers should see OH 5806.2 for complete interview.

OH 5806.2

Narrator: DIANN RING (b. 1973)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: February 17, 2016
Location: Claremont, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:55:12
Transcript: final; 44 pages
Ephemera: Photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Diann Ring, former Claremont mayor and city councilmember. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Ring's time spent in public office. Specifically, Ring talks about her dad's involvement with Democratic Party politics in Texas; shares memories of President Kennedy's assassination; documents her husband's medical career; talks about gender discrimination in the workplace during the 1950s and her experience working at news station in Dallas, Texas; explains why she and her husband moved to Claremont, California, and how the area has developed over the years; describes why she joined the League of Women Voters (LWV) and their cause-orientated approach; shares memories of her time on the Claremont Planning Commission; talks about why she ran for City Council in 1985; describes relationship with fellow city councilmembers and what was like serving with other women; describes her first council campaign; shares memories of working as professional campaign manager in support of Proposition 13 and (future co-councilmember) Sandy Baldonado for Assembly; recalls how her family reacted to her decision to run for office; recounts when she recognized the importance of women in politics; explains the current issue of water rights between the city of Claremont and Golden State Water Company and Marilee Scaff's (O.H. 5841) involvement; recalls first days on city council and the challenging political climate, including how councilmembers generated additional revenue after it was removed by Prop 13; how she negotiated a new utility tax as mayor (1992-94); shares memorable moments as mayor including: availability for constituents, Rodney King aftermath, how Orange County bankruptcy affected Claremont, and the importance of transparency with media; discusses her mayoral accomplishments; explains what it takes to be a successful politician; describes her leadership style vs other members of the Claremont City Council; process of getting her master's in public policy at Claremont College; defines feminism; speaks generally about why it's important for women to be involved in politics; reflects on why more women don't run for politics; and finally, reflects on the controversy surrounding a local police shooting in 1998.

OH 5807

Narrator: DR. SUZANNE SAVARY (b.1942)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: February 2, 2016; 2:00 p.m.
Location: Balboa Island, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:37:52
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: Field notes, photo, photo description, campaign mailer

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Suzanne Savary, founder of the Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club, and congressional candidate for the 48th District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview covers Savary's youth and family life, including her parents and their World War II military backgrounds; talks about race and religious differences in the 1950s; shares the origins of her political ideology and how her parents influenced her sense of justice; talks about family's deep-rooted political involvement; describes gender expectations as the oldest child/daughter; talks about her educational background including her PhD program at NYU; explains why she wanted to move to Manhattan; recalls experiencing gender discrimination during post-PhD job searches; talks about her involvement with the Women's Movement and attending the Women's Suffrage March at Bryant Park; teaching at Hunter College; talks about challenge of studying for her master's while raising a family and how it felt to break through gender stereotypes; shares how she met her husband and why they moved to Southern California; shares experience of working with Carl Sagan on "Cosmos" television series; what it was like to find out California was not as progressive as she thought; reflects on husband's cancer diagnosis and how she coped when he died; talks about teaching at USC's MBA program; explains why she founded the Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club; talks about running for Congress in 2014 and 2016 against incumbent Dana Rohrabacher; shares what issues are important to her in the 48th district: empowering women and families, educational access, environmental responsibility, and embracing change; explains why she opposed the merger between St. Joseph Health and Hoag Hospital, and why these mergers challenge reproductive rights for women; describes personal leadership style; compares how men and women lead and shares political examples of local and national political officials/candidates; and finally, shares why she's most proud of promoting the Democratic Party in Orange County, California.

OH 5808

Narrator: CATHERINE L. UNGER (b. 1947)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: February 2, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:03:42
Transcript: final; 33 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Cathy Unger, political and social rights activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Unger's political involvement. Specifically, Unger talks about her family background and Jewish roots; growing up in Southern California; memories of attending UC Berkeley and why she joined the anti-war movement; shares how she met her husband; why she got involved with politics; recalls working for Mel Levine's State Assembly campaign; work as political fundraiser and founding Unger/Thomas; memorable campaigns including Gary Hart for president; importance of Barbara Mikulski and Ann Richards to women in politics; why she's passionate about women's reproductive rights; talks about serving on Planned Parenthood board and the lack of pro-choice partisan support; how Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project aided the organization in Los Angeles; how she defends Planned Parenthood to people who oppose abortion; challenges to fight for women's reproductive rights; talks about the Women's Political Committee; why women don't run for office; how men and women are judged differently as political candidates; how things have changed for women in politics since the early eighties; shares advice for women interested in a political career; defines feminism; talks about role on California Community College's Board of Governors and why community colleges are an important part of the educational system; speaks about why she supports the American Jewish Committee, MECLA (Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles), and gay/lesbian rights; involvement with the California Community Foundation and role of her friend and CEO Antonia Hernandez; describes her leadership style; talks about her vision for Planned Parenthood in 2016 and why she opposes the parental notification ballot initiative; differences in how men and women lead; how a female president would impact young women; shares about her children why it's important to have their support; what she's most proud of in her life; influence of Peg Yorkin and her contribution so women's reproductive issues; and finally, why it's important to value women in all walks of life.

OH 5818

Narrator: BEVERLY McCARTHY (b. 1931)
Interviewer: Kira A. Gentry
Date: February 18, 2016
Location: San Juan Capistrano, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 03:41:00
Transcript: final; 46 pages
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Beverly McCarthy, former longtime Republican and political supporter. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Unger's political involvement. Specifically the interview talks about McCarthy's early childhood in Orlando, Florida, memories of her grandparents; shares story about meeting President Roosevelt; what she remembers about December 7, 1941; recalls humorous story of her younger sister putting ration coupons in a sticker book; explains why her family moved to Washington D.C. in 1942 and memories of the city during World War II including: rationing, her family's military service, reaction to President Roosevelt's death, and V-E Day; defines patriotism; talks about her father's job with the Truman administration post-WWII and the family moving to Jacksonville; shares about an article she wrote for her school paper on the Truman/Dewey election; tells how she met her husband, Justin McCarthy; experience at the Washington School for Secretaries and employment at the Wardman Park Hotel; talks about her husband's military career and living in Japan during the Korean War; how she and her husband became interested in politics; recalls Justin's campaign for and election to Westminster City Council; involvement with local Republican politics including the California Federation of Republican Women; why she supported Ronald Reagan throughout his career; recalls running local campaign headquarters for husband's State Assembly race; how Watergate affected politics in Orange County; election between David Rehmann and Jerry Patterson; remembers attending the 1976 Republican primary as a California delegate for Ronald Reagan; talks about when her husband died; running North Orange County Republican Headquarters in 1987; political climate during Bush campaign; current state of the Republican Party; why she changed her political affiliation to Independent; talks about her children; differences in how men and women lead; defines feminism; what she's most proud of in her political life; attending Governor Deukmejian's inauguration; what she's most proud of in her life; what it was like attending George H.W. Bush's inauguration; talks about her role models; and finally, why she's proud of the person she is.

OH 5841

Narrator: MARILEE SCAFF (1915 - 1919)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: March 10, 2016
Location: Claremont, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:12:33
Transcript: final; 34 pp
Ephemera: photographs; clippings

Abstract:

An oral history of Marilee Scaff, longtime member of the League of Women Voters and community activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Scaff's time with the League. Specifically, this interview talks about Scaff's family moving to Yuma, Arizona, in the early days of statehood; shares why her mother was such a strong influence on her life; explains why she dates the feminist movement back to the nineteenth century; shares an early memory of the end of World War I; talks about childhood gender expectations; describes her educational background; talks about why she and her husband were sent to the Philippines as teachers under the mission board of the congregational church; shares about her World War II experience in Philippines including when her oldest child was born and what it was like hiding in the jungle for two years; explains why they finally surrendered to the Japanese and experience in prison camps in Santo Tomas and Los Baños; shares memories of liberation and returning to the United States; describes how she and her husband analyzed individuals respond to extreme stress during the postwar period and what she learned from her wartime experience; shares how Second Wave Feminism misread woman's role in society; recalls memories of the Depression; shares first impressions of Claremont, California; explains why she joined the League of Women Voters (LOWV) in the 1940s; talks about issues the League has worked on over the years including: healthcare, water rights, revising the state program for higher education in California, and the future of the Thompson Creek Spreading Grounds adjacent to Claremont Wilderness Park; explains the current issue of water rights between the city of Claremont and Golden State Water Co.; importance of the League working on public issues; experience as president of county LOWV; poverty in L.A. county/study of child and adolescent welfare in Pomona Valley; how she balanced home, professional, and activist activities; talks about the struggle to find reliable childcare as working mother; how she stays motivated with LOWV; and finally, talks about the differences in how men and women lead.

OH 5842

Narrator: DR. CAROL BARNES (b. 1941)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: March 17, 2016
Location: Palm Desert, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: video; digital
Length: 02:38:59
Transcript: final; 47 pp
Ephemera: photographs (8)

Abstract:

An oral history of Carol Barnes, retired professor of Education at California State University, Fullerton, and cofounder of Women in Leadership (WIL). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her political involvement as well as her tenure at CSUF. Specifically, this interview talks about Barnes' childhood in Ann Arbor, Michigan; recalls how her life changed once her father passed away; school memories; shares how she met her first husband, Gary Barnes; work experiences as a teenager; how her mom made ends meet as a widow; talks about her childhood role models; talks about her family's Republican background and childhood friendships with girls in a higher socio-economic demographic; comments on the ethnic diversity in Ann Arbor and her mother's racism; being an Education major at University of Michigan and her first teaching jobs; memories of living at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base with her husband; process of getting a teaching credential at Eastern Michigan University; talks about taking classes with mathematician Glenn Graham; doctoral program at Ohio State; explains why she is a Republican; explains why her family moved to Southern California; talks about housing discrimination against ethnic minorities (e.g. blacks and Hispanics) and how she responded to her mother's overt racism; talks about finishing her dissertation at Claremont Colleges and joining the Education faculty at Cal State Fullerton; why she served on the academic senate, and the campus climate towards women in the 1970s; talks about the creation of Women in Leadership (WIL) with Louise Adler, Karen Clark, and Marilyn Brewer; explains why candidates have to be local and pro-choice; why she never ran for public office; reflects on WIL's greatest accomplishments; talks about gender discrimination women face in the political arena and workforce; how her feminist ideals influenced her children; current community involvement; why it's important for women to be involved in politics; gender differences while serving on CSUF committees; differences in how men and women lead; shares advice to young women considering running for political office; defines feminism; talks about the 2016 presidential election, and current state of the Republican Party; describes how she helped create the Doctorate of Education degree at CSUF; and finally, reflects on the challenges of being a working mom.

OH 5843

Narrator: RUTH GALANTER (b.1941)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: March 17, 2016
Location: Venice, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 03:24:15
Transcript: final; 55 pages
Ephemera: photographs; clippings

Abstract:

An oral history of Ruth Galanter, environmental activist and former Los Angeles City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time on the Los Angeles City Council as well as her efforts advocating for the environment. Specifically, this interview talks about Galanter's childhood in New Jersey; what it was like attending Michigan State University during the Civil Rights Movement; explains why she is a Democrat; how life changed after her father passed away; recalls participating in a D.C. youth march for integration; why she was involved with Students for a Democratic Society (SDS); talks about her university experiences; why English is the best major for a political career; shares about her student-wife job at Yale and the political climate in New Haven; documents her work with the Health Policy Advisory Center (NYC), National Health Law Program; explains why she moved to Los Angeles; talks about her work with the California Coastal Commission, Coastal Conservancy and appointment as coastal commissioner by Governor Jerry Brown (1977); talks about her decision to run for Los Angeles City Council; shares experience of a random, violent assault in her home, which nearly took her life; managing to still be elected to council while recovering in the hospital; recalls her early days on the council including being assigned office space and electing a council president; talks about memorable issues she faced on the city council, including moving the homeless encampments on Venice Beach; describes the relationship among female city councilmembers, and gender differences in how women were treated on the dais; talks about supporting the low-flow toilet ordinance and fluorinating water supply, city-wide recycling program, smoking ban in L.A. city facilities and restaurants, and her motion to build a Japanese American memorial at the Manzanar War Relocation Center; describes her work on Venice Canal improvements and the Playa Vista Ballona Wetlands project; how many assumed she was a lesbian because she was single and childless while on the city council; talks about what it takes to be an effective city councilmember; why it's important to have a mixed gender city council and why she encourages women to run for office; shares advice to young women considering running for political office; comments on why more women aren't in elected office; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election will impact future women running for office; recalls collecting money for Adlai Stevenson as an eleven-year-old; describes her leadership style; describes what kept her motivated on the city council; talks about when her district was reapportioned and experience representing the northeast San Fernando Valley; how she defines feminism; talks about her involvement with Mono Lake; shares what she's most proud of in her life; and finally, talks about her childhood role models.

OH 5844

Narrator: MARISOL RIVERA (b. 1979)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: March 26, 2016
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:12:44
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Marisol Rivera, union organizer and vice president of Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 187, Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Rivera's union work. Specifically, Rivera discusses childhood in El Salvador, parents' occupations, and why her family came to the United States; role models; why she became a union activist; how she outreaches to her coworkers; talks about the 2000 union strike at Paramount Pictures; why immigration reform and health insurance are the most important issues to the union; challenges to her work and the value of empowering women to control their own lives; describes her leadership style; how she balances family and work roles; what motivates her to continue fighting for union organizing; what messages she received from her parents about gender roles and how being a woman affected her work in the union; differences in how men and women lead; why she is not a feminist; challenges of her job and why there is still more work ahead; role of religion in her activism; importance of educating people about politics and voting rights; why women should be activists; shares advice to young women interested in becoming activists; discusses an average day; and finally, talks about challenges janitors face in the workplace.

OH 5845

Narrator: WENDY GREUEL (b.1961)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 19, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:35:45
Transcript: final; 47 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history of Wendy Greuel, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State, University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Greuel's political career, including her time on the Los Angeles City Council. Specifically, this interview talks about Greuel's childhood in the San Fernando Valley; family's religious and geographical background; early political involvement including serving on the Mayor's Youth Council, under Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley; her internship in Joel Wachs' office; high school and college education; role models; challenge of taking a new job in City Hall with Deputy Mayor Grace Montañez Davis; key issues she worked on at City Hall; memories of the 1992 riots; joining the Clinton Administration (1993-97); moving to DreamWorks and working in corporate affairs; why she ran for Los Angeles City Council in 2002, campaign strategy, and reaction to winning the election; shares how she met her husband; talks about the challenge of redistricting and why she supported immediate implementation; experience of becoming a first-time mom while serving; reflects on colleagues supporting her decision to be a working mom, specifically Antonio Villaraigosa; key issues as councilwoman: business tax reform, chairing the transportation committee, and collaborating with Controller Laura Chick on the audits committee; compares leadership styles between male and female; talks about gender discrimination women face as elected officials; what it takes to be an effective city councilmember; what motivated her as an elected official; describes leadership style; speaks about being elected as City Controller and why she ran for mayor in 2013, campaign challenges, and how she accepted losing to Eric Garcetti; reflects on the political support she received from her family and how the mayoral loss affected her son; talks about current position as vice chair of the board of the Discovery Cube L.A. and serving on the L.A. Homeless Service Authority; why she ran for Congress in 2014; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election will impact future; why she considers herself a feminist; comments on why more women are not in elected office; why it's important for women to be in politics; shares advice to young women considering running for political office; what she's most proud of in her political career; and finally, talks about her life post-politics, and why it's important to involve yourself in causes you are passionate about.

OH 5846.1

Narrator: SANDRA SERRANO SEWELL (b. 1948)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: April 22, 2016
Location: Pasadena, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:47:36
Transcript: final; 30 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Sandra Sewell, community activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time with Centro de Niños. Specifically, this interview talks about why she started Centro de Niños and why parental involvement is crucial; challenges to working with Centro and what keeps her motivated; importance of STEM programs; describes her leadership style; talks about how she sees her role as an activist; what it was like working with Latino men in a position of authority; how she balanced her work and family life; how being a mother influences her activism; differences in how men and women lead; how activism has changed for women over the years; role of faith in her life; what she's most proud of; why social justice is important to her; why it's important for women to be involved in activism and politics; and finally, shares advice to young women interested in activism.

Note: The first half of this oral history was lost due to a technical error. See session two for the first part of the interview.

OH 5846.2

Narrator: SANDRA SERRANO SEWELL (b.1948)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: June 22, 2016
Location: Pasadena, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:02:57
Transcript: final; 30 pages
Ephemera: photograph

Abstract:

Second session of the oral history of Sandra Sewell, community activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time with Centro de Niños. Specifically, this interview talks about Sewell's family background; her first experiences with discrimination in Los Angeles; explains why college was not an option for her as a Latina and how she responded to academic boredom; why she moved to Los Angeles; shares about siblings career paths; values she learned from her family; how she met her husband and her children; talks about her involvement with Comisión Femenil including the schism between college educated members vs. those who weren't and her term as national president; talks witnessing Robert Kennedy's assassination and seeing the "girl in the polka dot dress"; why she helped with Gloria Molina's Assembly campaign and their personal falling out; how the Comisión Femenil served as a training ground for women in leadership positions; involvement as commissioner on the Pasadena Commission for the Status of Women; why she sees herself as a humanist; how 2016 presidential nominee Bernie Sanders motivated the younger generation and challenges with his education plan; why finances is the number one political obstacle; and finally, discusses what unique contributions women make as activists.

OH 5847

Narrator: DELORES ZURITA (b.1936)
Interviewer: Angela Salter
Date: April 25, 2016
Location: Compton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:51:50
Transcript: final; 32 pages
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Delores Zurita, former Compton City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time on the Compton City Council as well as her efforts advocating for the elderly. Specifically, this interview talks about Zurita's childhood in Mobile, Alabama, and living in Mobile as an African American; shares why her family moved to Compton, California, when she was twelve years of age; talks about memories of her deceased mother; reflects on the role of faith in her life; describes how her mother died; talks about how she met her husband; discusses fertility issues; talks about her commitment to community service including PTA president and an after school program through Compton Unified School District; talks about her daughters Satra (Compton School Board Vice President) and Janna (Compton City Councilwoman); reflects on directing Compton Meals on Wheels for forty-four years and the importance of looking after the elderly; explains why she was arrested in 2003 (along with fellow councilmembers Omar Bradley and Amen Rahh); discusses the correlation between her arrest and subsequent Meals on Wheels audit; effect of corruption charges on her political career; reflects on Meals on Wheels career; talks about how her political career began; shares her hopes for the city of Compton including improved city services such as pick-up services and road repairs; describes her leadership style; speaks about her daughter Satra's involvement with improving local education; describes feminism; shows her prized Mother Teresa Award; reflects on the importance of social justice; challenges of enforcing Three Strikes law in Compton; talks about candidates in the 2016 presidential election; how her political experiences shaped who she is today; talks about how the differences for female politicians today vs. when she started; shares advice for young female politicians; why she's volunteering at her local church; and finally shares stories about her children and grandchildren.

OH 5848

Narrator: LAURA CHICK (b. 1944)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: May 3, 2016
Language: English
Location: Kensington, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital; video
Length: 02:29:43
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Laura Chick, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman, City Controller, and state Inspector General. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her political career including her time on the Los Angeles City Council. Specifically, this interview talks about her early childhood in New York City and moving to Southern California when she was eight years old; her families religious background and where she went to college; talks about meeting her husband's; how she juggled home and work life; talks about going back to school and training to be a social worker; how she got involved in politics; talks about working for L.A. Councilwoman Joy Picus; explains why she ran for Councilwoman Picus' seat in 1993, her campaign strategy, and reaction to winning the election; describes the challenges of running against an incumbent; how her political ambitions affected her marriage (to Robert Chick); recalls her first days in office; key issues she worked on as councilwoman: public safety and anti-truancy; talks about sexism on the city council; relationship between female councilmembers and the Commission on the Status of Women; what it takes to be an effective city councilmember; describes leadership style; differences between how men and women lead; talks about what motivated her as an elected official; why she ran for city controller in 2002 and key audits including: backlogged rape kits, LAPD, Department of Water and Power, and LAFD; describes how she prioritized audits; talks about the opposition she faced from city officials; reflects on her appointment as state inspector general by Governor Schwarzenegger; importance of hosting Women's Dialogue panels during her tenure in Sacramento; reasons for leaving politics and moving to Northern California; talks about gender discrimination women face as elected officials; comments on why more women aren't in elected office; why it's important for women to be in politics; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election will impact future women running for office; and finally, talks about what she is most proud of in her life.

OH 5849

Narrator: CHERYL RHODEN (b. 1947)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: May 13, 2016
Location: Pinon Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:40:53
Transcript: final; 51 pages
Ephemera: Photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Cheryl Rhoden activist and former Santa Monica City Councilmember (1979-1981). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Rhoden's time on the city council as well as her work as a Civil Rights, anti-war, and environmental activist. Specifically, this interview talks about Rhoden's family background and political ideology; moving to Southern California in the fifties; gender expectations imposed on young girls of her generation; her reaction to the feminist movement; involvement in the 1968 anti-war mobilizations in Washington D.C.; how her family's prejudiced worldview encouraged her to become more enlightened; meeting Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden and supporting their Indochina Peace Campaign; talks about her involvement with the Santa Monica rent control coalition (Santa Monica for Renter's Rights) and how that led to a run for the Santa Monica City Council; why she led a successful council campaign while simultaneously supporting No on Q (Proposition Q); challenges balancing political life with motherhood; shares about her city council memories including her relationship with fellow councilwoman Ruth Goldway; talks about issues she supported on the council including: solar initiatives, the first toxic chemical disclosure law, purchasing a city-supported ambulance, and in-house testing of water wells; how she and fellow councilwoman Ruth Goldway were treated by their male colleagues; why she did not run for re-election; challenges she faced on the council; talks about her work on the Santa Monica Planning Commission, Pier Corporation, and L.A. Local 660; recalls joining Senator Alan Cranston's Los Angeles staff; L.A. County Assessor, Alex Pope; joining the Writers Guild staff in 1987, her efforts to enhance the image of writers and support First Amendment rights, and memories of the 2001 strike threat; how Councilwoman Wendy Greuel supported the Writer's Guild's efforts to exempt writers and artists from paying a business tax; talks about challenges women face in the film and television business; speaks about her work to credit writers blacklisted under McCarthyism for their work; compares 2016 presidential candidate Donald Trump to Senator McCarthy; explains why she was ousted from the Guild in 2006; describes her leadership style; talks about how to be a successful local political representative; differences between how men and women lead; defines feminism; how women represent constituents differently than men; why more women don't run for office; reflects on the current state of politics and presidential candidates; and finally, why she's most proud of raising her son.

OH 5850

Narrator: EDITH BOCKIAN (b. 1924)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: May 10, 2016
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:51:50
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: photographs and clippings

Abstract:

An oral history of Edith Bockian, longtime member of the League of Women Voters and two-time president (1983-85 and 1990) of the North Orange County chapter. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her time with the League. Specifically, this interview talks about Bockian's parents immigration to New York City; role models; reflects on her religious training; why she started writing poetry; childhood and education in the Bronx; talks about attending Hunter College in the early forties and why she dis-enrolled after meeting her husband; memories of World War II home front; how she met her husband; why she moved to California in 1943 and her initial impressions; ushering at the Shrine Auditorium; memories of her husband attending UCLA and living in married veteran housing; shares antidotes about her children; moving to Orange County and early days of Orange State College (now California State University, Fullerton); her experience doing home teaching for kindergarten-eighth grade students; why she joined the League of Women Voters in 1965; issues she worked on in the League, including land use, water, California agriculture, and education; reflects on her biggest challenge as president to combine north Orange County chapters into one group; why the League lobbied for a new library in the city of Fullerton; talks about second wave feminism; how the League has changed over the years including welcoming male members; shares why she's stayed involved in the League for over fifty years; why she considers herself a humanist; talks about the current state of politics; why it's important to have women in positions of leadership; and finally, shares why she's most proud of her children and poetry.

OH 5851

Narrator: GLORIA ARELLANES (b. 1946)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: May 13, 2016
Location: El Monte, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 03:10:52
Transcript: final; 50 pages
Ephemera: field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Gloria Arellanes, former member of the Brown Berets, cofounder of the Free Clinic, and current Chicana activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Arellanes' years in the Brown Berets. Specifically, Arellanes shares about family history, including memories of her grandparents and parents; describes how her family faced discrimination when purchasing their home in East L.A.; talks about her relationship with her mom; how she and her dad had different political ideologies; talks about her brother, his involvement with the Brown Berets, and his death; shares about the Berets' 1969 September 16th parade; talks about role models; recalls learning to stand up for herself; why she embraced her Native American (Tongva) heritage; defines the term Chicana; talks about what she learned from former Brown Beret David Sanchez; involvement with the Mexican American Youth Council; talks about her two sons and their fathers; why she got involved in activism; talks about the significance of the Brown Beret sponsored Free Clinic; reflects on her work with the Welfare Rights Organization, and personal experience with welfare workers; talks about the goals of the Brown Berets and personally encountering police harassment and violence; internal dissension within Brown Beret organization and the risk of sexual assault; defines the term feminism; memories of the Chicano Moratorium; her struggle with post-Beret PTSD and why she participated in the commemorative marches; differences between the Brown Berets when she joined vs. its current leadership; describes her leadership style; expounds on Tongva culture; talks about other challenges she experienced during her life; gender obstacles specific to female activists; talks about balancing work life, activism, and motherhood; differences in how men and women lead; what she's proud of as an activist; shares thoughts on Donald Trump; shares advice for women interested in activism; and finally, talks about why it's important that Mexican Americans are taught their about heritage.

OH 5852

Narrator: RENEE SIMON (b. 1928)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: June 1, 2016
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:20:24
Transcript: final; 18 pages
Ephemera field notes; photograph

Abstract

An oral history of Renee Simon, former Long Beach City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Simon's time in elected office and working in the community. Specifically, this interview details Simon's upbringing growing up in a neighborhood in New York, where many first-generation families lived; she recalls experiencing anti-Semitism as a child, when World War II started; she explains that, although she became a chemist, her passion was to become a writer; she discusses her experiences on gender discrimination in the 1960s and how difficult it was for professional women to find work; describes her relationship with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Pat Russell and her influence; discusses her involvement with the National Women's Political Caucus and the League of Women Voters; explains that the League introduced her to local government; describes running for Long Beach City Council and the challenges she faced navigating through a male dominated council; describes how difficult it was for her (as a woman) to introduce any ideas to the board, but how she strategized to make things happen; how she advocated to change the rules against girls participating in summer programs; describes other women's issues she helped change while in office; discusses the creation of CEWAER [California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research]; talks about the creation of El Dorado Park, in Long Beach, as one of the projects she is most proud of; explains her views on feminism and women's rights; and finally, gives candid advice to young women who want to get involved in politics.

OH 5853

Narrator: CINDY MISCIKOWSKI (b. 1973)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: June 7, 2016
Location: Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:24:05
Transcript: final; 38 pages
Ephemera: photographs (10)

Abstract:

An oral history of Cindy Miscikowski, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Miscikowski's political career including her time on the Los Angeles City Council. Specifically, this interview talks about Miscikowski's childhood as a Navy dependent; remembers coming to California; explains why she moved to Washington D.C. during her junior year; decision to go to UCLA and why she switched her major from chemistry to political science; talks about her early political involvement and her years of working for Los Angeles City Councilmember, Marvin Braude; describes differences working in a district office vs. at city hall; talks about her passion for city planning and development; experience of working at city hall as a woman; why the creation of Santa Monica Mountain Park and the passage of Propositions O and U were some of her greatest successes working for Councilman Braude; talks about how she met her husband, Doug; explains why she ran for Marvin Braude's council seat in 1997, her campaign strategy, and reaction to winning the election; recalls her first days in office; key issues she worked on as councilwoman including public safety, battling resistance from the LAPD, and creating neighborhood councils; challenges of re-districting; relationship between female councilmembers; sexism at city hall as staffer and councilmember; differences between how men and women lead; describes her leadership style; how her parents responded to her political success; why she considers herself a feminist; talks about gender discrimination women face as elected officials; why there are so few women in elected office; shares advice for women interested in a political career; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election would impact future women running for office; talks about life post-politics including serving on the Board of Harbor Commission; talks about what she is most proud of in her life; and finally, reflects on experience of losing a political race.

OH 5854.1

Narrator: JAN PERRY (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: June 10, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:26:44
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (5)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jan Perry, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman and General Manager of the Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Perry's political career including her time on the Los Angeles City Council. Specifically, this interview talks about her childhood in Cleveland, Ohio, and parents' work as Civil Rights activists; recalls her families experiences with racial discrimination; describes families military service during World War II; parents' political ideology; how her extended family reacted to Martin Luther King's political ideology; longevity of the slave mentality; feeling disenfranchised during her junior high and high school years; talks about her religious background and experience of converting to Judaism; impact of mentorship on her life and role models; educational experiences at USC; recalls early memories of Southern California; why she is passionate about public administration; balancing her home and work lives; talks about her jobs at L.A. City Hall including: planning deputy for Councilman Mike Woo and chief of staff for Rita Walters; talks about the challenges of term limits; challenges of running the Los Angeles census in 2000; explains why she ran for the city council in 2001, her campaign strategy, and reaction to winning the election; recalls her first days in office; sexism on the city council; her relationship with fellow Los Angeles City Councilmember Ruth Galanter; key issues she worked on as councilwoman, including creating a seven-acre wetlands, constructing affordable housing, providing support services for Skid Row, and providing local jobs through L.A. Live; struggles with violence in South Central L.A.; involvement with the fast food chain ban; challenges of re-districting; discusses local projects and why environmentalism is important to her; recalls what Central Avenue was like when she started as a staffer and her restoration of the Dunbar Hotel; closes the interview with the challenges she faced while on council such as re-districting and funding.

OH 5854.2

Narrator: JAN PERRY (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: July 31, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 00:57:32
Transcript: final; 17 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (9)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jan Perry, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman and General Manager of the Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Perry's political career including her time on the Los Angeles City Council. Specifically, this interview discusses the importance of building affordable housing and the key housing issues in her district; the issue of homelessness as a public housing issue and what she has done to address it; how she addressed her district's population and building needs; discusses the changes in Downtown L.A. over her twelve years representing the district; her interest in environmentalism; her "land use battle" for healthier food options; her views on term limits; her decision, experiences, and challenges while running for mayor in 2013; shares what she learned from her campaign; her work as general manager of Economic and Workforce Development and the city's current challenges with employment; her relationship with other women councilmembers; sexism at city hall as a staffer in the nineties; differences between how men and women lead; how and in what ways she addressed women's issues while on council; what motivates her a leader in the community; gender discrimination women face as elected officials; why there are so few women in elected office; shares advice for women interested in a political career; the unique perspective she brings to politics as a woman of color; her brief thoughts on Hillary Clinton; what she is most proud of in her current work and life; the role her daughter played in her campaign; closes the interview with her satisfaction on what she has accomplished so far in life.

OH 5855

Narrator: BERNEDETTE MEDRANO (b. 1953)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: June 20, 2016
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 01:42:11
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Ephemera Photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history of Bernedette Medrano, activist and advocate for the advancement of Latino/a educational programs. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Medrano's experience participating, organizing, and creating programs for Latino/a youth. Specifically, this interview provides information on Medrano's challenging childhood, growing up without her mother; explains the difficulty in understanding her identity; discusses how her green eyes and fair skin prevented others to see and accept her as a Chicana; explains overcoming alcohol addiction and achieving sobriety in 1994; discusses her quest for finding her voice, and her mission to help others do the same; describes how after having a successful, corporate career, she took a year off to think about her purpose in life; explains her role as advisor for the "Creating A Path to Success" (CAPS) program for the California State Hispanic Chambers of Commerce; details how CAPS provides young students with leadership skills and tools to be successful; discusses how current women's organizations are more inclusive than women's organizations from her generation; describes her husband's support in her life and career; and finally, how she encourages young women to be fearless.

OH 5856

Narrator: MOLLY McCLANAHAN (b. 1937)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: June 23, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:16:05
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (15)

Abstract

An oral history with Molly McClanahan, former Fullerton City Councilmember and President of the North Orange County Community College District. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was gather information regarding her time on the Fullerton City Council. Specifically, this interview talks about growing up in Arroyo Grande, California, and memories of the World War II home front; shares how she met her husband; her decision to join the League of Women Voters; explains why she ran for the Fullerton City Council, her campaign strategy, and reaction to winning the election; how acquaintances responded to her running for political office; talks about her first days on the city council and what issues were most important to her; how she was received by her male colleagues; talks about the political climate in Fullerton when she took office and experience of being the only democrat on the council; talks about her allies on the council and primary legislative goals; experience of her recall election in 1994 and her reaction; differences between being a councilmember vs. mayor; what she's most proud of her from her time on the city council; her work with the Fullerton Youth Employment Service and the YWCA; experience of running for Congress in 1992 and she reacted to losing that election; describes her leadership style; what it takes to be a successful elected official; differences between how men and women lead; how she balanced her home and professional life; why it's important for women to be involved in politics; defines feminism; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election would impact future women running for office; reflects on why there are so few women in elected office; describes feminism; how her political service influenced her life; shares advice for women interested in going into politics; and finally, talks about the importance of community colleges.

OH 5880

Narrator: DR. MELINA ABDULLAH
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: January 21, 2016
Language: English
Location: Los Angeles, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:19:35
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Melina Abdullah, Professor and Chair of Pan-African Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. Abdullah was among the original group of organizers convened to form Black Lives Matter, Los Angeles (BLMLA). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Abdullah's life history and involvement with BLMLA. Specifically, this interview covers Abdullah's early latchkey childhood, growing up in east Oakland, California; her early experiences of being a part of a diverse community; explains how politics were discussed in her household in the 1970s, her mother's political activism, and the importance of understanding black women's roles in politics; recalls attending labor actions as a child, for her father's carpentry union; shares early organizing experiences in junior high and high school, attending Berkeley High School; picketing and boycotting Blue and Gold, a store discriminating against black children; recalls growing up with a strong collective of support and extended family; discusses the treatment black men and women faced from outside the black community; gender differences she noticed growing up; recalls being arrested in high school; talks about the normalization of corrupt policing and abuse; reflects on her time at Howard University, being influenced by Maxine Waters, and her involvement with the National Name Exchange, which led to her Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Southern California; discusses the multifaceted community work in which she is currently participating; her involvement with BLMLA and her children's response to her activism; remembers the initial BLM meeting and planning for the Justice for Trayvon Martin Los Angeles march; the intersectionality of BLM; her definitions of feminism and "womanism;" the differences in how men and women lead in academics and organizing; talks about her concerns with being involved in BLM, and the possible negative impacts on her children and livelihood; the importance of having black women involved in liberation work; shares her forms of self-care and healing; discusses the drawbacks of social media with regard to BLM; her current work against the L.A. Police Commission and Los Angeles Police Department; shares the story of Wakeisha Wilson, a black woman killed in prison; shares thoughts on current U.S. politics; and finally, reflects on her greatest accomplishments and what she is most proud of.

OH 5881

Narrator: MARY ALICE BLAYDES (b. 1938)
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: July 6, 2016
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:18:14
Transcript: final; 25 pages
Ephemera: photograph; campaign clipping

Abstract

An oral history with Mary Alice Blaydes, anti-nuclear and environmental activist. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was gather information regarding her life and work as an environmental activist. Specifically, this interview talks about Blaydes childhood in Southern California; talks about messages she received from her parents about gender roles; shares how she met her husband, why they married, and memories of starting a family; importance of education; talks about why she and her husband joined Creative Initiative as anti-nuclear activists, the mission of the group, grassroots activities, and why they placed an importance on a strong marriage; why they remained active in Creative Initiative when other couples dropped out; why she opposed the San Onofre and Diablo Canyon power plants; how her activism influenced her children; shares about challenges she faced in her activism; talks about her friend who was arrested at the Diablo sit-in; her work substitute teaching; reflects on her greatest accomplishment as an activist; recalls the march in Los Angeles in front of the Department of Water and Power; describes importance of informational coffees; differences between how men and women lead; challenges women face as elected officials; how Hillary Clinton winning the 2016 presidential election would impact future women running for office; why she decided to go back to work; why it's important for women to be involved in politics and activism; shares advice for women interested in becoming activists; describes feminism; how her activism influenced her life and her current involvement; and finally, reflects on what she's most proud of in her life.

OH 5882

Narrator: VIVIAN EMMA ROTHSTEIN (b. 1946)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 1, 2016
Location: Santa Monica, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 01:37:30
Transcript: final; 25 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (5)

Abstract

An oral history with Vivian Emma Rothstein, a development consultant for Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) and community organizer. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather Rothstein's life history, details of community organizing for the Mississippi Freedom Summer project of 1965, as well as her work in low-income communities for welfare and housing rights. Specifically, this interview covers her family history, her Jewish heritage, and experiences in World War II; her mother's political involvement with rent control and how that inspired her; the values she acquired from her family; details her mother's life and work as a single parent; describes her early work experiences and how her time with Quality Collection Company was a radicalizing experience; her decision to attend the University of California, Berkeley, and her student activism with the Civil Rights Movement; shares how her aunt was her role model; her involvement and experiences with the Mississippi Freedom Summer project; her experiences running a freedom school and voter registration in Leake County, Mississippi; her family's response to her activism and work; how she met her husband at a Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) event, her husband's work, and their children; her childhood experiences with gender roles; what she believes it takes to be an effective activist; her community organizing in Chicago and SDS projects; her experiences in North Vietnam during the Vietnam War; how and why she founded one of the first independent women's liberation organizations in the 1970s: Chicago Women's Liberation Union; discusses her role and experiences as the executive director at the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC) in Santa Monica; her decision to leave her work with the City of Santa Monica and devote her time to OPCC, as well as her eventual recruitment for Unite Here! and LAANE ; her advocacy for the homeless population; discusses her experiences running the Living Wage Campaign in Santa Monica and other legislation she has helped with; her work with the Respect at LAX Project; describes her leadership style; the differences of women in politics and activism then versus now; talks about activism within the Jewish community; how she balanced her home and work life as well as the effects of her activism on her family; differences in women and male leadership; sexism she experience in the New Left and how and why she became a speaker; her thoughts on feminism; how religion has played a role in her activism; shares how her work has shaped her life and what she is most proud of; closes the interview with the importance of women in activism and advice she would give.

OH 5883

Narrator: SARA GUERRERO (b. 1975)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 7, 2016
Location: Santa Monica, California
Project: Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 04:28:26
Transcript: final; 66 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract

An oral history with Sara Guerrero, an activist in the Santa Ana community and founder of Breath of Fire Latina Theater Ensemble. Guerrero also produces, write, directs, and acts, and has a current residency at California State University, Fullerton's Grand Central Arts in Santa Ana. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather Guerrero's life history and details of community theater involvement and activism. Specifically, this interview covers an in-depth family background; her childhood and family life; her education within the Santa Ana Unified School District, aspirations of becoming an actress, and decision to attend California Institute of the Arts (Cal Arts); growing up in the political atmosphere of the Reagan Administration; her father's military and war experiences; her experiences as a student and woman of color at Cal Arts; her work and experiences as a teaching assistant for theater at Plaza del la Raza; her networking in the nonprofit world and life as an actor after college; recalls her work as an associate artistic director for *Teatro Indigena* founded by Pablo Eduardo Rivera; her work as guest director for Brown Bag Theatre Company at the University of California, Irvine; how and why she started Breath of Fire; the differences in her work as a producer and actor; how she chooses topics and plays; the partnerships and collaborative projects she has worked on; discusses her current residency at California State University, Fullerton's Grand Central Art Center; her initial goal for Breath of Fire and the importance of representation for Santa Ana; her experiences as a Latina in college; how being a woman affected her work as an activist; talks about her work with Fringe Benefits; her thoughts and experiences within the theater community; her husband's involvement and support with her theater work; how she balances her work and home life, and discusses her son; recalls her role models growing up; challenges she faced in her childhood; talks about the differences growing up for girls and boys within her community; recalls when she stood up for herself and her values; activism within her immediate and extended family; gender messages she received from her mother; thoughts and experiences with motherhood and being an artist; what got her first involved in activism; her personal journey identifying as a Chicana; her thoughts on what makes an effective activist; what she is most proud of in her activism and her greatest challenges; her collaborative leadership style; how being a woman has affected her work as an activist; the differences in women and men leaders; her thoughts on feminism and labels; talks about the social and cultural factors preventing women of color from becoming activists; her experiences with religion growing up; thoughts on contemporary American politics; closes the interview with her thoughts on the importance of women's involvement in activism and advice.

OH 5884

Narrator: RUTH GOLDWAY (b. 1945)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: July 7, 2016
Language: English
Location: Venice, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:48:58
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: photographs; clippings

Abstract:

An oral history with Ruth Goldway, former chairwoman of the U.S. Postal Exchange Commission and former city council member and mayor of Santa Monica, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Goldway's political career, including her time on the Santa Monica City Council, experiences as a wife of a U.S. Ambassador to Finland, and her time on the U.S. Postal Exchange Commission. Specifically, this interview talks about her early childhood in Manhattan, New York; her parents career and involvement in left wing politics; educational background; discusses experiences of the 1960s and the era's social turbulence; recalls normalized gender and work discrimination of the 1960s; explains why she became involved in politics and how food issues led her to organize Fight Inflation Together; briefly discusses her divorce, remarriage, and move to Santa Monica, California; discusses running for California State Assembly, campaign platform, and loss; explains how she did well with voters in Santa Monica, which led her campaigning for Santa Monica City Council; discusses important issues of the time, such as rent control; explains the constant criticisms she faced for being a woman, as well as her Democratic background; talks about her involvement with creating farmer's markets; briefly discusses Santa Monicans for Renter's Rights, and allies on the council; explains how she lost mayoral reelection in 1983; details her husband's appointment as U.S. Ambassador of Finland; talks about relationship with Hillary and Bill Clinton; discusses her appointment as Postal Commissioner and Chairwoman of the U.S. Postal Exchange Commission; explains forming an organization called Women in Logistics and Delivery Services, WiLDS; reflects on experiences leading delegations in China; explains what it takes to be a successful politician; her leadership style; her thoughts on feminism, and why she believes there are so few women in politics; and finally, thoughts on what it will mean if Hillary Clinton wins the 2016 presidential election.

OH 5885

Narrator: M. JOYCE VAN SCHAAK (b. 1930)
Interviewers: Skye Gomez
Date: July 14, 2016
Location: Laguna Niguel, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:12:17
Transcript: final; 38 pages
Ephemera: photograph, field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Joyce Van Schaak, former history and English language learner teacher at Mission College, member of Republican Women Federated, and political organizer for the Republican Party. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Van Schaak's childhood in Indianapolis, Indiana and Hollywood, California; describes growing up with a single father; how she wanted to attend college out of high school but had to work instead; how she put her husband through Architecture school and began having children; discusses her decision to go back to school; her career in teaching English and history to minority students; describes her first involvement in politics; discusses her leadership of minority Republican groups; recalls her involvement in Deaver Hannaford public relations team for Ronald Reagan; recounts organizing fundraisers and campaign parties; discusses her transfer into the U.S. Department of Education; describes traveling around the country to help schools; recalls joining the Small Business Administration; describes the difficulty of commuting to San Francisco every week; discusses her retirement from the Small Business Administration and her move into the Executive Board with the Federal Government; describes planning events for the Republican party and the Reagans; describes challenges of putting on an event in Los Angeles for the Reagans and the British Royal family; describes her involvement in the AmeriCorps Program; describes how it is difficult for veterans to return to school after serving; speaks about Saddleback College's Veteran's Center and how they are serving veterans; describes her volunteer work at the Center; explains why she left Saddleback College's Board of Governors; discusses her involvement with California American Mother's Inc.; describes the creation of the California Golden Treasure slide show; explains why her and her husband created it; notes that they began to create films on events and history; describes her involvement with the creation of the Reagan Library; notes the biggest need for society today is communication in order to solve societal issues; reflects on how her faith shaped her activism and teaching career; talks about the importance of women in politics and activism; and finally, shares why she thinks understanding history is important of people today.

OH 5886

Narrator: CHRYSTAL FERBER (b. 1989)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 18, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 00:29:28
Transcript: final; 9 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

This is an oral history interview with Chrystal Ferber, law student and animal rights activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Ferber's involvement with as an undercover investigator for Compassion Over Killing. Specifically, this interview talks about Ferber's troubled childhood; her role models; how her parents and family reacted to her activism; the importance of Women Gender Studies Department at Cal State Fullerton in increasing her self-confidence; describes her job as an undercover investigator for Compassion Over Killing and what it's like working at chicken farm factories, including a Pilgrims grow-out facility; how local law enforcement responded to reports of animal cruelty and the role the media played in raising awareness of this issue; talks about the mistreatment of factory works by facility manager; how people respond to women working as animal rights activists; what it's like for women traveling alone; talks about the differences with how men and women lead; how the political climate influences activist activities; and finally, reflects on the future of her activism and why it's important for women to not sit on the sidelines.

OH 5887

INTERVIEW RESTRICTED; NO SIGNED NARRATOR AGREEMENT

Narrator: RIMA NASHASHIBI (b. 1953)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 22, 2016
Language: English
Location: Laguna Hills, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:31:41
Transcript: edited; 43 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Rima Nashashibi, who is involved with the Arab American Caucus, Arab American Democratic Club of Orange County, Nashashibi International Consultant, and former vice chair of the Democratic Party of Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her life and extensive political career. Specifically, this interview talks about her early childhood in Palestine and her family's heritage and religion; she briefly discusses returning to Palestine in 2000 and how the Second Intifada happened while she was there; her siblings and their political differences; she discusses her father as a role model, and his political and familial background; her educational background at the American University of Beirut (AUB) and California State University, Long Beach (CSULB); She goes into detail about her experiences attending AUB during the Lebanon Civil War; her initial involvement with the Democratic Party and being a delegate in 1988 for the Bush/Dukakis election; her feelings being the first Arab-American to serve for the Democratic Party of Orange County; her memories of 9/11 and her initial shock; she discusses contemporary race relations and xenophobia; her experiences running for California State Assembly, how Ray Cordova ran her campaign, and her decision to not sanitize her image; her parents helping out her campaign, and her thoughts on why it was important for her to show Arab-Americans and other minorities that they could run for political office; she discusses her lectures on women leadership training; briefly mentions campaign issues and the role of media; she briefly discusses her time as vice chair of the Democratic Party of Orange County; her leadership qualities and thoughts on what it takes to be a successful public official; thoughts on the differences between men and women leadership; she goes into detail about her time spent at the president of the Orange County Chapter of the Arab-American anti-discriminatory Committee; outlines and reflects on the process, motivations, and obstacles of starting up Nashashibi International Consultant; briefly discusses her personal life and challenges of her career; reflects on her family support; thoughts on spirituality; women in politics today and her views on the current state of the Democratic Party; her advice to young women wanting to get involved in politics; further discusses her leadership training, and closes with her thoughts on empowering women.

OH 5888

Narrator: RUBI ESPERANZA FONSECA (b. 1991)
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: July 25, 2016
Language: English
Location: Northridge, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:48:47
Transcript: final; 32 pages
Ephemera: Photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Esperanza Rubi Fonseca, who is a labor and economic justice organizer that has worked with the Fight for 15 campaign, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), UNITE HERE! Local 11, Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement, and is currently building a trans worker center. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her life and her pursuits for labor and economic justice organizer. Specifically, this interview covers her early childhood and growing up with a single-mom; she discusses her father's imprisonment and the affects that had on her childhood; her Catholic upbringing; she goes into detail about her sexuality and gender identity as well as coming out to her family and friends; the values she learned from herself and her father; the significance of college and earning a Bachelor's in Feminist Studies and Liberation Theology from Whittier College; she goes into detail about her experiences in college, and a significant incident which turned her into an organizer which resulted in the college developing a policy committee for trans students; her work with Clue and the Fight for 15 Campaign; she talks about how she got involved with Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement; briefly discusses her time with Black Girl Dangerous and an article she wrote for them regarding AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP); her friendship with Jennicet Gutiérrez and thoughts on Gutierrez' political actions; her thoughts on mental health and vulnerability; the differences between charity and abolition; she discusses her current project which is building a trans worker center in Los Angeles; she talks about her leadership style and the problematic nature of "branding"; her thoughts on organizing and spirituality; her experiences with discrimination and views on the sexualization of women in society; the differences between how men and women of color lead; she discusses burnout and how survival is what motivates her to keep organizing; the social and cultural factors preventing women of color and trans women of color from being organizers and activists; advice for a young person wanting to get involved in organizing; how she defines and views feminism; closing thoughts on current politics, transeconomic justice, and how femininity is devalued in our society.

OH 5889

Narrator: BAMBY SALCEDO (b. 1969)
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: July 27, 2016
Location: Glendale, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:08:29
Transcript: final; 18 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photographs (2)

Abstract

An oral history with Bamby Salcedo, transgender Latina activist and founder of the TransLatin@ Coalition. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was gather information regarding Salcedo's life and her pursuits of social justice. Specifically, this interview talks about Salcedo's childhood in Guadalajara, Mexico, and the challenges of being raised by a single mother; experience of immigrating to the United States in 1985; speaks candidly about her drug addiction; recalls transitioning to a woman and explains why she became a trans activist; describes her work as health education coordinator at the Children's Hospital Los Angeles; why she founded the TransLatin@ Coalition and its role in the trans community; speaks about challenges documented and undocumented trans Latinos and Latinas face; her educational experiences at UCLA as a trans Latina student; describes experiences in ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] detention centers; making the documentary Transvisible; families response to her activism; describes her leadership style; explains why she refers to herself a community investment; what it takes to be an effective trans Latina activist and leader and what challenges they face in their work; shares advice for women interested in becoming activists; describes feminism; differences between how men and women lead; recalls participating in the White House United State of Women Summit and sharing the stage with Vice President Joe Biden; reflects on the 2016 presidential campaign; and finally, shares her hopes for the future and the importance of supporting the trans community.

OH 5890

Narrator: ESTELA LOPEZ (b. 1953)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 28, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 1:18:10
Transcript: final; 20 pages
Ephemera: photograph, field notes

Abstract

An oral history of Estela Lopez, former assignment editor at NBC, executive producer at ABC, and political activist and organizer for the Democratic Party in Los Angeles. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Lopez' childhood in South Los Angeles; discusses her parents move to Los Angeles from Texas; describes her first interaction with news media and her love for it; notes that though they lived in poverty, she was still able to attend Catholic school; notes her disappointment in needing to attend L.A. City College instead of USC; discusses being awarded a summer internship at NBC; describes being the first women of color accepted; notes how she realized she wanted to be an Assignment Editor because they were the ones to make the decisions; describes shadowing the Assignment Editor; discusses working as an editorial assistant after the internship; addresses how she eventually became the NBC Assignment Editor; discusses how she used that platform to report on people in Latino communities; describes the sexism she experienced and how she still sees it today in broadcast television; discusses her involvement in the Chicano Newsmen's Association, now Chicano News Media Association; mentions how NBC and ABC would use her to tell the stories of communities of color; begins describing her shift to politics in Los Angeles; notes that the importance of being a women is how it informs your actions.

OH 5891

Narrator: SUE TSUDA (b. 1936)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: August 5, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital; video
Length: 01:14:01
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Ephemera Photographs

Abstract:

An oral history of Sue Tsuda, former member of the Fullerton City Council, Fullerton School Board, and current member of the League of Women Voters North Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Tsuda's time spent in local office, as well the League of Women Voters. Specifically, this interview discusses Tsuda's childhood in rural Cook County, Illinois, where her father was a machinist and her mother an active League of Women Voters member; explains her parent's interest in politics; recalls Pearl Harbor and the impact it had on her community; talks about members of her family who served in the military; discusses the League's role in the community and how it has evolved over the years; explains the work she did while acting as League president and state board member; talks about driving around registering local Fullerton voters; discusses her interest and involvement in politics; explains running Frances Wood's campaign (first woman elected to Fullerton City Council) as well as her own; explains the complexities of holding office, for instance when Republican members of the council did not permit her to become mayor; explains her role and contributions to Fullerton School Board; speaks about her contributions on the Fullerton Planning Commission; discusses current projects, including the Center for Healthy Generations, in Yucca Valley; and finally, provides insightful advice to young women who want to be involved in politics.

OH 5892

Narrator: ELIZABETH DORN PARKER (b. 1960)
Date: August 4, 2016
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:10:37
Transcript: final; 43 pages
Ephemera Photographs (6); clippings (6)

Abstract:

An oral history of Elizabeth (Liz) Parker, former member of the Orange County Board of Education, and the youngest to be elected to the office at the age of twenty-two. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Parker's time in office and serving her community. Specifically, this interview discusses Parker's childhood, growing up in a politically active, Jewish family; her family's political affiliation and her brother's role in creating California Healthy Families; involvement in student government at UCLA; helping underrepresented students in the South Los Angeles area; running for school board, campaign and victory; challenges during her first years in office; how age, more than being a woman, was her biggest disadvantage; reflects on her thirty-two years in office; how politics and political campaigns have evolved over time; how raising money is difficult for women; how the Republican Party discourages women from running for office; her involvement in Women in Leadership (WIL) and the League of Women Voters; how women lead differently than men; her greatest accomplishments while serving; her views on charter schools; issues surrounding the California Common Core curriculum; future professional career plans; her views on current American Politics and how, as a Republican, she plans to vote for Hillary Clinton; and finally, offers candid advice to women interested in politics.

OH 5893

Narrator: SANDY NASH BALDONADO (b. 1935)
Date: July 28, 2016
Location: Claremont, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital
Length: 02:25:33
Transcript: final; 31 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Sandy Nash Baldonado, former Claremont City Councilwoman and Mayor. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Baldonado's experience as councilmember and mayor. Specifically, this interview discusses Baldonado's childhood and youth; describes living in several countries and how her family settled in New York; explains how the Dewey-Truman election stirred her interest in politics, and from then on identified as a Democrat; describes working in campaigns for Adlai Stevenson and Lyndon Johnson; discusses the first time she faced discrimination; explains her experience working for the CIA and Saks Fifth Avenue and explains the gender roles in these working spaces; recalls joining the League of Women Voters; discusses her role as vice chair of the Democratic Party from 1977 to 1981; speaks about challenges raising money and having people trust a woman in politics; details her political campaign and the work she did for the city of Claremont from 1999 to 2006; reflects on her role as city councilwoman and mayor; describes her relationship with co-councilmember Diann Ring; and finally, explains attending law school later in life, and becoming a family attorney to help women.

OH 5894

Narrator: LAURA LAKE
Interviewers: Abby Waldrop
Date: August 15, 2016
Location: Westwood, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 01:42:43
Transcript: final; 24 pages
Ephemera: photographs, field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Laura Lake, former lecturer at UCLA, grassroots environmental activist, and former president of the National Council of Jewish Women. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots and activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Lake's childhood in the Bedford Stuyvesant neighborhood of Fort Greene, Brooklyn; discusses her first involvement in protests at the University of Wisconsin; describes becoming engaged with international politics; notes her marriage and move to New York to attend graduate school; discusses working at the Ford Foundation in New York; describes her concern for the environment and environmental activism; discusses moving to Westwood, California to teach at UCLA in the interdisciplinary environmental doctorate program; describes becoming involved with zoning and redevelopment issues in Los Angeles; discusses her decision to run for city council; describes her lack of support in her campaigns; notes her objective was to give a voice to residents on issues like redevelopment and zoning; describes losing the vote because no one knew that she was Jewish; notes that the city council is considered a Jewish seat; states how men and women lead differently; notes that many women are not voted into local office because of fundraising barriers for women candidates; describes her involvement in the Grazing Lands Commission; discusses her current involvement in the creation of the Mullen House, a female veterans housing center; describes her Board of Directors involvement in Fix the City, to provide basic needs for Los Angeles residents; discusses her feminist ideas and how they function in the grassroots sector; shares her views of what voice women have in politics; describes her concern if Donald Trump were to be voted in as President of the United States; and finally, shares that she is proud of having learned to use experience and apply it to the next challenge.

OH 5895

Narrator: TAMMI MCINTYRE (b. 1944)
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: August 16, 2016
Language: English
Location: Fullerton, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:38:24
Transcript: final; 35 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Tammi McIntyre, transgender activist, member of the Board of Elections Committee of the County of Orange (ECCO), Political Director of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC), and co-owner of McIntyre & Barcelona LLC. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview covers McIntyre's early childhood in Ohio, as well as her parents' brief history; discusses early education and high school; talks about mother's death, and her father's subsequent remarriage; recalls decision to join the Navy in 1963 and details 21-year career; discusses doing work risk analysis for Pickard, Lowe, and Garrick (PLG); getting involved with Boston Market in the early 1990s; talks about her initial and long-term involvement with the Democratic Party; briefly discusses how she learned political accounting by running campaigns for California State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silvia; discusses the startup of McIntyre & Barcelona LLC.; speaks about role models; briefly shares what she wanted to be growing up; discusses earning her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Southern Illinois University; shares the values she acquired from friends, family, and work experiences; discusses gender roles; talks about her courtship, marriage, and divorce history; goes into detail regarding her gender transition in 1987 (male to female); experiences with work-related gender discrimination; recalls attending the Be All Convention, during her transition, and the support she received; briefly discusses violence and discrimination against transgender women; shares values that attracted her to the Democratic Party; recalls memories of working with former U.S. Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez; talks about ECCO and her position as Treasurer; further discusses her political accounting company and the greatest challenges it faced; recalls representing the NWPC in 2008, as acting political Vice President; recalls a personal story regarding former Secretary of State, Deborah Bowen; provides thoughts on female versus male leadership; the importance of women being involved in politics; gives advice for young women wanting to get involved in politics; shares thoughts on feminism; discusses the 2016 presidential election; and finally, shares how she met Irvine City Councilmember, Melissa Fox.

OH 5896

Narrator: JANICE WAGNER (b. 1949)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: August 16, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:16:23
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera photograph; field notes

Abstract

An oral history of Jan Wagner, current president of the League of Women Voters of North Orange County, former Board Member of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD), School Board President, and Founding Director of PYLUSD Ed. Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Wagner's time serving the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, as well as her time on the League of Women Voters. Specifically, this interview provides information on Wagner's childhood, growing up in a military family, where her father worked as a naval officer; explains how gender roles manifested in her own family; describes a moment when, as a child, the laws of segregation prevented her and an African American girl from playing together; talks about involvement with the League of Women Voters; explains the League's purpose and work throughout the years on different issues: integration and community involvement in human rights in the 1960s and 1970s, welfare reform and childcare during the Clinton era, as well as education; details the League's board election process; explains her four-year role as president of the League and its focus on voter service and advocacy; describes the League's present participation in the 2016 presidential election; describes how the polarization of our government reflects on the polarization of our society; explains some of the issues that are preventing the League from becoming both age and ethnically diverse; discusses her twelve years of service at the Yorba Linda Unified School District; explains the controversial measure Prop 13; explains views on No Child Left Behind, California Common Core, and charter schools; shares views on current American politics and the significance of having a woman on the ballot.

OH 5897

Narrator: GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: August 19, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 00:47:38
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: photographs (5); field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Gloria Negrete McLeod, former member of the California State Assembly, California Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to understand her approach to politics and leadership. Specifically, this interview addresses her family and educational background; discusses her entry into politics and her campaigns for the Assembly; explains the issues and challenges she tackled; emphasizes the responsibility of representing everyone in the district; details the difference between the collegial atmosphere of the California legislature and the partisan climate of Congress; emphasizes the importance of listening to the community; describes some of her legislative experience and bills she worked with; recounts her campaign for Congress, winning against an incumbent; discusses her role on Congressional committees, including Veteran's Affairs; talks about her loss during her run for San Bernardino County's Board of Supervisors, and her concerns about voter apathy; describes her role on the Chaffey College Board of Trustees; explains what it takes to be a successful political official, including a genuine desire to represent the people; discusses her leadership style of taking decisions after evaluating all options; mentions the crucial support of her husband; details some of the hard votes and decisions that were made during terms; explains women politicians' desire to just get things done; clarifies her realist approach to feminism; expresses her disgust with the current state of American politics, and her frustrations with the lies and misinformation spread through all forms of media, as well as her concerns about the Republican candidate; examines the lack of women representation in politics and the difficulties facing them, including money; recommends aspiring women politicians to start local, and be realistic about winning; emphasizes the importance of having a good staff; and states her pride at helping the people she represented to the best of her ability.

OH 5898.1

Narrator: JANE TEMPLIN (b.1946)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: August 18, 2016
Location: Commerce, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:23:53
Transcript: final; 25 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jane Templin, professional electrician and vice president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview discusses Templin's career in a non-traditional field and her subsequent union activism. Specifically this interviews covers Templin's Midwestern childhood and early aspirations; how she met her husband; the Democratic political affiliation of her Catholic family; her participation in Civil Rights marches and sit-ins; circumstances that led to her pursuing a career in the electrical field in 1976 (as only the second woman to join IBEW); men's reactions to her (and other women) on the job; completing a five-year program to become a journeyman, specializing in electrical construction; how she dealt with difficult coworkers, proving herself; and finally, early days as a member of the union and how it has evolved.

OH 5898.2

Narrator: JANE TEMPLIN (b.1946)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: August 19, 2016
Location: Commerce, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:24:58
Transcript: final; 36 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jane Templin, professional electrician and vice president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview discusses Templin's career in a non-traditional field and her subsequent union activism. Specifically this interview covers IBEW's continual social evolution and accepting more diverse members as a reflection of Los Angeles culture; breaking through stereotypes in the union; mentoring and outreach to the next generation of electrical workers; how despite progress, the quota of women is still under 25 percent in the electrical field; sexual harassment on the jobsite and how new laws changed the professional landscape; early days joining IBEW and how Templin had to encourage involvement, participation, and also garner respect for herself by doing jobs no one else would do; earning election to various committees in the union; becoming a foreman on jobsites; how the union evolved from a closed-door, unwelcoming, male-dominated group, to one that is more progressive, accepting, and family-oriented; the formation of the Electrical Training Institute; how their Commerce campus is a cutting-edge, net-zero facility; how technology has changed the electrical field; what it takes to be an effective union leader, and how being a woman makes the difference; accomplishments achieved while in the union; definition of a feminist; Election 2016 and the prospect of Hillary Clinton's victory; Templin's motivation in doing her work; the role of faith in her activism; how union leadership has changed her life; the role of women in politics; and finally, what she is most proud of.

OH 5899

Narrator: MARY FUHRMAN (b. 1933)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: August 25, 2016
Location: Buena Park, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:13:58
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Ephemera field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Mary Fuhrman, former Buena Park School District Governing Board member, retired Buena Park teacher of 23 years, former president and active member of the League of Women Voters of North Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Fuhrman's service in the Buena Park School District and the League of Women Voters. Specifically, this interview discusses Fuhrman's childhood in a small town that cared very much about education; explains that profits from the oil industry were invested in educational programs that allowed many students to learn how to play an instrument; discusses how career options for women were limited, but education encouraged; describes the day she heard about Pearl Harbor and celebrating at the end of the war; discusses her involvement in the League of Women Voters and its desire to recruit young members and minority groups; explains the League's proud role in the 2016 presidential election; speaks about the League's community work, such as preparing "Pros and Cons" forums on candidates and ballot issues; discusses how the League of Women Voters of North Orange County is organized and its division into five committee teams; discusses involvement in the Buena Park School District; recalls her election in 1994; shares how she received support of both the teacher's union and the classified union to run her campaign; discusses selection of Carol Riley, the first woman superintendent of the district; shares opinion on how men and women lead; and finally, discusses personal views on feminism and current American politics.

OH 5900

Narrator: JASMINE (RICHARDS) ABDULLAH (b. 1986)
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: August 24, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:21:18
Transcript: final; 24 pages
Ephemera Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jasmine Abdullah, founder of Black Lives Matter (BLM) Pasadena Chapter, freedom fighter, and community organizer. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to learn about Abdullah's life history, her experiences with BLM, and her community organizing efforts. Specifically, this interview details Abdullah's family life and childhood, growing up as a latchkey kid in segregated northwest Pasadena, California; recalls early education; discusses childhood career aspirations; explains how residents outside her community of North Los Robles might view that part of the city; details the strong community ties and unconditional black love she experienced; shares how her sister is her role model; details childhood trauma and tragedies of losing family and friends, and how she continues to heal; explains how recent events in Ferguson, Missouri, and the loss of her best friend changed her life; remembers discussions in her household growing up; recalls standing up for herself as a youth and the need to be strong; discusses alleged harassment and brutality by Pasadena Police Department; reveals why she changed her surname (Richards); talks about current issues that are most important to her, which include: at-risk youth and gang intervention, police brutality, and lack of resources; details how she counteracts negative issues in her community; speaks about how she founded BLM Pasadena in 2015; discusses her "freedom ride" to Ferguson, Missouri, and how that experience changed her life; explains gender dynamics within BLM; recollects her imprisonment and subsequent charge of felony lynching; explains her current role in BLM, their goal of "decolonizing" Los Angeles City Hall; reveals why she spoke out against the recent Million Man March, sponsored by The Game and Snoop Dogg; shares opinion on BLM and its relationship with social media, being a woman in the movement, defining feminism; talks about the differences in how men and women lead; discusses gender discrimination within the movement, and the unique contributions women bring to the table; explains initial goals for BLM and new areas she wants to explore; mentions her family's response her activism, and how BLM brought faith and religion back to her; recalls a past trauma of being shot; discusses current state of American politics; shares advice on getting involved with BLM; and finally, speaks about being proud, and how she would like to see individuals focus on the bigger picture.

OH 5915

Narrator: REBECCA “BECKIE” GOMEZ (b. 1956)
Interviewer: Molly Andrews
Date: October 13, 2016
Location: Tustin, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:07:41
Transcript: final; 33 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract

An oral history of Rebecca “Beckie” Gomez, a current City of Tustin, city council member and newly elected Orange County Department of Education Board member. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect Gomez’ history in public service, from community to county level. Specifically, this interview details Gomez’ childhood and family life in Whittier, California; the importance of playing sports at a youth; her role models and childhood aspirations; her extended family’s political involvement and influence on her; her family values of work ethic; higher education and political engagement; discusses her family life, husband, and children; explains her involvement within the Tustin community and why she decided to run for city council; her motivation as a public servant and the importance of family issues; what it takes to be an effective public servant; explains how running for city council was a family decision as well as how she balances her work and home life; discusses her role as a woman during the campaign and while on council; explains the benefits of her athlete background and competitive nature; she discusses the importance of accumulating accomplishments for the public; the unique contributions and importance of women involved in politics and activism; discusses social and cultural factors preventing women of color getting into politics; her mother’s response to her running for city council; her experiences of working as a liberal democrat in a traditionally republican dominated county; her decision to run for the Orange County Department of Education; her thoughts on the 2016 United States Presidential election; advice to girls and individuals wanting to get involved in activism and public servant work; why she believes there are few women in politics.

OH 5916

Narrator: DR. JUDITH MENDELSON ROOD (b. 1958)
Interviewer: Jared Otto
Date: October 14, 2016
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:25:13
Transcript: partial; 11 pages

Abstract

An oral history of Judith Mendelsohn Rood, professor of History and Middle Eastern Studies at Biola University. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her participation in activism and politics, and her foundation in the Jewish faith. Specifically, the interview covers Rood's early life growing up in a Jewish household with a father who was an extreme American patriot, her first involvement with activism as a high school student having studied abroad in Israel; how her growing distrust of activist groups led her to stray from most formal activism organizations; and all the way to her career in higher education; how she began a more subtle form of activism in the classroom. She describes how her conversion to Christianity put her at odds with her family, the Jewish community, and the Christian community, how her faith spurs her drive for human rights, her desire to see the future of education change to allow students to become critical thinkers for the purpose of politics and activism particularly in her role as a professor of history at Biola University, her frustration with the lack of support she had as a woman in academia, and how she is currently seeking to strengthen the Messianic Jewish movement as an authentic Jewish movement, which she sees as being oppressed from Jews, Christians, and academia alike.

OH 5917

Narrator: FRANN SHERMET (b. 1939)
Interviewer: Destiny Daugherty
Date: October 8, 2016
Location: Cypress, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 00:47:02
Transcript: partial
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An oral history with Frann Shermet. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Shermet's political activist background and involvement in the League of Women Voters of North Orange County. Specifically, this interview explores Shermet's childhood in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; her family's influence on her life; educational background; husband and children; early political leanings, including work on Kennedy's presidential campaign; starting her local political career and campaign for Cypress City Council; involvement with the United States Academic Decathlon; why she joined the League of Women Voters; the League's important community work; and finally, shares opinion on current American politics and the role of women therein.

OH 5918

Narrator: PAMELA FIELDS (b. 1957)
Interviewer: Emilio Vargas
Date: October 21, 2016
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:13:06
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history of Pamela Fields, former nurse turned anti-police brutality activist, after the officer-involved shooting of her son, Donte Jordan, by Long Beach Police Department. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information concerning Fields' involvement in activist groups, demonstrations, rallies, and how she draws attention to not only her son, but to other alleged victims of police brutality. Specifically, this interview covers Fields' difficult childhood, family history, close-knit family relationships; remembers the day Donte was shot, the immediate aftermath, and affects his death had on her immediate family; explains how she became involved with anti-police brutality activism; discusses her activism within Black Lives Matter (Long Beach Chapter) and the Young Survivors Legacy Network; shares specific incidents of her activism; reveals what she believes police should do, in terms of community policing and building trust; shares her thoughts on police brutality and what causes corruption; talks about her greatest challenges as an activist and being heard; reflects on being a mother and activist; provides insight on being an African American woman; defines political courage; discusses her support for Hillary Clinton and the 2016 presidential election; and finally, reasserts her concerns regarding police corruption, and how she will not stop advocating for justice.

OH 5919

Narrator: LORIJON RENEE BROWN (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Joshua Martinez
Date: October 19, 2016
Location: Whittier, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:47:00
Transcript: partial; 5 pages
Ephemera: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract

An oral history of Lorijon Brown, a member of IHSS (In Home Support Services), which assists persons with disabilities in their own homes. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on IHSS and the SEIU (Service Employees International Union), of which Brown is part. Specifically, this interview discusses Brown's family background; growing up in La Mirada during the Watts Riots; abuse in the family; divorce and how people viewed her; how she became an in-home care worker; caring for her special needs brother fulltime and how she is severely underpaid; involvement in various protests and support groups in an effort to get fair wages and benefits; cuts made by Governor Schwarzenegger, which shrunk IHSS by 87 percent, and capped wages at \$11/hour, with no benefits; discusses current events, such as officer-involved shootings, student debt crisis, and lack of workers' rights; shares what she is most proud of and discusses the 2016 presidential election.

OH 5920

Narrator: JANE RANDS (b. 1966)
Interviewer: Joshua Cawley
Date: October 21, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:47:16
Transcript: final; 33 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph (1)

Abstract

An oral history with Jane Rands, local candidate for Fullerton City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Rands' community activism in Fullerton. Specifically, this interview discusses Rands' family background, growing up in Orange County; early aspirations and role models; college years at Cal Poly Pomona; changing her voter registration from Democrat to Libertarian to Green; why she identifies with the Green Party, and what values are important to her; comments on infamous Fullerton police incidents, such as Kelly Thomas beating and Albert Rincon sex scandal; the importance of making the police and other powerful entities accountable in Fullerton; running for Fullerton City Council; campaign strategies; fighting for the preservation of Coyote Hills and open space; how corporations like Chevron want to develop precious lands; the benefits of keeping Fullerton's bike lanes open and safe; discusses the Fullerton Mandate, which called for further representation of minority populations in local government; redrawing district lines in Fullerton under local ballot measure Map 8A; Rands' own role in drawing Map 10A according to the Federal Voting Rights Act; provides commentary on Election 2016; Green Party candidate Jill Stein; the impact of Hillary Clinton's nomination; male verses female leadership; why she considers herself a feminist; and finally, shares advice for women wanting to be involved in local politics.

OH 5921

Narrator: JOANNE FAWLEY (b. 1961)
Interviewer: Andrea Takahashi- DeAntonio
Date: October 24, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:17:37
Transcript: partial
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An oral history of Joanne Fawley, high school government teacher and second-time candidate for the Fullerton Joint Union High School District Board. Fawley won her district board seat on November 8, 2016. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview deals with Fawley's formative years and what led her to becoming a politically-engaged citizen; discusses running for her first school board campaign in 2014, which was unsuccessful; how her political involvement began at a young age; recalls how her father was a union activist in the 1970s, which inspired Fawley to join the teacher's union in the 1990s; and finally, reflects on her advocacy for children and education, which spans over 20 years.

OH 5922

Narrator: ABBY LEIBMAN (b. 1957)
Interviewer: Jared Otto
Date: October 28, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:15:17
Transcript: final; 37 pages
Ephemera: photograph, field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Abby Leibman, founder of the California Women's Law Center and current President and CEO of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots, activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Leibman's childhood in the San Fernando Valley; describes growing up Jewish in a small Jewish community; notes instances of anti-Semitism; discusses the importance of politics in her family; describes her parents impact on her values and political ideals; notes her frustration of that her parents limited her participation in Jewish practice; discusses her years at UCSD; describes her transition from a biology major to a social science major; notes that she decided to pursue law because she saw a career in it; describes her time at Hastings Law School; discusses the impact of Mayor Moscone and Harvey Milk's death on the law school and San Francisco community; discusses moving back home to attend UCLA law school after transferring from Hastings; notes that she wanted to work for change; describes her job with Senator Alan Sieroty; discusses her move to the Commission for Sex Equity for the L.A. School Board; describes the difficulty in advocating for women's rights; notes that this is the starting point for the rest of her advocacy career; describes how anger and victories are what keeps her motivated; discusses how Judaism influences her activism; describes the Jewish ideal of *Tikkun Olam*; discusses her co-founding of the Women's Law Center; notes that it came out of a need for a place that advocates solely for women and girls; describes the impact of her sister, Nina's, murder; notes the difficulties of becoming a single parent; discusses how she then understood what she was advocating for at the Women's Law Center; describes her move to consultant work for the sheriff's department and the Los Angeles Jewish Federation; discusses how she came to work for MAZON; describes the challenges she has faced since working at MAZON; discusses the issues she is fighting for today; notes the difficulties of Jewish based activism; describes her leadership style; reflects on what it takes to be a successful activist; notes that her greatest accomplishment was the creation of the Women's Law Center; discusses views on the presidential race of Hillary Clinton; describes what Hillary Clinton's run means for women; notes that she thinks it is important for women to be involved with politics because they bring a different view to the table; shares her thoughts of what she would say to a woman who wanted to become involved with politics and activism; reflects that her two sisters had the significant impact in her life and served as her role models.

OH 5923

Narrator: LESLIE HIATT (b. 1960)
Interviewer: Kate Tello
Date: October 27, 2016
Location: Bell Gardens, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:03:15
Transcript: partial; 12 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An interview with Leslie Hiatt, a fifth-grade teacher. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to discuss political activism in the classroom. Specifically, this interview discusses Hiatt's achievement in passing state legislation which required additional subjects in California social studies textbooks, such as Mexican Repatriation of the 1920s (repercussions of which are still noticed today); Hiatt's activism in the classroom, as well as student and community participation; recalls the 1980s grape boycott in California; discusses the role of teachers as social activists; shares thoughts on the 2016 presidential election.

OH 5924

Narrator: SHIRLEY DETTLOFF* (b. 1935)
Interviewer: Jennifer Eckert-Toler
Date: November 11, 2016
Location: Huntington Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:33:41
Transcript: partial
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An oral history of Shirley Dettloff, former city council member and mayor for Huntington Beach. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Project. The purpose of the interview was to gather information on Dettloff's political career in Huntington Beach and her contributions to local organizations. The interview goes into detail on her childhood and feeling the differences in living in a post-World War II era versus the negative sentiment surrounding the Vietnam War; a new momentum for her generation to subvert expectations; moving to Huntington Beach with her husband and three children in the early 1960s; becoming a founding member of the local League of Women Voters; doing election groundwork for state assemblymember Dennis Mangers; being appointed to local positions including the Huntington Beach Planning Commission, the Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks Commission, and the California State Coastal Commission; her work with the Amigos de Bolsa Chica as a liaison with Sacramento on preventing bills that would have developed the wetlands; talks about campaign for city council as a natural step forward; how she feels an honest candidate who can point to a difference they have made in their community and their knowledge of the electorate as the strongest; her time as mayor and treating the position as a gift so as not to short-change the constituency; considers the delegation of funds towards infrastructure and the publication of the unanimous Human Dignity Statement by the council as her greatest achievements; how she turned down higher offices to make room for the next generation; her later work for the Amigos de Bolsa Chica, Shipley Nature Center, Altamed community care clinics, and the Boys and Girls Club; talks to challenges of controlling city growth, preserving natural resources, and sustainability as balancing acts; looks as women holding the unique capability to achieve their political goals as providers for the people and how young women must continue their education and take the time to have their voice heard to continue to promote political change.

**See additional interviews for Shirley Dettloff: OH 2523 in Bolsa Chica Wetlands Collection, and OH 2596 in Huntington Beach Collection.*

OH 5925

Narrator: LETITIA CLARK (b. 1982)
Interviewer: Molly Andrews
Date: November 21, 2016
Location: Costa Mesa, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:29:11
Transcript: final; 24 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1)

Abstract:

An oral history with Letitia Clark, district director of public affairs for Coast Community College District and newly elected member of the Tustin City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Clark's life history and work in public service. Specifically, this interview details her childhood and family life in Santa Ana, California; her parents' work backgrounds; childhood aspirations; attending Xavier University of Louisiana and majoring in Political Science; childhood struggles; challenges while attending HBCU [historically black colleges and universities]; early exposure to diversity in Orange County; her family's political activism and community-based service; family values and the multitude of individuals who influenced her life; political engagement in college and what motivates her; thoughts on what it takes to be an effective elected; experiences as a legislative aid, and her time working with Emerge California, which prepared her for Tustin City Council; family support she has received while in politics; how she balances home and work life; discusses campaign for Tustin City Council and sexism; goals and challenges; unique contributions women make in politics and why it is important to have their involvement; discusses her time in New Orleans as a legislative aide and how she is most proud of her decision to stay in the city after Hurricane Katerina; reflects on the emotionally-draining experiences of Hurricane Katerina, which led her to have a greater respect for elected office; barriers that women of color face in activism and politics; personal experiences with racism during her campaign; being Democrat in a Republican-dominated county; thoughts on current U.S. politics; how her work has shaped the person she is today and what political courage means to her; advice she would give an individual running for public office; and finally, closes the interview with why she believes few women are involved in politics today, as well as her thoughts on feminism.

OH 5926

Narrator: MORAYMA DE LEON (b. 1968)
Interviewer: Joshua Martinez
Date: November 27, 2016
Location: West Covina, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:13:33
Transcript: None
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An interview with Morayma De Leon, member of IHSS (In Home Support Service). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, De Leon discusses early family history, raised by a hardworking single mother; the importance of interactions with her extended family; high school years at Roosevelt High School; the role-modeling of her mother and grandmother; details her current role of caretaker to her elderly mother; the benefits of in-home care; her involvement in IHSS, the union, and campaigns and marches in which she has participated; efforts to gain higher wages for IHSS workers; the challenges and rewards of being an in-home care worker; how in-home care worker's wages are not a livable, and do not include any benefits; discusses protests in which she has participated; how important women are as activists; differences in leadership between men and women; the impact of Hillary Clinton as presidential nominee; and finally, discusses the impact being an in-home care worker has had on her life.

OH 5927

Narrator: SHIRIN BUCKMAN and ARACELI CAMPOS
Interviewer: Jennifer Eckert-Toler
Date: November 22, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:40:16
Transcript: none
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An interview with Shirin Buckman and Araceli Campos. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Buckman and Campos discuss their roles within the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women and Girls.

OH 5928

Narrator: PAM KELLER (b. 1963)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: June 29, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:01:37
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract

An oral history with Pamela Keller, a former member of the Fullerton City Council. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project for California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Keller's involvement in local Orange County politics. Specifically, this interview details her childhood in Buena Park, Anaheim, and Fullerton, California; her father's experience in the Army and later career as a firefighter; her mother's experience raising two daughters; working as a gift wrapper at J.C. Penney; volunteering in women's guilds like Fullerton Civic Light Opera; reflections on high school, her interest in journalism, and working for the school newspaper; how she met her husband in high school; how she attended California State University, Fullerton as an undergraduate; how Maynard Duncan, her principal when she attended Rolling Hills Elementary School, later hired her as a kindergarten teacher at his school; her initial involvement in politics when she and long-time friend Sharon Quirk-Silva managed Duncan's campaign for public office; how Keller became involved with Neighbors United for Fullerton (NUFF); recollection of how Quirk-Silva became inspired to run for Fullerton City Council when she attended the Democratic Convention in San Jose, and how she asked Keller to be campaign manager; how Keller became Quirk-Silva's assistant when they arranged to have Gary Graves take over campaign management; how Keller and Quirk-Silva decided that Keller would run against Leland Wilson, with Graves as her campaign manager; reflects on her experience as a woman in Orange County politics, and what women bring to the field; how she was received by people in the community; how she faced obstacles during her term and how she dealt with them; how she knew that she was going to win the election; first days as a Fullerton City Councilmember; what it takes to be a successfully-elected councilmember; discussion of leadership style; recollections of the Chicklets, a group of political, progressive-minded women in Orange County; remembers a time when she wanted to leave city council; and finally, shares thoughts on running for office again.

OH 5929

Narrator: BEV BERRYMAN (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Andrea Takahashi-DeAntonio
Date: November 28, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:05:19
Transcript: none
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An oral history with Bev Berryman, member of the Fullerton School District Board. The purpose of this interview is to collect information regarding Berryman's political and community involvement. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, the interview focuses on Berryman's motivations for being involved in the school board, and her perspective as a woman; discusses family background; the role of her hardworking single mother; rebellious high school years with no encouragement to attend college; meeting her husband and becoming a mother; being a parent advocate—rather than an activist—since the 1980s; stresses the importance of our children's education; her role in the Orange County PTA, and being a board member since 2006; speaks about her current role as president of the Orange County PTA; recalls her participation in the state PTA and working with legislators in Sacramento; decision to run and campaign for Fullerton School Board; reasons she stood out as a candidate; discusses challenges and successes of being on the board; Recession 2008 and its effects on education; discusses her current role on the Fullerton School Board and their innovative ways of engaging students; compares leadership of men and women; reflects on Election 2016 and what Hillary Clinton's nomination meant for women in politics; and lastly, discusses her future endeavors in politics.

OH 5930

Narrator: BARBARA DUNSHEATH (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Destiny Daugherty
Date: December 1, 2016
Location: Cypress, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:04:04
Transcript: none
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract

An oral history with Barbra Dunsheath. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Dunsheath's involvement in the League of Women Voters, North Orange County chapter. Specifically, this interview discusses Dunsheath's childhood in Chicago, Illinois; educational background at Bradley University; post-college work at a high school in San Pedro, California; meeting her husband and becoming a mother; details her involvement with the League of Women Voters and the organization's various roles; comments on other organizations in which she takes part; shares personal opinion on women in politics, and why it is important they are involved; what motivates her as a professor at East Los Angeles Community College; proud accomplishments; her views on feminism; and finally, comments on why her role model is Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

OH 5931

Narrator: MARIE SALES (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Emilio Vargas
Date: October 9, 2016
Location: Tustin, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:47:06
Transcript: none
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph (1)

Abstract

An oral history of Marie Sales, mother and anti-police brutality activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Sales' involvement in anti-police brutality activism, as well as bringing awareness to the death of her son, Paul Quintanar, and numerous other victims. Specifically, the interview covers Sales' childhood and growing up in Santa Ana, California; being the only girl among male siblings; her family's Navajo heritage; how she always had the inclination to help people in need; reflects on the death of her son and the aftermath; shares how she and her family were deeply affected by the incident, and how the police constantly targeted her family; describes how she became an activist; talks about the various organizations in which she is involved, including the Young Survivors Legacy Network; provides her views on the relationship between police and community; reflects on what feminism means to her; and finally, the current political climate in the United States.

OH 5932

Narrator: KIM TABARI
Interviewer: Victoria Ford
Date: June 13, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:04:59
Transcript: verbatim; 24 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Kim Tabari, student affairs professional, mother, activist, and immigrant of Guyanese descent. This interview was conducted as part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Tabari's involvement with Black Lives Matter, particularly the Long Beach chapter. Specifically, this interview discusses Tabari's experience of growing up in Guyana and immigrating to New York City at the age of fourteen; how living in New York changed her understanding of race relations; first forays into activism while a student at community college; how she became involved in Black Lives Matter and various participatory events; her work in coordinating "healing justice" events for BLM Long Beach, which encourage direct action and social change; her role in BLM as a woman and mother; how models of activism may change under Donald Trump's presidency; and finally, how her activism has affected her life and personal growth.

OH 5933

Narrator: MARCIA HERMAN (b. 1939)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: September 13, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:08:11
Transcript: final; 33 pages
Ephemera: Photograph (1); Material Documents (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Marcia Herman, cofounder of the Women's Political Committee. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect Herman's life history and details about the Women's Political Committee. Specifically, this interview details Herman's family life and childhood growing up in Kansas City, Missouri; her mother's involvement with the mentally challenged community; higher education at the University of Colorado and San Francisco, and her parent's response; how she met her husband; childhood aspirations, and decision to move out to California and get a degree in rehabilitation counseling; her work with the California Department of Rehabilitation; her husband's work as a radiologist, his Army service and their time abroad; the issues of sexual assault, chain of command, and the Army; recalls the Kent State shootings and her reactions and political awakening; moving back to Los Angeles and her initial involvement with Common Cause; her friendship and experiences helping Catherine "Cathy" O'Neill run for office in the eighties; her involvement with Women For: and eventual decision to leave; origins of the Women's Political Committee in 1977 and their mission; supporting Yvonne Brathwaite Burke in the late seventies; growing up as a feminist and the gender roles she experienced; discusses the dynamics, early years, and current membership of the Women's Political Committee; the organization's support of women candidates at the local and national level, as well as fundraising; the organization's biggest challenges; how the organization has changed since its founding; her thoughts on Hillary Clinton and how the elective process has changed since 1977; differences between Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, and Donald Trump; future goals of the Women's Political Committee; why she thinks there are still few women in elected office; thoughts on feminism; the differences in leadership between women and men; ends the interview with the importance of women in politics and what she is most proud of in her life.

OH 5934

Narrator: SHARON GILPIN (b. 1951)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: September 16, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:21:03
Transcript: final; 35 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history with Sharon Gilpin, a community activist and founder of The Gilpin Group. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect Gilpin's life history and details on her political involvement. Specifically, this interview details Gilpin's family life and childhood growing up in the outskirts of Los Angeles; her parents' work and education history; her teenage years in the seventies, sexism she faced at work, and her decision to attend California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and the University of Southern California; early courtship and college romance; experiences being the daughter of a police officer; recalls the Watts Riots; talks about how politics were discussed in her home and her parent's Republican status; shares her role models; her political engagement and aspirations during college; her involvement and experiences with saving the Santa Monica Pier from demolition in the early seventies; local advocacy in Santa Monica against development, the Rouse Company and Santa Monica Place; her foray into local politics and organizing campaigns; discusses the slow growth initiative for Santa Monica, which she authored in the early nineties; opinion on rent control in Santa Monica; the minor work she did to help create the Coastal Commission; her extensive involvement with Proposition S, and what victory meant for the future of Santa Monica and its beach overlay zone; the challenges Proposition S faced and how she is most proud of this campaign; her experiences being a woman in this field; the importance of women in politics; the way she leads her campaigns; what she looks for in candidates; her decision to run for Santa Monica City Council in 1990, her campaign platform, and subsequent loss; why she believes there are still few women in office; the differences between men and women's leadership; her thoughts on feminism; her thoughts on Hillary Clinton and the 2016 Election; how her work has shaped the person she is today; the changes in politics and women's involvement throughout the years; closes the interview with what she is most proud of in her professional and personal life.

OH 5935

Narrator: VIVIAN PRICE (b. 1949)
Interviewers: Abby Waldrop
Date: September 27, 2016
Location: Dominguez Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:05:23
Transcript: final; 14 pages
Ephemera: Photograph, field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Vivian Price, former electrician, union organizer, women in trades organizer, and current professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at California State University, Dominguez Hills. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding women in grassroots and activist movements in Southern California. Specifically, this interview talks about Price's childhood in Ohio; describes moving to New York; talks about the impact of her teachers; describes being surrounded by many different friends of different backgrounds and how this influenced her thinking; mentions the role of social justice in her home; discusses her educational background; recalls her involvement in helping the Palestinian community; explains the difficulty in finding work in academia, and notes this is why she took her first factory job; remembers being fired from many jobs because she was a woman in a traditionally male-dominated field; discusses her initial involvement with the electrician trade; talks about moving from job to job; shares her involvement in creating Electric Women, a support group for women in the trade; recalls going back to school for her PhD; details gender discrimination and mistreatment while working as an electrician; mentions the benefits of unions; reveals what she is most proud of during her time in the electrical trade; speaks about her involvement in the Women's Employment Project; shares why she thinks it is important for women to be involved in non-traditional trades; discusses her leadership style; reflects on the impact Hillary Clinton's possible presidential election will have on women; notes that she is most proud of the documentary films she has made since becoming a professor; and finally, shares her pride in being an "out" lesbian in academia.

OH 5936

Narrator: PEG YORKIN
Interviewers: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: September 27, 2016
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:00:14
Transcript: final; 14 pages
Ephemera: Photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Peg Yorkin, cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to learn about Yorkin's life leading up to her philanthropic endeavors, particularly providing the financial foundation upon which the Feminist Majority Foundation was established. Specifically this interview discusses Yorkin's childhood and family life in New York City; memories of parents and the challenges of having an alcoholic father; early education and above-average intelligence; attending college at Barnard during World War II; developing a desire to act and joining the Neighborhood Playhouse drama school; tells story of how her hand earned the 'turning-the-page' role on "Let's Pretend" children's television show; meeting her first husband at summer stock, but the marriage not lasting more than two years; relocating to Los Angeles, California, and working at Bullock's Department Store; meeting second husband, Bud Yorkin, a television producer and director; starting a family and moving to Encino, California, as Bud earned acclaimed success; the challenges of being a stay-at-home mother during the 1950s and need more stimulation; getting involved with SHARE [Share Happily And Reap Endlessly], a women's philanthropic organization consisting mainly of Hollywood wives; her role producing for the Pilgrimage Theater and the L.A. Free Shakespeare Festival; running a Bingo game and raising thousands of dollars for charity; writing her book *Bingo for Profit for the Non-Profit World*; advocating how names of women in SHARE did not have to include their husbands' name; becoming active as a feminist during the Equal Rights Amendment; meeting Ellie Smeal and early discussions of forming Feminist Majority Foundation; divorce from Bud Yorkin; and finally, how meeting Roz Wyman (Los Angeles City Council) helped her get more involved as a feminist and activist.

OH 5937

Narrator: CAROLINE CAVECCHIE (b. 1960)
Interviewer: Skye Gomez
Date: October 11, 2016
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:14:00
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Caroline Cavecche, longtime resident of Orange, California, and former mayor. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview covers Cavecche's early childhood in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Irvine, California; briefly discusses her parents' work history and grandmother's involvement in Republican politics; talks about childhood aspirations; discusses close relationship to her grandmother and acquired family values; remembers attending Cal State Long Beach and earning a degree in Microbiology; recalls how she met her husband and starting a family in Orange; discusses her start in public affairs and helping the City of Orange write an ordinance regarding displaying matter harmful to minors; speaks about early involvement with the City of Orange, ranging from the Cable Video Advisory Board to the Library Board of Trustees; explains in detail how she campaigned and won a special election—and subsequent reelection—to become the second woman on the Orange City Council; discusses how she balanced home and work life; shares memories of election night and serving as mayor of Orange; recalls guiding Orange through the Great Recession of 2007-2008; describes relationship with other women on the council; speaks about the differences in female and male leadership; explains why she decided to leave city council; discusses in detail what she is most proud of while on city council; talks about experiences on the Orange County Transportation Authority; discusses her current position at OC Taxpayers Association; briefly talks about contributions and importance of women in politics; gives advice to those wanting to be involved in public affairs; provides her thoughts on feminism; talks about the current state of politics in America, and the effects of social media on elections; reflects on how politics shaped the person she is today; closes with final remarks regarding the importance of community and making personal successes.

OH 5938.1

Narrator: BONNIE LOWENTHAL
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: November 4, 2016
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 1:01:12
Transcript: final; 16 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Bonnie Lowenthal, former member of the Long Beach City Council and California State Assembly. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to document Lowenthal's community and political involvement. Specifically, Lowenthal's childhood and family life in Long Island, New York; her parents' immigrant background; how her father became a clothing manufacturer and her mother a department store buyer; describes her early concern for the poor and gravitation toward social work; mentions her family's Jewish and political background; talks about how she found role models in women in education, such as her older sisters, and later the principal of her children's school; details her educational background, various jobs, experience in the mental health field, and meeting ex-husband, Congressman Alan Lowenthal; discusses her involvement with the Long Beach school system, ending segregation, and outreach to the Latino community; recounts her work with Long Beach Area Citizens Involved and tackling issues such as district elections and policing; details her work on the Long Beach City Council, including dealing with crime, adding more land for parks, redistricting the port, housing and pollution issues, creating a code of ethics, establishing a mental health coordinator, encouraging green building, and cold ironing for powering ships at the port; talks about working with other women in Long Beach; and finally, mentions her work with women and families, and local historic preservation.

O.H. 5938.2

Narrator: BONNIE LOWENTHAL
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: February 27, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:12:19
Transcript: final; 19 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Bonnie Lowenthal, former member of the Long Beach City Council and California State Assembly. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to document Lowenthal's work in the California state legislature and her approach to various issues. Specifically, her involvement with public schools and her sons' education; mentions her adult sons' current positions in business and politics; discusses running for California state legislature and support she received; reflects on outreach to the communities of San Pedro and Palos Verdes; describes the political climate of the 2008 financial crisis; mentions attending President Obama's election; recalls the support from her former husband, Congressman Alan Lowenthal, as well as her staff; lists a number of legislative successes, including extending the 91 Freeway toll road, providing food stamps for youth, programs for the elderly, creating whistleblower protection, removing anti-gay language from the California Code, establishing San Francisco's Transgender Law Center, creating the Home Services Consumer Protection Act, enforcing requirements for write-in judge candidates, requiring underground service centers to keep track and post data on digging, making cargo ships record ballast water treatment, ensuring chiropractors were paid by workers' comp, requiring temp workers' paychecks to show detailed amounts, granting judges discretion for first-time misdemeanants, and finally, ensuring administered medication to the mentally ill awaiting trial; discusses her work with the Women's Caucus; recalls achieving measures that required airports to have breastfeeding rooms; emphasizes the importance of working with colleagues in the legislature; details her unsuccessful run for mayor of Long Beach; recounts her motivation to improve people's wellbeing, and her involvement with several other organizations to do so; explains the importance of women having their voices heard; recalls outcome of 2016 presidential election; emphasizes the importance of family, as well as fighting for values; and concludes with how she learned how she can make a difference.

OH 5939

Narrator: ANGELINA VEYNA (b. 1953)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: August 26, 2016
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:35:53
Transcript: final; 41 pages
Ephemera: Photograph; field notes

Abstract

An oral history of Angelina Veyna, professor of history at Santa Ana College, and the first Chicana to be hired by the History Department. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding her experience working in a college setting and her involvement in education. Specifically, this interview provides information on Veyna's childhood growing up in a community of Mexican immigrant field workers in Anaheim; explains family background in the United States, dating back over one-hundred years; remembers helping teachers at her school translate information to new students who did not speak English; describes her mother and father's leadership role among Mexican workers; talks about her college experience at UCI and her quest to be independent; describes studying abroad in Mexico as one of the most important experiences of her life; details her experience in Mexico and explains the complexities of the country's views on race, identity, and skin color; discusses the Chicana/o Movement and its role in the 1960s, as well as how student movements have changed over time; elaborates on the books she has written and co-authored; describes relationship with her students and teaching methods; explains her experience working with undocumented students and their struggles in the classroom; discusses her struggles as a woman and Chicana professor; explains hostility experienced in her department; believes her legacy will be writing about the history of Mexicanos in Anaheim, her dad's autobiography, and the story of the women's group in Anaheim; explains that socioeconomic challenges are the number one factor affecting students; believes there is a lack of Latino leaders in the U.S. addressing the aggressive rhetoric exposed in today's politics and media; describes and explains why even though she is an American, she is proud to be a Mexicana.

OH 5940

Narrator: ANNE MARIE RANDLE-TREJO (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: September 2, 2016
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:00:28
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2); field notes

Abstract

An oral history of Anne Marie Randle-Trejo, Anaheim Union High School District Board of Trustees member, and instructional assistant and behavior interventionist at the Anaheim City School District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Randle-Trejo's work as Anaheim School Trustee, as well as her experience running for office, and her views on women's leadership roles.

Specifically, this interview addresses Randle-Trejo's childhood, growing up in a large family that loved the outdoors; explains her love for music and how music and singing helped her discover the world; recalls sister's involvement in antiwar protests and the impact her activism had on her; reflects on biracial identity (African American father and Caucasian mother); discusses how anti-miscegenation laws—set prior to 1967 by the Supreme Court of the United States—did not allow her parents to get married; describes the day she experienced racism for the first time at her school; explains conversation with mother about “being different” and how she dealt with it as a teenager; describes reasons her father did not discuss race with her; discusses how race and racism affected different aspects of her life growing up; how she wished she had been encouraged to go to college; discusses events that led her to become an active PTA member and president at her son's school; recalls running for office and losing elections; explains the downside of running for office; recalls how she ran a hard campaign against a male candidate in order to get into office; discusses how raising money is a major setback in campaigning; remembers a difficult campaign in 2014, in which she faced three male opponents; explains what she enjoys most about running campaigns; shares views on political endorsements; talks about hiring Superintendent Michael Matsuda as one of her greatest accomplishments; reflects on how her background prepared her to take office; discusses views on California Common Core; provides insight on how men and women lead; describes her work in the classroom with special needs students; shares how she balances her political career and life at home; discusses personal views on feminism, current American politics, and Election 2016; and finally, offers candid advice to young women who want to get involved in politics.

OH 5950

Narrator: SHAMELL BELL (b. 1984)
Interviewer: Carie Rael
Date: November 18, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:00:44
Transcript: final; 30 pages
Ephemera: field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Shamell Bell, cofounder of Black Lives Matter, Los Angeles Chapter [BLM-LA]. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview addresses Bell's family history, including mother's early childhood in Mississippi, her own childhood in South Los Angeles and Inglewood; briefly mentions performing in music videos and beauty pageants; recalls moving to Georgia briefly, where she discovered and understood issues of race and class; compares experiences of racism in Los Angeles and Georgia; details economic and structural racism in Los Angeles and uses her early education as an example; discusses her early relationship with the entertainment industry; talks about high school years, path towards college, and attending Spelman College and facing discrimination; explains personal health challenges, including three times she almost died; talks about her relationship with Dr. Melina Abdullah and the impact of planning the Justice for Trayvon Martin March in Los Angeles; discusses her original role at meetings for BLM-LA and meeting [Trayvon Martin's mother] Sybrina Fulton at the Justice or Else March; explains community organizing after the George Zimmerman verdict and the subsequent Trayvon Martin walk; expresses importance of sharing the stories of founding members of BLM-LA; further discusses her early life and survival mode, her relationship with her mother, and growing up with families outside of her immediate; forming relationships with other women of BLM-LA; addresses the internal division in BLM; challenges of social media; talks in depth about dance activism, and cites recent examples from Occupy LAPD and Occupy LA Mayor; shares family's response to her activism; recalls a story involving her son and his understanding of race, class, and the prison system; provides advice to individuals wanting to get involved in activism; states she is most proud of her son; explains the importance of letting individuals tell their stories; and finally, recalls how Dr. Robin D.G. Kelley became her mentor and assisted with her educational journey.

OH 5951

Narrator: BEVERLY VORAN (b. 1945)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: November, 30, 2016
Location: Cathedral City, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:52:24
Transcript: Final; 30 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history with Beverly Voran, political activist, self-proclaimed feminist, and active supporter of the ongoing fight against domestic violence. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Project headed by California State University, Fullerton. Specifically, this interview details Voran's upbringing on a farm in Kansas and her family dynamic as a youth; her educational background in microbiology and psychology; involvement with the Antiwar Movement and the Civil Rights Movement, including her collegiate experience working on a leftist underground newspaper for Civil Rights; the formation of the Southern California Coalition on Battered Women; the relationship between Voran and the former Los Angeles City Councilwoman Pat Russell; the early days and development of women's shelters in the Los Angeles area; her efforts to gain legislation and funding in Washington D.C., which came to fruition with the opening of an Office of Domestic Violence in the White House and the passing of the Domestic Violence Protection Act; her work as executive director of Rosasharon, the first federally-funded women's shelter in Los Angeles; the importance of female involvement in politics as a means to take control of their own lives; and finally, her overarching goal of empowering women by whatever means possible.

OH 5952

Narrator: KELLY COOPER
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: December 2, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 01:22:51
Transcript: final; 27 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Kelly Cooper, first female member of Los Angeles Local 11, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), and current director of the General Services Department of Construction for the city of Los Angeles. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview discusses Cooper's early childhood in Australia, world travels, and how she settled in Los Angeles, California; talks about her involvement with the Women's Movement during the 1970s; discusses attending Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC) and her initial interest in electrical construction and maintenance; further explains why she decided to stay rooted in Los Angeles; talks about her experiences entering a male-dominated trade; discusses working her way up through the ranks as an electrician and joining IBEW; the benefits of joining a union; discusses the evolving nature of sexual harassment in the workplace; how she balanced her home and work life; reflects on the gender imbalance of women in the trades; talks about her daughter's involvement in IBEW and shares advice to woman going into the field; reflects on her greatest professional and personal accomplishments; briefly discusses earning her college degree; talks about her current job role; reflects on how women and men lead in the workplace and at-large; discusses current leadership in contemporary American politics; shares thoughts on the Electoral College and Hillary Clinton's impact on women in politics; briefly mentions her thoughts on feminism and why she believes there are so few women in male-dominated professions and politics; and finally, shares what she is most proud of in her life.

OH 5953

Narrator: CHERYL PARISI (b. 1954)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: November 29, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 1:59:59
Transcript: edited; 52 pages
Ephemera photographs (11)

Abstract:

An oral history with Cheryl Parisi, former executive director of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees [AFSCME] union, Local 36 in Los Angeles, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Parisi's activism with AFSCME. Specifically, her grandparents' Italian immigrant background and work in the wholesale citrus market; talks about her religious background and the influence of Catholic high school; mentions father's participation in World War II; details the industrial environment in Southeast Los Angeles; discusses getting politically involved at UC Santa Cruz in 1972; details her grandmother's success as a woman worker in the garment industry; talks about leaving graduate school to take care of her father; describes her work with the Clerical and Allied Services Employees [CASE] union, when they sought a pay increase; recounts her work with AFSCME, campaigning for a pay raise, pay equity for female-dominated jobs, such as clerics and librarians, and leading contract negotiations; expresses her pride in the success of improving people's lives; emphasizes the importance of stories from women union members; details the effort to obtain paid family leave; recalls the development of childcare centers, as well as the defunding of those services by L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; describes working with other organizations for worker's comp and fighting layoffs, as well as working within the local community; discusses involvement with the Coalition of Labor Union Women [CLUW], and her relationships with other women activists; recounts how women's involvement changed the culture of the labor movement; addresses how the election of Donald Trump presents an existential threat to the U.S. labor movement, and details the various issues facing the country's working class; explains how listening is crucial to being an effective labor organizer; describes her leadership style as inclusive; points to her desire to lift people up as her motivation for activism; considers herself a trade unionist first, then a feminist, but explains that the two cannot be separated; recounts meeting her husband; recalls the struggle of raising kids while organizing the labor movement; highlights that same challenge for women who seek elected office; discusses the importance of having women involved in politics, as well as unions, to provide perspective and advocacy on issues, to have their voices heard and represented; expresses admiration for Hillary Clinton; communicates her joy in working with something she truly cares about, and her ability to create real change; and finally, reiterates how the fight is ongoing.

OH 5954

Narrator: CONSTANCE DESTITO (b. 1948)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: November 30, 2016
Location: Alhambra, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:46:41
Transcript: final; 43 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Constance “Connie” Destito, former Associate Dean of the School of Cultural and Family Psychology at Pacific Oaks College. She is also the Cofounder of the East Los Angeles Rape Hotline, known today as the East Los Angeles Women’s Center (ELAWC), the first bilingual sexual assault hotline in the state of California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview covers Destito’s family history; early childhood in Lincoln Heights, Los Angeles; reflects on the lasting impact of women in her family; understanding gender roles; discusses early education and mentors during teenage years; talks about the challenges of being a young mother, attending California State University, Los Angeles, and finding her identity; her student activism and involvement with the Chicano Movement; further discusses gender roles and her father’s traditional upbringing; reflects on standing up for others and questioning authority; talks about how she met her husband, early years of courtship, and her children; goes into a detailed reflection of the Chicana experience and her “developmental stages” during the Chicano Movement; her decision to start self-defining as a Chicana; goes into detail on how and why she pursued a career in social work and mental health and became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker; the origins of the ELWAC and the women who also co-founded the organization; discusses the ELWAC’s early construction, ideologies, and what she learned throughout the process; talks about her time and work at the Pacific Oaks College and the development of the Marriage and Family Therapy Department; talks about multigenerational trauma and immigrants; discusses her teaching style and student experiences; the challenges Latino and Latina students face in education; the hardships of undocumented students; the gender diversity and gender discrimination at Pacific Oaks College; her advice for what it takes to be an effective educator and the unique experiences women teachers play; balancing her home and work life throughout the years; thoughts and definition of feminism; discusses her retirement; her thoughts on current American politics; she closes with what she is most proud of in her work and personal life.

OH 5955

Narrator: BETSY BUTLER (b. 1963)
Interviewer: Scherly Virgill
Date: December, 17, 2016
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:28:40
Transcript: Final; 25 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

An oral history with Betsy Butler, a California native and politician dedicated to public service. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Butler's involvement in politics and public service. Specifically, this interview details her youthful experience, growing up in a politically conscious family; her education at San Diego State University and the mentorship she received that led her to her current career; personal experiences with sexism in politics; working with the California League of Conservation Voters; her campaign and election to the California State Assembly; serving as President Clinton's appointee to the International Trade Administration; legislation that Butler passed, which addressed the needs of veterans, the environment, and seniors; her thoughts on feminism, the importance of women empowering women, and the current state of politics in the United States.

OH 5956.1

Narrator: DR. MILDRED GARCIA
Interviewer: Margie Brown-Coronel
Date: July 12, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital; video
Length: 00:46:06
Transcript: final; 18 pages
Ephemera photographs (5)

Abstract:

An oral history with Mildred Garcia, current president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), and former president of California State University Fullerton. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project for the California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Garcia has also had an extensive career with teaching and leading various colleges and universities. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history and details of her work and experiences in education. Specifically, this interview details her family life and childhood growing up in Brooklyn, New York in the 1950s; her parent's move from Puerto Rico to Brooklyn and their brief work and life histories; recalls her neighborhood dynamics; her early educational experiences with desegregation and attending integrated schools in Brooklyn Heights; the gender roles she experienced within her home; her parent's involvement with the community; shares losing her father at a young age, how her mother and family coped, and moving to housing projects after; discusses the importance of education, and her decision to attend New York City Community College and major in business education; talks about the multicultural environment she grew up in; the challenges she faced; recalls the neighborhood differences once she moved to the projects; her relationship with her mother and their learned collaborate nature; her high school experiences and determination to pursue higher education; recalls the cultural awakening she had while in college learning about Puerto Rican history, the support she received from her professors and the extracurricular activities she pursued; the support she received from her family while in college; recalls her first visit to Puerto Rico and how that impacted her; her issues with cultural identity and how that shaped her desire to help low-income, first generation students of color; shares her first teaching experiences at a Catholic high school and the friendships she made; her transition to teaching at La Guardia Community College; closes the interview with explaining how she views New York as her home and found her identity as a Nuyorican.

OH 5956.2

Narrator: DR. MILDRED GARCIA
Interviewer: Margie Brown-Coronel
Date: December 15, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 00:53:17
Transcript: final; 17 pages
Ephemera Photographs (5)

Abstract:

An oral history with Mildred Garcia, current president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), and former president of California State University Fullerton (CSUF). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history and details of her work and experiences in education. Specifically, this interview details her graduate career and experiences at New York University in business education and higher ed; her research with underrepresented college students; her work as a teacher at La Guardia Community College; her family's response to her work and education; her experiences as an executive assistant to the president as well as becoming the youngest dean of students at Hostos Community College in the South Bronx; recalls some of the challenges she faced such as racial and sexual discrimination during her time at Hostos; her decision to attend night classes at Columbia University for her doctorate and the advisor support she received; challenges she faced as a Latina in graduate school; further details her academic research on underrepresented college students, graduation rates, and support services; her path towards administration and leading in higher education; her time and experience as president of Arizona State University (ASU) and participating in the Harvard Program; details her defining moments between her work at Hostos and ASU; details the challenges she faced at the multiple institutions she studied and worked at and the support she received from mentors and her education; her work at Montclair State University and her transition to ASU and culture shock ASU; describes her leadership style as collaborative; her thoughts on the unique contributions she brings to the table as a Latina; what gives her the strength to keep going; briefly talks about feminism; explains the pushback she has received for her efforts to improve equality for all; discusses her time being president of California State University, Dominguez Hills; explains her move back to New York after ASU and her work at Berkeley College as the first system-wide president; focuses on her time at California State University, Fullerton as president and the challenges she has faced; shares her accomplishments from CSUF; her thoughts on being the first Latina president of a major public university in the public system; share her dreams of students having equitable access to academic programs; gives advice to individuals wanting to become future leaders; her learning experiences at CSUF; discusses her future work and goals when she becomes president of the AASCU; discusses Milo Yiannopoulos' visit to CSUF; closes the interview with what she will miss most about CSUF.

OH 5957

Narrator: YVETTE MCFRAZIER (1951 - 2017)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: May 11, 2017
Location: Rancho Cucamonga, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital
Length: 02:48:08
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: photograph (1); clippings on Pat Russell

Abstract:

An oral history with Yvette McFrazier, former council aide to former Los Angeles city councilwoman Pat Russell. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding McFrazier's work in city hall and experiences in local politics. Specifically, this interview discusses McFrazier's youth growing up in South Los Angeles; graduation from high school and immediately going to work for the City of Los Angeles; how she excelled at typing and landed a job as a clerk stenographer and typist; recalls working at the Office of Urban Development and Neighborhood Youth Corps, seeing the social struggles of black and Latino Americans firsthand; remembers transitioning to Councilwoman Russell's office in city hall as a senior clerk stenographer and promoting her way up to council aide; talks about her pregnancy and Russell's enthusiastic support; shares fond memories of political interactions in Russell's city hall office, including with Mayor Tom Bradley and Governor Jerry Brown; discusses Russell's priorities for her council district; earning Russell's trust and how she worked in all of her district offices at one point; speaks about becoming a single-mom, buying her first home, and supporting her son all on her own; remembers Russell's election loss to Ruth Galanter and the aftereffects; shares what she learned from Russell; and finally, reflects on the leadership differences between men and women. Election 2016, feminism, why it's important for women to be involved, and why she has always been an independent and strong woman.

OH 5958

Narrator: CELESTINE PALMER
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: February 7, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:38:55
Transcript: final; 26 pages
Ephemera Field notes, clippings

Abstract:

An oral history with Celestine Palmer, founder of the Los Angeles African American Women's Political Action Committee [LAAAWPAC] and Los Angeles African American Women's Public Policy Institute [LAAAWPPI]. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Palmer's activism in the African American community and her support of women in politics. Specifically, she addresses her childhood and family life in Texas before moving to California, her parents' jobs and their interaction to racism, and her exposure to racism in high school; discusses how her parents encouraged her education, and lists her educational background; recounts her exposure to politics in her father's barbershop, and his community activism; details her engagement with the Civil Rights Movement, and the start of her participation in politics, helping in campaigns and elections; recalls her motivation to start LAAAWPAC, to help find and support African American women to run for elected office; describes the racism encountered in the public school system, and her experiences teaching in Watts; details her work as a counselor on school attendance; recounts and how she formed the Youth Action League to teach about government; expresses concern over the cuts to public education; details how LAAAWPAC was formed, how funds were raised, and lists several candidates it has supported; mentions other organization she was worked with; discusses the creation of the public policy institute, and successes it has had educating and supporting women; addresses the continued inequality of women participating in politics; talks about how she incorporated her kids into activism; emphasizes the importance of being passionate about an issue; describes her leadership as empowering others; discusses the effect of being caregivers on women leaders, and their focus on results; encourages young women to get involved; talks about the importance of her religious background; details the significance of Hillary Clinton's campaign, and her reaction to her loss; stresses the importance of organizing; and expresses her pride in doing all that she can to get more women involved.

OH 5959

Narrator: LOLA SMALLWOOD-CUEVAS
Interviewer: Kourtney Victoria Ford
Date: February 7, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:54:38
Transcript: Verbatim; 49 pages
Ephemera: field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, labor organizer and cofounder of the Black Workers Center in Los Angeles. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Smallwood-Cuevas' involvement with the Black Lives Matter movement. Specifically, this interview details her childhood growing up with a single mother in Newark, New Jersey, and Oakland, California; talks about her bond with extended family and time spent with them while living in Little Washington, North Carolina; discusses her activism and experiences while majoring in Journalism at Cal State University, East Bay, as well as her transition to Long Beach, California; her subsequent involvement with newspaper unions; talks about organizing black security guards in South Los Angeles; explains cofounding the Black Workers Center and serving as its director; describes involvement with Black Lives Matter; and finally, reflects on her activism, motherhood, and the importance of women as leaders in movements.

OH 5960

Narrator: LEANORE SALTZ
Interviewer: Jared Otto
Date: February 17, 2017
Location: Beverly Hills, California.
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:32:24
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes

Abstract:

An interview with Leanore Saltz, retired educator, advocate, and member of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Saltz' experience teaching in the Los Angeles Unified School District and working as an advocate for teen health and wellness. Specifically, this interview details Saltz' childhood and upbringing in Boyle Heights, California, as the daughter of activist parents; discusses family's migration from Eastern Europe to America; the ceaseless and selfless work of her mother, both professionally and philanthropically; observing the tireless work ethic of her parents; the death of her father when she was thirteen and its affect; the role of Judaism in her childhood and within her mother's activism; fond memories recalling the wide ethnic diversity of Boyle Heights and Roosevelt High School—which led to her continued support of public school education; the lack of gender opportunities at the time, which led her to pursue education; college years at UCLA and how she refused to join any organizations out of rebellion against her mother's influence; feeling academically unprepared and learning how to be an effective student while attending UCLA; recalls first teaching job at an elementary school in Beverly Hills, California; meeting her husband, starting a family, but soon realizing the marriage had irreparable challenges; realizing that teachers have such an impactful role, one that extends well beyond the classroom; how this realization led her to advocacy for teen wellness, family planning, and drug prevention; earning her credential in secondary education and foraying into high school education at Fairfax High School in Los Angeles, California; earning her certificate in drug and alcohol counseling; starting a pilot program geared towards teens and substance abuse prevention, which was implemented throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District; joining the NCJW after they helped her find proper care for her daughter, and how she soon became their Vice President of Advocacy; mentions divorce and remarriage; how her role in the NCJW led to more work in the community and advocacy for reproductive rights; her exposure to the issue of human trafficking and how she wanted to promote awareness; current participation in the Friends of the Beverly Hills Library organization; compares the current generation with her own in terms of activist participation and method; discusses her leadership style; what it takes to be an effective activist, why it's important for women to be involved, and the unique contributions they bring; discusses her passion for reproductive rights and how it drives her advocacy; differences in how men and women lead; how she identifies as a feminist; Election 2016 and the historical affect of Hillary Clinton's candidacy; and finally, provides advice for women in activism, and shares how it pains her to see people taking no action.

OH 5961

Narrator: JACKIE GOLDBERG
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: February 16, 2016
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 2:49:48
Transcript: final; 55 pages
Ephemera photographs (6)

Abstract:

An oral history with Jackie Goldberg, former member of the California State Assembly, Los Angeles School Board, and Los Angeles City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Goldberg's history in activism and politics. Specifically, she discusses her parents' lives in Los Angeles, and family background as Jewish immigrants; talks about growing up in Inglewood, the racism she encountered; mentions family's involvement in the Jewish community; recounts losing her faith; details high school experience and exposure to politics; recalls early activism against racism; details involvement with Women Strike for Peace and SLATE, while demonstrating at UC Berkeley; recounts activism with the Ad Hoc Committee Against Discrimination, including her first arrest; recalls Delta Phi Epsilon sorority life; mentions participation in Berkeley's Free Speech Movement and third arrest; describes process of becoming a feminist; details participation in the Women's International Democratic Federation in 1963, and exposure to anti-American sentiment while at the World Congress of Women in Moscow; recounts how McCarthyism made it difficult to apply to the University of Chicago, and details her protests there against the Vietnam War; recalls difficulty finding work as a teacher in Chicago, and efforts to tackle racism in schools; mentions similar experiences trying to teach in Los Angeles, ultimately teaching happily in Compton for twenty-one years; details activism in Echo Park/Silver Lake community; recounts meeting partner Sharon while working for school integration, and her growing identity as a lesbian; discusses successful run for the Los Angeles School Board; mentions development of a peace curriculum, and an AIDS policy; recalls leaving office; describes work with Gloria Molina; talks about financial and family difficulties while in office; details run for city council and being outed as gay; lists her accomplishments on the council, working with other women, and dealing with the issues faced by women firefighters and police; recounts effort to develop the domestic partner registry and impact; expresses how women politicians are generally less prideful than men and more willing to cooperate; discusses insistence on tackling issues that no one else would; recalls run for the State Assembly; describes difficulties facing women in politics; reflects on Election 2016; and finally, expresses pride in her work to improve people's lives and education.

OH 5962

Narrator: MARILEE GOLDMAN
Interviewer: Jared Otto
Date: March 18, 2017
Location: Beverly Hills, California.
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:18:59
Transcript: edited
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; campaign pamphlet and pin

Abstract:

An interview with Marilee Goldman, former mayor and member of the Beverly Hills City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to compile information surrounding Mrs. Goldman's political career as a former member of the Beverly Hills City Council and as a former mayor. Specifically, this interview discusses and includes various stories of Mrs. Goldman's childhood and family life in Chicago, Illinois; discusses her parents' involvement in community projects, education, and culture; discusses Goldman's educational background, including the difficulty of her mother allowing her daughter to attend Stanford; discusses the difficulty of finding a job in Chicago after graduating from Stanford; recounts stories of some of her first city planning jobs in Sunnyvale, CA, Los Angeles, CA County, and for another planning firm in the 1950; discusses why she became a freelance design consultant in 1958; discusses the story of her 2 year old daughter dying from cancer and how she started her a foundation to fund a cancer treatment center in Los Angeles; discusses the history of her first business, Rainbow Design, and its intention to benefit cancer research and sell fun products to kids; includes an anecdote regarding how a dispute with city officials over the building color of Rainbow Design led Mrs. Goldman to become involved with politics; discusses how the Mayor of Beverly Hills supported Goldman's political initiative and asked her to serve on the city's Architectural Commission; discusses how during her ten year service in the Architectural Commission she helped turn the image of the commission into less of an adversary and into a more public outreach organization; discusses her ten year service on the Beverly Hills Planning Commission and her work to curb the construction of monster mansions; discusses her 1979 city council campaign process, reasons for running, and victory; discusses some of her proudest achievements as Mayor of Beverly Hills, including: starting a water treatment plant for the city during her second term, the success and national attention of her Millennium/Beverly Hills Forum, and Team Beverly Hills initiative during her both her terms as Mayor; discusses how President Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton supported her Millennium program and started a National Millennium Initiative as a result; discusses her strong beliefs for both male and especially female politicians to respect and understand the community, the staff, and the job - not placing personal egos above the city; discusses the importance of team work; discusses her 3rd mayoral campaign and her reasons for not taking her opponent to trial for illegally registering additional voters who lived outside Beverly Hills; includes instances where she refused to break her community ethics and morals to support bad council members and chairmen who were self-centered; discusses her views on how both men and especially women should lead and become a better leader; discusses her perspectives on the 2016 U.S. presidential election, as well as her views on both former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and current President Donald Trump; discusses how women should start becoming involved in politics; discusses her daughter's path towards working for National Geographic; and discusses her first introduction to bad government officiating while working in Menlo Park, CA.

OH 5963.1

Narrator: KATHERINE SPILLAR and PEG YORKIN
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 26, 2017
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:16:31
Transcript: final; 29 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Kathy Spillar and Peg Yorkin, cofounders of the Feminist Majority Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Project. This interview discusses Spillar and Yorkin's role in establishing the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF) and their opinions on socially-relevant issues. Specifically, this interview covers how the Feminist Majority Foundation formed in the early 1980s; how they were different from the National Organization for Women (NOW), but similar in wanting growth and progress for women; strategic establishment of different office locations; settling on the name Feminist Majority Foundation; early goals of the organization, particularly the feminization of power and how to get more women into elected office; the defense of reproductive clinics; combating the blockades of Operation Rescue; the assassination of Dr. George Tiller; how FMF produced groundbreaking television segments on abortion; their attempts to demystify early abortion; erecting a temporary memorial in Washington DC for women who died from back alley abortions; and their role in bringing RU-486 to the United States and pressuring the FDA for approval.

OH 5963.2

Narrator: KATHERINE SPILLAR
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: July 28, 2017
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:32:06
Transcript: final; 25 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Kathy Spillar, cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview discusses Spillar's role in establishing the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF) and her opinions on socially-relevant issues. Specifically, this interview covers how the Feminist Majority Foundation formed in the early 1980s; how they were different from the National Organization for Women (NOW), but similar in wanting growth and progress for women; strategic establishment of different office locations; settling on the name Feminist Majority Foundation; early goals of the organization, particularly the feminization of power and how to get more women into elected office; the defense of reproductive clinics; combating the blockades of Operation Rescue; the assassination of Dr. George Tiller; how FMF produced groundbreaking television segments on abortion; their attempts to demystify early abortion; erecting a temporary memorial in Washington DC for women who died from back alley abortions; and their role in bringing RU-486 to the United States and pressuring the FDA for approval.

OH 5963.3

Narrator: KATHERINE SPILLAR
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: September 29, 2017
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:25:50
Transcript: final; 22 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Kathy Spillar, cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview discusses Spillar's social and political activism as a champion for women's rights and cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF). Specifically, this interview discusses the Feminist Majority Foundation's feminization of power campaign, including a research trip to Europe where they learned strategies from women leaders who had made significant strides in politics; attempts to achieve gender balance in California legislatures; the power and effectiveness of organizing feminists on college campuses, particularly in the early 1990s; putting on their first feminist expo in 1996; strategies and resources involved in campus organizing; the advent of the Internet and how the Feminist Majority Foundation was quick to transition into digital media; Proposition 209 (California Civil Rights Initiative) to end Affirmative Action; how FMF acquired *Ms. Magazine* from Gloria Steinem, and how Spillar became its executive editor; how the magazine raises awareness for a wide spectrum of women's issues; how women are still under attack, especially in the era of Trump; why there are still so few women in elected office; and finally, what Hillary Clinton's victory would have meant for women, and the factors behind her loss.

OH 5963.4

Narrator: KATHERINE SPILLAR
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: May 4, 2018
Location: Beverly Hills, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:39:02
Transcript: final; 24 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (3)

Abstract:

An oral history with Kathy Spillar, cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview discusses Spillar's social and political activism as a champion for women's rights and cofounder of the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF). Specifically, this interview discusses FMF's massive campaign to stop gender apartheid in Afghanistan, including protesting corporate oil interests, meeting with politicians, (including presidents Clinton and W. Bush) and gaining grassroots support from members of the Hollywood community (including Mavis Leno and columnist Dear Abby); discusses Dolores Huerta's integral involvement with FMF; shares insight on the differences in how women and men lead; talks about challenges women face when they run for office, mainly resources and incumbency; reflects on the impact Hillary Clinton's presidential nomination would have had on women in politics; remembers Election Night 2016 and the effect of Clinton's loss; recalls organizing the subsequent Women's March of 2017; shares current priorities for FMF in the age of Trump, including the critical fight to maintain women's reproductive rights; speaks about the impact of the Me Too Movement, and compares it to Anita Hill; provides advice for women wanting to get involved, and the effectiveness of women "flooding the ticket;" shares insight into the resistance element of activism currently; and finally, looks back on her greatest achievements and her thirty years working at FMF.

OH 5964

Narrator: KATHY LONG
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: April 4, 2017
Location: Camarillo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:34:38
Ephemera: Field notes, two images; copy of *The People vs Ronald Reagan* (CSUF)
Transcript: final; 28 pages

Abstract:

An oral history with Kathy Long, former Ventura County Supervisor. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Long's involvement and views towards local politics. Specifically, she describes childhood and family life in Saginaw, Michigan, including her mother's divorce and subsequent death from cancer; discusses educational background and role models; details working in Detroit for Mayor Coleman Young's office; recounts college and early political involvement; recalls moving to California, and describes her work with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Pat Russell; discusses Russell's campaign and loss against Ruth Galanter; reflects on what she learned from Russell, the importance of having confidence, and taking a moderate approach; recounts moving to Camarillo, California, and getting involved in Ventura County politics; describes working with the board of supervisors and her successful campaigns; discusses how she got to know the district; stresses the importance of having women in politics; describes the effort to open a county hospital, as well as a juvenile justice center and adult jail facility, but also programs for intervention and healthcare services for inmates; recounts conflicts with farmers over land use issues; talks about forming Ventura County Political Women's Caucus; describes her leadership style; discusses the support from her husband and the importance of being a mother; views that successful politicians are in touch with their community; recounts how women are more inclined to listen and not focus on taking credit; describes herself as a feminist and recalls how she learned to stand on her own and stand up for women; details the difficulties facing women running for office; looks back on 2016 presidential campaign, and what Hillary Clinton's loss meant for women; and finally, emphasizes that women running for office should know why and what they are running for.

OH 5965.1

Narrator: RITA WALTERS
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 11, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): digital; video
Length: 02:13:31
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (11)

Abstract:

An oral history with Rita Walters, former member of the Los Angeles School Board and the Los Angeles City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Walters' political and community involvement. Specifically, this interview discusses Walter's childhood and family life growing up in Kansas City, Kansas; recalls Kansas City during World War II and Jim Crow; attending boarding school in Alabama and witnessing even deeper forms of segregation; migrating to Los Angeles, California, in 1955; meeting her husband and courtship; discrimination with home buying in certain L.A. neighborhoods; discusses settling briefly in Placentia, California, but soon returning to L.A.; raising children and getting involved in their education; involvement with Civil Rights issues in Los Angeles; discusses son David's learning disability and how he faced discrimination by educators, which spurred an increase in Walters' educational activism; how she fought for David to stay in conventional schools; the *Crawford* case and efforts to desegregate Los Angeles County schools; decision to run for Los Angeles School Board and election in 1979 (after two previous attempts); demographic of the school board and relationships therein; divorce and finishing her higher education; teaching adult education and its rewards; continuing to battle desegregation while on the school board, particularly the issue of busing; issues and allies while on the school board; conceptualizing the policy that mandated school athletes maintain a C average; victory over Mark Ridley Thomas in 1987; her role and challenges serving as school board president; and finally, reflects on greatest accomplishments and challenges while serving on the Los Angeles school board.

OH 5965.2

Narrator: RITA WALTERS
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: May 15, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital; video
Length: 01:35:37
Transcript: final; 22 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (6)

Abstract:

An oral history with Rita Walters, former member of the Los Angeles School Board and the Los Angeles City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Walters' political and community involvement. Specifically, this interview discusses Walters' decision to run for an open seat on Los Angeles City Council in 1991 (Ninth District); issues of focus for campaign; challenges of representing a district with two distinct areas: Downtown and South Los Angeles; recalls reaction to the Rodney King beating and verdict; making a plea for non-violence with other councilmembers at First AME church; watching aspects of the L.A. Riots from Los Angeles City Hall with Mayor Tom Bradley; controversial absence of the police during the riots; cleanup efforts and the contribution of surrounding communities; prohibiting liquor establishments as part of community recovery; increasing development and city services; the beginning of urban renewal in Downtown Los Angeles; her dedication in developing Augustus Hawkins Park; recalls the climate of Los Angeles City Council during the 1990's and being the first black woman elected to it; relationship with Mayor Tom Bradley; relationships with other women on the council; reflects on leadership and the differences between men and women; motivations as a political leader; why so few women—particularly black women—are elected to public office; thoughts on feminism; challenges of earning her MBA; working on the Los Angeles Library Commission; and finally; reflects on proudest accomplishments.

OH 5966

Narrator: FUNMILOLA FAGBAMILA (b. 1990)
Interviewer: Kourtney Victoria Ford
Date: April 7, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:28:07
Transcript: verbatim; 26 pages
Ephemera: Photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Funmilola Fagbamila, playwright, activist, and professor at Cal State University, Los Angeles. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of the interview was to gather information regarding Fagbamila's involvement with Black Lives Matter, including her role as Director of Arts and Culture for BLM's Los Angeles chapter. Discusses experiences growing up in Stockton, California, as the daughter of Nigerian-immigrant parents; remembers activist experiences while studying at CSULA; recalls the death of Trayvon Martin and how the event was the catalyst for her involvement in BLM; talks about her position as activist-in-residence at the Institute on Inequality and Democracy at the Luskin Center (UCLA); speaks about her play, a reflection on relationships within the black community as they resist oppression; reflects on how models of activism might evolve now that Donald Trump is president; and finally shares how her activism has helped her to grow as a person.

OH 5967

Narrator: ROBIN KRAMER
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: April 28, 2017
Location: Calabasas, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 02:24:12
Transcript: final; 40 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (14)

Abstract:

An oral history with Robin Kramer. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to learn more about Kramer's civic career in Los Angeles City Hall, working alongside prominent political figures. Specifically, this interview covers Kramer's Jewish upbringing and formative years in Denver, Colorado; high school memories in the era of Civil Rights and how it contributed to her early political awareness; the role of faith in her family; role models; college years at Pitzer, majoring in Political Studies and running the school newspaper; meeting her husband; internship with the National Women's Political Caucus; post-college Coro Fellowship experience; joining briefly the Southern California chapter of the Democratic Party and doing campaign work; her first job in city hall working as Chief Deputy for Los Angeles City Councilman Bob Ronka; working as the executive director of the Coro Foundation; returning to city hall to become Councilman Richard Alatorre's Chief Deputy; working as Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard Riordan, and implementing major changes in his office; talks about Riordan's strength as a mayor, especially during the 1994 Northridge Earthquake; working in the private sector, including a brief stint with the Broad Foundation and consulting with Warren Christopher on police reform; moving on to work for Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; Villaraigosa's strengths and challenges as mayor; the challenges of Recession 2008; compares experiences working for Riordan and Villaraigosa; reflects on the role of women in city hall; how they work harder and prepare more; the difference of men and women's leadership; her motivations behind her work; on being a feminist; why so few women are elected to office; advice for women wanting to be involved, and why it's important; Election 2016; and finally, reflects on what she is most proud of in her life.

OH 5968

Narrator: NYALLAH NOAH (b. 1994)
Interviewer: Kourtney Victoria Ford
Date: May 6, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format(s): Digital
Length: 01:33:42
Transcript: verbatim; 44 pages
Ephemera: Photograph; field notes

Abstract:

An oral history with Nyallah Noah, a student in the music department at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Noah's involvement with the Black Lives Matter movement. Specifically, Noah discusses her experience growing up in the diverse community of North Hollywood, Los Angeles, with her brother, Senegalese father, and American mother; shares how politics and gender were discussed in her home, as well as the individuals who were inspirational to her growing up; discusses her love for music and writing and how she uses those mediums to address black issues; recollects her experiences with law enforcement in Los Angeles; shares involvement with BLM Los Angeles and the different actions in which she has participated; reflects on her experience in BLM as a woman and a queer individual; and finally, reflects on how her activism has affected her life and personal growth.

OH 5969.1

Narrator: DORIS TOPSY-ELVORD (b. 1931)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: May 11, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:09:10
Transcript: final; 40 pages
Ephemera: photographs (28); clippings

Abstract:

An oral history with Doris Topsy-Elvord, the first African American woman to serve on the Long Beach City Council and the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Topsy-Elvord's involvement in local politics. Specifically, this interview discusses her childhood in Vicksburg, Mississippi; moving to Long Beach, California, with her mother in the 1940s and working for the Schneider family; her Catholic upbringing, attending Catholic school, being the only black student but making many friends; her parent's restaurant, The Royal Palm Buffet, in Long Beach that welcomed everyone in the community; attending UCLA and becoming friends with Carol Burnett; childhood aspirations, gender messages (which she ignored), and how she was geared toward inclusion from a young age; post-college years working at the California Youth Authority and with Sybil Brand at the Women's County Jail; memories of the Civil Rights Movement; balancing work and being the mother of three sons; working as a probation officer in Los Angeles County; how she helped probationers acquire jobs; her post-retirement decision to run for Long Beach City Council, representing the Sixth District; developing a program called Midnight Basketball to improve community relations in her district; her pride in the annual Long Beach Martin Luther King parade; memories of her victory in a close election; working with male colleagues while on the council; her relationship with former Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill; proud accomplishments while serving on council, including historic preservation for the McBride House and helping to write the book, *The Heritage of African Americans in Long Beach*; what it takes to be an effective councilmember; and finally, advice she gives for those wanting to be involved.

OH 5969.2

Narrator: DORIS TOPSY-ELVORD (b. 1931)
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: May 22, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:12:15
Transcript: final; 40 pages
Ephemera: photographs (28); clippings

Abstract:

A second session oral history with Doris Topsy-Elvord, the first African American woman to serve on the Long Beach City Council and the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Topsy-Elvord's involvement in local politics. Specifically, this interview discusses a Long Beach visit from President Bill Clinton while she served on city council; an early interaction with then-Senator Barak Obama regarding the high numbers of imprisoned black men; her groundbreaking idea on how to lower the recidivism rate for black parolees and how Obama supported her after he became president; her service on the Long Beach Harbor Commission from 2003-2008, appointed by Mayor Beverly O'Neill; how she implemented a program for more women contractors at the port, called Small Business Enterprise; the challenges of being a woman on the Harbor Commission; development of the Green Port Policy; her involvement in the Long Beach African American Heritage Society; the annual Martin Luther King Parade in Long Beach; her leadership style; raising three sons; the differences in how men and women lead; how she struggles with identifying as a feminist; Election 2016 and her opinion on current politics; advice to those wanting to get involved; how she was a mother to many, not just her three sons; the term *servant leader* and how she defines it; what she is most proud of in her life; describes her friendship with Beverly O'Neill and how her father helped recovering alcoholics; and finally, mentions other important activist women in Long Beach.

OH 5970

Narrator: SHARON QUIRK-SILVA (b. 1962)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: June 9, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: Digital; video
Length: 02:25:35
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: photographs (6)

Abstract:

An oral history of Sharon Quirk-Silva, California State Assemblywoman for the 65th District, which encompasses parts of northern Orange County. Quirk-Silva is also a former city councilmember, mayor of Fullerton, and has worked as a teacher for 31 years. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to collect Quirk-Silva's life history, details of her teaching career, and political experience. Specifically, this interview details her childhood and family life growing up in the south side of Fullerton, California; discusses her parent's backgrounds and work histories; fondest memories of growing up in Fullerton in the 1970s; talks about the small Latino population and community in Fullerton; discusses her participation in athletics in high school; early exposure to politics; shares how her mother is her role model; reflects on her time at Fullerton High School; college years at Fullerton College and UCLA; discusses her siblings and the traditional and non-traditional elements of her family; shares how she met her first husband; details how she went into teaching; having children and her early experiences in public education; how she first became involved in politics through Parks and Recreation, as well as local campaigns; decision to run for Fullerton City Council in 2004 and her family's response; campaign memories and victory; managing family life, teaching, and serving on the council; how she met Pam Keller and serving on the council with her; the gender differences on council and the allies she found in local women politicians; the issues most important to her while serving on council, such as land and building developments; compares experiences as a councilmember and mayor; discusses the Kelly Thomas tragedy and aftermath; reflects on her biggest accomplishments and challenges while on council; decision to run for Assembly and her campaign platform (2012); recalls winning Assembly seat, the issues most important to her, and challenges faced; how her experiences as a councilmember helped her in Sacramento; what it takes to be an effective member of the legislature; what she brings to the Assembly as a Latina; discusses gender differences on the Assembly; losing reelection in 2014, decision to run again and subsequently win in 2016; talks about political climate change; reflects on what led her to pay attention to women's issues and equality; definition and perspectives of feminism; the differences in the ways men and women lead; her thoughts on women in politics; Election 2016 and what a Hillary Clinton victory would have meant; and finally, shares what she is most proud of.

OH 5977

Narrator: YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE (b. 1932)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: June, 19, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:27:15
Transcript: final; 43 pp
Ephemera: Photographs (5)

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, former member of Congress, former member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, former member of the Board of Regents of the University of California, and former member of the California State Assembly. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview discusses Burke's childhood and schooling in Central Los Angeles; early messages about race; the positive role-modeling of her parents; college years at Berkeley, UCLA, and USC Law School; her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement (including a chilling memory about Dr. King); early days practicing law; Watts Riots and the McCone Commission; decision to run for State Assembly; her time in Sacramento, being one of three women, and serving with March Fong Eu; decision to run for Congress in 1972; contentions over the Vietnam War; the culture of women in Congress; being the first woman to have a child while serving in Congress; her priorities while serving in Congress; chairing the Black Caucus; mentions Bella Abzug; decision against congressional reelection instead to run for Attorney General of California (lost to George Deukmejian); appointment by Governor Brown to the Board of Regents; practicing law during intervening years; decision to run for Board of Supervisors and serving a subsequent sixteen-year term; the crisis of King/Drew Hospital; working with Gloria Molina; leadership style; differences between men and women; women's roles in politics; and finally, proudest accomplishments.

OH 5978

Narrator: MIYA IWATAKI
Interviewer: Abby Waldrop
Date: July 24, 2017
Location: South Pasadena, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:28:21
Transcript: final; 34 pages
Ephemera: Photographs (11); clippings on the Asian Women's Center

Abstract:

An oral history with Miya Iwataki, an activist for Japanese American Redress and Reparations. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Iwataki's activism within the Asian Women's Movement. Specifically, this interview details Iwataki's cultural ancestry; speaks about her mother's internment at Manzanar and her father's involvement in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II; reflects on the heavy impact internment camps had on her parents and community, including PTSD; how her parents used over-Americanization as a shield against racism; discusses her family's move from New York to California; reflects on her rebellious nature growing up; talks about gender roles and parents' education and work backgrounds; aspirations and college experiences; decision to leave California State University, Los Angeles, to become involved with the United Farm Workers; discusses how she longed for an Asian Movement; recalls the desolate conditions in her community, especially among Issei and drug users; her involvement with the Japanese American Community Services [JACS] office, in 1970; talks about the history of JACS, how it was the first Asian Movement center, and its philosophy of "serve the people"; talks about the triple oppression of women in her community: racism, sexism, and classism; her community's drug epidemic in the early 70s; her involvement and experiences with the Asian Women's Movement; living within a political collective; talks about the start of the Asian Women's Center and the social programs it offered such as health, fostering, and education; incorporating International Women's Day into the movement; explains how the center was received by the community; attending a women's health delegation in China and her exposure to Chinese women's healthcare; her radio program at KPFK Pacifica Radio in the 1980s; her experiences at the UN Decade for Women Convention in Nairobi, Kenya; goes into detail about her involvement and experiences working towards Japanese American Reparations and Redress, achievement and aftermath, and how it was a life changing experience; discusses the critical sponsorship and support of local Congressman Mervyn Dymally; talks about her parent's support for her activist work; her health advocacy and work at the Los Angeles Department of Health Services; thoughts on feminism and being a woman fighting for women's liberation; describes her leadership style; the current state of U.S. politics; closes the interview discussing differences in how men and women lead, advice she would give a young individual wanting to get into activism, and what she is most proud of.

OH 5979

Narrator: SUJA LOWENTHAL
Interviewer: Jared Otto
Date: June 15, 2017
Location: Santa Monica, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:49:07
Transcript: final; 45 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Suja Lowenthal, former member of the Long Beach School Board and the Long Beach City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Lowenthal's career in community activism and politics. Specifically, this interview discusses Lowenthal's childhood as the daughter of Indian immigrants; challenges of migrating to America and adjusting to culture and school; compares Indian and American early educational systems; catching up academically with the help of a third-grade teacher; attending a diverse school yet becoming very aware of her own ethnic identity; speaks about her parents' professional assimilation in America; her father's church and social service involvement; recalls how politics were not heavily discussed in her family, but more so the importance of hard work and ethnic morals; how politics in India did not focus on differences as much as politics in America; family values of education and community service; how her mother overcame great adversity to become a nurse; how her mother's strength was instilled in her; mentions role models; the influence and role of church in her life; attending UCLA and majoring in Economics; entering the work field for the City of Los Angeles, including Department of Water and Power, and Department of Aging; earning her MBA at Cal State LA; details her work for the Los Angeles city attorney's office focusing on domestic violence; discusses the challenges and lessons learned working in domestic violence; entering doctoral program at USC; campaign and subsequent victory for Long Beach School Board; decision to run for Long Beach City Council (Second District); recalls important advice from her father-in-law (Congressman Alan Lowenthal); challenges and critiques of running for public office; discusses her achievements while serving the Second District, including parking, plastic bag ban, land use, and development; recalls an effort to run for state assembly, but ultimately withdrawing from the race; discusses current position working for the Big Blue Bus of Santa Monica; reflects on unique contributions made by women in politics; differences in men and women's leadership; thoughts on feminism; reflects on the impact of Hillary Clinton's presidential run; and finally; shares advice for young women wanting to get involved in politics.

OH 5980

Narrator: BETH KROM (b. 1958)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: June 21, 2017
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 03:06:49
Transcript: final; 47 pages
Ephemera: photographs (10)

Abstract:

An oral history with Beth Krom, a former city councilmember and Mayor of Irvine. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to better understand Krom's participation in politics in Orange County, California. Specifically, this interview discusses her childhood in Buffalo, New York; recalls being the middle child in a Jewish family; remembers how her involvement in various Jewish organizations led to the development of her leadership skills; talks about her Father, Irv Weinstein, and his role as a newsman on WKBW; speaks about being exposed to public life early on; speaks about her mom being active in the League of Women Voters and the effect this had on her as a child; goes briefly into Buffalo's history and her memories of the Cold War, air raid drills, the Kennedy brothers and Martin Luther King assassinations, Watergate; comments on what she sees as the difference between partisanship of West Coast politics compared to the East Coast, and her struggles with the more right wing news outlets, such as the *Orange County Register* and *Irvine World News*; describes her experiences at the University of Texas; discusses her move from Waco, Texas, to Orange County, California; mentions a much less developed Irvine when she first arrived; remembers running for Irvine City Council in 2000; talks about her first twelve years in politics; recollects the sudden death of her son and how this changed her view on politics and subsequently led to apathy; goes into depth on Measure W and the fight for the creation of Irvine's Great Park, despite ever-increasing housing development and pressure; talks about losing the fight against expanding the Musick Jail; discusses her run for Mayor of Irvine in 2004; mentions other women in local politics; recalls her attempt in running for Congress in 2009, and her decision not to run for local re-election in 2016; and finally, comments on what inspired her as a politician, and the way she views women in politics.

OH 5981.1

Narrator: MARIA ELENA DURAZO
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 12, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 00:57:55
Transcript: final; 14 pages
Ephemera: photographs (4)

Abstract:

An oral history with Maria Elena Durazo. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Durazo's union activism and political career in Los Angeles. Specifically, this interview discusses Durazo's childhood and family background, one of eleven children, the daughter of farmworkers; how she worked in the fields as a child; the early role modeling of her social activist brother in the 1960s; early bouts of activism while attending St. Mary's College; how the girls and boys were treated differently in her family; how Durazo started in organizing with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, fighting for amnesty; how *la migra* was always a challenge for workers, but motivated her work toward worker's rights; working in organizing and going to law school at night; participating in strikes against ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement]; her fight to have HERE's [Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees] union meetings translated into Spanish; organizing nonunion workers into UNITE HERE, and leading a massive, protracted labor campaign against the New Otani Hotel in Los Angeles; how she was elected to the national executive board for UNITE HERE, transitioning from the local to national level; what it was like being the first Latina to represent a major union in Los Angeles; serving on the national AFL-CIO immigration committee, as well as the AFL-CIO Labor Federation; transitioning back to UNITE HERE as a national officer in order to work further on immigration issues; serving as national director of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride, in order to change the social perception of immigrants; and finally, discusses becoming national co-chair of Barack Obama's presidential campaign committee.

OH 5981.2

Narrator: MARIA ELENA DURAZO
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: July 27, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 00:57:52
Transcript: final; 23 pages
Ephemera: photographs (6)

Abstract:

An oral history with Maria Elena Durazo. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Durazo's union activism and political career in Los Angeles. Specifically, this interview discusses Durazo's role as national co-chair of the Obama for President Campaign Committee, including her personal endorsement of Obama, separate from the union; her role as chair of the UCLA Labor Center Advisory Committee and continual fights with Governor Schwarzenegger for funding; Durazo's campaign for California State Senate in the 24th District; comments how there are no Latinas serving in the California State Senate currently; advice she gives to both women and men in organizing and balancing family; how she has been treated as a woman, both in organizing and running for office; describes her leadership style as a matter of respect for others; discusses challenges of being an organizer, particularly forging connections; how her family responded to her organizing work and run for state senate; why she considers herself an organizer rather than an activist; why she considers herself a feminist; how politics were demonstrated by her parents; what unique contributions women bring to politics and organizing; why organizing is so important to her; and finally, what advice she would give to a women interested in organizing work.

OH 5982

Narrator: DR. BARBARA STONE
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: July 17, 2017
Location: Whittier, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 02:22:46
Transcript: final; 44 pages
Ephemera: photographs (4)

Abstract:

An oral history with Barbara Stone, retired political science professor. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Stone's career in political science. Specifically, this interview discusses Stone's family background in Los Angeles, particularly the role of her politically active father, California Assemblyman Joe Stone; reflects on her father's role in the California Republican Party, including an attempted run at governor against Richard Nixon; how politics were discussed in her home; college years at USC and being the first woman to serve on the student senate; early role models and values acquired from her family; meeting her husband; teaching political science at Pepperdine University; earning her PhD, which centered on the John Birch Society; landing a professor's position at Cal State Fullerton in 1969, and what it was like to teach in those early years; balancing a teaching career with being a wife and mother; serving as CSUF's faculty rep to the NCAA; becoming involved in local Republican politics, including Whittier Republican Women Federated; why she happens to be pro-choice; serving on the Republican State Central Committee; involvement with the local Republican organization, the Lincoln Club; why she believes Republican women need their own organization; attempted runs at California State Assembly and what she learned from the experience; the current role of women in the Republican Party; current party challenges; positive influences of the Republican Party, including Barry Goldwater and Newt Gingrich; why she does not consider herself a feminist; differences in how men and women lead; why Stone believes there are so few women in elected office; appointment by George Deukmejian to the Little Hoover Commission, which made recommendations regarding the efficiency in economy and state government; serving on the Rio Hondo Community College Board; why it is important for women to be actively engaged in politics; advice she would give young women interested in running for office; shares her proudest accomplishments; and finally, what she enjoyed most about teaching at Cal State Fullerton.

OH 5983

Narrator: GLORIA MOLINA
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: October 10, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital; video
Length: 03:03:11
Transcript: edited
Ephemera: photographs

Abstract:

An oral history with Gloria Molina. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Molina's political career in Los Angeles. Specifically, this interview discusses Molina's traditional Mexican upbringing in Montebello, California, as one of ten children; early realizations of different racial and ethnic groups; high school years in Pico Rivera and early civic interests; role models and values acquired from her family; early forays in politics as part of the Chicano Movement at East Los Angeles College; participating in the student walkouts and the Chicano Moratorium; how the movie *Salt of the Earth* impacted her; working at the Chicana Service Action Center in Los Angeles; her role in forming Comisión Femenil Mexicana de Los Angeles; Comisión's early goal of appointing a Latina representative on the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women; becoming more politically active and joining local campaigns; her first political job as an assistant to Art Torres; working in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel for President Jimmy Carter; grassroots efforts to get a Latina elected to the California State Assembly, and how she reluctantly became the candidate; becoming the first Latina elected to the California State Legislature in 1982; how the males in Latino politics reacted to her victory; first days in the legislature and how she found support in the women's caucus; accomplishments in the legislature, including preventing a prison development in East Los Angeles; how her perspective varied from her white, male colleagues; decision to run for Los Angeles City Council, and how she challenged a pre-selected Latino candidate; campaign and victory for Los Angeles City Council; the culture of women on the council; accomplishments while serving on council, including libraries and public safety; meeting and marrying her husband while running for city council; becoming a new mom while serving on the city council; decision to run for the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in the mid-1990s and running against former boss, Art Torres; how she was victorious and became the first Latina to sit on the Board of Supervisors (and serving for 23 years); how she was received while on the board; rebuilding L.A. County-USC Medical Center; issues she focused on while serving on the board, including healthcare, libraries, transportation, pensions and law enforcement; conflicts with Sheriff Lee Baca; working with co-Supervisor Yvonne Burke; cracking down on adult businesses and prostitution; her role in creating LA Plaza De Culturas Y Artes, which highlights Latino/a culture; her personal motivations as a political leader; decision to run for Los Angeles City Council again, but subsequently losing; recovering from that loss; recalls Anita Hill trial; differences in how men and women lead; how women are judged differently in politics; the impact of Hillary Clinton's party nomination and subsequent election loss; advice Molina would give to women interested in politics; why there are so few women in elected office; and finally, shares her proudest accomplishments.

OH 5984

Narrator: AUDRENA REDMOND (b. 1968)
Interviewer: Kourtney Victoria Ford
Date: July 14, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:59:53
Transcript: verbatim
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Audrena Redmond, labor organizer for the California Faculty Association [CFA] and resident of Long Beach, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Redmond's involvement in Black Lives Matter, Long Beach chapter. Specifically, Redmond discusses growing up on the South side of Chicago; discusses family's move to Virginia and how that changed her understanding of race; recalls interactions with law enforcement in Chicago; talks about how she became involved in BLM and the actions in which she has participated; speaks about her experience in BLM as a woman and self-described queer individual; addresses how models of activism might evolve now that Donald Trump is president; and finally, Redmond reflects on how activism has affected her life and personal growth.

OH 5985.1

Narrator: SUSAN ROSE (b. 1941)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: July 26, 2017
Location: Santa Barbara, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:10:19
Transcript: final; 44 pages
Ephemera: photographs (3); clippings (14)

Abstract:

An oral history with Susan Rose, former member of the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Rose's activist history in Southern California. Specifically, this interview discusses Rose's Jewish family background in New York and Connecticut; high school years in the 1950s; comments on current successes of her two daughters; college years at Connecticut College for Women; recalls first political experience while attending college and campaigning for local representative Horace Seeley-Brown; how politics were discussed in her family; meeting first husband on a blind date, and subsequently relocating to Ventura, California; teaching in the Los Angeles suburb of Lynwood; briefly relocating to Detroit, Michigan, where she recalled the race riots of the late sixties; reading *The Feminist Mystique* and how much it changed her perspective; returning to Ventura County and becoming aware of sexist children's books, and how they reinforced traditional gender roles; starting a local NOW chapter; becoming active in local Santa Barbara politics, including the Planning Commission; earning her Master's degree; divorce, remarriage, blending families and the affects; advocating personally for equal pay; sitting on California's Fair Employment and Housing Commission; participating in the Coro Program and subsequently becoming director of the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women, wherein she advised the Los Angeles mayor and city council; researching and crafting policy for federal childcare in Los Angeles, particularly with Councilwoman Joy Picus; discusses current stages of the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, and CEDAW [Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women]; and finally, reflects on the challenges of directing the Commission.

OH 5985.2

Narrator: SUSAN ROSE (b. 1941)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: July 27, 2017
Location: Santa Barbara, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:21:43
Transcript: final; 46 pages
Ephemera: photographs (3); clippings (14)

Abstract:

A second oral history with Susan Rose, former member of the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Rose's activist history in Southern California. Specifically, this interview includes additional commentary on Rose's years as director of the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, including her exit report; working in collaboration with CEWAER [California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research]; creating a citywide directory of women's resources; her role in creating the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee and how Betty Friedan was their kickoff's keynote speaker; creating a "Pipeline Committee" to create a pipeline of women candidates in Santa Barbara; the committee's impact on the local committee; her decision to run for the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors in 1998; finding solutions on local homeless issues, and how unexpectedly housing and the homeless became major focal points of her campaign; raising early money for her campaign; campaign strategies; having her "Truman moment" in thinking she'd lost the campaign, but actually won; early days on the Supervisors and working on land preservation; gender demographic of the Supervisors; attending the Women in Power program at Harvard; working with Human Rights Watch; creating a women's leadership program at Antioch University, working with Emerge California; writing articles for women's blogs and digital news outlets; reflects on Election 2016 and the negative affect of Trump's victory; describes her motivation and leadership style; differences in the way men and women lead; how women are judged differently in politics; why so few women are elected to office; advice she gives to women who want to run for office; reflects on the impact of Hillary Clinton's nomination; and final, shares what she is most proud of in her life.

OH 5986.1

Narrator: BEVERLY TOY (b. 1926)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: August 31, 2017
Location: Orange, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:19:20
Transcript: final; 6 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

This is one of two oral histories of Beverly Toy, a retired associate university librarian at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and founding member of Women For: Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Toy has also been involved with several organizations, such as the Southern California Library Association of Librarians and the League of Women Voters. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history, details of her local activism, and experiences as a librarian. Specifically, this interview details her childhood and family life in Beloit, Wisconsin; her mother's brief life and work history; recalls being in high school and college during World War II; shares how she met her first husband and his work background; closes interview discussing her time in Valparaiso, Indiana leading up to her move to Fort Collins, Colorado.

OH 5986.2

Narrator: BEVERLY TOY (b. 1926)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: September 22, 2017
Location: Orange, California
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:38:53
Transcript: final; 27 pages
Language: English
Ephemera: Photographs (2)

Abstract:

This is part two of an oral history with Beverly Toy, a retired associate university librarian at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and founding member of Women For: Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Toy has also been involved with several organizations, such as the Southern California Library Association of Librarians and the League of Women Voters. The purpose of this interview was to collect her life history, details of her local activism, and experiences as a librarian. Specifically, this interview details Toy's experience moving to Fairbanks, Alaska, in 1956; speaks about moving her family several times to follow her husband's career path, and her correlating work experiences; discusses home life in Boulder, Colorado, joining the League of Women Voters, and working at the University of Colorado; recalls earning her Master's Degree in Library Science from UCLA, and later working as a librarian there; remembers brief introduction to librarianship and working with the System Development Corporation; describes moving to San Diego and working at California State University, San Diego; shares how she met her second husband, Ernest Toy; recollects trying her hand in real estate; recalls advocating for herself during her Master's program; discusses her work at UCI, the sexism she encountered, and advocating for equal pay; briefly talks about her time on Affirmative Action and Status of Women Committees; details her involvement with the Southern California Library Association of Librarians; recalls writing verse plays for the American Association of University Women [AAUW]; speaks about her poetry and publishing experiences; discusses her role in co-founding Women For: Orange County, in the 1980s, the organization's goals, and her subsequent decision to leave; reflects on her experience with the League of Women Voters; talks about her decision to get the League's records and paperwork archived at UCI; shares her thoughts on the challenges faced by political women candidates; briefly talks about Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign; reflects on the importance of women involved in politics; and finally, provides her thoughts on feminism and what she's most proud of.

OH 5987

Narrator: DAWN MODKINS (b. 1975)
Interviewer: Kourtney Victoria Ford
Date: July 21, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:07:42
Transcript: verbatim
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Dawn Modkins, labor organizer for the SEIU [Service Employees International Union] and resident of Long Beach, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Modkins' involvement with Black Lives Matter - Long Beach chapter - and her role as a labor activist. Specifically, Modkins discusses growing up in various Los Angeles County communities, including Long Beach, Compton, Lynwood, and Hollywood; shares teenage experiences spent in juvenile hall; remembers relocating to her father's home and how it exposed her to new social experiences; recollects how she became involved in union work; how she discovered her natural talents as an activist and advocate for others; explains her work with BLM, how the Long Beach chapter came into conception, and its first actions in the community; talks about being a member of the national organizing team for BLM; discusses her experience in BLM as a mother and wife, and how she balances these responsibilities; and finally, reflects on how her activism as affected her life and personal growth.

OH 5988.1

Narrator: JOSEFINA LÓPEZ (b. 1969)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: September 5, 2017
Location: Silver Lake, California
Language: English; some Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:40:44
Transcript: final; 31 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Josefina López, playwright, founder of Casa 0101 Theater, and co-screenwriter of *Real Women Have Curves*. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding López' activism through the arts. Specifically, this interview discusses her extended family history, parents' background, and childhood experiences in Cerritos, San Luis Potosí, Mexico; childhood artistic aspirations; childhood challenges with poverty and briefly living without her father; immigrating to the United States at a young age and settling in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles; experiences and reflections being undocumented; reveals her gift as an empath; highlights specific moments that shaped her activism, writing, and feminist thought; discusses her mental health and how she used writing as a form of escape; reflects on the cultural and traditional gender roles she experienced within her family and society; further shares how she used writing as a method of healing, which led to writing truth-based plays as a teenager; discusses the toxicity of sexism and machismo-ism within Mexican American cultures; shares the process and conception of her first play: *Simply Maria or the American Dream*; remembers her early work in a sewing factory with her sister and mother, which inspired *Real Women Have Curves*; talks about her fellowship to New York to work with Irene Fornés; recalls attending a playwright festival in Australia, where she represented the United States; understanding her dual cultures and identity; discusses her openness and how she speaks her mind; reflects on higher education at NYU, UCSD, and Columbia College, where she took courses in Chicano Studies and film; recollects her work in the entertainment industry as a writer; details the process of writing *Real Women Have Curves*, her desire to give Latinas opportunities, and the racism she faced trying to produce the play; attending High School for the Arts and studying theater; and finally, discusses working with producer George LaVoo and HBO on *Real Women Have Curves*.

OH 5988.2

Narrator: JOSEFINA LÓPEZ (b. 1969)
Interviewer: Analia Cabral
Date: September 22, 2017
Location: Silver Lake, California
Language: English; some Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:50:28
Transcript: final; 14 pages
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Josefina López, playwright, founder of Casa 0101 Theater, and co-screenwriter of *Real Women Have Curves*. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview further discusses López' activism through the arts. Specifically, founding Casa 0101 Theater and her initial goals; shares how she met her husband and how he helped form Casa 0101; talks about topics and themes chosen in her theater productions; provides background of Casa Fina, her restaurant in Boyle Heights; comments on the recent gentrification of Boyle Heights, which came with the introduction of the Los Angeles Metro line; discusses her work within the community, specifically with Dr. George Sanchez (USC) and opening the Boyle Heights Museum; further discusses the ill-impacts of gentrification on her community; reflects on how she balances her home life and activism, what motivates her as an activist, and what she is most proud of; discusses unique contributions women make as activists and why it's important they are involved; shares her greatest personal accomplishments; and finally, provides advice to those wanting to get involved in activism.

OH 5989

Narrator: MARY SILZEL (b. 1938)
Interviewer: Jessica Buckle
Date: October 3, 2017
Location: Villa Park, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:20:21
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Mary Silzel, member of the Orange chapter of the California Federation of Republican Women [CFRW]. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding the evolution of women's activism in Orange County, and why it is so important for young women to become educated and involved. This interview was collected for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton. Specifically, this interview covers Silzel's youth and family values; childhood in Washington D.C. during World War II; experiences as a woman attending Whitman College, where she was also a sorority member and mother; experiences and opinions surrounding social movements of the 60s and 70s; her activism and support of education; importance of the military; her views on current American politics, including election 2016; her critique of current society; and finally, shares her advice for young people who want to be involved in activism.

OH 5990

Narrator: MICHELE COLLENDER (b. 1982)
Interviewer: Louis Filliger
Date: October 6, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:18:13
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photographs (2); field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Michele Collender. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to discuss Collender's grassroots activism following the death of her brother, Julian, after an officer-involved shooting (the event on June 29, 2010, involved Brea Police Department and occurred in front of the family's home in Yorba Linda, California). The interview specifically covers Collender's childhood memories of brother Julian; her mother's background as a poor Chinese immigrant in San Francisco; college years at UC Berkeley and subsequent career as a lawyer; details brother Julian's life, including high school, early adulthood years, artistic endeavors, and his redeeming qualities; describes the impact of Julian's death and subsequent mistreatment of her parents by Brea Police Department; describes family's interaction with the Orange County District Attorney; mentions other instances of police brutality in Orange County, including Kelly Thomas; concludes by sharing thoughts on the current state of police accountability, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the creation of the Julian Foundation in her brother's honor.

OH 5991

Narrator: MARY ANN GAIDO
Interviewer: Katie Horstman
Date: October 17, 2017
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:14:53
Transcript: final; 32 pages
Ephemera: photographs (15); field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Mary Ann Gaido, former member of the Irvine City Council, mayoral candidate, and longtime city planning commissioner. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to explore Gaido's challenges as part of the Democratic minority in Republican-dominated Irvine, as well as her service in local politics from the 1970s through the 2010s. Specifically, this interview focuses on Gaido's city council campaigns [1976, 1980, 1984, 1990, and 2006] and mayoral campaigns [2014 and 2016]; remembers her forty-year service on the Irvine Planning Commission; recalls her role as an Orange County human rights specialist; explains her position as the vice president of government relations for St. Joseph Health; describes the challenges for women running for local office from the 1970s through the 2010s; details the memorable process of developing the city of Irvine over the last forty-five years; describes her fight to achieve equal housing rights for ethnic, socioeconomic, and LGBTQ minorities; recalls discrimination and sexual harassment she endured while serving on Irvine City Council; reflects on the changing environment for women in politics, Irvine's shift to a more balanced political climate, and her own achievements in local government.

OH 5992.1

Narrator: MARGARET GARCIA
Interviewer: Helen Yoshida
Date: October 13, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 51 minutes
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Margaret Garcia, a Chicana artist in Los Angeles, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Garcia's involvement with the Chicano Movement, through art and education, as well as gather information on Chicano art currently. Specifically, this interview covers Garcia's awareness of Chicano civil rights; her experience in the 1968 East Los Angeles high school walkouts; acceptance into the graduate program at the University of Southern California; reoccurring themes in her artwork; contemporary visual artists that influenced her over the years, such as Frank Romero; change of aesthetics and taste in art; what she learns from hosting art workshops; what it means to develop yourself as an artist; what she hopes viewers will experience when viewing her work; and finally, how she is a political artist and activist.

OH 5992.2

Narrator: MARGARET GARCIA
Interviewer: Helen Yoshida
Date: October 15, 2017
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:02:53
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Margaret Garcia, a Chicano artist in Los Angeles, California. This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Garcia's involvement with the Chicano Movement, through art and education, as well as gather information on Chicano art today. This interview covers Garcia's early life growing up in East Los Angeles; her close relationship with her grandmother; her father's tense relationship with her mother; her earliest memories of her grandmother and how she was such an important role model in her life; how her great-grandmother's family survived the 1924 bubonic plague outbreak in Los Angeles; how her parents met and what they did for a living; the circumstances of her parents' divorce; initial interests in art; the discriminatory atmosphere against Mexican Americans in school; diversity of the Boyle Heights neighborhood; how her family issues impacted her education and outlook as a young woman; experience at Roosevelt High School, and the 1968 Walkouts; motivation and development as an artist; advice to young women who want to choose art as a career path; her greatest accomplishments and challenges; why she teaches and what she learns from her students; views on feminism and Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign; how she realized her dream of becoming an artist and what that means for her; and finally, expresses concerns for future generations.

OH 5993

Narrator: ROSARIO MARÍN
Interviewer: Brenda St. Hilaire
Date: October 17, 2017
Location: Huntington Park, California
Language: English; some Spanish
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:27:38
Transcript: final; 46 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Rosario Marín, a prominent Republican Latina in California. This interview is part of the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project. The purpose of this interview was to learn more about Marín's time in local and national politics. Marín was a former member of the Huntington Park City Council and the city's first Hispanic mayor. She then served under California Governors Pete Wilson and Arnold Schwarzenegger, and notably, served as the Treasurer of the United States under President George W. Bush. Specifically, the interview discusses the political transformation of the California Republican Party from the 1990s to present, particularly from a Latina's perspective; recalls highlights from her life, starting with humble beginnings in Mexico City to her swearing-in as the 41st Treasurer of the United States; remembers her campaign for city council and her success in transforming Huntington Park; talks about the challenges of California Proposition 187 and its controversial ads; shares her participation in the campaigns of Pete Wilson and George W. Bush; reiterates her immense respect for George W. Bush and what it meant to work for him; recollects the challenges of being wife, mother, and politician; speaks about Eric, her son with Down's Syndrome, which led to her dedicated advocacy for the mentally-challenged; describes running for U.S. Senate in 2004 [to challenge incumbent Democrat Barbara Boxer] only to have the California Republican Party choose a male candidate instead; discusses her position and working in the Schwarzenegger Administration; provides her opinions on President Donald Trump, particularly the comment he made that led Marín to endorse Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential election.

OH 5994

Narrator: CAROLYN WEATHERS (b. 1940)
Interviewer: Katelyn York
Date: October 18, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:26:15
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Carolyn Weathers, retired reference librarian for the City of Los Angeles, former editor and founder for Clothespin Fever Press, and published author. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Weathers' activism in the LGBT community during the 1970s and 80s. This interview covers her early life in Texas; how her sister, Brenda, was kicked out of college and arrested for being a lesbian; definition of feminism; the importance of the Civil Rights Movement and the Women's Liberation Movement; how important Los Angeles' LGBT movement was compared to New York or San Francisco; her participation in the Black Panthers' Revolutionary People's Constitutional Convention; becoming the first "out" lesbian featured on TV, in Los Angeles, on Regis Philbin's early television show; her activity in the Gay Liberation Front (GLF); participation in the Biltmore Invasion with Don Kilhefner and several others from the GLF, in which they stormed the stage at the American Psychiatric Association conference to protest the classification of homosexuality as a mental illness; her participation in the Lesbian Writer Series, the Free Sharon Kowalski Movement, and the Lesbriarians; establishing her own publishing company: Clothespin Fever Press; her opinions on the 2016 presidential election and what it would have meant if Hillary Clinton won; and finally, shares her belief in the inclusionary nature of the LGBT community.

OH 5995

Narrator: MARY ANN RUIZ (b. 1951)
Interviewer: Sierra Sampson
Date: October 17, 2017
Location: Chino, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 00:56:05
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Mary Ann Ruiz, chair of the San Geronio chapter of the Sierra Club. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the role that women play in environmental activism. This interview covers Ruiz' initial years with Sierra Club and her current involvement as chapter chair and secretary of the State Executive Board; discusses her unconventional beginnings in environmental activism; joining Sierra Club's local hiking group as a way to get out of the house after being widowed; describes involvement with the hiking group, how it grew into her taking on different roles; discusses how the political environment was more lenient when she first started, instead of the fractured system we currently face; addresses what she sees as the biggest challenges activists face, and what it takes to be an effective activist; discusses the volunteer-based grassroots organization; provides structural overview of the organization; believes Sierra Club is much more welcoming to women than it was previously, and how this has allowed women to be treated as equals; shares how environmental issues are constant and have not evolved in ways they should, which makes their future difficult to predict.

OH 5996

Narrator: ISELA GRACIAN (b. 1980)
Interviewer: Victoria Garcia
Date: October 19, 2017
Location: Boyle Heights, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:49:22
Transcript: partial; 12 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Isela Gracian, president of the East Los Angeles Community Corporation (ELACC) in Boyle Heights. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Gracian's work in the Boyle Heights community in Los Angeles, California. Specifically, this interview covers Gracian's family roots in Michoacán, Mexico, and parent's participation in Mexican politics; her political activism during college years at the University of California, Davis; her beginnings in ELACC; provides ELACC's history and growth throughout the years; addresses Boyle Heights residents' fight against gentrification and institutionalized racism; discusses the campaign to legalize street vendors and regain the area's control over land use; explains the organization's work in creating community advocates, the challenges of mobilizing residents, and the role women play in community organizing; describes her passion for working with residents and her vision for the community's future; reflects on her experiences in activism and growth within ELACC, from temporary worker to president; and finally, reflects on the importance of ELACC's work in the current political climate, and the need to discuss difficult topics in order to create change in Boyle Heights and beyond.

OH 5997

Narrator: JENNIFER YEE
Interviewer: Shreshta Aiyar
Date: October 17, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:53:25
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Dr. Jennifer Yee. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Yee's work in the Department of Asian American Studies, and to discuss how activism and feminism are shaped in university settings among Asian Americans. In this interview Yee discusses her childhood; experiences as a Chinese American growing up in Southern California; college education and work as a professor of Asian American Studies; describes life growing up in Compton and Cerritos, California, as the child of immigrants, and how it helped shape her worldview; discusses her work in higher education; how organizational change at Stanford University, New York University, UCLA, and Cal State Fullerton allowed her to develop teaching models that celebrate individuality and potential, while challenging students to critically think about their surroundings, their lives, and how they can become active contributors to Asian American society and culture; and finally, Yee reflects on her undergraduate and graduate mentors, her research, and how her life and work have transformed since becoming a cancer survivor.

OH 5998

Narrator: LAURA KANTER (b. 1964)
Interviewer: Victoria Macedo
Date: October 19, 2017
Location: Orange County, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:38:10
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Laura Kanter, Director of Policy, Advocacy, and Youth Programs at the LGBT Center Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Kanter's participation as an activist for the LGBT community. Specifically, this interview discusses her early life in Brooklyn, New York, and San Fernando Valley, California; Kanter's various activities as an activist, including heckling the U.S. president, being escorted by Secret Service, and being chained inside a doghouse to protest conditions for transsexual women at a local jail; describes current work, which involves supervising the Immigration Outreach and Education Program; describes being founder of the Orange County LGBTQ Policing Partnership, and how she works with law enforcement to improve communication and trust with the LGBTQ community; reflects on major LGBT issues, including Don't Ask, Don't Tell, California Prop 8, and a Santa Ana jail protest in 2014; and finally, reflects on her personal experiences as an activist in current times.

OH 5999

Narrator: TWILA TRUE (b. 1969)
Interviewer: Elena Yaremenko
Date: October 26, 2017
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:05:06
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Twila True, an Oglala native who is an advocate, activist, and philanthropist for the Native Lakota Sioux of the Pine Ridge Reservation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The interview discusses True's childhood on the reservation; the Indian Relocation Act of 1956 that resulted in her family's removal from the reservation; how her experience differed from children who remained on the reservation; credits her grandmother for introducing her to the Native lifestyle; describes her connection to the tribe and how its culture gave her a sense of belonging and self-worth; discusses her mother's alcoholism and teenage pregnancy, two common problems that affect most of the Native youth; explains founding of the True Sioux Hope Foundation, which advocates for Native Americans of the Pine Ridge Reservation, inspires men and women around the world to work together, take action to affect change by voicing needs, and bring focus to areas unfamiliar to those outside the reservation; and finally, True reflects on her goal to improve life with a humanitarian force led by women.

OH 6000

Narrator: MARIA G. SIPIN (b. 1985)
Interviewer: Patrick Guarte
Date: October 28, 2017
Location: Placentia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:37:45
Transcript: partial; 16 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Maria Sipin. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to discuss Sipin's involvement in grassroots activism, particularly with Multicultural Communities for Mobility [MCM], an organization dedicated towards the empowerment and engagement of community leaders at the local level, with the aim of translating that empowerment to advocacy and education with safer bikeways, walkable communities and access to mass transit. Specifically, this interview covers Sipin's early life, formative years as a child living in the Philippines, then as a Filipino immigrant navigating the dynamics of Southern California (specifically Baldwin Park); experience at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; subsequent career transitions working for Kaiser Permanente, UCLA Health Systems, and Children's Hospital Los Angeles; reflects on how she initially finished her degree in Communications, with an emphasis in Journalism; how she made the transition from journalism to public health; involvement with various projects focused on public health and LGBTQIA groups, which awakened an underlying passion for serving others that was present throughout her entire life; shares perspective on the difficulties women face in politics and activism, as she seeks to understand the social and cultural factors women of color face in their attempts to become community advocates; provides opinion on current American politics, advice for future community advocates, and her excitement for the upcoming fifth anniversary of MCM

OH 6001

Narrator: JEANETTE CONTRERAS (b. 1967)
Interviewer: Erich Grimm
Date: November 7, 2017
Location: Placentia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:10:27
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An Oral History of Jeanette Contreras, head of the Placentia Library District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to learn more about Contreras' involvement in local libraries and policies therein. Her greatest passion is for outreach and community relationships, which aids her aspirations. This interview specifically covers library operations and staff collaboration; Contreras' childhood; reasons behind her current involvement in the library and community; explains the relationship of local politics from the perspective of a library director, such as interactions between the city and the library as separate entities, how a library hopes to stay modern, the role of a library in the community, and what staff and leadership hope to achieve for the continuation of public education.

OH 6002

Narrator: RUTH SANCHEZ (b. 1972)
Interviewer: Katie Horstman
Date: November 12, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:57:31
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photographs (9); field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Ruth Sanchez, a business owner involved with activism and politics in the Antelope Valley, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview is to explore challenges Sanchez faces as she balances running her paralegal company, serving on local, state, and national campaign teams in the Antelope Valley, and being an advocate for immigrants, deported veterans, African Americans, and Latinos. Specifically, this interview focuses on Sanchez's formative years growing up in Southern California; experiences of balancing single motherhood while going to school and starting her own business; creating Antelope Valley Latin Education [AVLE]; involvement in other activist groups, such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the Antelope Valley League of United Latin American Citizens [LULAC], and the Los Angeles County Democratic Party; contributions to campaigns in the Antelope Valley, including those of Barack Obama (2008; 2012), Steve Fox (2010), Christy Smith (2016), Kamala Harris (2016), and Bernie Sanders (2016); and finally, reflects on how being a Salvadoran immigrant, a woman, and a mother have affected her activism and political beliefs.

OH 6003

Narrator: DIANE VELARDE-HERNANDEZ
Interviewer: Helen Yoshida
Date: November 9, 2017
Location: Acton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:39:04
Transcript: final; 39 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Diane Velarde-Hernandez, a retired educator with the Los Angeles Unified School District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Velarde-Hernandez's involvement with the Chicano Movement, through education and literature. This interview covers Velarde-Hernandez's childhood in Pacoima; remembers her close relationship with her mother, grandmother, and community; talks about her awareness of Chicano civil rights, participation in the 1968 East Los Angeles high school walkouts, and United Farmworker's Union protests; recollects participation and distribution of *Con Safos* magazine; discusses 33-year long teaching career at San Fernando High School, participation in the Chicano Moratorium, and advocating an end to the Vietnam War; recalls the power and influence of Chicano/a leaders and individuals in her life and educational opportunities; provides advice for future women activists; reflects on challenges and accomplishments as an activist; shares opinion on men in power, and how #MeToo movement impacts her interactions with men today; and finally, provides thoughts on feminism and how Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign affected women and politics.

OH 6004

Narrator: SHARON RAFAEL
Interviewer: Katelyn York
Date: November 11, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 03:04:07
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history interview with Sharon Raphael, retired sociology professor at California State University, Dominguez Hills. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Raphael's activism in the LGBT community during the 1970s and 80s. This interview covers early life in Cleveland, Ohio; talks about her activism at Hiram College in Ohio; discusses influences of anti-Semitism and the Civil Rights Movement on her own activism; her role within the Gay Women's Services Center; how she and Mina Meyer created a health clinic for lesbians in low-income areas; comments on the gay way of life that took place in the 1970s; the strike against the Gay Services Center for better treatment of women and people of color; recalls the work that she and Meyer accomplished throughout their years of activism; describes her definition of feminism; reflects on the importance of women within movements; talks about establishing the first LGBT temple in Los Angeles: Beth Chayim Chadashim; states how important education is within any movement, using the LGBT community as an example; the importance of Los Angeles within her life, as well as the LGBT Movement; discusses the 2016 presidential election and what it meant for women to have Hillary Clinton as a nominee; her and Meyer's establishment of the AIDS Hospice Foundation, which would later become AIDS Healthcare Foundation; talks about 'transgenderism' and her definition; lastly, she shares sage advice for future generations: do not plan for the future because things change.

OH 6005

Narrator: DR. SIOBHAN BROOKS (b. 1972)
Interviewer: Jonathan Davenport
Date: October 30, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:41:32
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Siobhan Brooks, professor of LGBTQ, Women Studies, Race, and Mental Illness at CSU Fullerton. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to discover more about Brooks' involvement in education and the LGBTQ community. Specifically, this interview discusses Brooks' experiences as a black lesbian; the role of her mother and how she battled mental illness; memories growing up in the Sunnydale Projects (outside San Francisco); shares how she recognized race at an early age, and then had to help her mom navigate those racial issues; explains how she was able to successfully leave the projects and make a better life for herself; recalls what factors led her to decide on what subjects to teach, as well as what influenced her views on society; addresses how her mother and community disapproved of her leaving the community, even though it was to better her life; and finally, Brooks reflects on her time working as a stripper to help pay her way through college; how society views sex and race, and how black people often go against each other due to a misunderstanding of those issues.

OH 6006

Narrator: KAREN REISDORF
Interviewer: Jessica Buckle
Date: November 11, 2017
Location: San Clemente, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:18:44
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history of Karen Reisdorf, member of Women For: Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Specifically, this interview discusses Reisdorf's life growing up on a dairy farm in New York; challenges from moving around a lot while growing up; discrimination she faced as a woman, and the challenges she had to overcome as a result; her continual drive to pursue her education and eventual completion of that goal; the sudden loss of her husband at an early age; her career as a teacher in Orange County; her involvement in Women For: Orange County, the League of Women Voters, and the American Association of University Women; her involvement with Laura's Law (court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment for the mentally ill); the current issues that Women For: focuses on; the Great American Write-In (to influence policy change); her reflections on Hillary Clinton's candidacy; and lastly, her dreams for young people and the improvement of the country.

OH 6007

Narrator: ELENA LOGSDON (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Elena Yaremenko
Date: November 18, 2017
Location: Newport Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:45:15
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An interview with Elena Logsdon. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The interview discusses Logsdon's childhood in the USSR; her marriage and immigration to the U.S., where she continued her education and received her Master's degree from Cal State Fullerton, in Sociology; speaks about working as a tutor with underprivileged and abused children, and how government funding cuts has adversely affected these children; discusses lack of justice for victimized children and how the system further victimizes them due to letter-of-the-law style application of justice, versus the spirit of the law; speaks about the need for social justice for children, and how she hopes to become a voice to represent and assist them to develop the capacity to act independently on their own behalf; reflects on women's leadership and Hillary Clinton.

OH 6008

Narrator: VY LE (b. 1996)
Interviewer: Shreshta Aiyar
Date: November 21, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:46:41
Transcript: none
Ephemera: field notes; recording log; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Vy Le. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Le's roles as an Asian American Studies major, an identity lead at the Asian Pacific American Resource Center, an intern at Fullerton College, and a student at Cal State Fullerton. Specifically, this interview discusses Le's childhood and immigration from Vietnam to the United States; educational background; life in Southern California; experiences at Cal State Fullerton; her work as an activist and a student; details life in Saigon, Vietnam, until the age of seven; talks about adversities she faced in the United States, as part of a family with financial difficulties; her journey into activism and social justice; the importance of mentorship; shares who has impacted her education and positively shaped her experiences (cites faculty in the Asian American Studies Department who helped shape her views toward social justice, activism, and self-care); reflects on how her activism is multi-faceted, diverse, and complex, and that she hopes to educate herself and others on the idea that there is no *one* way to be an activist or civil servant.

OH 6009

Narrator: FELICITY FIGUEROA (b. 1955)
Interviewer: Jessica Buckle
Date: November 17, 2017
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:50:45
Transcript: none
Ephemera: none

Abstract:

An interview with Felicity Figueroa. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course.

OH 6010

Narrator: JENNIFER ROJAS (b. 1992)
Interviewer: Louis Filliger
Date: November 22, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:14:11
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract:

An oral history with Jennifer Rojas. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to learn more about Rojas' work at the Orange County Chapter of the ACLU. Specifically, Rojas talks about high school involvement with the B.R.I.D.G.E.S program, a school inter-group relations and violence prevention program; talks about her transition from high school to the University of California, San Diego, and her involvement with different social justice groups there, such as MEChA [Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán], and the Student Worker Collective; speaks about work with the non-profit, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, after college and how that transitioned to employment at the ACLU; briefly mentions her work with Dignity for All program, which aims to facilitate better understanding between police and Orange County's homeless population; shares instances in which Orange County ACLU intervened regarding immigrants detained by I.C.E [Immigration and Customs Enforcement]; talks about work with the Anaheim Public Safety Board and the report she helped create for the Anaheim City Council, to inform them before their upcoming vote on the board's fate; states what she is most proud of and why she identifies as a feminist of color.

OH 6011.1

Narrator: AMY WONG
Interviewer: Patrick J. Guarte
Date: November 17, 2017
Location: El Monte, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:19:17
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log; clippings

Abstract:

An interview with Amy Wong. The interview (part I of II) was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Amy Wong serves as the Women on Wheels (WOW) Coordinator for the grassroots community advocacy group BIKE San Gabriel Valley (BIKE SGV). She also serves as the coalition coordinator for Nature for All, previously known as San Gabriel Mountains Forever. The interview discusses Wong's childhood, examining her life in El Monte at great length; reflects on her parents immigrant experience and how this shaped her early childhood (different from what one would normally expect from a quintessential American family); discusses her closeness with her grandmother; interactions with her environment, whether this was playing outside, watching her grandmother plant fruit trees, or walking through her neighborhood going on adventures; transitions into her time at UC Berkeley and her interactions with what she referred to as "White Environmentalism," namely, environmentalism disconnected from community-based outcomes; expresses frustrations with this type of advocacy; recalls various trials and tribulations she experienced as her and her family dealt with her sister's own health issues; finishes interview speaking about her post-graduate life, search for work, how she discovered Day One, and the subsequent opportunities that have come through this.

OH 6011.2

Narrator: AMY WONG
Interviewer: Patrick J. Guarte
Date: November 28, 2017
Location: El Monte, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 01:26:16
Transcript: none
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log; clippings

An interview with Amy Wong. The interview (part II of II) was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Amy Wong serves as the Women on Wheels (WOW) Coordinator for the grassroots community advocacy group BIKE San Gabriel Valley (BIKE SGV). She also serves as the coalition coordinator for Nature for All, previously known as San Gabriel Mountains Forever. Specifically, this interview focuses on her experiences as a child of immigrants, her thoughts on community access to resources, the visibility of transit advocacy work, local engagement in community, the racial/socioeconomic divide among ethnic and racial groups in the San Gabriel Valley, and finally, shares her reflections on feminism.

OH 6012

Narrator: RENEE CROCE
Interviewer: Brenda St. Hilaire
Date: November 27, 2017
Location: Marina Del Rey, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format: digital
Length: 02:10:55
Transcript: final; 56 pages
Ephemera: photograph; field notes; recording log

Abstract

An oral history of Renee Croce, political fundraising consultant for prominent Republican elected officials in California and the nation. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this oral history was to gather information regarding Croce's prominent involvement in Republican political campaigns, from the 1990s to today, in California. Specifically, to analyze the changes and evolution in the California Republican Party. This interview covers Croce's formative years as the daughter of single, working mother in Los Angeles; recalls her peripheral involvement with inner-city gangs due to lack of adult supervision; talks about her employment with the Los Angeles Police Department and how she moved into marketing and sales; remembers joining the California Young Republicans and how that started her involvement in the party; reflects on how her upbringing and employment history enabled her to make the smooth transition into political fundraising, including integral roles in the campaigns for California Governors Pete Wilson and Arnold Schwarzenegger; reflects on feminism, advice for women, Election 2016, and current American politics.

OH 6013

Narrator: JANE NEWELL (b. 1957)
Interviewer: Erich Grimm
Date: November 20, 2017
Location: Anaheim, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:41:07
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Jane Newell, library branch manager of the Anaheim Heritage Center (archive for both the city of Anaheim and the Disney Company). This interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Oral History Project and the Center for Oral and Public History at California State University, Fullerton. This interview was also part of Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Newell's profession in libraries and archives. Specifically, this interview includes discussion of Newell's oversight of buildings of historical importance within the city of Anaheim; how she provides tours for these sites; her role in preservation of city information; discussion of the Mills Act, which reduces owner's property taxes in exchange for continued historic preservation; how she furthers the goals of the Anaheim Library System; how she is responsible for the city's image in doing this work; how she fills in if the city librarian is absent; and finally, the role of the Anaheim Library within the city.

OH 6014

Narrator: NANCY STEELE (b. 1958)
Interviewer: Sierra Sampson
Date: November 28, 2017
Location: Alta Dena, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:21:34
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An interview with Nancy Steele. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. Steele discusses her role in the Sierra Club.

OH 6015

Narrator: MARIA LOPEZ (b. 1991)
Interviewer: Victoria Garcia
Date: December 12, 2017
Location: Long Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 02:23:49
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photographs (5)

Abstract:

An oral history of Maria Lopez, director of community organizing at Housing Long Beach (HLB) in Long Beach, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. It is also a requirement for Dr. Natalie Fousekis' oral history course. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Lopez's work in the Long Beach community. Specifically, this interview covers her immigration story from Colima, Mexico; growing up in Long Beach; her middle school to high school years; her struggles as an undocumented student and beginnings in activism at Long Beach City College; coaching a girls' soccer team; her activism and struggles at California State University, Long Beach; her beginnings at HLB; HLB's history; the housing problems in Long Beach; the struggles in creating political allies for the organization; explains how race is at the center of gentrification; the challenges of mobilizing residents; the role women play in community organizing; past and current HLB campaigns; the future goals for HLB; her vision for the community's future; the need to address trauma in the community; how the current political climate affects her life and the lives of other residents; the need to continue to advocate for the community; and finally, reflects on the impact her work has in the community.

OH 6016

Narrator: SANDRA BELAT (b. 1996)
Interviewer: Victoria Macedo
Date: March 19, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:35:03
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Sandra Belat, a Sexual Health Student Assistant within the TitanWell department at the CSU Fullerton Wellness Center. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview is also part of Victoria Macedo's student honors project. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on the various ways Belat is an activist for the LGBT community. Specifically, this interview discusses how Belat advocates for LGBTQ+ visibility within the health sector, as well as increasing access to LGBTQ+ specific sex education. Belat has also worked closely with various entities on the CSUF campus to create more accessibility for LGBTQ+ students. For example, installing dispensers for feminine hygiene products in male *and* female restrooms. Through her various leadership positions, advocacy, and training, Belat has worked tirelessly to create a safe and welcoming space for LGBTQ+ students, as well those from other marginalized groups.

OH 6028

Narrator: SHIREEN BANIHASHEMI (b. 1996)
Interviewer: Victoria Macedo
Date: March 22, 2017
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:16:42
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes

Abstract:

An oral history of Shireen Banihashemi, an LGBT activist and honors student at California State University, Fullerton. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview is also part of Victoria Macedo's student honors project. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on the various ways Banihashemi is an activist for the LGBT community. Specifically, this interview discusses Banihashemi's experience as an LGBT woman and the difficulties faced by LGBT community members from society and family. Banihashemi is a senior at CSUF studying Business Finance. Her involvements include membership in QTPOC and QSA. This interview addresses how she has advocated for the LGBTQ community and other marginalized groups.

OH 6050.1

Narrator: MARIE ALVAREZ
Interviewer: Christi Terry
Date: October 14, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 35 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; (images withheld)

Abstract:

An oral history of Marie Alvarez, resident of Orange County, wife, mother and college student. The purpose of this interview is to document the life experiences of Alvarez, which led her to become an advocate in the fight against human trafficking. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview covers Alvarez' early childhood trauma at the hand of multiple abusers; life after high school as a pregnant teen; discusses how she became an advocate to help abused individuals, who often go unheard by the systems designed to help and protect them; involved with the issue of human trafficking by volunteering with the Orange County Human Task Force, which led her to work with many other agencies in administration, leadership, outreach, advocacy, mentoring, training and counseling; comments on how victims can overcome trauma and become successful; how faith has fueled her activism; shares views on feminism and activism; and finally, provides advice to those wanting to get involved.

OH 6050.2

Narrator: MARIE ALVAREZ
Interviewer: Christi Terry
Date: November 11, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 43 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; (images withheld)

Abstract:

An oral history of Marie Alvarez, resident of Orange County, wife, mother and college student. The purpose of this interview is to document the life experiences of Alvarez, which led her to become an advocate in the fight against human trafficking. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. This interview covers Alvarez' memories of growing up in the City of Orange, how its changed, what she hopes stays the same, and the impact of Chapman University on the town; recalls childhood, dysfunctional family and home life, subsequent divorce of parents; discusses mother's poor role modeling and constant exposure to disruptive and dangerous situations; as a young girl, witnessed mother's prostitution; the constant sensation of feeling unsafe while with mother; how situation seemed to improve once she was placed with her father; recalls childhood abuse and molestation by family member as well as mother's boyfriend; mentions the trauma and abuse and how one deals in the aftermath; talks about high school years; exposure to gangs; current estrangement from her family; shares current views on politics; involvement with the Orange County Task Force for Human Trafficking; impact and outreach of the organization; and comments on where human trafficking tends to take place.

OH 6051

Narrator: RACHELE DALE
Interviewer: Cheyenne Greer
Date: October 12, 2018
Location: Orange County, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 48 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Rachele Dale, special education administrator at the Orange Unified School District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding special education and the inclusion program, which is working its way into California public schools. Specifically, this interview focuses on Dale's role in special education and the support she provides to children with such needs. Dale describes beginning her career as a teacher, "young and bright eyed," and moving up the education ladder; becoming Special Education Administrator of the Orange Unified School District; how she went from overseeing thirty to now hundreds of students, in a short span of 10 years; describes how her job comes with many emotional aspects; how it is a constant struggle to connect with parents who do not believe or understand the process of special needs/special education.

OH 6052

Narrator: VIVIAN CLECAK
Interviewer: Erin Waldner
Date: October 15, 2018
Location: Lake Forest, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 30 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Vivian Clecak, founding executive director of Human Options, an Orange County non-profit that provides services to victims of domestic violence and their children. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to spotlight the issue of domestic violence, Human Options—which opened the first battered women’s shelter in south Orange County—and Clecak’s passions for social justice and women’s rights. Specifically, Clecak spoke of her childhood in Denver, Colorado; father’s frail health and its impact; college at Stanford University; participation in the Civil Rights Movement and the Women’s Rights Movement; career path since college, including pursuit of a master’s degree in social work; two marriages and two daughters; how and why she started Human Options and the role it fills in Orange County; the issue of domestic violence; the difference Hillary Clinton’s election in 2016 might have made on domestic violence; the #MeToo Movement; and finally, Clecak’s life since retiring from Human Options.

OH 6053

Narrator: JUDY LEWIS
Interviewer: Nikki Brigantino
Date: October 14, 2018
Location: Huntington Beach, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 47 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Judy Lewis. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information regarding Lewis' career in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and her experience in the League of Women Voters. Specifically, this interview discusses Lewis' childhood and growing up in a Navy family; early forms of activism; the challenges of working in a male-dominated profession; attempts to thwart sexual harassment; proud moments as a sheriff deputy; the evolution of women deputies in the Sheriff's Department; personal struggle of working fulltime and raising three children; mental health advocacy; the importance of women's voices in policymaking; involvement in the League of Women Voters; her life goal to create communities that are safe, loving, and nurturing; Hillary Clinton's presidential run (2016); the need for more listening and bipartisanship in politics; lastly, how she defines activism, feminism, and political courage.

OH 6054

Narrator: JAZMIN ROBLES
Interviewer: Jazmin Robles
Date: October 20, 2018
Location: Arvin, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 56 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Jazmin Robles, a councilwoman from Arvin, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on young Latinas in local politics. Specifically, this interview discusses Robles growing up in Arvin; college at University of California, Irvine; current involvement serving on Arvin City Council; recalls attending UFW marches as a child; the impact of family values; her love and concern for the city of Arvin; how young Latinas provide a unique perspective to small city politics; the debate over Arvin's status as a sanctuary city; finally, how big money has impacted Arvin's outdated ordinances and also influenced local politicians.

OH 6055

Narrator: MARY LEIGH BLEK
Interviewer: Cristian Ramirez
Date: October 24, 2018
Location: Trabuco Canyon, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 11 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Mary Leigh Blek, resident of Trabuco Canyon, California, and grassroots activist for sensible gun control laws. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Blek's involvement in the campaign for gun reform. Her son, Matthew, while on a trip to New York, was fatally shot by three armed teenagers. After the tragedy, Blek and her husband took to action and formed the Orange County Citizens for the Prevention of Gun Violence. Speaking around the country and merging with key organizations like the Brady Campaign, her voice and those of concerned parents around the country were finally heard in 1994, when major gun reform laws were passed (on state and federal levels). Later in her career, Blek would become a member and future president of the Million Moms March, an organization that is instrumental for igniting change on the issue. Despite current political climate, she describes how there is still hope for change and how it is important for women be vocal and involved.

OH 6056

Narrator: KIM B. NGUYEN
Interviewer: Anna Lichte
Date: October 27, 2018
Location: Garden Grove, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 33 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Kim Nguyen, member of the Garden Grove City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information on Nguyen's background and how she became involved in politics; discusses college at UC Santa Cruz; why she returned to Garden Grove and entered local politics; how Lou Correa and Loretta Sanchez were her inspirations; decision to run for city council; the struggle she faces in being a young, bi-racial woman in politics; and finally, shares advice for young women who are interested in politics.

OH 6057

Narrator: ANN SARMIENTO
Interviewer: Christi Terry
Date: October 28, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 2 hours; 8 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Ann Sarmiento, Orange County resident, businesswoman and anti-human trafficking activist. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about Sarmiento's involvement in the awareness and prevention of human trafficking. This interview covers Sarmiento's early years in the Bronx, New York, and her difficult transition to Arizona during her middle school years. The interview highlights events in Sarmiento's life which led to her advocacy in rescuing and helping women victimized by human traffickers. Particularly, she describes her daughter's experience, how she was targeted and trafficked, and the extreme measures Sarmiento and others took to locate and retrieve her. Sarmiento discusses her continued work to educate, house, rescue and mentor young women who have been trafficked.

OH 6058

Narrator: NORA CALDWELL
Interviewer: Erin Waldner
Date: October 26, 2018
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 23 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Nora Caldwell, Director of Community Engagement at Human Options, an Orange County non-profit that assists victims of domestic violence and their children, and in ending the cycle. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Caldwell is a survivor of domestic violence who sought assistance from Human Options. The interview discusses how she went from being a client to board member to employee. Talks about childhood on the East Coast and her close relationship with her parents; discusses what brought her to California; her three marriages; the years she was in an abusive relationship; services and support she received from Human Options; how her personal experience with domestic violence affects the work she does now; domestic violence in Orange County; the #MeToo Movement; why some women stay in abusive relationships; and shares whether or not she sees herself as a feminist.

OH 6059

Narrator: JENNIFER GUTIERREZ
Interviewer: Michelle Dragoo
Date: October 30, 2018
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 24 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Jennifer Gutierrez. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about the Save La Plaza Campaign.

OH 6060

Narrator: GYASMINE GEORGE-WILLIAMS
Interviewer: Jovane Castrejon
Date: November 6, 2018
Location: LaVerne, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 4 hours; 28 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Gyasmine George-Williams, professor at La Verne University, who is working on her dissertation from Azusa Pacific University on the topic of activism amongst the college sports athletes. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding George-Williams' activism in social justice. Specifically, this interview deals with her formative years in Phillips Ranch, California; activities as an undergraduate at Cal State LA; current work as a professor at the University of La Verne; graduate years at Azusa Pacific University; political involvement during her college; study abroad program in South Africa; activities surrounding various civil rights issues; discussion of today's political climate; how she became involved with the Inland Empire chapter of Black Lives Matter; how her activism diverted after she traveled and learned more about the Underground Railroad; her identity as a black woman in the feminist movement; thoughts on rapper Kanye West; and finally, reflects on professional and spiritual lessons learned through education.

OH 6061

Narrator: GAIL BENDA
Interviewer: Eric Topete
Date: November 7, 2018
Location: Dana Point, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 18 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Gail Benda, former member of the Imperial Beach City Council and current member of the League of Women's Voters. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Benda's experiences as a councilmember for Imperial Beach; explains involvement in local politics, the rewards and adversity she faced during her time as a councilwoman; recalls experience as a teacher, being part of the board of education, and working extensively with special needs students; touches upon the most rewarding aspect of teaching special needs students; reflects on involvement with the League of Women Voters, including extensive work on local propositions and candidates on the ballot; explains why it is important to read the extensive research that the League has provided and make educated decisions in voting.

OH 6062

Narrator: SHIVA FARIVAR
Interviewer: Michael Thomas
Date: November 9, 2018
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 5 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Shiva Farivar, former Community Services Commissioner for the City of Irvine, and city council candidate during the 2010 and 2016 elections. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Iranian American women and women's rights activism. The first objective was to call attention to the contributions of Iranian American Women on local politics and activism in Orange County, California. The second objective was to uncover how women's rights activism and other political events in Iran impacted the Iranian American community in Orange County. Specifically, the interview discusses Farivar's background and childhood growing up in Iran and Germany; education; immigration to the United States; professional career, involvement in local politics, and her contributions to the City of Irvine. Farivar is a noted figure within the Iranian American Community of Orange County, and was able to shed light on American-Iranian relations since the Islamic Revolution of 1979; her story and perspective provides insight to the contributions of Iranian American Women in local politics; describes women's political activism in the United States and Iran, and how both countries impact populations which are ideologically worlds apart.

OH 6063

Narrator: MARCELA RIOS-FAUST
Interviewer: Erin Waldener
Date: November 8, 2018
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 35 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Marcela Rios-Faust. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6064

Narrator: JUANITA TRUJILLO
Interviewer: Sarah Gallo
Date: November 4, 2018
Location: Santa Fe Springs, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 2 hours; 26 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Juanita Trujillo, Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Santa Fe Springs. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding information on Trujillo's life and eventual foray into local politics. Specifically, the interview discusses Trujillo's upbringing in Santa Fe Springs; father's work as an immigration officer; mother's professional status as an illegal sweat shop worker; how her parents' met when father raided mother's place of employment; recalls her school years and transitioning from public to private school; volunteering for the Santa Fe float and several other community programs; how her years in community volunteer work prepared her for city council; being recognized as Woman of the Year by Grace Napolitano; being a Latina in local politics and leadership; how her male colleagues perceive her; marriage, divorce, and life as a single mother; discusses how she impacts the community in a positive way; and finally, how she is proud to serve her community and serve as a role model.

OH 6065

Narrator: KELSEY BREWER
Interviewer: Vanessa Lyle
Date: November 14, 2018
Location: Aliso Viejo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 2 hours
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Kelsey Brewer, a political activist in Orange County. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Brewer's political activism, particularly in the midst of the #MeToo Movement. Interview includes Brewer's time serving the CSU Board of Trustees, Orange County Young Democrats, and the Association of California Cities in Orange County; being biracial and bisexual; growing up in Bakersfield and later Orange County; the impact of racial injustice; how she has learned to embrace her whole identity; talks about other social justice issues she has been involved in, including housing and homelessness issues in Orange County; comments on the impact of Election 2016 election; talks about the recent appointment of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh in spite of sexual assault allegations from Dr. Christine Blasey Ford; Brewer's excitement after 2018 midterm elections in which the House of Representatives gained majority; and finally, changes she hopes to see both in Orange County and the country in moving ahead.

OH 6066

Narrator: BETH McCONAUGHY
Interviewer: Nikki Brigantino
Date: November 16, 2018
Location: Mission Viejo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 3 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Beth McConaughy. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding McConaughy's involvement with the League of Women Voters and mental health advocacy. Specifically, interview discusses McConaughy's childhood, growing up in a Navy family and moving throughout the country; origins of her passions for politics; inspirational female relatives who motivated her to be educated, politically aware, and active; memories of the Cuban Missile Crisis while she was in college; discusses her husband and his career as a counselor, which motivated McConaughy to advocate for people in need such as migrants and those with mental illness; years spent in Idaho and Richmond, Virginia, in which she witnessed racism and intolerance; hate mail she received, while in Virginia, after speaking out against racism in the school system; definition of feminism and political courage; her desire to remain intellectually stimulated during her two pregnancies; her foray into the League of Women Voters and holding positions of secretary and president; Election 2016 and the candidacy of Hillary Clinton; and finally, her call to women to voice their opinions and support those opinions with credible research.

OH 6067

Narrator: DR. SARA BEGGS
Interviewer: Cheyenne Greer
Date: November 16, 2018
Location: Villa Park, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 43 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Sara Beggs. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding special education and its inclusion program, from a district standpoint, and how it works hands-on in Orange County schools. Specifically, this interview will focus on Dr. Beggs and her career in education; how she was a “young and inspired” teacher who eventually earned her doctorate and created the inclusion program for Orange Unified Schools; current position as elementary school principal; and finally, describes the emotional rollercoaster that her career entails.

OH 6068

Narrator: SUSAN KANG SCHROEDER
Interviewer: Veronica Grammier
Date: November 20, 2018
Location: Santa Ana, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 2 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Susan Kang Schroeder, Chief of Staff for Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Kang Schroeder's background and experience in Southern California politics. Specifically, this interview deals with Kang Schroeder's childhood in Seoul, Korea, and her family's immigration to the United States; her family's experience on welfare and food stamps; grappling with her ethnicity in high school; discusses college years at USC and serving on the board of USC's Trojan College Republicans; how she got involved with Ronald Reagan's 1984 presidential campaign and Representative Bob Dornan's 1986 congressional campaign; mentions working for law firm Patton and Boggs, specifically Mike Huffington's voter fraud allegation against Diane Feinstein; her work with the Orange County District Attorney's (OCDA) office from 1999-2018; serving as campaign manager for OCDA Tony Rackauckas; creating Orange County's Prosecution Education Resources and Publicity (PERP) method of investigating and prosecuting human trafficking; her work in changing state constitutions with Marsy's Law; discusses opinions on #MeToo, the future of the Republican Party in Orange County, and the future of Asian women in the Republican Party.

OH 6069

Narrator: MICHELLE ANTENESSE
Interviewer: Mae Jones
Date: 2018
Location: Aliso Viejo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 02:51:16
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history with Michelle Antenesse. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6070.1 & 6070.2

Narrator: KATELYN McKAY
Interviewer: Tené Greene
Date: November 20 and December 5, 2018
Location: Brea, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 8 minutes
Transcript: partial; 10 pages
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Katelyn McKay, a Park Ranger with Orange County Parks. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding McKay's career as a park ranger, particularly experiences related to her role as an environmental advocate in recreation, and its rewards and challenges. Specifically, the interview covers discrimination McKay faced due to her Cuban heritage; her family's insistence on maintaining traditional gender roles and how this shaped her; involvement in the community, eventually becoming an environmental advocate; how McKay deviated from her family's expectations with her pursuit of nature and science, animal welfare, theater interests, and later, pursuing higher education; how she evolved from a variety of volunteer-turned-paying jobs in stagecraft, archiving, and field naturalist; reflects on her experiences inspiring young girls; struggles to overcome sexist misconceptions about female park rangers from the public as well as co-workers; the impact of her role as an environmental activist and park ranger.

OH 6071

Narrator: THU-HA NGUYEN
Interviewer: Franklin Nguyen
Date: 2018
Location: Garden Grove, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:30:06
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Thu-Ha Nguyen. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6072

Narrator: PATRICIA GONZALEZ
Interviewer: Jovane Castrejon
Date: November 29, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 2 hours
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Patricia Gonzalez, a Latinx activist, who is currently involved in trying to pass laws to stop police brutality. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Gonzalez' activism and interest in social justice. Specifically, this interview deals with her experiences growing up undocumented; the death of her husband, Vincent Valenzuela, at the hands of the Anaheim Police Department; her subsequent quest to end police brutality against minorities; passing legislative bills such as SB-1421, which help tackle the topic of police injustices; her views of being a Latina feminist; how the current political climate has created further racial divisions; and how she perceives President Trump promoting police brutality during his campaign rallies.

OH 6073

Narrator: DIANE WOLLENBERG
Interviewer: Tené Greene
Date: December 5, 2018
Location: Orange, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:05:45
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Diane Wollenberg, a park ranger in Orange County, California. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Wollenberg's career as a park ranger. Specifically, the interview discusses Wollenberg's background in a broken and often abusive home; her decision not to pursue higher education which shaped her future involvement in environmental activism; how, after years of working in the grocery business, Wollenberg's passion for animal welfare, recycling, and environmental interpretation led her to complete the Park Ranger Academy; starting a career in recreation management as a park ranger in the Historical Parks Division of Orange County; reflects on her struggle to overcome sexist misconceptions of female park rangers by the public and coworkers; how she embraces her role protecting the parks and natural resources of the county; how she uses her years of wisdom, strength, and versatile skills to both inspire and dispel misconceptions.

OH 6074

Narrator: JAN FLORY
Interviewer: Anna Lichte
Date: December 5, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 2 hours and 5 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Jan Flory, a former member of Fullerton City Council. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding her involvement in local politics over the span of three decades. This interview specifically focuses on Flory's background and how she first got involved in politics; college years at Cal State Fullerton; why she got involved in Fullerton's politics; her many inspirations from other women who served on city council; why she chose to run for city council; campaign and election; her rotation as the city's mayor; serving on the Orange County Water District Board; views on the Kelly Thomas murder and how that affected her decision to run for city council a second time; the ease she experienced in being a woman in politics; her views on Hillary Clinton; and finally, provides advice to women interested in getting involved in politics

OH 6075

Narrator: DEBORAH GITELL
Interviewer: Cristian Ramirez
Date: December 8, 2018
Location: Hollywood, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Deborah Gitell, resident of Hollywood, California, and member of Women Against Gun Violence (WAGV), an organization that spreads community awareness of politicians elected in support for common sense gun laws. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Gitell's advocacy for gun control. The WAGV was founded by feminist writer Betty Friedan and former LAPD commissioner Ann Reiss Lane in the early 1990s, a pivotal time for gun violence in America. The interview covers Gitell's formative years in Boston, Massachusetts, raised forty miles outside the city, in an upper-class suburban neighborhood; how her youth was surrounded by politics at home and in the greater community; discusses living in New York soon after high school; how numerous mass shootings would be instrumental in her political awakening regarding gun reform; moving to California and forming key connections which facilitated membership in the WAGV; her community advocacy on gun control; how she ultimately represents the scope of women who have made a major impact in gun reform.

OH 6076

Narrator: JO PORTER
Interviewer: Jonathan Davenport
Date: December 6 and December 7, 2018
Location: Monrovia, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour; 45 minutes
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Jo Porter, animal safety advocate, founder/head of the non-profit group For the Love of Animals: Dog and Cat Rescue, and a teacher of history and home economics at Clifton Middle School in the Monrovia Unified School District. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview was to discover more about Porter's life with regard to her animal activism, and teaching. Interview specifically includes life growing up, her family, and the challenges faced, such as death of both parents when she was eighteen years old; origins of how she became a teacher; past and present motivations; how teaching has evolved over the years; the effect of technology on teaching; how President Trump has affected her family and students; how she got involved in animal activism; what it is like to run her non-profit; how technology has improved the practice of helping animals, but also much more time consuming; what motivates her as an animal activist; what it was like growing up in Arcadia, California; discusses ageism within her school her school district; personal encounters with sexism during early jobs; how she has seen race throughout her life, growing up in a mostly white population and now working in a very diverse school district; closes interview by addressing why she is a feminist and what she believes are her greatest accomplishments as an animal activist.

OH 6077

Narrator: TAMMY TRAN
Interviewer: Veronica Grammier
Date: December 7, 2018
Location: Westminster, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:10:44
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Tammy Tran, former Deputy Chief of Staff for former State Senator Lou Correa. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Tran's background and experience in Southern California politics. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview deals with Tran's parent's escape from Communist Vietnam, after the war, and her family's immigration to the United States; her experience as the child of political refugees; growing up in the community of Little Saigon in Santa Ana and how it contrasted with her extended family's life in Vietnam; mentions running for office in elementary school and realizing the importance of the ESL vote, which enticed her to work for Loretta Sanchez's congressional campaign against Bob Dornan; discusses college years at USC and being a resident advisor; being required to take diversity training and the benefits she received as a result; how she got involved with then Assemblyman Lou Correa's office; volunteering for Correa's campaign to become Orange County Supervisor, and then being his Campaign Manager for his California State Senate campaign; discusses founding VietACT, the Vietnamese Alliance to Combat Human Trafficking; her work with Center for Asian Americans United for Self-Empowerment (CAUSE) and Orange County Youth; decision to leave the public sector for the private sector; working for Southern California Edison (SCE); thoughts on #MeToo, feminism, equality, and the future of the Democratic Party in Orange County; and lastly, shares views on the future of women in the Democratic Party versus the Republican Party.

OH 6078

Narrator: ERIKA HERNANDEZ
Interviewer: Maria Moreno
Date: December 10, 2018
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour, 3 minutes
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Erika Hernandez, an Employment Rights Project Legal Fellow at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. The purpose of this interview is to shed light on the struggle undocumented students face while attending college, and the perspectives young Latinas bring to politics, activism, and the legal system. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview discusses Hernandez' transition from high school to college; involvement in politics and activism while attending Arvin High School, Bakersfield College, and San Jose State University; involvement in the creation of scholarship programs at University of California Berkley's Law School; personal struggles faced as an undocumented immigrant; frustrations at her inability to enact change, particularly during her preparation to take the bar exam; and lastly, shares reflections of parents' community involvement and her subsequent initiation and participation.

OH 6079

Narrator: ALYSSA NAPURI
Interviewer: Vanessa Lyle
Date: December 7, 2018
Location: Aliso Viejo, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:28:18
Transcript: none
Collateral: photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Alyssa Napuri. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6080

Narrator: DOLORES ROMERO
Interviewer: Sarah Gallo
Date: December 9, 2018
Location: Santa Fe Springs, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:09:48
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history with Dolores Romero, lifetime city volunteer for the City of Santa Fe Springs. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, this interview discusses Romero's upbringing in Williams, Arizona, as one of ten siblings; the daughter of Mexican immigrants; the struggle of how the family spoke Spanish at home but English in public; decision to quit high school and get married; relocation to Southern California with husband; raising a family in Santa Fe Springs; why she chose to become a volunteer; recalls years of community service, including organizations like PTA, Sister City Committee, Family and Human Resources Committee, and Parks and Rec; employment as attendance clerk with Little Lake School District; closes interview discussing positive influence her volunteerism has had on her family.

OH 6081

Narrator: ELAHE AMANI
Interviewer: Michael Thomas
Date: December 13, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 1 hour
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An interview with Elahe Amani, Interim Director of Information Technology at California State University, Fullerton, and long-time employee of the California State University System. Amani has campaigned for women's rights and gender equality in Iran and other parts of the world. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, interview focuses on Amani's work on women's rights and gender equality; early years as a student activist at the University of Tehran; speaks about past watershed events in Iran that have affected women in Iran *and* the Iranian American community of Los Angeles and Orange County; discussion of current political issues and her hopes for women in the future.

OH 6082

Narrator: LORI DONCHAK
Interviewer: Eric Topete
Date: December 14, 2018
Location: Fullerton, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:01:27
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An oral history of Lori Donchak, former Mayor of San Clemente, California, current member of San Clemente City Council, and director for the Orange County Transportation Authority. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. The purpose of this interview is to gather information on women in local government. Specifically, interview analyzes Donchak's experience as Mayor of San Clemente and why she decided to take on that responsibility; the crucial decision-making while serving as mayor; explains the importance of transparency in order to gain support from the people, which coincides with local community response to questions and concerns; discusses her role within the Orange County Transportation Authority and goals she set beforehand; and lastly, acknowledges her accomplishments.

OH 6083

Narrator: AIDA FERIA
Interviewer: Michelle Dragoo
Date: December 19, 2018
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:50:37
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Aida Feria. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6084

Narrator: SORAYA FALLAH
Interviewer: Michael Thomas
Date: February 9, 2019
Location: Northridge, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:41:15
Transcript: none
Collateral: recording log; field notes; photograph

Abstract:

An interview with Soraya Fallah, professor at Cal State Northridge and Kurdish activist for women's rights. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History. Specifically, interview discusses Fallah's early years in Iran, growing up in the Kurdish minority; activist parents who participated in Iranian Revolution; the radical impact of the Revolution, particularly on women and Kurds in Iran; why and how Fallah became a women's rights activist; consequences of such activism against her and her family, including police raids and time in Iranian prison (where she met her husband); discusses how women contribute to activism; response from the academic community; #MeToo Movement and discussion of feminism; why it is important for women to be involved; her proudest moments as an activist; gender roles within her family compared to Iranian and Kurdish society; why education was always important; the women's rights movement in Iran, its success and limitations; how Kurds are perceived in Iran and the United States; discusses feminism in its different forms throughout the world, western versus eastern; and finally, closes with her hopes for women in the future.

OH 6085

Narrator: TIFFANY ACKLEY
Interviewer: Mae Jones
Date: February 7, 2019
Location: Irvine, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 01:37:36
Transcript: none
Collateral: none

Abstract:

An oral history of Tiffany Ackley. The interview was conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage Oral History Project headed by California State University, Fullerton, and the Center for Oral and Public History.

OH 6086

Narrator: ROSALIND “ROZ” WYMAN (b. 1930)
Interviewer: Natalie M. Fousekis
Date: January 25, 2019
Location: Los Angeles, California
Language: English
Project: Women, Politics, and Activism Since Suffrage
Audio Format (s): digital
Length: 03:13:19
Transcript: edited, 81 pages
Collateral: photographs (32)

Abstract:

An oral history with Roz Wyman, conducted for the Women, Politics, and Activism Project. The purpose of this interview is to gather information about Wyman’s political career in Los Angeles and her involvement with the Democratic Party on the state and national level. The interview covers the origins of Wyman’s political zeal; specifically the support of her parents through her Democratic political career along with the influence of several mentors with whom she met while serving on the campaigns for Helen Gahagan Douglas and Adlai Stevenson; she describes her campaign to the Los Angeles City Council, where she became the youngest person and second woman ever to be elected, and how she worked to gain the respect of her older, male colleagues and the constituency as a whole; she notes how her marriage to Gene Wyman and how her place as the first woman to be pregnant while holding elected office changed the perception of her in both her constituents’ and colleagues eyes; she examines her work within the Democratic Party, such as fundraising and arranging speeches for John F. Kennedy, and as the first woman to run a national convention in 1984 in San Francisco; she specifically notes the emotions she felt witnessing historic moments for women in politics, such as the first woman vice-presidential nominee, Geraldine Ferraro, and the close personal and working relationships she shares with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senator Dianne Feinstein; while discussing her expansive career, she reflects on how politics is markedly more difficult for women today, with deep partisan divisions and a critical need for more women in positions of power at the local, state and national level.