INTERVIEW PROCESS RECORD

TAPE No. 1951-a

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COMMENTS

Oral History Transcription 1951-A

Oral History Project

- Int. Birth place of parents?
- Sub. My parents were born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Father was born en el barrio de Cantera. Mother was born en el barrio Alzubo which is also in Ponce.
- Int. Were both parents raised there?
- Sub. Yes. They went to school there. Father want up to the 8th grade. Mother want up to the 3rd year of high school.
- Int. Were any of your brothers or sisters born in Puerto Rico?
- Sub. No. Brothers and myself born in U.S.
- Int. How many brothers and sisters do you have?
- Sub. 2 brothers and 1 girl (myself).
- Int. What year did your parents migrate to U.S.?
- Sub. My father migrated in 1945. My mother migrated in 1948.
- Int. Why did your parents migrate?
- Sub. My mother's father died, since my mother was the eldest in the family, she had to help heremother. She wanted to finish school, but she need a job more. My father came because he was a merchant sea men and the ship had come to the U.S.
- Int. What type of job did father have in Puerto Rico?
- Sub. He worked in a camp.
- Int. Where did parents live when they came to U.S.?
- Sub. She live at 13th and Girard Ave. North Philadelphia. Father dosen't know.
- Int. Did father finish education?
- Sub. Father got G.E.D. recently.
- Int. Did you or brothers work as children?
- Sub. No.

Int. What type of job did your mother have?

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Sub. She got a job as nurses aid, then serving in a factory on the job training. She worked there for 20 years.

Int. Where did your parents meet?

Sub. They meet in Puerto Rico. They got married in U.S.

Int. Were any of your parents away from home for a long period of time?

Sub. My father was always away from home. He was a Merchant Seaman. He would go away to Africa and other places.

Int. Who would you call if you were ever picked up be the police?

Sub. I would call my brother not scare my mother.

Int. Do you know any folk tales, stories or refrances?

Sub. No.

Int. Have you ever visited La Botanica?

Sub. Yes, For Agua de Florida to take a bath.

Int. Did you fill better?

Sub. No, did not fill better.

Int. Do you believe in Saints or Spiritualism?

Sub. No. As a child yes. Use to attend the Catholic Church.

Int. What holidays do you observe?

Sub. New Year, Christmas those holidays.

Int. How about the three Kings and All Saints day?

Sub. - No. They celebrate they mainly in Puerto Rico.

Int. What church did you attend and how often?

Sub. La Milagrosa, St. Boniface, and Saint Peter and Pauls.

Int. What is the reason for not going to church?

Sub. She dosen't fill right going to a temple or church and praying to saints and priest who is just as human as I am. She rather talk to God by herself.

Int. - Did alot of Puerto Rico go to the church Saint Peter and Pauls?

Sub. Puerto Rico went there but not alot.

Int. What kind of activities did they have there?

Sub. La Milagrosa- Spiritual outing, alboradas. And the reason I want there was because alot of my friends went there.

Int. Did you use public transportation when you went to church?

Sub. No. I always had a car.

Int. What type of record albums did you own?

Sub. Disco, Salsa and Saul.

Int. Which do you like best?

Sub. Salsa

Int. Do you play an instrument or write poetry, what are some of your hobbys?

Sub. I'm making rug. I'm taking a class in macrome.

Int. What did you eat yesterday for dinner?

Sub. Labster, Stuff mushrooms and potatoes.

Int. What is your favorite Spanish plate?

Sub. Rice and Beans, chiken and tostones.

Int. What types of foods are usually prepared at home?

Sub. Spanish food.

Int. What is your favorite restaurant?

Sub. Seafood Restaurant and Bohio.

Int. Do you know any inter-rascial marriages?

Sub. No.

Int. What language is usually spoken at home?

Sub. English unfortunately. Because we were raised here.

Int. Is everyone in your family bilingual?

Sub. Yes.

- Int. Which language are they most fluent in?
- Sub. English

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- Int. How many different places have you lived in Philadelphia?
- Sub. Four. I don't remember the address because I was young at the time.
- Int. Where do you live now?
- Sub. 2nd. Street.
- Int. Do many of your relatives live in your neighborhood?
- Sub. Yes, close by.
- Int. What was the reason for your moving into your present home?
- Sub. Better housing and conditions were better. We use to live in a apartment. My father brought the house and the neighborhood was quieter.
- Int. What was the racial make up when you first moved there ?
- Sub. Polish, few spanish and one black family.
- Int. Did you feel part of your neighborhood?
- Sub. I was young at the time I did not go out and play. She felt at home in her house.
- Int. How do you feel now?
- Sub. Now I feel at home.
- Int. Does your community serve you?
- Sub. Community serves the older people, the senior Citizens they have English classes and free lunches. They did not have an opportunity to learn.
- Int. If you had the opportunity, would you move to another neighborhood or why?
- Sub. Yes I would move because I lived there for alot of year. And the houses are folling apart and dirty.
- Int. Did they have any bodegas in your neighborhood when you first moved there?
- Sub. No, my parents had to go out of the neighborhood to shop. Now they have a few.

Int. How many times have you travelled to Puerto Rico?

Sub. 5 times. In 1976 was the last time.

Int. Do you stay with relatives?

Sub. No, I do not have any relatives there they all live in the U.S. I went to visit friends.

Int. Do you ever plan to return to Puerto Rico?

Sub. Yes.

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Int. Have you ever attempted to return permanently to Puerto Rico?

Sub. No

Int. What was your first job as and adult? --

Sub. Clerk typist Part-time and sales girl.

Int. Did you receive any type of training for your job?

Sub. At the hospital were I work now. My first job there was Statistical Cleck. Then they trained me to draw blood and then in the laboratory.

Int. - Are you as ever have been a Union Member?

Sub. No. At work they have a union but for my department they do not because they say were professionals.

Int. Have you ever been discriminated against?

Sub. Yes, small experiences. I want to get an apartment in an all italian neighborhood and the women was very cold because I am Puerto Rican.

Int. Is your job dangerous?

Sub. Yes because I work with chemicals and vapors which are harmful to my health.

Int. What is the longest period of time that you have held any job?

Sub. Four years.

Int. Have you ever been unemployed?

Sub. No

Int. For what reasons have you left your job?

Sub. For better job and better pay.

Int. Did any of your parents or teachers influence you to work?

Sub. Mother never influence me. Teacher did, but I was stubborn and wanted to work and make money.

Int. Do you comeite to work or walk?

Sub. I drive to work.

Int. How far is your job from home?

Sub. Is very close to home.

Int. If you were able to switch your present job would you?

Sub. Yes for better job.