**Linda Smith**

A: -- cold here but it’s sunny. It’s -- you know, it’s -- winter’s coming, for sure. (laughs)

Q: Oh, yeah, most definitely.

A: Yeah.

Q: Probably a little -- actually have some seasons up there, unlike in Texas.

A: Oh, I know. That’s one reason I live here. (laughter) I want --

Q: See the leaves change colors.

A: -- to live with the seasons. (laughter)

Q: See some clouds change colors actually. Definitely a good reason.

A: Yeah. Oh, yeah. And just the seasons, you know, they’re -- they’re just -- it’s good. I love the ch-- the changing of the seasons, you know?

Q: Yeah, it’s definitely -- it’s fascinating in a little bit. I definitely agree.

A: Yeah. Yeah. And I remember living in Texas. And, you know, it -- in February, you know, I m-- I would just remember, oh, it’s a warm day in February. Oh, it’s going to be really hot in the summer. (laughter)
Q: Yeah, you can already start to tell. It’s wild, it actually -- a couple weeks ago it cooled down, like the ’40s or ’50s, ’50s. I’m an October birthday, so I kind of keep a mental register a little bit about, like, how the weather is around that time of the year. And it --

A: Yeah.

Q: -- was cooler on my birthday than it had been in my entire life. And I was like, “Wow, this is strange.”

A: Oh, my God.

Q: And then a week later it was back to 95 degrees, so I was like, “Okay, there we go, this is -- this is about what I remember.”

A: Yeah. Well, yeah. See, I don’t do really well in that super-hot stuff. I just have the wrong kind of skin. You know, I’m very fair-skinned and freckles, you know, when I was a kid, and I just burn up. You know? Just like --

Q: Yeah, just get red like a lobster.

A: -- I got to get out of here.

Q: (laughs) That’s definitely a good reason to get away.

A: Yeah. So, is your technology working for you today?

Q: Yeah, it looks like everything is working correctly. I’m -- I actually met up with Dr. Green and I’m sitting in her office now using her recorder --
A: Oh.

Q: -- her landline, all that jazz. So everything looks like it’s working properly.

A: Oh, good.

Q: Okay. So before we get started, now that I’m actually -- have this recorder on and stuff like that, I do just want to let you know, if at any point we’re talking about something and you want to, like, turn the recorder off, or you want to say, “I -- I’d like to have this, like, not be recorded,” or anything like that, I’m happy to turn it off --

A: Mm-hmm.

Q: -- and then, whenever you’re ready, to turn it back on. Just so -- just so you know that at any point there’s something that you don’t want to be, like, recorded, it doesn’t have to be. You’re not, like --

A: Oh, sure.

Q: -- signing your life away or anything like that. Yeah, so --

A: (laughs) Okay, yeah, I appreciate that.

Q: -- definitely I think it’s something you should know before we start diving in.
A: Right, and then if I thought of something later, you could just not include it, right?

Q: Yeah --

A: If I didn’t tell you ahead of time? Yeah.

Q: Yeah, absolutely. If you think of something later or we have, like, a [tangent that you go on?] --

A: (overlapping dialogue; inaudible)

Q: -- or something, and then something else comes up later.

A: Well, no, I just meant -- I didn’t say that right. I think if I realize later that maybe I shouldn’t have said that, or it shouldn’t be recorded, I could tell you that.

Q: Oh, yeah, absolutely.

A: Yeah.

Q: Absolutely.

A: Great.

Q: Because there’s going to be, like, a -- there’s going to be a process, to say the least, about how they get these files from where they are after I finish this recording and press stop, before it actually --

A: Mm-hmm.

Q: -- goes into the archives or what-have-you.

A: Right.
Q: There’s definitely going to be a long process between then and then. So --
A: Yeah.
Q: -- yeah, they can definitely chop anything out if need be.
A: Okay, that sounds good. Yeah.
Q: Okay, so I think before we start diving into, like, probably like the ’60s and ’70s, I’d like to know a little bit about, like, your earlier life, if that’s okay --
A: Mm-hmm.
Q: -- if you feel comfortable talking about that.
A: Oh, yeah, sure.
Q: I know we’ve already talked a little bit about how your sister, Judy -- do you have, like, any other siblings?
A: I do. I have -- my s-- I’m the oldest. My sister Judy was two-and-a-half years younger than me and then I have a sister who is 10 years younger than me. She’s the one who lives in Vermont.
Q: Oh, okay, got you.
A: And her --
Q: And that’s what brought you out there?
A: Yeah. And so her name is Laura. Actually, Laura Lee, but just Laura. I think she kind of goes by that now.
Q: Okay. Were you all from -- were you all from Texas?
A: No. So let me -- let me just -- I wr-- I just thought about this some and wrote down a few notes about g-- the family I grew up in. So I just thought that I could do that first. So, I grew up in Illinois, in a suburb of Chicago, Oak Park, in an -- what I would describe now -- you know, we don’t talk about class very much in the United States, but, you know, the -- of course, now, the super (laughs) upper-class folks, you know, the super-rich ones, you know, I mean, that’s a certain class.

Q: The one-percenters.

A: Yeah, the one-percenters. And then of course there’s then the middle class and then the lower class, according to income, you know? And -- and so, I would say that when we were living in Oak Park, my father was superintendent of schools and we were in more of an upper-middle-class family situation in -- at that time. My father grew up in rural Missouri. He did very well in school and he coached football. And he -- but he got a scholarship --

Q: Oh, wow.

A: -- to attend Columbia University in New York City. And then he majored -- if I remember this all right -- he majored in chemistry and then he got his PhD in education. And my mother grew up in a small town, Oklahoma town,
Durant, Oklahoma. She had an amazingly fine voice. And she was asked to perform, you know, for local events, and —

Q: Like a — like a singing voice? Or —
A: Yes, yes, and a —
Q: Oh, beautiful.
A: — just a beautiful contralto voice. And she attended Southern Methodist University and then the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She taught music in some small towns in Oklahoma before being invited to go to New York City with some friends in the ’30s. And she just fell in love with New York City and went home and taught, you know, long enough in some of these small towns she was teaching music, and raised enough money, and her father helped her, I think, too, and then she returned to New York City and got a master’s degree in music. So — and they actually met in New York City. And then -- but -- everything changed for my family being the class that we were when my father died. He died when I was 15. And I already told you about my sister Judy.

Q: Wow, the old—- you are the oldest and he passed away when you were 15?
A: Yeah.
Q: That’s definitely rough.

A: It was terr-- it was a terribly rough time for all of us, really. And my mother, after he died then, my mother began teaching music. She had -- she had been -- I would say -- well, I’ll tell you a little bit more later about, you know, she was very active in the community and in music in the -- you know, took lessons but also did -- well, sang in church choirs and did some performing. But she, after my dad died, you know, she had to figure out how to -- you know, here’s three daughters, you know. She went to work teaching music in the public schools. And -- and then our family pretty much fell out of the upper-middle-class into the -- I don’t know, I would say we were pretty poor. So, we were probably in the lower income class at that time.

And --

Q: And what kind of the time span do you think that would -- like he passed away when you were 15? Like just over the course of a couple years?

A: When I was 15 -- well, my dad, see my dad died when he was 42. And my mom then went to work teaching music in -- in a public school, you know, in Oak Park. And I wanted to stay. You know how kids are so self-preoccupied. I was a
sophomore when he died. I wanted to stay and graduate there.

Q: Your friends, your community, all (inaudible).

A: Yeah. I know, but I think now that was probably really hard on my mom because, you know, she found that she didn’t like teaching music in the public school because kids were forced to take it. You know, they didn’t want to be there. And in some -- and I’m not saying all the kids were like that, but just teaching kids who don’t want to be in the class, you know, (laughs) just like it’s hard. And so she decided ---

Q: Yeah, (inaudible) you’re passionate about to kids that don’t reciprocate that.

A: Yeah. So, she decided that she wanted to go to -- her brother lived in Dallas and she wanted to become a librarian and she decided to go to -- I think it was called North Texas -- what was it? North Texas Women’s University or something, in Denton, Texas. And she got her library science degree there. So, we moved there after I graduated from high school. And I had gotten a partial scholarship to go to Cornell College in Iowa, in Mount -- Iowa. But I came down that -- for that first summer and then went off to college. And I remember, we were living in just a
little, you know, small apartment. It was terribly hot. We had one air-conditioned room, which was the bedroom with a window air conditioner, you know. And -- it was, you know. My sister Judy then went to high school in Denton, Texas. And you know, I don’t -- my sister Laura, being 10 years younger than me, you know, it’s just like I -- I’m sure she was in school, too, but I haven’t really talked to her about that. I know my sister Judy was really big time into science fiction and made friends and you know, you know, she did okay in Denton. (laughs) And then they moved to Dallas and my mother got a library degree and then she got a job as a librarian at Southern Methodist University. And they moved to -- that’s when they moved to Dallas. And my mother was pretty adventurous for her time, or just was pretty adventurous, period, I guess.

Q: (laughs)

A: She wasn’t particularly interested in getting married. Her mother had not married until she was 29. And my mom just, she wanted to -- she loved New York City. She wanted to travel. She joined the American Youth Hostel Association. I think it was very early on in its history. And she went on a bicycling trip to Europe right before World War II.
Q: Wow, that’s (inaudible) --

A: Yeah, I know. the epitome of being adventurous right there.

A: I know. And she -- she was -- she took -- she had her -- a jersey skirt or something like that. And she had a little, you know, pack on the back of her bike. And she went to the -- she got to Paris and got to go to the opera in Paris. And she took the -- Isle de France was this giant, I don’t know, what do you call those giant ships -- to Europe. And she had a scrapbook with pictures, you know, and so, we had all seen those pictures, you know, growing up. And -- and so it was interesting because I think her -- seeing that she did that, you know, just took off to another country, another culture, really influenced all of us, you know.

Q: Yeah, most definitely.

A: And she also -- she also worked at International House in New York City. And later, you know, we had foreign students living with us. Most of -- most of them were -- we didn’t have a lot of them, but the few we did have were mostly Japanese. So anyway, then I -- I got my BA in history from Cornell College. And then I immediately went into the Peace Corps. And it was -- let’s see -- you know
Kennedy at that time -- there was a newsletter that the Peace Corps was putting out, and Kennedy was, you know, giving these -- I remember hearing them on the radio, talking about the Peace Corps and, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” And I was --

Q: Wow, was --

A: At the time, it was like oh, my gosh, you know. And it was like --

Q: That’s incredible. You still hear about that in the history books. But it’s incredible to hear like a first-hand account of that actually putting a positive impact on someone, you know.

A: Oh, gosh yeah, but when I think back now about okay, so I’m 21. I have a BA in history. So, what can I really -- you know, what can you do for your country? (laughs) Really at that point, not -- I don’t think you have much to offer. (Laughs) You know. But anyway, at the time, it was like it almost like your patriotic duty, you know (laughs) to -- to -- of course, you know I was intrigued with it and I really, really wanted to do it. And in Peace Corps training, it was interesting. They didn’t know what to do with us. This was very early Peace Corps. And I was
assigned to go to Ecuador and I think that I had originally applied to go to Southeast Asia. And, but because I knew Spanish, I think, is why they assigned me to Ecuador. And I’m really glad it worked out that way, you know.

Q: Yeah, that probably sounds about right.

A: Yeah. But Peace Corps training was so bizarre because I don’t think they knew what in the world to train us for, you know, because --

Q: Was it kind of like a new -- like just people going abroad to the Peace Corps, was that kind of like a new phenomenon around that time? Is that why?

A: Oh, yeah.

Q: Okay, got you.

A: And yeah, because this -- this was -- let’s see, it was ’60 -- I was there from ’63 to about halfway into ’66. So -- and I graduated in ’63 and I thought I was going right immediately into the Peace Corps. But I was supposed to go to Puerto Rico as part of the training and they had an epidemic of dengue fever there. And so it was postponed, you know. And so I can remember I was on my way to Ecuador. I was in a bookstore in -- I believe it must’ve been Miami, because it was a big airport, you know, flying to Ecuador -- and I remember the radio, the words, you
know, coming on about that President Kennedy has been shot. It was just like oh, my God.

Q: Right before leaving?
A: Right before I left, yes.

Q: Oh, my goodness.
A: Yeah. But anyway, the training I went through was interesting because, you know, they sent me to Denver to do the ropes course, this army ropes course, you know.

Q: That’s (inaudible). (laughs)
A: And we had to do all this running. And we had to do intensive Spanish, you know.

Q: Hey, am I going to be doing this kind of stuff every day when I’m over in Ecuador? (laughter)
A: Yeah. And then -- and then they took us -- they did more training in Ecuador. Of course, some of the history. But they just didn’t really know what to do. They took us to the ocean and dumped us out and they made us learn this drownproofing technique, you know. Here I am up in the mountains. I’m assigned up in the mountains.

Q: It sounds like Marine Corps training a little bit.
A: Well, it was bizarre, because you did it, you know, where you were in a pair, with another person. But you just had to learn this technique where you basically, you know,
assume that you’ve been dumped out in the ocean. And so, you do this very simple technique where you just lie in the water and you raise -- you pull your arms down and you raise your head up to breathe. And other than that, you just are there.

Q: You’re just floating.

A: Yeah.

Q: Wow, that’s incredible.

A: I know. I know. So, we did that. Oh, gosh, what all did they make us do? Oh, and before that, in Denver, I -- they had taken us to Aspen, you know. I think they were just testing us psychologically, you know, to see how we responded to stuff, you know. So anyway --

Q: Aspen like Colorado?

A: Aspen, Cola-- yeah. And -- and so, what they did is they -- they basically said -- or took us skiing. See, I had never downhill skied, you know, so. So anyway, I’m -- I just took a lesson. And then I decided well, they’re paying for this. I mean, I guess I’ll have to do this. After the lesson, I’ll go up and come down. And so I did, but I was way out of control. You know, I mean, I just didn’t really know how to --
Q: Yeah, that’s definitely not something you should be able to just pick up and just do.

A: No, I don’t think so. It’s pretty dangerous stuff. (laughs) But I didn’t you know -- anyway, but I did it. And then I’d get down to the bottom and I’d think oh, I’d better not that do that -- or what was it? No, I’d get up to the top and I think oh, I’d better not do this. And then I’d get down to the bottom and it was fun, so I’d go back up, you know (inaudible). (Laughs)

Q: And try it one more time. (laughs)

A: And I managed not to hurt anybody else or myself. So. But I think they had psychologists checking us all the time, just to see our attitudes about whatever they were getting us to do, you know.

Q: Like her face at the top the mountain and then when she gets back down to the bottom of the mountain?

A: I don’t know. You know, they just were -- I don’t know why -- what they thought they were doing, to tell you the truth, because they didn’t tell us, of course. (laughs)

Q: How long was that, like was this whole process going on before you were actually like shipped out to Ecuador?

A: Let’s see -- I think it’s -- it was two -- a couple of months or something like that, you know.
Q: Wow.
A: Or maybe not quite that long. But the other thing they -- I know they got us to rappel down a dam, you know, and I thought that was fun. You know, it was fun to rappel down a dam. Because I really trusted the guy who was belaying us.
Q: Yeah.
A: (inaudible). I thought he really knew what he was doing, you know. So anyway, I think they were just exposing us to a lot of new experiences and seeing how we reacted. (laughs)
Q: It definitely sounds like you have a little bit of the similar adventurous attitudes from your mother. It definitely comes out.
A: I think so.
Q: A lot of people would probably look at that and say, “No way, Jose.”
A: Yeah, I think that -- that could be true. And then, you know, my sister went to Nigeria in the Peace Corps, and then my youngest sister, Loll, -- well, I call her Loll, it’s Laura -- she -- well, I -- I’ll just back up here a minute and say you know, Judy and I were in graduate school in Austin and then Loll being ten years younger, she came
there as a -- an undergraduate. And then she -- this was a
time, you know, when everybody was experimenting with
living with people and sex and drugs and blah blah. So,
she was sort of freaked out. And she had a friend who was
going to go to India on a spiritual quest and so my sister
went with her. And the friend stayed in India I think for
about six months and then came home. But my sister went on
to Nepal and ended up teaching English to some young monks
at a monastery in Kathmandu called Kopan and ended up
saying, oh, I don’t know, two or three (laughs) -- I don’t
know how long -- she was there quite a while. And my mom
was freaked out about that. And so, I remember us saying
to her, “Well, why don’t you go visit to her (laughter) and
see how things are? You know, go on over there.” And she
did. And she really loved the lama that my sister was her
main teacher, Lama Yeshi she really loved being around him,
too. So anyway, that all kind of worked out. And but we
all lived some time in a different culture, you know. And
I think for Judy and me, you know, that was -- well her
experience might -- Judy’s experience was pretty harsh
because Nigeria was embroiled in a civil war. And she was
assigned to teach I believe it was chemistry in a -- it was
a much rougher environment in Africa in terms of your
health and so you had to pay attention in more so. And
anyway, so the different critters, snakes, (laughs) or
insects or whatever. The water was always an issue.

Q: All sorts of things.

A: Yeah. Anyway, she -- she was -- she was teaching chemistry
I believe it was and then she realized that a lot of the --
the girls there needed to learn different kind of skills
than just chemistry. And so, she tried to start a
different kind of program there to teach them the kinds of
things they really need to learn, and -- and but the Civil
War, after sh-- I think it was after she had been there
about a year, things really got out of hand and --- and
there was a lot of violence. The Igbo people were the more
entrepreneurial people who would -- it’s a tribal -- it was
a tribal warfare, you know. And so they had spread out
into other parts of the country, and she was living in that
Igbo part of Nigeria and so she-- there were a lot of
killings going on. And so she saw some real violent stuff
with, I think, headless bodies, you know, being brought
back on trains.

Q: Oh, my goodness.

A: Some really bad stuff. So, she was evacuated. The Peace
Corps evacuated them over there.
Q: So that’s what brought – that’s what brought Judy back to the States?
A: Yeah.

Q: So, you said you were there from ’63 to ’66, right?
A: Yeah, and she was only there for a year. And then she came back to -- to Dallas. And she was sick. She had -- she was running a really high fever. And I remember my mom and I were trying to put ice packs on her head and trying to figure out what in the world, who to take her to, you know, because oh, trying to find somebody who knew anything about tropical medicine, you know.

Q: Yeah, exactly, because she obviously came back with something.
A: Yeah. So, we finally did find somebody. And they -- first I thought she had malaria, but then it turned out she had a swollen spleen, if I remember this right. And that it just took her some rest and recovery, you know, and that -- and then she seemed to fully recover there and then she went to San Francisco. She -- you know, her -- her love -- her -- what she would have done with her life in terms of her life’s work was science. But given the state of the world and the Vietnam War and all this stuff (laughs) you know, she -- she went to San Francisco and ended up working on a
heart-lung machine at hospital there but she also was very involved with antiwar protests. And -- and then things weren’t going super well for her. Some guy had followed her back from the Peace Corps. You know, the Peace Corps policy was pretty much to break up any relationships, you know, or push -- they didn’t want to be involved with any divorce or anything more involved. So, so this guy was probably kind of stalking her now is what I think it was. You know, he was following her around. And she called me and we talked. And I said, “Well, why don’t you come to Austin?”. Because I was, by that time, I had been -- I went back to Dallas after I got out of the Peace Corps, because I hadn’t been home for two and a half years. And I need to reconnect, you know, and especially with my sister being 10 years younger. And so, I had got a job working in the archaeology lab at SMU, Southern Methodist University. And I’d just kind of teach myself, you know, to process film after I took pictures of artifacts and stuff like that. So, I stayed there for about nine months. And then my real goal coming back was to get a Masters in anthropology. And so I then transferred down to UT to attend. And it was their first year of teaching anthropology, you know a Mass-- for a master’s level. And
so, I got in to that. And -- and I stayed in it for a number -- a number of months because -- well, I told you before I’d had this really severe culture shock when I got back. (laughs) And then I -- oh, oh, I should back up there and tell you, I -- I had gone to the Galapagos Islands. Once I knew that I was going to Ecuador, I was determined to get there.

Q: Oh, wow

A: And so I got kind of pretty bold about getting on a bus, if -- because the buses didn’t come -- I was out in a rural area. I was like 45 minutes off of a bus line. I had been assigned to work with the Misión Andina in Tunibamba, which is a little Indian village, you know. But there are three little villages there. But the Mission Adina built roads and bridges and schools, and you know, all kinds of infrastructure projects. But so, I was assigned with another woman to this village. And we had gone around with -- to get to know people, you know, had gone around with a nurse’s aide, a woman who was a nurse’s aide. And just -- that’s how we found out that the communities had lost their corn crop like three years in a row. And so, we got really concerned about going to the military junta and trying to get some water for people to irrigate their crop with. And
so we did the -- her name -- I forget her last name. Her name was Emily. But we went and talked to the military junta. That was very early Peace Corps, when the Peace Corps was in high standing, you know. I can’t believe some of the stuff we did. We went and talked to the military junta about the fact that these people have lost their corn crop three years in a row and really need some water for irrigation. And they gave us what was called a Supreme Decree. And then we then started working with the Mission Adina to collect and distribute the water. And so, you can see, me with my BA in history, I’m going to be working on an irrigation project. (laughs)

Q: Yeah, it’s funny how that works out.
A: Yeah. But anyway, so Emily got involved with another Peace Corps volunteer. As I said, they -- their policy was to break things up. So, they sent her way down to southern Ecuador and so I had the choice to stay and do development work on this project or find a place to relocate. And so, I looked around little bit but then I decided to stay and just worked on the project myself, with mostly the Indian men because they speak Spanish and they -- we -- well, I --

Q: How’d you learn to speak Spanish? Did you learn that up in Chicago?
A: Oh, I learned that -- I took French in high school, and then I took Spanish in college.

Q: Okay. And did the French help you learn Spanish a little bit?

A: Well, it was very confusing because then I’d mix the two languages up.

Q: (laughs) Speak the first half in French and the second half in Spanish?

A: Yes. (laughs) Or tests I would write screwed up, you know, (laughs) some in French and some in Spanish. But -- oh, and then my third year of college, I had gone to InterAmerican University in (Santa Mon?) is it Santa Mon -- Puerto Rico. So, I had learned more Spanish there.

Q: Got you, once you (inaudible) yourself.

A: This was my third year abroad. And then I came back and finished my fourth year at Cornell College. And gosh, when I think about the harshness of coming back from Puerto Rico to -- to Iowa winters, oh my gosh. It was so cold. (laughs)

Q: Going from the tropical weather to pretty much hell freezing over.

A: Yup, yup. So anyway, let’s see, I got myself off of track here. Where I was -- anyway, I was going to get to the
Galapagos one way or another. And I had -- when I got nice
-- I told you I had gotten pretty bold about getting on a
bus because in this rural area where it was 45 minutes off
the bus line, I had to walk, you know. The muscles in my
legs got a whole lot stronger (laughs) from all the walking
I had to do.

Q: Just hiking around everywhere.

A: Yeah. And I lived with this Indian family. About -- it
was about eight and nine thousand feet high, on the side of
a mountain. And in a room that had been kind of in an
older school, or an earlier school, when they’d had just a
one-room little school. And -- and so I would open my
shutter in the morning and look out at another mountain.
(laughter) It was cold. But I knew a guy who was in the
Peace Corps who is a mountain climber and he told me how to
insulate underneath here, your sleeping bag, as well as
above it. I had a cot. And a little stove. But I ate
with the family, some of the time. Anyway, so, back to the
Galapagos. I was trying to get there. I just really knew
I had to get there while I was there. So I had heard, I
was in for my final physical, and I had heard that the Air
Force, the Ecuadorian Air Force, was going to go out and do
a surveillance flight of the San Juan -- oh, not San Juan,
the Galapagos Islands. And I just went over and said that I’d like to go, you know, or something. (laughs) I just went over and got on that flight.

Q: Oh, my gosh.

A: And the woman who was replacing me, she -- we both got on it. It took me quite a while to -- the reason I stayed more than two years was because I was trying to find a replacement to finish the irrigation project. So, so we got out the Galapagos and I didn’t know where we were going to stay and I didn’t know how long I’d be there. So I did manage to find -- there was an American who had three or four or five, I can’t remember, little cabins out there and we stayed in one of them. And actually, the Sierra Club was out there doing their book on the Galapagos when I was there. And actually, the replica of the Beagle came through. They had been rebuilt, or they had built a mock or a something, a reincarnation of the Beagle. The Darwin was on, it came through, too.

Q: Wow.

A: And it was really an interesting time to be there.

Q: Wow, talk about living with history, literally.
A: And I had to call my mother and tell -- by ham radio -- and
tell her that I was -- where I was and that I didn’t know
when I was getting back. (laughs)

Q: You knew you were getting there, but other than that.

A: Yeah, yeah. So, she was then working at Fondren Library at
Southern Methodist University and she wanted me to come
home and drive with her to Brandeis. My sister was going
to school, Judy, at Brandeis. And she was graduating and
then going to go off to Nigeria in the Peace Corps. So it
all kind of worked out in the sense that a big military C
transport came through and I was able to get us on that,
that ship coming back. The Sierra Club was on it, too, and
so -- but anyway, it was -- it was a month. I was out
there a month because we couldn’t get back. (laughs) There
was no regular transportation.

Q: Wow. I bet it was so beautiful out there that I can’t even
imagine.

A: Oh, gosh. No hotels. No -- no developments like there is
now. I can’t go there now. I don’t want to see it now.

Q: Yeah, like it’s probably so beautiful now but that’s just --
you can’t even -- yeah, you can’t compare any other place
in the world probably to that.
A: Well, and it’s really -- the Ecuadorian government has allowed people to live there. And so, it’s overrun with people, and --

Q: (inaudible)

A: And then -- yeah. So I -- anyway.

Q: That’s a shame.

A: That was a -- an incredibly amazing experience, too.

Q: After Galapagos did that kind of like conclude your time abroad in the Peace Corps and then you went back to the States?

A: Yes. Yeah, I had to come home. And then I did drive with my mom up to Brandeis to, you know, we -- send off my sister to Nigeria.

Q: Got you.

A: And while I was there, in addition to working on this irrigation project, I knew the teacher of the school had a teacher who lived in the next little town. And she was a Mestizo. There is a mixture of the Indian and Spanish.

Q: Mestizo, yeah.

A: So again, it’s a different class level, you know. But I got to know her and then she and I did a project together where we took these -- there was an amazing train trip if you ever go to Ecuador that goes from the Highlands down to
the -- to the ocean. And I wanted to -- well, that’s another story I’ll tell you. I wanted to take the kids on this train. They had never been on a train, you know. And to see saltwater, or to see black people and saltwater and just all the differences, you know, there. And so, we did that. We arranged to do that. And then we also worked on a project to create a playground in front of the school, because they had nowhere really to play that was level, you know, so there were some other projects like that.

Q: Just because the terrain itself was just too dangerous for the kids to be able to?

A: It was just too sloped --

Q: Wow.

A: -- too -- yeah. So anyway, and then of course you realize we had no phones then.

Q: Yeah.

A: You know, we had no -- I remember that my Peace Corps rep, it was like I said very early Peace Corps, and -- and he knew that I wanted to go to the Galapagos. And he would try to send me a telegram if he ever heard -- they had these schooners that periodically went out there. Actually, there were some people who had sort of, you know, left, you know, during World War II and -- and there was a
sea captain who was -- I think he was from Norway or something, or somewhere in -- in Europe -- had brought his -- it was going to be his island paradise or something like that, you know. It was just a fantasy, but anyway, he and his wife there -- were there. And they would take in people who were traveling and you know, put them up, feed them. And then they raised cattle. And so sometimes there would be a schooner that would be taking goods to and from the mainland, you know. But it wasn’t regular. And so when my Peace Corps rep would try to get a telegram to me to tell me that, because he knew I wanted to go to the Galapagos, that the schooner was going to go, I could not get down out of the mountains fast enough, you know, to catch it. So that’s why I was pretty determined by the time I got to -- that I was going to get there. (laughs)

Q: You were going to catch that schooner.

A: Yeah. But it was fun staying with these folks out on -- on the island that we stayed on because there was a little what they call Galapaguara. That’s where they were raising some of the -- the small turtles to be big enough to -- to survive because pirates had bought -- brought goats to the islands for food for themselves and gotten loose on the
islands, you know. And so the goats would kill the little turtles.

Q: They’d eat all the babies.

A: Yeah. So that was interesting. It was called Charles Darwin Research Station.

Q: That’s interesting that there was still like, to some extent, like conservation efforts, even way back then, which I’m sure they had -- there was probably way more numerous sea turtles than there are now.

A: Oh, yeah. Gosh, the wildlife was amazing because it’s so tame. You know, they’re not afraid.

Q: They don’t see people every day. They weren’t thinking they were going to shoot them or something.

A: The seals and the iguanas, yeah. And the birds, you know. There’s -- and that’s -- Darwin’s theory about the different shaped birds’ beaks --

Q: Yeah, the beaks.

A: and different islands, all that. Yeah. Yeah. So anyway. So I got -- well, let’s see. Well, I guess that’s pretty much -- well, my mom did come visit me while I was in Ecuador and we went to Peru, and traveled by bus and went up to Lake Titicaca. I went with a friend. I had a friend who was in the Peace Corps who was stationed in Guayaquil,
which is a big coastal city. And we met up and then went with my mom to Peru and Lake Titicaca. And then we went on to Machu Picchu. So -- that was -- Machu Picchu’s --

Q: That definitely sounds like a pretty incredible experience.
A: It’s amazing place. It is just full of -- just this feeling of spirits of people living there in the past.

Q: Holiness.
A: Yeah. It was just -- it was really a fun time. I think it’s again pretty touristed (sic) now. And I think there’s problems with tourists having too much stuff and people in need, you know, it’s rough really.

Q: It takes away from the native population?
A: Yeah. So, anyway, I was very fortunate to get to go to these places before they were very developed.

Q: Yeah, so, I just want to ask. When we talked the other night, and we began -- we were beginning to kind of dive into like your Austin activism. You’d said that you thought that your experience with the Peace Corps were a big part of just like your overall I guess like attitude change like towards the world. And it almost kind of sounds like --
A: Right.
Q: -- the trip that your mom took to Europe, like her biking trip, it kind of parallels the trips that you and Judy took I guess. Like you all -- you went abroad and saw the world and came back almost enlightened, I guess, in a sense.

A: Mm-hmm. Oh, yeah.

Q: That gave you a whole new attitude towards, like when you came back to the States. Can you talk about that a little bit?

A: Oh, yeah. I think that’s really true. You know, it’s interesting, I think it would have been helpful to me if somebody had interviewed me not too long after I got back to the States, you know to help me --

Q: When the feelings were still fresh?

A: Yeah, to help me put the pieces together better. Cause I -- you know, I was so -- I had such severe culture shock when I came back. And -- and there really wasn’t anybody to talk to very much, you know. And I remember when I was in graduate school there, I got -- I was very confused. Well, just -- I’ll back up a minute and say when I was in Ecuador, my sister sent me -- you know all those expectations about what you’re going to do when you grow up or what kind of life you want to have. And you know, we came from a very -- a relatively sta-- it was -- it was a --
- how would you say -- it was a family that was pretty -- relatively happy, stable.

Q: Yeah, stable.

A: You know, just, you know, I mean, there was no reason for us --

Q: Tight knit.

A: Yeah. I mean, we lost our dad very young, you know, and things were pretty difficult, you know, for us after a while. But all those growing, younger years were pretty -- and my parents didn’t argue. They probably should have a little more, you know what I mean? But, you know. In front of us. But just to show that people do disagree. But anyway, so I think -- oh, gosh, now I’ve lost my train of thought here. You -- I know I was trying to get back -- oh, yeah, to the opening my eyes to things. So, since I didn’t have anybody to talk to after I got back from the Peace Corps, my sister had been sending me articles occasionally or a book. And I was pretty confused about who and what kind of life I wanted to have. At that time, I didn’t know that I wanted to get married and have kids and live in suburbia and blah, blah, blah. I just wasn’t at all sure I was the white picket fence. I mean, I just wasn’t thinking that was -- but it’s interesting that
neither my sister or I got married because, you know, like I said, our family was -- the role model was different. So anyway, so she had sent me *The Feminine Mystique*. I don’t know if you’ve heard of that book. It was written by Betty Freidan.

A: Betty Freidan, yes. I’ve read a couple excerpts.

Q: Yeah, and she -- one of the main points I remember in it is that if -- if a woman gets married and has kids and goes lives -- and lives in suburbia without the sort of interesting, you know, people that -- you know, in other words, if you don’t have some things to engage with, whether it’s books or people or ideas, or you’re mostly just taking care of kids at the house and doing all this stuff and you’re in isolation.

A: It takes away from like the woman’s individualism kind of?

Q: Well, and also a lot of women became alcoholics, you know, and just drowned themselves that way or numbed themselves. So anyway, coming back, you know, that was then, you know, coming to Austin and realizing -- it was a very different time, you know. The Vietnam War was going on. People were working in protest however they could against the draft and you know. And the - it was questioning authority. Anybody over 30 (laughs) was questionable.
A: Was that kind of like an attitude towards the entire city, or just the people working around the campus? Or just kind of everyone?

Q: Yeah, just yeah, it was just like question authority, you know, of anybody over a certain age, so. (laughs) But anyway, I think that going back to getting my eyes opened while I was in Ecuador, I think the kind of poverty that I saw and had to figure out how to deal with, you know, little kids who were in bad shape and they would be trying to sell me chiclets, these little gums and stuff. Or get me to have them carry my bags so they could get a little money. I just was unused to all of that. And, of course, the animals. If the people are in bad shape, the animals are even worse shape, you know what I mean? And you can’t take care of everything. You can’t. There’s just no way, you know. But that was more in the -- not so much in the rural environment where I was, but, you know, in the -- in the towns and the provincial capital, and stuff like that, where you saw that more.

Q: The urban areas.

A: Yeah, the urban areas. And also politically I, you know, got introduced to, you know, some of the -- just the abusive use of power by US companies and -- or foreign
companies you know, and people with the copper mining in -- in Chile and stuff like that, and how people were being treated in the mines. You know, you just got introduced to a lot of stuff that I wouldn’t have been otherwise. And I had always considered politics to be kind of dirty business. I was not going to have anything to do with it. (laughs) And then it’s like smack --

Q: A pretty common attitude at the time, right?
A: -- smack it in your face, you know. It’s like no, can’t keep your eyes closed. So, yeah. So then when I came -- came back and finally got to Austin and into that program, well -- let me just back up and say mother knew that I was pretty mixed up and didn’t know really what I -- I guess maybe -- I should have thought this timing through better because I came, I got in the anthro program. I did that for a few months until I realized there was nothing about women. Nothing about women in this program. Or wasn’t going to be. It was all old male anthro theory, you know. And so -- and I was interested in studying kind of networking theory, you know, in small communities, like villages, like Indian villages, because you know that women are a part of all of that.
Q: Yeah, so it wasn’t exactly what you thought you’d signed up for?

A: No. And I couldn’t communicate with the women that well when I was there anyway, because the language (inaudible) was hard language. I tried to rate myself high in Spanish so I’d get some, but they just gave me a book. And it was not helpful. I learned some. I could speak a little bit. But not a conversation. So, I ended up working with the men. You know, going to, arranging meetings to go meet with the Mission Adina. And you know, and they were -- I was as tall as they are, or taller, you know.

Q: Yeah, you and your sister are both like just about six foot, right, or something?

A: Well no. I -- she’s six -- she’s five eleven. I was five seven. But I was still a little bit taller than some of them, or most of them.

Q: I got you.

A: But we got along pretty well. I would have to arrange to get -- help them get to meetings, you know, like on the bus or on the train or whatever it was, you know.

Q: I’m sure you were pretty savvy with that, having been in Ecuador arranging for the Air Force to take you -- to take you places. I’m sure you can do that just fine.
A: (laughs) Well, that was at the end with the Air Force, but -- but I -- they had -- the Peace Corps tried to scare us, you know, about as a woman traveling alone, they really worked hard on us to scare us into being super cautious. And -- and that was -- I mean, I think there was legitimate reason to do that, because I know a woman who was very blonde and very small and stayed in some kind of government-run -- I don’t know, it was a hotel or something -- but you know what I mean, it wasn’t a fancy place at all. It was kind of a railroad hotel or something. She was attacked and had her dress ripped off, you know. I mean, there were -- you had to -- you didn’t walk at night by yourself. You just didn’t do that. But -- but I got to the point where I would travel by myself during the day on the bus. I had to, you know. And guys would make comments all the time, you know, the Mestizo guys. Not the Indian men, no. And so, you just kind of get used to it. And shouldn’t let it bug you too much, you know.

Q: It gave you a little bit of a thick skin probably.

A: Yeah, you did have to get that. And also, with the -- with seeing the kids and the animals and stuff like that, you just had to tough -- sort of harden yourself to some of that. Anyway, let’s see, you were still asking me about
opening my eyes. So then, when I came back to -- to the States and went through that anthro program and realized okay, I’m not getting anywhere here with what I’m interested in studying. I had been reading The Rag on the streets, you know, buying it on the streets. And it was full of fascinating articles about all kinds of stuff that was going on in this country and in the world. And I was like okay, I’m going to phase out of graduate school and start working on The Rag. (laughter) So, I did that. I volunteered. And you know, it was started, I think I told you, by these male triumvirate graduate students. And so, the women who were working on it then did the more menial work, you know, typing the copy and editing -- I mean typing it after it had been edited by them, and -- and then doing the paste up. It was all manual then. You know, it was a weekly paper. It was a lot of work. We’d stay up all night the night before taking it to the printer. And sometime along in there -- I can’t remember exactly the timing -- my mom knew I was pretty confused about what I wanted to do. And she arranged -- she helped me with financially to see a shrink when I was there because, you know, feminism was -- I had gotten involved with the early Women’s Liberation Movement, where we met in each other’s
backyards, you know, and talked about what it was like, what it felt like, to grow up female in this culture, you know, and shared stories. Because you know, so much of -- of what you often feel is that you’re having this experience but nobody else is. Or you just don’t realize.

Q: Yeah, just finding common ground with other women.

A: Yeah. And so that was really fascinating and -- and it helped me feel less strange and out of it. Do you know what I mean? Like because I didn’t want to get married.

Q: Yeah, just like less alone.

A: Yeah. And so -- or conform to what society wants me to do. Because I think that was a -- a lot of the idea about marriage at the time, too, was I can have a legitimate relationship with a person I really care about and not have to be married because the state says that’s the only legitimate way to have a relationship, you know. That’s what I mean about questioning authority. Why should we have to get married in order to have a caring relationship? So.

Q: Oh, yeah, absolutely. Who were like some of these other women that you were having these -- like or these meetings were going with. Were there other graduate like level students or just women around your all’s age in Austin?
A: Oh, just women. There would just be -- you know, there’d be like in The Rag or just posters around saying, you know, something about the, you know, Women’s Liberation meeting in so-and-so’s backyard or something. (laughter) And we’d just -- you’d just go. No, it wasn’t related to school.

Q: So I thought that I’d read – it’s crazy because a lot of the -- a lot of the things that I’ve read online were kind of similar to what you’re saying but definitely like a little bit off, like they weren’t entirely accurate. But I thought I had read something online that -- where in Austin where like the new Scientology building is, there used to be some like sort of kind of like exclave for the Women’s Liberations Movement. Does that -- does that ring a bell? I think that --

A: Is it – some kind of what did you say? Some kind of what?

Q: Like an exclave or like a meeting spot kind of?

A: Oh.

Q: I had an address for it -- let me see. It says 7-11 or 799 San Antonio Street. So it was like right – I think it was right off of Guadalupe Street.

A: Right. I don’t -- I didn’t participate in that.
Q: Got you.

A: So I don’t know. I’m sure -- not to say it didn’t happen, because I bet it did.

Q: Well, it’s wild because just I feel like the things that you’re telling me about these meetings are probably what that was referring to in all honesty. Just the articles and stuff that you try to read from, they’re just shaky, honestly. Which is a large reason why we’re all doing these research projects.

A: Oh. Well, The Rag, you know, had information about -- there would be articles about Women’s Liberation, you know, in The Rag. And then -- and then my sister came -- let’s see -- I’m trying to remember the timing on this. Oh, let me finish that thing about my mom helping me go to the shrink because, you know, I was so confused about what I wanted to do, and I just -- my future, after coming back from Ecuador. So -- so I couldn’t find a female shrink that, you know -- so I just ended up going weekly to this guy. It was kind of interesting because what I finally realized, he didn’t know -- he didn’t know or understand anything about feminism. This is early feminism, you know, just trying to figure out what this means, could even mean.
And I know it means different things to different people, but and so --

Q: So you were trying to explain to him what you are feeling and it was all just looking at you like you’re foreign, like you were crazy or something.

A: Yeah, he just - just what in the world I was talking about, I don’t imagine. So what I finally realized after some months was that I was talking to myself in the process of going weekly to talk to this man, you know. And so then after a while I realized things have changed and I don’t need to keep going. So it was just interesting, you know, as a part of everything else I was doing, because I was working on The Rag. And there were all -- you know, there were big demonstrations in Austin then against the war and for women having the right to make their own reproductive decisions, you know, about birth control, abortion, whatever it is, you know. And big -- you know, being in the streets with hundreds of people. And you know, we had buddies -- a buddy system then because we sometimes were tear gassed, you know.

Q: Oh, my gosh.

A: And you had to be pre -- you had to be prepared for something to happen.
Q: By like other protesters or like the police force?
A: No, the police force.
A: Got you.
A: The police in Texas are very intimidating, you know, and I think they are -- well, I think -- well, I don’t know in general now that we’ve sort of given military arms, the police is the military surplus, you know, I mean it’s like now they’re, in some places, they’re really out of control, too. But I remember there was a -- a demonstration about the fact that the you see -- what’s it called -- the University Commons was it or something? I think that’s what it was called.
Q: Yeah, the University Commons.
A: Yeah, that it used to be that anybody could go to the Commons, you know, whether you were a student or not. And then they tried to shut down the Commons from non-students. And there was a big protest about that, you know. And then they brought in the SWAT team. I had never seen anything like that.
Q: Oh, my goodness.
A: It was just crazy. The violence level in Texas -- one reason I don’t want to live there, I mean, the violence
level is so extreme. I remember a little black kid stole a loaf of bread and got shot or something. It was just like whoa. Austin’s like a little oasis there.

Q: Oh, yeah, definitely Austin is definitely separate from largely the rest of Texas in regards to that. Most definitely, I’d agree.

A: Yeah, yeah, so. So, between that, the violence in the climate (laughs) I had to get out of there, you know. But let’s see. So -- back to -- working -- so my sister came when I was working on The Rag. And she then was going to get her PhD in molecular biology. And then she started working on The Rag, too.

Q: So, you were working on The Rag a little bit before?

A: Yeah, before she came.

Q: Did you kind of like recruit her, or did it just kind of happen?

A: Yeah, just she knew, I had probably been sending it to her. (laughs) I’m sure I had been. And so, she decided that she was going to do her science work in the morning. She was incredibly organized. And then her political work in the afternoon, you know. And she actually was very involved with not only The Rag but trying to start a low income abortion clinic for low income women. And because, you
know, abortion was illegal. First of all, her first project was a birth control information center. You know, we couldn’t even talk about abortion then because it was illegal and you couldn’t talk -- so, you couldn’t talk about it on the phone.

Q: I think that center is what I was kind of trying to refer to earlier. But yeah, continue.

A: And so, *The Rag* was in the Y. *The Rag* office was in the Y. And there was a phone there. And then so the birth control information center was trying to give women all kinds of information about birth control so that they could probably hopefully prevent having the need for an abortion. But if a woman needed an abortion, you know, my sister and one of her grad student -- the women she was in graduate school with -- had gone to Mexico to the border -- I don’t remember exactly which community or communities there -- to try to find safe clinics that they could refer women to. And they would even drive them if they needed -- if they couldn’t get there. They’d try to figure it out, try to help them. But you could not talk about it on the phone. You knew that the phone was tapped. It made funny noises. And so, I remember Jim Wheelis, my sister’s long-time partner, who went to law school there in Austin. And he
was instrumental -- well, my sister was very instrumental
in, you know, the beginnings of the Roe v. Wade case, you
know. That’s a whole other story. Has anybody talk to you
about that?

Q: No, not particularly. We haven’t really met with our other
classmates. We’re going to start doing that this next week
or two and start sharing all of our knowledge.

A: Okay.  Okay, so you know, my sister met Jim at The Rag.
He was working on a Chicano newspaper on the east side of
Austin and he had -- they had heard that my sister was
working on a project with some women on the -- Chicano
women on the east side about some rat problem that they
had. She was trying to -- to help them deal with this
problem. So he came to interview her and then about three
or four weeks later they were living with each other.
(laughs) And then he found out that he could get a
scholarship. His father had been in the military and he
could get a free ride to law school, you know. And so, he
went to law school. And during this time, you know, The
Rag -- the regents, UT regents, decided that they were
going to ban the sale of The Rag on campus. And so, of
course, you can imagine the free speech issue that
(inaudible).
Q: People did not like that.
A: Well, so we -- we filed suit to stop that, you know. And we appealed it all the way up to the Supreme Court, the US Supreme Court.
Q: Wow.
A: And we won that case.
Q: Wow, that’s incredible.
A: And -- and -- and then on the basis of winning that, my sister decided that we needed to challenge the Texas statute that outlawed or you know, basically made abortion illegal, that that had to be challenged. It had to be -- you know, it just had to be stopped, or whatever you would call it legally. We had to overturn it.
Q: Winning that appeal kind of like inspired her.
A: Yeah. So that, winning that Rag case, yeah. And so she obviously had talked with Jim. And then Jim knew Sarah Weddington, who was a classmate of his in law school. And they talked with her. And then as a result of that, the Roe v. Wade case was developed and taken to the Supreme Court. And Sarah argued that before the Supreme Court when she was 26 years old.
Q: Wow.
A: And won it. And -- and then because my sister’s idea was that we can’t wait to go state by state by state, you know. And -- and then, of course, it’s the -- in some ways I’m glad my sister isn’t alive right now for how bad things are for women, you know. Because to have birth control even being -- they’re trying to outlaw birth control, I mean, so women --

Q: Yeah, it’s unbelievable.

A: -- can have no control or plan for your life, you know. (laughs) Give me a break.

Q: That’s incredible. I didn’t know. I didn’t really know any of that.

A: Mm-hmm. Yeah. I know, see, that’s the thing. And so, she was trying to start that low income abortion clinic before she actually moved to Montana, you know, that -- so that was later. You know, when she was in school there, she was doing her science work and she did get her PhD in molecular biology. But she had said, you know, if the world was a more perfect place, I would do science. But I can’t. I need to do this other work.

Q: She felt too compelled to help in that change.

A: Yeah, she -- yeah, she taught women’s studies here through the extension, you know. She just taught what needed to be
taught. She taught a class on AIDS. You know, she just --
she gave talks in the social work department. And you
know, she just basically saw herself as a resource person,
you know. But particularly for women. And I think it was
interesting, too, because you know, she had always excelled
in school. And -- and yet when she was going to go to UT,
you know, the recommendations that she got, one of her
professors -- I -- I don’t remember exactly how this
happened -- but had basically said well, that he would not
recommend a woman because a woman will just get married.
And then when she got to graduate school and realized that
there were no women professors in her department, that’s
when she -- her eyes got way wide opened to what was
happening with women, how they were being discriminated
against, and what women’s lives were like when they
couldn’t control their -- their reproduction in terms of
birth control or abortion, in terms of getting an
education, and getting on with your life, you know.

Q: Wow.

A: Yeah. So yeah, she would have been a good one to
interview.

Q: Yeah, I’m sure she -- I’m sure she definitely would
probably have been on the list, had she still been around.
But I’m glad that I can hear her stories a little bit through you. That’s definitely incredible.

A: Oh, yeah. I mean, well, we assume that other cases challenging illegality of abortion in whatever other states they were -- it was illegal, we assume other cases were trying to go forward, you know. But this was the one that was taken up by the Supreme Court.

Q: Got you. Can you tell me the name of -- you said it was Sarah who again?

A: Weddington, Weddington.

Q: Weddington, got you.

A: W-E-D-D-I-N-G-T-O-N. And she’s still in Austin. And she has written a book about this. And she still, I think, gives presentations about it.

Q: Wow.

A: And she would -- she would be -- that was an important thing that was happening then. And I think it would be important for you to include that, you know.

Q: Yeah, most definitely. I mean, I took the name, and I’m definitely going to have to some follow-up research on that and get a bigger picture painted in my head.

A: Right, right. Yeah, I think -- and you know, Jim Wheelis now, when I moved up here, you know, my sister and him --
he were living next door to where I live now. And then --
and then he became - he worked for the attorney general’s
office here and did legal services up on a reservation, and
then he worked for -- he’s been a district judge here, then
a district judge in Libby and he just got done with that
term up in Libby and now he’s moved back here. So, he’s
living there now. And if you ever need any more
information about that early Roe v. Wade stuff, I’m sure
he would be glad to talk to you, too. He has a real
problem with hearing, so you’d have to set it up, I -- you
know, so that you could communicate. Because -- anyway,
there might be a way to do it. But then again, maybe you
have enough information just knowing he was -- he was a key
piece of this, because he was in law school and knew Sarah
Weddington, you know.

Q: Yeah, well, I mean for me, project aside, one way or
another, that is still fascinating stuff, even it isn’t --
has no regard to the project. Like in my big picture, I
definitely would want to go, one day at least, hear a
little something. So otherwise -

A: Yeah, so --

Q: Otherwise I’m fearful that it just kind of -- I mean I’m
glad that Ms. Weddington wrote a book, because otherwise
I’m fearful it just kind of gets lost or like swept under the rug or what have you.

A: Right. People don’t realize that -- well, we didn’t realize the significance of it. You know what I mean?

Q: You’re just --

A: When that case was won, it was like -- my sister thought in a very organic way, okay, we won The Rag case, now let’s try. We must overturn this statute, this Texas statute making abortion illegal. We must do this. You know, it was just part of the times, and the big -- and the big demonstrations in the streets. This is just the next step. We must do this.

Q: You all weren’t doing it to make the history books. You were doing it because you were actually passionate.

A: Well, yeah, because women were -- were -- were harming themselves horribly, or if not, killing themselves because --

Q: Trying to have home abortions and stuff?

A: Yeah, because -- or throwing themselves down the stairs, or drinking -- or doing -- that coat hanger abortion thing was real, you know. And, and people just couldn’t talk about it. There was such a stigma against. I mean, it’s a medical procedure, you know. And you would hear this, if
men could get pregnant, we wouldn’t be having these fights over this. You know what I mean, it’s something that women need to be able to decide. If they don’t have the money or resources or need to get on with their education to have another child, they’re not -- it’s not good for the child or the woman or anybody in their family to be having another child, you know. And birth control was not a hundred percent effective, you know.

Q: So were these kind of like some of the conversations that would typically go on at the information clinic, the things that like (inaudible).

A: Well, no. We could talk about birth control, but we couldn’t talk about abortion. No.

Q: Got you.

A: We could, we did talk about birth control, for sure. And of course, there was -- it was early. I mean, there weren’t nearly as many methods. And you know, I think even -- you’d have to look into this, but I think even the student Health Center wouldn’t -- wouldn’t prescribe it. You know, I mean it just wasn’t easy to get birth control.

Q: Yeah, I know. I read a little excerpt from the, I think it was Texas League for Sexual Freedom. Is that -- does that ring a bell at all? It was protesting against the
University’s stance towards sex. And it was just unbelievable, the things that I was reading on there. It was hard to believe that it came from the same university in the same world it was -- it truly put me in awe.

A: I know, and then we’re circling back to that now.

Q: Yeah.

A: You know, I mean, how in the world it can -- I’m just hopeful - my feeling is that the young women are just going to rebel. You know, we’re not putting up with this, you know. This is just too extreme, these guys who want to control you so fundamentally, so that you can’t really have a life. Are you kidding?

Q: Yeah, it’s a crazy world, most definitely.

A: Yeah, so anyway, I know this -- I’ve been circling around different parts of this but, and then I’m trying to think. You know, I worked on The Rag. I did all the different -- everything involved in putting the paper out. You know, I started off, like I said, with typing and then pasting the copy and finding graphics to illustrate articles. And then selling the paper on the streets. And you know, getting ads for the paper and just anything that needed to be done. And then I actually became the office manager for The Rag.
Like I think I got a little bit of money to do that. I had a job at the UT library as well. And let’s see.

Q: I understand that you wrote for The Rag a little bit, right? Like Thoughts on The Rag?

A: I did. Oh, I did. I did some writing, but I don’t think of myself as a writer. And so, I didn’t even remember I’d done that. (laughter) You know, but this book that Alice put together, Alice Embree and some other folks.

Q: The Celebrating The Rag book?

A: Yeah. I need to read through that. I’ve been very consumed in -- in a project here that took almost all my time and energy, plus trying to start this Airbnb. So, I have not taken time to really read through it. I look forward to doing that, you know, because it was an amazing time.

Q: I’m sure it will take you down memory lane.

A: I feel so lucky to have been the age I was at that time in Austin. It was so alive. I mean, there was so much going on, all the time. And just challenging the status quo, you know. Well, that was the Summer of Love in San Francisco and all that. It was just a really incredible time to be alive because everything was so positive about change from
the status quo of the ’50s, you know. And now look where we are.

Q: Reverted right back. (laughter)

A: We need another, you know, another hopeful time when things really will change again. I think that will happen.

Q: I think so, too. It almost saddens me a little bit. I just like hearing these stories and hearing about the passion that you all had at your age, it almost feels like students my age nowadays, they -- they’re so consumed with all the things that the university demands of us, all this homework and a lot of stuff, that a lot of people don’t even expand themselves out to like ideas like that. They’re just so caught up in the materialist things, you know.

A: Well, and also the debt load that’s on students now.

Q: Yeah, people are worried about that.

A: Yeah, because just -- I managed to get out of college without any debt. My sister -- well, my sister had a scholarship, too, but you know I mean, not that you have to have a scholarship, it should be -- in Europe, you know, where the future generations that are going to govern the countries, aren’t we going to educate them as best we can?
And we’re not going to charge them much, or if anything, to do it? You know?

Q: Yeah.

A: We need -- we need -- we need them more than we need this military crap. I mean, we spend so much money on the military.

Q: What future are you really investing in here.

A: Yeah, it’s so backwards. But anyway, I think I worked on The Rag for -- oh, and another thing that I did when I was on The Rag, you know, we would drive the paper to a printer in some little town like Waco, or I can’t remember the names of the others. Killeen or -- no (inaudible).

Q: Killeen, yeah.

A: No, I don’t think -- I went to another demonstration there at Killeen. That’s an army base or something, isn’t it? It’s a --

Q: Yeah.

A: Yeah. Well my sister and I and some other women went up there to -- I think it was a protest again. What in the world were we doing? Oh, gosh. It was just -- we were protesting the war, I’m sure, or doing something that we wanted to -- I’m not exactly remembering. But I remember that we were handing out flyers for some kind of event.
Anyway, we got picked up by military intelligence and -- and interrogated, you know.

Q: Oh, my gosh.

A: You know, there was just stuff. And I remember, too, The Rag and you know there’s articles about this in The Rag if you -- I could tell you the date if you want to look it up, but I remember that when Miss America came to the campus, you know, some of us in Women’s Liberation, you know, followed her around. We were dressed up in -- we had made sort of paper costumes with ads on them like Revlon says this, or you know, Beauty is Bad, or whatever. But I mean, we had all this - we had put all this makeup, exaggerated makeup on our faces. And anyway, so we followed her around. And then she left, you know. And -- and then there was another time when the fraternities were auctioning off women for dates or something like that.

Q: Wasn’t it -- someone was speaking about this because they -- briefly they -- some people that already had their interview kind of talked about some of the things that they went over, and someone said that it was described to them as being a slave auction almost.

A: It was. It was.
Q: That’s literally, like it was supposed to represent a slave auction, right?

A: Right. And they had the women up, way up --

Q: That’s awful.

A: - on a stage, and these guys were yelling and bidding on them. It was -- so you know what we did? We, Bill Meacham, these people -- he still lives in Austin. And I mean, you could talk to him if you wanted to. I could give you a contact name of Bill Gordon, who organized the 50th Anniversary Celebration. But anyway, Bill Meacham was dressed up as a slave driver. And some of us were dressed up as slaves. We were his harem and we had ball and chain on our legs, just made, you know what I mean? And we have pictures of that.

Q: You think they were printed in The Rag?

A: Yeah.

Q: Oh, really?

A: It was guerilla theater, you know. I mean, that was -- people were -- they just did stuff, you know to like to get it out in public, like guerilla theater or, you know, the following Miss America around, not just letting her come and have her do her thing. (laughs) Making women feel inadequate or whatever, you know.
Q: Wow that is -- I can’t believe that happened.

A: Well, there’s pictures of it in The Rag. I can tell you the date. Do you want that?

Q: Yeah. Yeah, of course, because I have access to the Celebrating The Rag book, so I can try and look it up.

A: Okay.

Q: Wow, that’s still blowing my mind, emulating a slave auction. That’s unbelievable.

(long pause)

A: You know, Nick, I thought I knew where it was. My place in -- I had to move from one place side to the other and I’ve, and I’m kind of junked up here. But there’s a guy in Austin who has all -- he turned over -- he has -- he’s a, how would you say -- he’s kind of an archivist/historian type person, but he’s also pretty compulsive about it. He’s saved every single Rag. And they’re -- and they’re in the archives there. His name is Phil Prim.

Q: Phil Prim?

A: P-H-I-L, Phil. And his phone number is 512-419-1850.

Q: Wow, thank you so much.

A: And he would know where to find this, these pictures of that Miss America. And the police were actually pretty reasonable. They didn’t -- they -- they told us as long as
we didn’t act up too much that we could stay. And they kind of got the idea. They understood what we were doing.

Q: Would the -- would the police force anticipate stuff like this happening or would they --

A: Oh, no, they got called.

Q: -- would it be already be happening and they’re like all right, here’s another protest, let’s get out there.

A: Yeah. Somebody would call them.

Q: I do have one question about -- you said that -- I know I’d read Thoughts on The Rag and it seemed like it was something that would be like a huge deal to you, but to me, it sounds like you said that you weren’t a writer and that wasn’t one of your big takeaways from your experience at The Rag.

A: Mm-hmm.

Q: If you had to fully encompass what your experiences there entailed, how would you describe that?

A: Oh, that’s a good question.

Q: Yeah, it’s definitely tricky. It’s not a --

A: No. No, it’s a good one because --

Q: Not very straightforward.

A: -- timing right now because what happened was -- I started to tell you that one about having to drive The Rag to the
paper, you know, to get it printed, to a printer to get it printed, paper printed weekly. And -- and there were times when the printer did not like the ideas or the language that was in the paper, you know, and they would refuse to print it. And so, I got the idea that I would learn to run a printing press. And so, I got into the first -- I think it was the first class the community college had in Austin on offset printing.

Q: Wow.

A: And I -- it was a two-year program. And -- and I did pretty well in it and I actually worked with the instructor some in tutoring some other folks. And mostly women were in the class. And now I wish I had interviewed them. I’d say why are you here? What are you here for?

Q: Why are you here?

A: Yeah. I was there I think in large part just because of that experience with The Rag. But also because having been in Ecuador, you know, I didn’t -- and coming -- in a very remote area, you know, I didn’t even know the Vietnam War was happening when I got home.

Q: Oh, wow.

A: I didn’t know about it. And so it’s like not knowing what’s going on in terms of the ideas, you know, or the
events and ideas in the world, I mean it’s really important. Especially, you know, the ideas that are not in the mainstream press, you know, and so I think that was part of my interest in starting a print shop. So I -- I took it. I went for a year. I took that for a year, the two-year program. In the second -- no, I studied for a year and a half. And the last six months was on how to start your own small business and I didn’t think I’d ever do that, you know what I mean? I just nope, I’m not doing that. And so I, I got a job working in a little print shop in Austin running a different kind of press that I had been trained on, you know. But no, I take that back, it was the same press but I didn’t have as much experience as a woman who came in later. And so, I lost my job. So, I went back to the instructor at the community college and I told him that I needed another referral or something. And so he said to me, how would you like to be the printer for the community college? So I had that job then for nine months. And then after that, I moved up to Montana. My sister and Jim had already moved up here a couple years before, or two, three years before. And I thought I was just going to come through and visit them and kind of figure out where I wanted to be, you know, where I wanted to relocate to. And
then I was fairly broke and I ended up getting a job here at a print shop, running a press, a different kind of press that I really didn’t want to -- to keep doing after a while. So then I switched to another one. And the guy who owned that didn’t want to let me run a printing press. He wanted me to collate NCR or run the folding -- folder. I mean, he just didn’t want to let me run the press. Well, I didn’t want to do any of those. I wanted to run a press.

Q: You know how tired I am of you telling me what I can and can’t do.

A: Yeah. So then I got another job over on campus here at the University of Montana and it was an intelligence testing service. And -- and they were just kind of -- I don’t how much I even believe in that, you know, and so. And then it was very controlling environment. Psychologists were running this thing, you know. And so -- and then they wanted me to be there on a trial basis for a month and then decide whether to hire me or not. And so then they decided they did want to hire me, but they only wanted to give me ten cents more per hour than I was making in Austin and something just snapped inside me. And I said I’m -- I looked in the Yellow Pages. I found some used printing equipment. I think it was in Salt Lake. I told them I was
sick and I went to Salt Lake and ended up buying this equipment. I didn’t have much money. And you could start something then pretty -- with very little money.

Q: With just an idea.

A: Yeah. My grandmother had given each of her grandchildren $1,000. And I had put it in Farmers Home Savings or something and after many, many years, it had become $2,000. I had $2,000. And then I had a friend from Austin who was coming through and he helped me get started. But I was out in a little hole in the wall out on the big street, where I had to go down the block to use a paper cutter. And it was just like ugh, you know. But I finally did, I got a little help from my mom, too and started Mountain Moving Press here. And it moved up here in ’75 and started Mount Moving Press in, I think, it was February of ’76, early ’76. And I had it for 20 years.

Q: Wow.

A: So I knew -- it’s high pressure, you know. We printed everything we could in offset, you know, up to 11 x 17. And so, we did, you know, all kinds of flyers, and posters, and newsletters. And it was mostly women’s organizations and environmental ones. My sister was very involved with all these women’s organizations and I did a lot of printing
for conferences, women’s conferences. We’d do softcover books. And then a Native American man came and applied for work with me. I taught some women to run presses, and then this Native American man came and wanted -- needed work badly, I could tell. And -- but he knew how to -- how to do color, four color. And I had learned that. And so we worked together for about 10 years and did color printing then, too. And then I knew I --

Q: Do you think you would have been more skeptical of working with a Native American man at the time if it wouldn’t have been for your experiences in Ecuador? Or it probably would have made no difference?

A: That’s an interesting question, too. I was probably -- you know that’s really --

Q: They’re really far apart, so it’s hard to, you know, find a correlation between the two.

A: But it might have had something to do with it in the sense that I remember being very comfortable with these Indian men, you know, in Ecuador. I remember one of the culture shock things I had when I came back, which was really profound, was everybody looked sick to me. When I came back, you know, all these white faces, all these white skins, you know, you’re just like --
Q: Everyone’s just pale, stuck staring at a piece of paper all day.

A: It was just like ugh, (laughs) you know. But anyway, but this guy actually he just showed up at the print shop one day. His family was in trouble. I mean he -- could tell from talking with him he was a skilled printer. And it was kind of a time when I needed to inclu-- you know, expand into color. And, you know, I worked with him a little bit to see if he really knew what he was talking about and he did. But his family, you know I mean he -- his family was getting in trouble often, you know. And I had to -- it was a difficult working relationship. We got along really pretty well with each other, and he was able to organize a powwow here for people and he felt good about that, you know. And then do printing programs and posters and stuff for the powwow, you know. So we got along really pretty well with each other, considering how different we were. I think I like people who are very different from me. In fact, that’s one of the things I think I liked a lot about working on The Rag, was you never knew who would be coming into the office. Very different people. You know, just from you and how you’ve grown up.

Q: Interesting.
A: And it was pretty fascinating, just really fascinating. I remember, and maybe I shouldn’t -- the name of these -- this group, I could be wrong, but it was something like this. They had come from New York City and they were pretty rough folks. But they monitored City Council meetings and they spoke up. And I -- anyway, they would call it something like the East Village Motherfuckers, or something like that. But these are people that you never have -- I would never have met otherwise, you know. And the whole idea about going to City Council meetings and making your presence known, you know, (laughs) was interesting.

Q: That’s incredible. I can’t imagine seeing like something like that happen.

A: Oh, and I remember some guys came through on motorcycles, these big Harley-Davidson’s. They were coming through from somewhere like Chile or somewhere in southern South America, you know. And they took us for rides. You know, I mean it was just interesting stuff, you know.

Q: Just everyone (inaudible) the status quo. You found some common ground over that?

A: Yeah, I think. And the people I met working on The Rag, you know, they were -- many of them were just characters,
you know what I mean, but very interesting, politically active people who did not want the status quo to just remain unchallenged. You know, they just really wanted to -- to do whatever we could to shake things up some, you know. And *The Rag* ran all kinds of interesting articles, lifestyle stuff as well as political stuff, you know.

Q: Can you -- you said that *The Rag’s* office was located in the Y. Can you like -- can you describe to me what that is?

A: You know, I’m not good at remembering this. And if you could ask Phil that, Phil Prim, he actually came to visit me. I’ve known him -- because he volunteered. He was around *The Rag* office a lot. He’s a -- he’s a very -- oh, gosh -- how should I say this? -- he’s a very odd character, you know. But he’s an only child and he inherited some money and now he lives a lifestyle that’s so different from anything around *The Rag*.

Q: I definitely need to talk to this guy.

A: Yeah, you probably do, really. But he could describe exactly where it’s located. He could tell you the weather on the day. He can, you know. He’s just, you know, just knows all the details there in ways that I don’t remember. I think it was on Guadalupe, and I remember we had to go
upstairs to it, and I remember the phone in the hallway where we -- it was tapped and we couldn’t talk and you know. But it’s been so long since I’ve been in Austin, you know. And he would know all those physical changes and could describe them in great detail for you.

Q: Got you. Yeah, it’s not a big deal; I was just curious. I’ll definitely probably follow up with him. Just to see what he has to say, especially given now that you said he’s a one-of-a-kind character. Those are always fun people to talk to.

A: Well, and there’s one other person, the guy who organized the 50th Anniversary, his name is Bill Gordon.

Q: Bill Gordon, that’s right. I wrote that name down as well.

A: Yeah, and I’ll give you his phone number. And it’s 512-576-9982. And I stayed with him and his wife when I came for the anniversary. And he, you know --

Q: That was last year, or a couple years ago, right?

A: It was last year, yeah. And he’s a really interesting person to talk to, too, because he really worked hard to try to get as many people to come as possible. And I think -- because the diversity of people was so huge, you know, that how else would you have met so many interesting people, you know? (laughs) I mean, certainly in the
women’s movement yes, too, but you know, there were so many other things going on. But The Rag was a major one for meeting people you never would have met otherwise who were attracted for all kinds of reasons, you know. So you might talk to Bill, too.

Q: That’s pretty incredible.

A: He’s -- yeah. So, I think, you know, my graduate school experience, then, was working on The Rag. (laughs)

Q: Probably. It sounds like you had a better experience doing that than what she would have otherwise experienced with the anthropology graduate program.

A: Yeah. Well, yeah, and I think I had this kind of deluded idea of that I was going to get my Masters in anthro, and then I would go back to Ecuador and kind of work with the Indian people there, sort of as a, you know, an intermediary there because the outside world was -- is harsh with the Indian people there, you know. I mean, they are not understood very well. The class system is more pronounced. And like for the feasts, of special feast days or Saint’s days, whatever, I remember this one called San Juan, they would go into town, the husband and wife, with their better, more dressed up clothing, you know. This family I lived with made these big mud-brick bricks, you
know, bricks out of the earth, you know. They had an oven and used to bake them. And they were very industrious, but they had a very slow, steady pace of working. You know, they got a good deal done. But they also drank chicha which is very mildly alcoholic, you know. But when they went into town, the government sells, you know, aguardiente that’s made out of rum. And they get drunk. And then you see them on the sides of the roads. The men are passed out and the women, or the wife is sitting with them to protect them from being robbed or whatever, you know. And so tourists, they see that and they think oh, these drunken Indians, you know what I mean. Well, that’s not true, at all, the way they live in villages. And the weaving that they do, and the pottery that they make, but they’re -- they’re really known for their weaving, which is extraordinary. And the markets there, the Otavalo Market is a famous market. And I went there often.

Q: That’s really interesting. Just their general craftsmanship isn’t really replicated anywhere else.

A: Oh, yeah. Well, yeah, and the thing that’s -- that was so troubling, too, is they would put -- say the women making a blouse, you know, they would put maybe two or three colors in the blouse. And then the tourists would come along and
say oh, I think you should have blah-blah-blah. And they’d make this garish -- they’d want them to add so many more colors and make it kind of garish. And they would do that, because that’s what the tourists wanted. And then they think that the tourists know better than they do. And then they start -- you know what I mean? You know what I mean? They just are pulled away from their own traditions.

Q: Yeah, it’s unbelievable.
A: Yeah. And that was sad to see. And you have to be careful about ever having a savior complex about that kind of stuff, because there’s really not much one person can do, you know. But -- but I think I learned a ton being there, you know.

Q: Yeah, it definitely sounds like it. That shaped your attitude and your beliefs when you came back to the States. Not that you didn’t already have strong beliefs. But it definitely had a big influence.
A: Well, no -- oh, yeah, and what I told you before about really trying to more clearly see the difference between a need and a want, you know. And minimizing consumption after coming back to Dallas was like God, how people are living here.
Q: With everything. It epitomizes overconsumption in Dallas pretty much.
A: Yeah. Yeah, so I just overreacted to a lot of that. But I -- I still live fairly minimally. You know what I mean? I don’t want to live that kind of lifestyle. And I put a little addition on my house here and it’s very small and I’m downsizing and learning to live more simply. And renting out the other part of my house.
Q: Oh, very nice.
A: So, yeah. But your interviewing me has been helpful to get me to think back and think through a lot of stuff and -- and realize that there -- that I’ve done things in a more conscious way than I (laughs) or maybe not as conscious as I think, you know what I mean? It’s kind of --
Q: Yeah, like once --
A: -- come together in ways without being as conscious about it as I think I might have been, (laughs) you know, or could have been.
Q: Yeah, like now that it’s all in retrospect, you can really actually paint like a vivid picture of what really happened as opposed to just drudging day-to-day and doing all of the incredible things that you did and looking at it from that perspective.
A: Well you know, running a print shop for 20 years, I hardly could do anything, you know, I mean with deadlines and stuff. And I couldn’t get out of town much. And living in Montana, you know, you need to go out and about. There’s lots to see and do and I was pretty consumed with making that work. And -- and you know, so now I have -- I’m freer, freer to spend my time more in the way I would choose to, you know.

Q: Yeah, absolutely.

A: So yeah, so that’s good. Yeah.

Q: I feel like I definitely have a lot to work with, like you answered my questions even more beautifully than I could have imagined, and had your great stories to tell as well. But if I had to guess, probably -- I’m going to reach out to Bill Gordon, I think, and also Mr. Prim. But if I had to guess, between now and December or so, whenever I finalize this project, I probably will have a couple of follow up questions with you, if that’s okay.

A: Oh, sure.

Q: And probably just email will suffice, or we can just communicate and if you want to have another short phone call or something like that, that would be great. But I definitely, once I actually digest everything, I took a
bunch of notes and I’m going to be like writing a paper and doing all sort of projects. Once I truly digest and start to think about all the things you told me, I wouldn’t be surprised if I had some follow up questions, if that’s okay.

A: Oh, no, and that’s totally fine really. You know, just so you know, Nick, I’m not a super good -- I get bombarded with emails, so -- if -- if I don’t -- I usual -- and I don’t always respond the same day. But if I don’t respond in a day or two, you might just send me one again because that happened with Alice Embree who, about this project. You know, she sent me an email asking me if I would participate in this. (laughs) And I didn’t see it, you know. And so then I guess maybe a week later, she emailed me again. I said oh, sure, I’d be glad to, you know. But I just had so much going on and then I get lost in my email sometimes, too.

Q: Yeah, I got you, absolutely.

A: Or you can always call me at this number and leave me a message.

Q: Yeah, that’s what I was thinking. I was thinking I could just call you and leave you a little voicemail, just so you don’t have to get on your email or anything. You can just
hear my actual voice for a couple of seconds, probably save you a whole bunch of time.

A: Well, you know, if I was more compulsive about my email. (laughs) I’m trying to manage it better and I may get better at it.

Q: It’s difficult. I get so many emails a day. If I get 50 emails a day, probably 10 are valuable information and then the rest are ads or just emails that are sent out to thousands of people, so just everything gets washed down a little bit. So I definitely know. I definitely know what you’re talking about. It’s awful.

A: I know. I know it is. And Bill -- I think Bill would be the -- a good person for any kind of sort of overview of stuff about The Rag, too. Phil knows the specific detail of most things and an article you’re looking for. Bill is more if you needed any kind of backstory on something, you know, I mean I think he might be the better person for that.

Q: Got you.

A: And of course, Alice has been, in terms of anything related to Women’s Liberation. And you know, we actually had a session, a women’s session, sort of talking about our experiences historically there, you know, and then what
we’ve done since that Alice organized as part of that 50th anniversary.

Q: Oh, wow.

A: And Bill could give you Alice’s contact information.

Q: Yeah, I think -- I think one of my peers is actually meeting with her.

A: Yeah, I would imagine.

Q: I don’t want to hop on too much and steal too much of what they’re going to present.

A: Yeah, right. No, that’s right.

Q: But I definitely know that yeah, she -- I’ve read a lot about her. She sounds definitely very incredible.

A: Yeah. But she just followed up with this whole, you know, what our take on it is now after participating in it historically at the 50th anniversary. So I’m sure she’ll get into that, though, with whoever she’s -- or whoever’s interviewing her.

Q: I’m sure she will. All right, well, I don’t think I have any more questions for you right now. I’m sorry for --

A: Okay.

Q: -- this has been a lengthy conversation. I don’t know if you expected it to go this long or not. So, I’m sorry for taking so much of your time.
A: I didn’t really -- no, it’s fine. I just have to go to work fairly soon.

Q: I’m sorry; I’ll let you go. I hope you enjoyed yourself. I’ve had a definitely good time talking to you.

A: Oh, I did, too. You helped me recap a lot and see how the pieces fit together, you know.

Q: I’m glad. I was hoping to take you down memory lane a little bit, too, as well.

A: Yeah. It’s been good. Well, contact me if you need whatever, whenever.

Q: All righty, I won’t hesitate. Thank you so much, Linda.

A: Okay, all right.

Q: Thank you for everything.

A: You’re welcome.

Q: I’ll talk to you soon. Bye-bye.

A: Okay, bye-bye.

END OF AUDIO FILE