

INTERVIEW SUMMARY-TAPE INDEX

NAME: Dawna Northrup
DATE OF INTERVIEW:
LOCATION:
INTERVIEWER:
TAPE NO.

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CN: Your name?

DN: Dawna Northrup.

CN: Do you have any nicknames?

DN: When I was a kid my uncle called me Dawny; but, nobody ever calls me that now.

CN: And your address?

DN: 1530 Cedar Avenue.

CN: And what was your maiden name?

DN: Nissen.

CN: Date of birth?

DN: July 25, 1942.

CN: Place of birth?

DN: Orofino, Idaho.

CN: Okay, you didn't migrate anywhere? You were born in Idaho?

DN: Yeah, but when I was a baby we moved away and then lived around an area in Colville, Washington. Then we moved back here when I was about 10 or 11.

CN: Okay, where did you come back to then?

DN: Lewiston.

CN: And what was the name of the place in Washington that you were living in?

DN: Colville.

CN: And how old were you when you came back?

DN: I think about 11, somewhere around there.

CN: And how did you come?

DN: Just by car. We packed up to the gills with a little trailer, a little two wheel trailer full of everything we owned.

CN: And who came with you on your trip?

DN: Mom and Dad and I.

CN: You don't have any brothers or sisters?

DN: No, I don't have any.

CN: You are an only child?

DN: Yes.

CN: Okay, family background. Your mother's family, what was her maiden name?

DN: Her maiden name was Rasmusen.

CN: And did she have any occupation, or was she always a housewife?

DN: She has mostly been a housewife. She has clerked in a department store and tended bar and waited tables.

CN: But she's mostly be a homemaker?

DN: Yes.

CN: Do you know her date of birth?

DN: No, but she's about 50. Her birthday is St. Patrick's Day and I think she'll be 50 this birthday.

CN: Okay, so she was probably born in 1925.

DN: Yeah.

CN: And where was she born, do you know?

DN: I believe she was born in Colville, Washington.

CN: And she's still alive, right?

DN: Yes.

CN: And your father?

DN: My father is actually my step father, he's my father.

CN: What was his name?

DN: Rex Nissen.

CN: And occupation?

DN: Boilermaker.

CN: What's that?

DN: He's a welder and they make kegs and things like that.
They're like big water tanks and this sort of thing.

CN: And when was he born?

DN: He's about 53, his birthday is December 15.

CN: So maybe about 1922.

DN: Probably.

CN: And where was he born?

DN: Bowles, Idaho. It's not a town anymore, it's nothing. It's on the brinks of the Salmon River. It's just farm country just before you drop off into the Snake River Canyon.

CN: And is he still alive, too?

DN: Yes.

CN: And then you were an only child?

DN: Yes.

CN: Your husband's name?

DN: His name is Russell.

CN: You talk about him like he's dead.

DN: No, he's not dead; he just doesn't live here anymore.

CN: What's his occupation?

DN: He manages a drug store.

CN: You name now is what his name is?

DN: Yes. Not with the children, it didn't seem too practical.

CN: I was thinking about that myself, you know. At first, I thought I would like to have my own name back.

DN: If I marry again, I think I'll use my maiden name and hyphenate it with whomever I marry.

CN: That's a good idea.

DN: And not use Northrup at all, of course.

CN: When was he born?

DN: Well, he's two years older than me, a year and a half older than me. I'm 32, so he was probably born in 1940, January 23.

CN: And where was he born?

DN: Priest River, Idaho.

CN: Everybody tells me these places and I've never even heard of them.

DN: Yeah, that's in northern Idaho.

CN: Date and place you were married?

DN: We were married June 3, 1958, in Moscow. We eloped.

CN: Did you?

DN: Absolutely.

CN: And your children, what are their names?

DN: Bob.

CN: And date of birth?

DN: It must have been 1961.

CN: And place?

DN: Pocatello. Lonny was born in Pocatello in 1962, May of '62.
Karron was born in Idaho Falls in 1967.

CN: Okay, now I need your educational background.

DN: I dropped out of school.

CN: High school?

DN: Yes. I was married when I was only 15 and I went to school for a year, I went my junior year and I didn't go my senior year. My mother-in-law and father-in-law were going on a trip to Canada and back East, to Arkansas. They were going to visit and they were going to be gone for about a month. They had all these children, well, she still babysits, and there were about five or six kids that didn't have anybody to watch them. So, I didn't go to school that year. I stayed, initially, to watch those children and then I just never went back. I didn't want to go. I mean, why did I need to? I was married and I was going to live happily ever after. So what would I need an education for?

CN: Did you go to secretarial school then, sometime?

DN: Yes, after I was divorced I went to secretarial school for about six months while I was carrying Karron. Then, I graduated from that and then two weeks later I had her, and a month later I went to work.

CN: Okay, now skills.

DN: My job skills, you mean?

CN: Well, now like this Charm [interviewer is referring to another interview], she's got plumbing, needlework and organization. Anything that you can do.

DN: I can carpenter, I found out. We needed more room in this house, you know, just living room, and I did that basement. That, I did myself. Mom helped me with some of the panelling. And when I take the time, I am a pretty good cook. I can sew, but I don't really care to sew any longer. I grow plants. I take quite a bit of pride in my house and my yard and that sort of thing. I'm involved somewhat with the women's center down here. That's about all the skills I can think of.

CN: Okay, go ahead and tell me if you've ever been in any clubs or organizations.

DN: I've been involved somewhat with the women's center. At one time I was involved with the social sorority, but I dropped that after I was divorced and moved up here. I moved back up here from Idaho Falls about a year and a half after I was divorced. So, I've lived here about six years now.

CN: What made you decide to do that?

DN: Oh, I decided to move back up closer to my family. They

live just 30 or 40 miles away.

CN: And you bought this house by yourself?

DN: Yes.

CN: Some women have houses from left-over marriages.

DN: No, not this one. The only house I ever owned, I bought myself. And the car I have I bought myself. That's about all I can say about this, but I did, I bought the house.

CN: Any other involvements?

DN: Oh, I've been doing Yoga, and I used to bowl; I haven't bowled this year at all. I was involved with ... I've been in about two CR groups. Working with my kids takes a lot of time.

CN: Occupations or jobs that you have held?

DN: When I was in high school I car hopped, that's about all I did in high school. I worked in a drug store for a little while clerking and checking. Then, I didn't work until after I was divorced and my first job was at a business that sold water [unintelligible]. I did the whole store. I did the walk-in customers, this sort of thing, and made appointments for the

salesmen and I answered the phone and kept the books, and just a little bit of everything. Then, I moved up here after I'd been divorced about a year and a half. I got a job as a secretary for the school superintendent and I've been there ever since. I've been there about six years now.

CN: Do you have any other interests or hobbies?

DN: I enjoy the stereo and I would like to have more music. I read.

CN: What do you like to read?

DN: I like to read novels, biographies; I'm about to start a book about Carl June and it's Dream Analysis.

CN: Do you do any handwork or needlework?

DN: Oh yeah. I can embroider and I learned how to knit, kind of an elementary thing. I used to charcoal sketch and stuff. I haven't done that for a long, long time. I used to do kind of handiwork type things, you know, make things, home decorative things. I've done a little bit of decoupage. I like to refinish furniture. I have an old triple mirror vanity that I got for my birthday one year, and I antiqued that. I like to do that sort of thing. I like to do building things.

CN: Have you ever had an honor or award or ribbon at a fair?

DN: I've never entered anything in the fair.

CN: I think a lot of people don't do that much anymore.

DN: No. Well, especially when it's out of a little town.

CN: Do you consider yourself a rural woman as opposed to an urban woman?

DN: Oh yes, this isn't a city area at all. I could more easily adapt to living in the country country, you know, like on a farm probably than I could adapt living in a big city.

CN: Have you ever lived on the farm?

DN: Yeah, sort of. We lived over in the villa for a while when my dad was working on the construction of the mill over there. Our trailer was parked on a farm. But I really haven't done farm things. I've never really lived on a farm.

CN: Do you see advantages or disadvantages of living in a small town rather than a bigger town?

DN: I suppose you miss things living in a city, but I think you avoid a lot of stress, too.

CN: You think that people living in the city may have more things to go through or something.

DN: Well, yeah. I have a friend that just moved to New York City and he was talking to me about the impersonal attitude of the people. You don't talk to people out on the street or the people you happen to bump into. The people you meet are through business and personal acquaintances. Here, I don't think there is that inhibition.

CN: You think people talk to each other more?

DN: I think it's easier.

CN: Then you have the problem of running into your neighbor across the street in a small town.

DN: That's true. There are difficulties in that category. But, being a single woman and living in a neighborhood and nuclear family type households, I think you are bound to run into the suspicious nature of people, keeping an eye on you and this sort of thing. But, as a whole, I think people are congenial in small towns and rural areas.

CN: I thought of that pretty much in the interviews that I've done. I talked to a woman across the street from me in Potlatch, more of a small town living on farms and this kind of thing. She

told me about that and when she got bored, she just walked downtown to the [unintelligible] or something, and somebody would always come in and she would have coffee. She could spend half the day there just chatting.

DN: I think the smaller the town probably there are more congenial people in that respect.

CN: Also, the more they know about your personal life.

DN: That's true. But even in a town this size, if you happen to run into people at another place, like for instance, if we'd go maybe up to Winchester and have dinner up there, you'd get to talking to someone. It seems like you always run across people that know friends and this sort of thing and relatives. Well, like that man we met last night downtown, he knew my grandfather, or said he knew my grandfather, they were the same age.

CN: And he knew Willy.

DN: And he knew Willy, right. And I don't think you have this in a large city.

CN: How would you compare the life of a rural woman with that of an urban woman?

DN: I think you have a more togetherness and awareness of outdoors and nature type things. I wasn't raised on a farm, but I don't think I'd have any difficulty, like growing a garden and this thing. I know some things about cows and chickens and that sort of thing. Harvesting, maybe. I think you have more of a ... you're more tuned to nature than you would be in a city. Some women, for instance, say like in Chicago, they have never had a garden, don't know how to can.

CN: Do you know how to can?

DN: Yes, I canned jams and pickles and all that stuff. I haven't done that for a long time. I have some fantastic pickle recipes, some that my mother-in-law had.

CN: How is your family life now compared to family life when you were a child?

DN: Of course, my family life now is really different because I'm a divorced woman and only my daughter is living with me now. So, it's quite a bit different and I'm the head of the household, so to speak. When I was a kid, there was Mom and Dad and I. But, Dad was always the bread winner and Mom was always at home unless there were undo circumstances. I remember one time Dad broke his ankle or something and wasn't able to work for a while, and Mom tended bars and worked in a department store and this sort of thing. That was kind of hard at that time because he started

back to work and he was working in Kellogg for a while and we were staying here and Mom was working and Dad was working. Dad was working in Kellogg and I was going to school. I remember I was about in the fifth grade and we had a little trailer house. We had it parked on some property that my grandmother owned, we had it parked behind her house. We didn't have a bathroom, we had an outhouse, and we didn't have a water heater. To wash dishes I just hauled hot water from Grandma's house in this bucket. I will always be thankful for hot water and I still think about that once in a while and I hope I never have to haul it in a bucket anymore. Dad would come home every two weeks and bring all his clothes home and we'd wash them on the weekends. But during the week, I'd iron because Mom was working all the time. So I got to iron and I would come home and I'd start supper and I'd do my schoolwork and this sort of thing, and on weekends I did all this ironing. I was doing the ironing for all of us then; it was terrible, I hated it. I still hate to iron. Everything I own is polyester.

CN: Can you talk about some of the things you did when you were a child?

DN: When I was a kid?

CN: Yeah. Ways you had fun, holidays you remember.

DN: We used to picnic a lot, I can remember that. The first picnic always was Easter Sunday, that was the first picnic of the year we'd start off. No matter what kind of weather, we went on a picnic and it was always crummy because it was always wet. I remember one time, my cousin and I were in the back seat and we had a lunch packed and Mom had these pies baked and we sat on them. Oh, it was awful! he was so mad! But, that was the first picnic of the year and my dad is a big rodeo nut. I think I went to every hick town rodeo within 100 miles the whole time I was a little kid.

CN: When do rodeos start?

DN: In the spring.

CN: Do they have them around here?

DN: Oh, lots of rodeos, yeah.

CN: That sounds like it would be fun.

DN: Oh yeah, they have a pretty big rodeo here in town. But the smaller ones, there is lots of them and they are all over the place, down the river and up in the northern area, north of here. All those little towns have little rodeos and I used to go to a lot of those. I remember when I was a little kid, we lived in this little house with an out house. We had electricity

and all that and I had my own room, it seemed like, too. We had real big sand piles and we'd play in those across the railroad tracks from where we lived, it was a wooded area. We went down there and picked wild strawberries and that sort of thing and wildflowers and that was fun. We went swimming and that sort of thing. Sled riding in the winter. I remember we lived in Caldwell and there was this big hill and when I look at it now, it's still a pretty big hill. It must have taken us a half an hour to walk up to the top and you're down in five minutes. But, I remember what that was like. You'd get cold and wet and you'd ride until night, until you are just freezing. I used to run around with the little neighbor girl named Becky Miller who had long red braids and thick red hair. I've always wanted braids but I had such skinny hair that my braids ended up about as big around as your little finger. They were sticking out and they were uglier than hell, but I had to have braids. She and I were really good buddies. We would go steal chicken feed and chew on it. Did you ever chew on grains?

CN: No.

DN: It's good. It's like chewing on nuts, kind of. We used to take chicken feed and old lady Miller would get mad and chase us out and it was an awful house that they lived in, just filthy. It seemed like they had this great big picture above the dining room table and they must have put every chicken wishbone up there that they'd ever had Sunday dinner, you know, turkey wishbones.

When you are a kid, you say, well, let it dry first before you break the wishbone. But they just stuck them up there and they never broke them. Becky and I, one night, got after them and we must have broken every one of them and they'd been up there, I don't know how long and they were just brittle, and you'd break them and just the tops would pop off. They'd break in three pieces. Oh, God, Mrs. Miller really got bent out of joint about that! She wasn't any fun at all.

CN: Was that your friend's mother?

DN: Yeah, and she was a bear.

CN: How come you think your mother just had one child?

DN: Well, she and my real father were divorced when I was little, and then, I don't believe Dad was able to have any children. But, my aunt only has one child, too. There was just the two of them.

CN: It was kind of unusual for a woman of that age group to not have more.

DN: Right. But she and her sister both only had one. I think she may have lost one early in a pregnancy one time, but I'm not really sure about that.

CN: So, you never really knew your real father at all?

DN: I didn't know him when I was a kid. I think that was when I was maybe five. When I was 21, he was injured in an accident, badly injured, and he wanted to see me. He and his wife and family lived in northern California, and they came up through Pocatello on a vacation on the way to Yellowstone one time, and they stayed and visited with us for a couple of days. I think the next summer we went down and visited them. But that's the only contact I've had with him, really, that I can recall.

CN: Do you want to tell me about your courtship and marriage? How long did you know him?

DN: Oh, probably a year and a half.

CN: Did you go with him in high school?

DN: Yes. He was the first man I went with. I never went with any others than just people you'd see at dances and that sort of thing.

CN: You were real young.

DN: Yeah.

CN: Can you tell me what your reasons were for getting married?

DN: Oh, I know my reasons; I was in love. At the time, my dad was going to take a job in Kennewick and we were going to move again. The summer before, we had moved to Missoula when he was working on that mill over there. I had been going with Russ at that time, which completely screwed up that summer because I was gone. Then we moved back after my dad was injured in an accident. But, the next summer he was working by that time again, and we were going to move to Kennewick. Well, damn if I was going to let him screw up another summer. So we got married. We lived with his parents for a year.

CN: Is he the same age?

DN: He's a year and a half older than me, but we were in the same class. He missed a year of school. He had rheumatic fever as a kid and so he missed a year of school. We were in the same grade.

CN: Did he ever finish school?

DN: Oh yeah, he finished school and he has about two years of college. He was going to be a pharmacist at one time before we moved to Pocatello. So we got married.

CN: What were your expectations before marriage?

DN: Before marriage? I really don't know what I expected at the time because I kind of enjoyed ... actually, we moved in our own house. We really enjoyed doing that. But, not going to school and all the other kids were involved and all my other friends were involved in school and everything and I really felt frustrated at home.

CN: That was the next year?

DN: Yeah. The first year we were married we lived with his folks and he has five brothers, and all but one of them were living at home. This was a completely mind blowing thing for me because at home there was just Mom and Dad and myself. Also, my mother-in-law babysat children and some of them she kept 24 hours around. Sitters always had 10-14 people, and it was just shattering.

CN: Did you have any privacy at all?

DN: Not much. Our room and everything was upstairs and it was separate in that respect, but we didn't have much privacy. I got along really well with all the brothers. I really love them all.

CN: How about his parents? Were they really glad to have you living there or were they down on your marriage?

DN: We were already married and I think everybody kind of suspected that I was pregnant, but nobody ever really asked. My mother asked and I told her no, and she believed me, of course. But, they never asked. I think maybe they thought I was, but I don't know. We were quite mature kids, though. We weren't hell raising kids, you know, and I guess everybody just figured it would work.

CN: So, you weren't pregnant, then?

DN: I wasn't pregnant, no. I didn't have Bob till two and a half years later.

CN: Did you have some kind of birth control?

DN: No, just luck. I got pregnant once; I had a miscarriage at about three months, maybe about a year before Bob was born. So, I did get pregnant once.

CN: How did that affect you, being so young?

DN: Being married?

CN: No, a miscarriage.

DN: It was kind of shattering because I didn't know what was happening.

CN: Did you know you were pregnant?

DN: Oh yeah, I knew I was pregnant. I had never talked with anyone about pregnancy and the doctor didn't explain things to me; he was just expecting that I should know. He gave me this one little booklet. If I look back on it now, it was like a primer, first grade in the respect of how I see it today, so I feel like I understand it. It was pretty elementary. I was in the hospital for a day or so and it was kind of a shattering thing. Then everybody, my folks came up. It seems like they were in Kennewick then, and I'd never been in the hospital that I recall. And here I was in the hospital propped up with my feet up, upward, in a bed and all my brothers-in-law and my mother-in-law, everybody, came like it was a wake. That I can really recall. Here's my mother and father-in-law and six boys standing there, you know. The oldest brother down to the littlest one.

CN: Were you still living with them at the time?

DN: No, we didn't live there then. But, they were just a real concerned family, that family was.

CN: You mean you liked his family quite a bit?

DN: Oh yeah, I liked his family real well. I like all the brothers individually. Now that they are married, I don't care for their family units in some respect because we have such

different interests. I wouldn't choose those women as my friends, probably, except the oldest sister-in-law. She and I have always gotten along well, even though we have differences of opinion about some things. We understand each other and respect one another for it and we get along fine. The other ones, I just can't cope with them.

CN: I wanted to get back to your miscarriage because I feel that's really important. I've had different friends who've had miscarriages and they described it the way it happened, sometimes it is important, if you can feel the fetus.

DN: I can recall my husband was working, he worked in a drug store. We didn't have a phone. It was late in the evening and I felt like I had to go to the bathroom. I just had a constant urge that I had to go to the bathroom and then I started to bleed.

CN: Were you showing?

DN: No, not really. I wasn't that far along, probably about two or three months pregnant. Then I passed a large blood clot, which I assumed was a blood clot, maybe as big as a small lime or something.

CN: Not as big as a tennis ball?

DN: Maybe it was as big as a tennis ball. I don't know, it

wasn't large.

CN: Well, it probably wasn't as bad for you if you thought it was just a blood clot.

DN: Initially, I thought that that's what it was. I can't recall how I got to a phone. It seems like I waited until Russ got home and then we went to a pay phone and I called the doctor and he had me go right to the hospital and meet him at the hospital. When I told him I had passed some blood, he assumed that I was still pregnant and that's all it was. Then the next day, he had another doctor examine me, a doctor that I didn't know from Adam's ass. When you are 16 or 17, however old I was, that way it's shattering because you're not used to it, it's embarrassing. I didn't know him or anything and they both assumed I was still pregnant until I had my menstrual cycle again. They both thought I was still pregnant. Because, see, my pregnancy wasn't far enough advanced, I don't think that they could tell if my uterus had expanded, really.

CN: I'm interested in what you think of the hospital because I think a lot of times when the women go to the hospital for female difficulties, many times things aren't going well.

DN: Yes, they just do this, so often, it seems like they just do this as a matter of course. There's different articles I've read about childbirth lately and about giving drugs to the mother to

ease her pain, to slow her labor or to speed up her labor for the convenience of the doctor. You're in the position, you know, flat on your back, and you start with your feet in stirrups and your hands restrained and this sort of thing. I look at it and I say that's a terrible thing. My mother-in-law had all, I think, most all of her children at home. Looking back at this, I think it would be probably better unless you run into difficulties. I mean, if you had reason to believe that you were going to have complications, you ought to be in the hospital. I see absolutely no reason for prep and the things I've read about that are kind of funny too. They say the reason they do this is for cleanliness, yet there's no higher incidence of infections or anything with or without the prep. As a matter of fact, those of us who have had it get abrasions by being scraped by the razor, you know. It's ridiculous. And the position and the closeness of the baby, the baby is taken away right away, wrapped up and cleaned off. They used forceps and I don't know if they needed them or not with me. They say with the drugs it retards the reactions of your muscles so that they have to use forceps in order to deliver the baby. They used forceps with every one of my children.

CN: And probably the thing was that nobody ever told you that there was another way to have a baby.

DN: Yeah, I mean the doctor said so and you never questioned it. And I wasn't old enough and I hadn't reached a self assur-

ance and self confidence that I questioned anything that he did. I question now what my doctors did to me and I've quit going to more than one doctor just because of that. If they won't explain as I want them, you know, thoroughly enough, or if they talk down to me. I went to a doctor one time and I had this terrible, terrible sore throat and I have this occasionally, and my own doctor was gone so I went to another doctor. He said, "Well, I think you have an allergy, it might be the grass." There wasn't any grass at this time of the year to be allergic to. He said, "Well, you're rubbing your nose and this is an indication of an allergy." And he said, "In this length of time you have been here, you've rubbed your nose four or five times." I said, "Yeah, I have a runny nose, it's not an allergy." [There is a break in the recording and the conversation picks up again here:] He didn't even look at my throat, nose, ears or anything. He said, "You have an allergy," and he gave me this medicine. I remember he prescribed some medicine for me and I said, "What is it?" And he says, "Oh, it's a little blue pill." I said, "Well, I don't really give a damn what color the pill is. What is it?" And he says, "Well, it isn't any antibiotic." I got mad and I left and by the time I got home I was just furious. So I called back and asked the nurse for an appointment with my doctor. And she says, "Well, Dawna, you were just in. You just saw doctor such and such." I said, "I know I did, that's why I want to see my own doctor." He didn't do a goddamn thing. I told my doctor and he was angry, really angry, because he agrees that a patient shouldn't be talked down to like that. I had a pretty

good understanding with that doctor, my second doctor, but he is so pressed it seems that he doesn't really have the time. He can't remember from one time to the next what he's done. He doesn't seem like he reviews enough so that he knows what you are in there for the next time you come in or what your past has been.

CN: What factors mostly affected your decision about how many children you wanted to have?

DN: Well, the first one I wanted to have badly. We both wanted that child real bad. The next one was only 15 months away, so that's pretty well close to an accident. We wanted more children but I don't think we actually would have planned on having one that quickly because at the time, my husband anticipated going to school, the pharmacy school. Then, the third one, we had planned on having her, and so I stopped taking birth control pills. Then our marriage just really started sliding and by the time we realized that we had lost, I was pregnant. But, rather than stay married, he wanted out, a divorce, and I had her.

CN: When you were first married, the first two kids you had, was there birth control available to you?

DN: It seems like I used, I don't recall that I used any birth control device or any kind of pill between the time I had the boys, but I did after I had the second one. I don't recall that

the pill was in much use at that time. I don't know why, if I never asked. I know the doctor I had here before I moved to Pocatello would probably be kind of reluctant. I don't recall that I ever asked him because I was embarrassed.

CN: They should provide that information.

DN: I know. I was thinking that it was great that all this birth control information is made available. I just think it's great because obviously it's going to detour a lot of young, young marriages and give people a chance to become a little more mature before they get married.

CN: What do you see in the future for your children? Is there anything in particular you want for them?

DN: I want them to be independent individuals and to be their own self. To choose their interest and to choose a profession that they want, something they want to do, not something that they feel they should go into because of social or outside pressures. Something that fulfills them, not something that will made them money. That would be frustrating to them because it's an unfulfilling job.

CN: What do you do personally for recreation or for relaxation in your leisure time?

DN: Oh, [unintelligible] visit friends. I got out once in a while. I love to dance, I really like to dance. I could go out and never drink. I can, but I don't. I enjoy going out and being with people. I like outdoors things. I'm not particularly athletic, but I like to watch some sports. I like to, I don't particularly like to fish, but I like to get out and be out in it. I take the folks' camper out sometimes and just go out in the woods by myself, which just completely blows my mother's mind. She thinks the bears are going to get me, or even worse, a mountain man or something! But, I enjoy it, just going up and just getting clear away. This last summer, a friend of mine, another woman, got a raft from her husband. We floated, I think three times last year in the Clearwater. This year, we might try a river that's got a little more spunk. Oh, I just love that. I just love to swim. In the winter, I really don't like to do outside things because I don't like the cold at all. I don't like ... when we went sledding this winter I helped chaperone an Indian club party up to Winchester. We went sledding and that was fun, but mostly I'd just as soon stay inside in the winter-time.

CN: By a fireplace.

DN: Yeah, where it's warm. I read, I do that, too.

CN: Do you do anything in particular with your daughter?

DN: Not a lot, I guess. What do you do with a seven year old girl?

CN: I don't know.

DN: I tried to teach her how to embroider the other day, and I don't think she's ready for it. She wants to, but she's just not quite ready for it.

CN: Does she like the outdoors?

DN: Oh yes, she loves it. We were up in Northfork last summer and we were camped across the road from this packing branch. You can't drive across this bridge but you can pack animals across. It's a wide bridge but it's not really wide enough for a vehicle. They have these guide wires, these two cables on each side that go up and as they get closer to the top, they get closer together. It looks like it's real narrow, but to a little kid it's just fun because you can sit on it. Well, what these kids were doing was sit on this cable and then they'd push themselves up, they'd back up and scoot up on it. They were clear up darn near to the top of that bridge, oh, it had to be 20 or 30 feet tall. And the first time I really noticed that they were doing that she was across the top of that damn thing!

CN: It scared you?

CN: It scared you?

DN: Yeah, she likes to do stuff like that. And then, they'd just kind of bounce themselves down. She's kind of athletic. I kind of encourage her to be independent. Sometimes I think she is more of a feminist than me. We were watching something on TV the other night and it showed the life of other children in other countries, and there were a bunch of Buddhist boys, Buddhist children going to school. They had their saffron robes and their shaved heads and everything, and all these children in school. And Karron says, "Where are the girls?" I hadn't noticed, but apparently only boys received any kind of teaching in that, it was kind of formal school, you know. She noticed but I didn't even think about it. Once in a while, she'll come up with ... she's beginning to be more independent. I called her "kiddo" the other day, and she says, "I'm not a kiddo." So I said, "Well, what are you?" She says, "I'm me." It wouldn't have occurred to me to say anything like that when I was a kid. But, I think this independence has really started in her and I hope ... it's so much to her benefit if she can be that way when she's older. If you can live with yourself, anything else is extra, you know, that's just frosting, which is great. But first, you have to learn how to live with yourself. If she learns how to be self supporting and happy with herself, and if she gets any of the other relationships that happen to come along that she can be happy with, that's great. But first she is going to have to find herself. This is me. I think I'm beginning to find myself

now. I wonder how much different it would have been had I not gotten married so early and would've had a chance to investigate myself and my own capabilities before I had a responsibility of a family. Because for the last eight years I've been supporting my family. That's what I mean, that you don't have time for these other things because your time is completely consumed with the everyday things.

CN: Well, I think that's a really good time to end this. That was a really good statement at the end. Is there anything else that you want to say?

DN: No, not that I can think of.