

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

MAIN ENTRY: Rivas, Maria

DATE OF INTERVIEW: February 3, 2010

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Lubbock, Texas

INTERVIEWER: Daniel U. Sánchez

FORMAT: File on Server, 3 MiniDV Videotapes

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 2:31

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Maria Rivas, a Texas Tech University Alumnus, talks about her experiences growing up in Pecos, Texas and life at Texas Tech University during the mid 1960s. She discusses her views on bilingual education, racial discrimination and Los Tertulianos (Texas Tech's first minority student organization.)

ABSTRACT:

CD 1

TIME STAMP

Introduction	:00
Background	
Family members	
Lived in Pecos, Texas	
Her mother worked many jobs	
Ran a cantina	
Worked in a Laundromat	
Single mother	
Attended school in Pecos	:10
Childhood activities	
Low income family	
Family experiences	
Bilingual education	

Racial segregation	:19
Combined schools in high school	
Graduated as valedictorian	
Discrimination in athletic programs	
Extracurricular involvement	
Family education level	
High drop-out rate	
High school administrative assistance	
Scholarships for college	
Community financial support	
Published as valedictorian	:30
Emphasis on racial differences	
Attended Texas Tech University	
Differences from her roommates	
Worked at a theater	
Social groups	
Academic experiences	:40
Achieved good grades with minimal effort	
Differences between college and high school	
Changes in responsibilities	
Priorities throughout college	
Influence of teachers	:50
Traditional role of women	
Became a professor	
Job opportunities after college	
Raised her son	
Bilingual program in Lubbock Independent School District (LISD)	
Moved to Austin, Texas	
Trained teachers	
Wrote curriculum	
Hired by Austin Independent School District	
Moved to Kansas	1:00
In charge of University bilingual program	
Achieved doctorate in three years	
Moved to UTEP (University of Texas at El Paso, Texas)	
Worked at Southwest Texas State University	

Life obstacles	
Positive outcomes of bad experiences	
Had polio as a child	
Positive effects of illness	
Differences between generations	1:10
Ability to survive and adapt	
Barriers of failure	
Environmental or innate personality	
Moved to Texas Tech University	
Coordinated the bilingual program	
Importance of bilingual education	
Division of labor	
Integration of languages in the classroom	1:20
Need for bilingual education	
Special education programs	
Enjoyed teaching students	
Her son's experiences	
He spent time in school with her	
Stayed home while she was teaching	
Balanced her time between work and her son	
Opportunities for parental advice	
Personal responsibilities	
Met her husband in Lubbock	1:30
Worked together at Texas Tech University	
Married Dr. Jim Goss after six months	
Dynamic of the relationship	
Kept her last name	
Community service involvement	1:39
Hispanic associations and celebrations	
Child abuse programs	
Resigned from Texas Tech University	
Concerned about drop-out rates	
Mentored pregnant teenagers	
Differences in responsibility between girls and boys	
Issues with poverty	
Lack of continuity in education	
Decrease in grade average	
Health care reform	
Job market problems	

Current political involvement 1:49
In charge of caucus in her precinct
Supported Hillary Clinton
The state of the economy
Racial prejudices
Political orientation

Local politics
Party loyalty
Differences in policies
Changes in demographics

Problems on the City of Lubbock City Council 1:59
Elections
Minority influence
Fought for community improvements

Racial insensitivity
Differences among cultures
Political correctness
School system segregation

Educational accommodations 2:10
Ethnic biases
Lack of bus transportation
Uncertified teachers
Discrimination

Racial labels on students 2:20
Difference between Mexican-American and Hispanic
Increased level of education
Hispanic community
City Council votes

Interview ends

DATE OF BIRTH OF INFORMANT: 1943

GENDER OF INFORMANT: Female

ETHNICITY OF INFORMANT: Mexican American