




Writing Abstracts, Summaries, and Topic Paragraphs


The topic paragraph should provide an overview of the person AND the topics discussed during the oral history.

Examples

 An oral history of Kirtis Nguyen, math and English teacher at Cyprian Jr. High in Garden Grove California. The purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding the changing demographics of Garden Grove vis-à-vis the public school system and also the changing dynamics in the public school education. This interview is part of an oral history project for Dr. Arthur A. Hansen's History 492 Community History course and the Garden Grove Historical Society, Garden Grove Legacy Project.

 An oral history of Derek Breaver. The purpose of the interview is to gather information on the congregational history of the First Christian Church of Garden Grove. Derek has been going to this church for about ten years. He is very active in the church and does a lot of work in Youth Ministries. Although he is not a pastor he is a leader in the church. This interview is part of an oral history project for History 492. The project is with the Garden Grove Historical Society, and the Center for Oral and Public History at California State University, Fullerton. The interview will help give a better insight into Garden Grove by examining church history through the church's members.

 An oral history with Inza McConnell, a long time resident of Garden Grove and World War II veteran. This interview was conducted for the Garden Grove Oral History Project, jointly sponsored by California State University, Fullerton and the Garden Grove Historical Society. The purpose of this interview was to better understand the lives of war veterans residing in Garden Grove. Specifically, the interview covers Mrs. McConnell's life as a female sergeant in the Women's Army Corps (WAC), her typical day during the war, and how her service brought her from "home" in Connecticut, all the way to Garden Grove where she started a new life in the postwar years with her husband, Jack McConnell, a former sergeant in the Air Force. She describes how veterans from the major wars since WWII have been treated in Garden Grove, her activities with the American Legion, how the social tensions of the 1960s impacted her life, her children's involvement in the Vietnam War, and how she and her husband were able to live in and cope with the changes of what started out as a small "bustling town," but transformed into a densely populated urban center.

 An oral history with Elso Kanagana, collected for the Japanese American Oral History Project by California State University, Fullerton. This purpose of this interview is to gather information regarding Kanagana's evacuation, internment, and resettlement experience during World War II. Specifically, this interview deals with immigration of Kanagana's father to United States and his occupations as vineyard operator and later, trucking operator in Lodi, California; how he, a community leader, was taken away by the FBI in February 1942; how the family dealt with the disposal of personal property and farm equipment after evacuation announcement with the help of Italian workers and friends; comments on Japanese culture and traditions such as loyalty, obedience, marriage, foodways, and punishment and how they influenced the family; her description of Japanese language school and how Buddhist and samurai codes impacted family's ability to survive internment and made them stronger in character – *shikata ga nai*; her recollections of how they learned about the evacuation, their transfer to Stockton Fairgrounds, and description of activities, food, and conditions; her father's reunion with family and relocation to Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas, the lack of amenities at first, and the conditions, including barracks, showers, food, and social activities, including the USO; her description of Sundays and Buddhist theology; her feelings about the disintegration of family hierarchy in camp, Issei loss of spirit and Nisei rise to power; why she feels comfortable with "Relocation Camp;" her initial move to Omaha, Nebraska followed by move to Salt Lake City then back to Los Angeles.