3-11-1999

Collazo, Marcello Oral History Interview: Class Projects

Emily Fuqua

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/class_projects

Part of the Archival Science Commons, and the Oral History Commons

Recommended Citation

http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/class_projects/58


This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Oral History Interviews at Digital Commons @ Hope College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Class Projects by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Hope College. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.
EF: My name is Emily Fuqua and I am interviewing Marcello Collazo who emigrated from Puerto Rico in 1953. And today’s date March 11, 1999. All right, so we can start off by saying what part of Puerto Rico were you from?

MC: Puerto Rico, San Juan Puerto Rico.

EF: OK. So can you describe your homeland when you lived there? It was a long time ago, but.

MC: Well, I tell you something. We was poor people. We only had about two rooms, we have 14 brothers and sisters. We live in the mud, like in Japan. And that is we have a poor family. Then my sister started to know education and went to church, we developed some life. We started to go to church and we started to know God, to know the community, to know education. Then my sister said “why don’t you go to church and enjoy your life and see if you can grow up and express your life.” So, then all of a sudden the Lord wake up the life in everyone and then we went to, then my sister came to New York and then I do some immigration to work in a country, work in the broccoli, work at the spinach, who know how to make the spinach?

EF: Oh yeah.

MC: And it is a long life, a struggle life. Then I came, I went back to Puerto Rico, and I come back again in 1953, to Michigan and I started working in the pickles.

EF: Did your whole family come with you?
MC: No, just me alone. I was crying. My mother stay there.

EF: Did you know anybody here?

MC: Ah, one friend from Puerto Rico. Juan Baskin. Juan Baskin. He once told me to come here to Holland, Michigan.

EF: What was so special about Holland?

MC: Ah, I don't know, we was adventure in life to know the state. We was really ignorant. Lot of things in our lives that we didn't discover much. But he said come to Michigan and see what happened, I got a job here. I work at the Heinz Company. So there you go. And then I started working on the pickle first and then he got a job for me at Heinz. It's a long history, you better make a book.

EF: Um, lets see. What were your first impressions of Holland when you got here?

MC: Not much because my English was not so good. And then I talk to this ___ I never went back to school again. If I go to school then you learn more of the life of the people, the life of the United States. But I was so dumb. Then later, twenty years, then I went to school.

EF: What school?

MC: Ah, Bible College in learning and training and everything. How to work with the people, save people. Because my brother told me to enjoy bible college. Then I started to wake again a real life. Then I started study when I was 30 years old. Then I study everyday, everyday plus work in a hatchery. I was a business hatcher. Work in a hatchery for a long time, plumbing and painting. Then I started my life to grow up and wake up, what was life, reality life really. From there I move to GE, then GE moved to Lifesaving, from
Lifesaving I moved to the city to work for the government. Then I worked twenty seven years here in Holland. It’s a long road circle around. It’s a long history, you can see. You can really set your life. Sometime I cry, God how you put me here. And I still learn, it has been 30, I have been study 30 years really. And in religious manners, not in the secular school. But in a religious manner been study, study, study, years and years. I have been 30 years involved in my, in the church, and all my kids grew up in a Christian life. Then my kid follow me in the step to educate the life. One work in the airline, one work in the computer, the other work at the travel agency. She got a lot of trainees and work in AAA. And then another, I got a son at a five year college, he want to be in marketing he want to be a model. He is in Grand Rapids finish in December, five years of college. So, then I got another daughter who went to police training. All of a sudden, two years almost finished and then she say when I went to Lansing, Grand Rapids to take different training. Then it start training a different way, tough life and then she said wait a minute, I drop this here because my father and my mother are Christian and I want to go. I don't want to go against society when it is tough life, get a lady or get a man you know. When you are in the police you got to be tough life.

EF: So how many kids did you have?

MC: Five...six.

EF: Six kids

MC: Six, five went to college, the other one never went. Then this one here is she is a psychologist, study social work, for social work. Then she went to college to be a states manager music. But they got drugs over there in Atlanta, Georgia. Now she come back
again. Now she got almost two years in social work, she want to get out and help people.

EF: So, why have you stayed in Holland?

MC: I stay in Holland because the life of money. Money, its not all the things. I want to go back to Puerto Rico, it's a nice country.

EF: Do you still have family there?

MC: Yes. My mother died in 1980 something, my father died in 1994. Then I got a brother who is a professional, architect. And another who is a minister, and another sister that work for the government, but she done. I got brothers and sisters yeah, in Puerto Rico.

EF: But you stay in Holland for money? Your family is here too.

MC: Because the money and everything. And I am a Dutchman really. I really grew up here and I started to know Holland better. You get the money is a little better. I had about three or four home, I sold it, then I sold it again, then I sold the last one, and I used to live at 219 Maple, and sold the house and I buy this one here. I might buy another one, this one here (he shows me a photograph). And sell this one here and buy this one here, and keep on going. Keep a circle. Then my daughter work at the airline and at urgency she want me maybe buy another house and she want me to go live with her and sell this one here and help her, I don't know if it is going to do.

EF: So you say you are a Dutchman. How are you active in the community?

MC: Well, I act in the community because the Dutch people here, I grew up with the Dutch people, I grew up in Zeeland, work in Zeeland many years. I grew up here in Holland work in Hein. And Dutch people in the community they used to be work six day and then Sunday they used to be a beautiful community. Nobody was working, nobody have
a rummage sale, everybody go to church, everybody help one another. We used to have only a couple store, one that was for community, but not the community is really get tough. Drugs, violence and everything. So I say the difference between those past years and the present life we are in a dangerous society. We live in a dangerous society.

EF: Can you describe your church?

MC: Well, I describe my church this way. I belong to the Assembly of God for 15, 20 year, then I used to belong to a missionary church it is the same Gospel, the same matter, the same foundation, it is the same foundation in the Bible. I describe the church as a church that is a peace for the community. I believe that when the people follow God through the church, church involved with God, because church means congregation, unity, and not the building, but when we get together it is a good peace make, the society change to live a different life. And you don't have too many crime, too many violence, and too many hate and not too many divorce. That is why the church is the foundation that God and the principle he put Adam and Eve to live a good life and that is why Moses, Abraham, Daniel, all those people live a good life. Job he was a history, that is the Old Testament. He was a rich man. Job experienced beautiful family, he was like a priest. There is a great history there, I found that out, the key for the life of the people is to know God through the church. All through church to know God, that is beautiful, Jesus Christ, wonderful for the church. Now there is so many churches, so many doctrines, you've go to be careful. To cast you on the wrong road or the wrong direction. But I believe the Bible is a great book when you study in college. The medicine book or to be in engineering, you got to study the Book, so I believe that people have trouble because they
don't go direct to the Bible, they always go direct to the church and singing, pray. But
they got to go searching and look what the Bible says to our history, to our life. That is
the trouble, we have so many problems nowadays. Through the people, I don't like the
church, I don't like, no its not the church, its not the building, its the problems in our life.
How people can guide you, how a pastor or somebody else.

EF: So you are a part-time minister now?

MC: Part-time minister, yeah for many years.

EF: And what do you do, do you teach?

MC: What I do in my retirement, I work in the city mission to encourage people to lift people a
life because so many broken heart, broken home. In the city mission lot of men there, lot
of women there, the suffering because of the separation because again because they don't
know God and they are away from God. And I work at Cornerstone with children for
eight year. I am on the board and we try to bring children. We got computer, we got
game, we got Bible study so the kids stay away from the street. And that’s what we got, I
work every Tuesday, and I got the key, I can open the building like a Saturday or Sunday,
to bring fathers and mothers, how the children learn in the Cornerstone. And then I have
to be working to see too much videos and too much junk, and the street there. So we can
bring children play games, play pool, play everything, they got, we got all kinds of game
in there.

EF: What age children is it?

MC: Well, that’s no matter they can come. We have Tuesday 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, we can take
your whole children. One group here, one group there, playing. One playing computer,
one learning computer, the other one playing matching, and one of them poke the, uh pool, and you always have something to do in there. Then the other one watches Christian video, we gonna buy a big one, put it on 20, 30 inches, put it on there so we can watch good Christian video and education video and everything to educate people.

EF: Is this mainly the Hispanic community?

MC: No, no, this is half and half. It is most English and Spanish. Lot of English go there. I tried to count, the some 3% English, some 4% Spanish, sometime 5% English and it go that way. Then I ask the children where your mother, divorce. Where your papa, they separate. And that hurt me in my life. That hurt me in my life.

EF: Nowadays, you know, there is more and more cultural diversity in Holland. What do you think when you see new immigrants coming in? What are your feelings about that?

MC: Well, back again to the track. You see how people look for life. Look for better future. If the people from Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, African, they look and oh I have a dream to go to America, have a dream to work in America. America pay top dollar. I was missionary in Mexico, and I spend $35, I don't know if I can remember, and the little packs like that only. Milk high, potatoes high, so people say I want to go back to America, I want to be in America. And that is why so many things happen. The people want to come to Michigan, come to Chicago, come to Los Angeles, because they want to be in America. That's why we so many culture here, and so many different people. They want to approach Holland, or Grand Rapids, Detroit, or Chicago. Chicago have 5 million people, Detroit with 4 million. We have 2 million Puerto Rican in New York City, we have half a million Puerto Rican in Chicago. And 18 million total 20 million in New
York City means it's a blessing. The land opportunity. This is the land of opportunity, the United States. Being blessed through the old father in 1800 or 1700, when they came here from Europe, from England, from Dutch people, Van Raalte. And you know we got that anchor over there at Hope College. It's a great history to discover why people look for adventure just like those people. Why they came here, the persecution in Europe. And they came to look for life, for a better life. So they found better life here in America, that's why it's so many people here. Then when they get here, we got to be careful. I have a meeting the 19th with a great guy from Hope College he is a multicultural education. And I want to bring my topic this way, don't put your worry in your heart, racism here in Holland. I don't believe that. I believe it when Puerto Rican come here it's for to get a job and to get a better education. Now if this Puerto Rican never had an education, or Puerto Rican or black, if they have a good education or go to church, he is a troublemaker in Holland. But if we take that guy, where you from, you go to work, go to work, go to school, get superior in your education, we don't have so many trouble in the community and everybody get along. Then we don't call, "oh he don't like me, he don't like," well he don't you because you don't go to church you don't want to get a job, you are lazy, you become a crime, you become a hate, you are going to get in a gang, or in a fight because we don't educate people in the community. And that is why the trouble here in Holland, Grand Rapids, many country, many town in the United States. And I believe that's why I hate that many people, racism. We should like Puerto Rican when the Puerto Rican is educated. We should like African people when they go to school, prosperity, get good adventure, get a good future for the children. But if the father drink
and the mother drink and hate one another, we have a great disaster in America. That's, we got to be careful. I don't believe in hate people. Hey I like the Puerto Rican, but if I see a colored people, Puerto Rican, "I don't want no job, I don't want to work," uh you in trouble. You in trouble. They want to just be a gang, or stealings. Nobody perfect, because sins is a great destruction to our life. If you look in my mirror, my life, I am a good person because God touched me, or reached me. Otherwise it's a great trouble in our life.

EF: What do you think the main problems that the newer immigrants are facing? Drugs?

MC: Uh, that's right, well wrongdoing, they believe it to come here. They say maybe we can bring drug, lead a better life or selling drug somebody else. I don't know, it is a great mystery, to be careful how to talk because I don't judge nobody or point no finger at nobody, but some people want to make a easy life. The Bible says you, me we can see all these beautiful roads, but at the end of the road we in trouble. And that is the people they don't know God, they don't know education. And at the end of the road they are going to be in jail, and they are going to be separation, and pain, sorrow in the life, separation. I believe to build good community with good education, and Christian, and working, and prosperity.

EF: So you like the Dutch community, you consider yourself a Dutchman?

MC: Well, I love because the Dutch people is a hardworking and they like working 40 hours and they like be like a family affair. They know me because we come together, I am a chaplain too, family affairs is a wonderful people. They close on Sunday, they go to church on Sunday, and those people lot like working. They believe in built good
community, respect community, and that's why I feel that uh, hey, I don't know, I feel like at home here really, a lot of years here.

EF: How do you think, do you think Holland has done a good job preserving the Hispanic community here and certain heritages?

MC: It is tough, it's tough, it's tough. Because just like in the old Jews, because Israel and the Philistines. They don't get along, they hate, you know the history. I compare that because it's the same way. Jews want to live in a good tradition to preserve the Ten Commandments, live in peace, but the Philistines they don't want to live that. So Philistines and the Israel and the Jews they always (he bangs his fists together) and at those point we got to be careful how we point the finger. Because if the Dutch people like live good and go to church, have a good home, better future, but if some Puerto Rican, Spanish, or black, I don't care who they are, if they want to live a different way, that is when they crackdown.

EF: What do you feel about Tulip Time?

MC: Oh Tulip Time, it's a wonderful tradition. I work 27 year in Tulip Time program at the Holland Civic Center and I was working for local government. And I enjoy the Tulip Time, I enjoy the parade, I enjoy the tradition, I enjoy the history, and it bring people, economy, uh, it bring everybody is working 40, 50, 60 hours in those 3 week. I was working a lot of hour in the Civic Center, and I enjoy the government, they can come here, Clinton can come here in the parade. How many people you can see the culture, the different culture, different lines of different parade, and different people form New York, from Chicago. And you can see it's a change, those Tulip Time changes the routine. It
can change the routine. We ought to have a better parade this year, of different thing, not the same time. Change the routine maybe, but I like the parade because everybody happy.

EF: What about the Cinco de Mayo festival?

MC: Same thing, yeah I was always, we should observe that in our life.

EF: So do you think Holland preserves your culture?

MC: Oh yeah. Holland can lost the culture when afraid with a crime and disaster, and it try to destroy, then the people kind of draw back. That's why we got to be careful to preserve the community. One way, cause, if we don't preserve that, it's a danger country, or the danger culture like the Dutch people. They are afraid sometime. That's why they go away, probably about a mile, two, three, mile build a home because they are afraid. They some community getting bad. That's why we go to, but we got to preserve that. Police order, pastoral order, school order, those three can preserve community. But if the police and the government and the pastor and church and education they kind of fray, that's when it, the community can be fell and can great disaster in our life.

EF: So you said you have six kids, right? Did they speak Spanish?

MC: No, they grew up in an English area. No they, look there (he points to his daughter) she is, if you go deep into Spanish, this one here, they grew up in church, they grew up in education, they grew up in school.

EF: So they speak English, how, like in your home, do you preserve your Hispanic heritage like maybe food?

MC: No, we can't do that, we gotta, we teach English first to the kid, there is a beautiful girl
that you are going to see pretty soon, and then in Spanish last. See we go, if we live in America we got to learn English good because you go to work, you got to do this and everything English when you go in the store, so we must teach English, then Spanish too. But we can't bring Spanish because we work in an English country, so you got to be careful. You got to do some balance in the situation. Put them in, you know what I mean, balance.

EF: Do you still speak Spanish?

MC: Yeah I talk to my wife, yeah.

EF: So that's it, just you and your wife?

MC: Yeah, but sometimes we got to speak English around this area all the time.

EF: Do you cook any foods that are Hispanic?

MC: We cook in three way. We cook American food, oh look there, see that one (he points to his grand daughter), we cook American way sometimes, sandwich, bologna, uh, salad, potato, we like American food. And then we mix sometime, we do tacos, the Mexican way, then Puerto Rican rice, beans, anything. We all, because my wife used to work at Hope College 17 years.

EF: Doing what there?

MC: Uh, she was a salad maker.

EF: Oh, so she know how to make salad.

MC: Yeah 17 years. She know how to make the thing.

EF: Did she come with you when...

MC: Uh what to you mean?
EF: When you immigrated, did your wife come with you?

MC: No, she is from another country.

EF: Oh where is she from?

MC: She from Texas.

EF: From where?

MC: From Texas, Mexico. You know Texas, way down Texas, state of Texas. She was born in Alsa, Texas.

EF: So when did she come?

MC: Well we met together here in Holland 1956 or 57. She was a work in a flower, and I was work in the hatcher. So we meet together, and in one year we got married quickly.

EF: In one year?

MC: Yeah, one year, or six months, I guess. Yeah it's a history.

EF: Oh!

MC: Well, those past I call a little bit of there a lot of ignorant that did that. If you have a lot of education I say watch it. Education is the most important to life. Its the key of humanism, its the key for the community, education is the most important. And discipline. I call it discipline when you have a lot of education in your life you have to discipline, and the key to live a better future in your life. I study everyday. Because if I don't study I would be worse life. Just like African people, don't study, don't study, and the worse people there. Look there, they our kill people there. I feel sorry for those people there are different. They don't have education, they don't have God. Those two key in other country. Especially when the government say no we don't want God here,
we don't want the Bible. We can kill missionary from America. America is a great
country, they fit all the country with food, with education, Christian education, and many
education, but they don't appreciate that's why this country, they don't be taken by Russia
or Communist country because God watch this country because we help everybody. This
is a wonderful land, and be careful of this wonderful land if we leave God. Hope College
got a good foundation to a good tradition, a Christian tradition. And if we forgot this
principle we are in a great trouble, we in danger if we forgot principles in our life.

EF: What would you tell someone that was considering coming to the United States, to
prepare them?

MC: Well, I if any Puerto Rican, if any from Texas, or any country or Mexico, when they
come here to be careful, to be good man and good lady, good family, and I'd tell two
things, number one to try to get a job and go to school at night to be a better family and
better education and better guide and better life, bread life, and those are the only things I
can tell people. I believe that is the most important for they come here and just live and
eat and have marry and sex and everything and drinking, that's not a good life. Well,
that's the one of the power of life. And I believe a good home, a good life, and many
people start to go to church and when better education, and they understand one another
when the people have a good education. That's why me and my wife and my childrens
and everything, we control our tempers a little bit different than other country or different
culture because we are Spanish and other ones and Indians other ones says to me that
white people is best, the best culture to get along in a different country, like ____Italy is a
different temper and Russia and China's another place. I don't know, but one, one tourist
came from Spain he was rich man, good educated guy, he came to America, he travel all over this country, he say “oh man, what a beautiful country.” You go to a restaurant and say hello over there they don't say hello. They got long face. You go to different country, good morning, how are you this morning, and how you feel, have a good day, good bye, thank you for everything, you go to law, you go to bank, you go to school, everybody's they express education, they express the goodness, welcome. You got a store here and everybody says welcome to the store, what do you need, can I help you out. In a different country they got a long face. A different temper, a different way of life. I don't know why, but the problems in the life maybe because the saints came to our life and disintegrate our life maybe, different culture.

EF: Is this what you expected? When you were leaving Puerto Rico, is this what you expected?

MC: No, it’s a great mystery. This is a country of discovery. Discovery channel, did you when you put on a channel to discover how the worlds alike, a telescope or you look through a mirror and you can't tell with you in your country because the more you explore, the more you walk, the more you live, the more you have a choice, the more you travel, you discover a lot of things in life. God has a lot of things. 40, 60, 100 years ago no oil, no gas, no computer. This is a great advanced technology we live in this 20th century. It is a great technology that never Moses, never those guys see it. If maybe, one guy say in church, if Moses raise from the dead they might dead again, cause look at what they will see. Technology, beautiful road, beautiful bridge, beautiful people, car, fly, helicopter fly. God, Jesus said you will see but you don't see it. So, Jesus, speak the past,
the present, and the future. And that’s why it is a great, I don’t know. That’s why in Puerto Rico I came blind, I didn’t know anything. So now I discover more and more. It’s a great life too, life is important. Once God maintains your life and you bid your part together.

EF: When you left Puerto Rico what were your goals, for when you came here?

MC: Something I lost, I just want to go there and make money. Work in a spinach, work in broccoli, work in a carrot, make money.

EF: Did you have plans to return, or did you want to stay here?

MC: No, but I had a vision in my heart to go back to see my family, to see my father, but no other I was like banging my head. Now I got a great discovery to learn every day. I learn a lot of things in life, I say life is a discovery then learn, learn. If you want to be a doctor, you gotta learn seven or eight years, you gonna be engineer you got to go four year, you gonna be a preacher you gotta go seven year, you gotta learn. You got to step one day at a time we say in America. One day at a time and one thing you learn everyday. Life is the most important value because God gave it to us. Go and explore it. That is what God told Adam and Eve. Be love this year and learns and multiply the situation. It’s a learning process I call that. Life’s a learning process.

EF: Have you been back to Puerto Rico at all since you came?

MC: Oh yeah, three, four times. But I was afraid because the airplane almost went down. And I am afraid airplane. We don’t like fly, my wife say, you go there, I stay here. Four, five times we almost got killed. The one motor stopped, one almost go down, the big storm almost tears a piece of airplane. Four or five times we almost got killed. We went to
Mexico fly, the tire got flat. And then the wheel no want to come out. Bad luck for me.

I don't like fly. I like someday when God take people up heaven.

EF: When you have your own wings?

MC: Yeah, it’s a great mystery. We don't know how God. God behind, behind our life there is God that do a lot of things that we don't, that’s incredible thing to do it, to believe in.

We don't know.

EF: Is there anyone else in Puerto Rico, your family, that may come?

MC: No, because my brother he is a minister, he retired from the bank. He is an elder, all over in San Juan, Puerto Rico, I don't know where they are, a different area, and he got a good education. He finished 23 years in a bank. And the other one he is architect, he don't have to worry because he home pay, and he got a wonderful wife, only no children, he can't have no children, he got a beautiful home, better than this one here. And he is part-time, he make good money. Sometime he is illustration, he is plumber, he is architect, so I have worry, oh one laid at home. And he got the home pay, and I believe he get his check somehow, I don't know. And then the rest of the brothers and sisters they got a good, they don't expect to come here. Then I got another brother, who is an architect he is the one who fly all the time. He come here, he go there, because he like to come to America. He got a beautiful home, beautiful home, about a $90,000 home, but he's architect. He went to New York City to in school to learn how build home, build everything, he is in plumbing. So he want to come here, but the wife say go you go, not me. She want to stay close to the family, I don't know, she don't like come here. She was here years and years ago and she don't like it. But my brother like it, he is a handyman,
wow, he can fix everything.

EF: So do you keep in touch with everybody?

MC: Yeah, I keep in touch. I call them up and I put Christian music. I dial on my telephone and I play guitar or I do something, then I put them in too many or long distance there, music or Christian music and I say "how is Puerto Rico, how's everybody, say pretty good," and I, that's when I share the Gospel, the good news to the people, my brothers, my sisters, my neighbor. With music and tracks and everything, oh that's great. It's a great mystery.

EF: Oh, I think I am done, do you have anything else to add?

MC: No, I don't think so, um, I don't know, I said that uh, again, if every college and community and police, school, minister, church, if we help the community to build better community I believe we can do it together. Many urgency detract all to people, realization, teen challenge, uh, many people don't want to help, people downs today, we are in a lot of hurt, a lot of pain. I believe that we would have a better community and you know that Hope College, I went to Hope College to probably one year to two year with different teacher to learn English, I never ever spoke English and Hope College is a beautiful college, and they got police to patrol people, and that's one thing I like here at this corner, because they patrol everybody who is damage or somebody else. They keep everything in order, keep it in update. I believe that's my concern and that's why maybe I want to move out of here in a little bit because I like to live in a better area like 40th street, I am going to see the house today. And my wife say no, I like here, and she like here and I got a good neighbor, he is a minister. He is a guy who go to church, thank
God. And I got my neighbor who don't bother me. They are half Puerto Rican and half Mexican. I got a good neighbor. And once you have reflected to people your life, the people respect you. They don't pass the line.

EF: You haven't had any violence or anything?

MC: No, uh we have a problem here across the street, drug addicts. They shut the house down, police, because it used to be vandalized, and drugs, and traffic and everything, with a lot of kids. But my attitude, I go over there, I say “what do you need? Do you need to cut the grass?” And I give them my lawn mover. And sometimes the ____ come through here, selling __, and I go to the kid, “you need some ______?” You gotta deal with drug people in an easy way, education way. If you deal tough, they cut your neck right off. Oh they burn your house down. If you accuse it, drug dealer, they cut you off at night. See you got to deal in a good sensitive, nice, because those people in drugs, they don't know how involved the devil and the evil situation, and they feel ___. I have a neighbor in my house that was drug dealer, and the lady go over there at 6:00, 8:00 get drunk, whole bunch of girl. And my wife look, my wife look, and I say, and then my wife say, “why we don't call the police.” And I say “hey, don't do that. Lets deal with God first.” Then I start go across the street, play some tracks, talk about God, and be nice to them. One year, God throw them out of there. Yeah. Then another one way in the corner by 8th street, violence, and drink, and lady go over there, because they are drunk, and corruption, call them corruption. One year we pray, gone away. And I, my wife want to call the police for the first year. Bad music, oh 20 girl look after the boy. And 14, 15 hanging there kissing there. My wife say let's call, no don't call the police. One
year, fly out everybody, the house shut down. You can deal, don't deal with people with violence, don't deal with people with knife, because Jesus said Peter, when they took Jesus away to be trial, Jesus cut here on the other guy and Jesus said never go violence put your finger back again, do it please. If you bad, that's what the Ten Commandments. Be good, do good for your neighbor. For one, love God with all your heart all your mind, then your neighbor, but if you don't love your neighbor, you'll get. One throw the bottle here, whole bunch of bottles on the street. And I say, keep on throwing, I'll put them in the garbage can, God loves you. Nicky Crew, at the _____, Nicky Crew, the preacher, beautiful preacher, white guy, uh what's the name ____ tell Jesus love you, and he say "I am going to cut your neck preacher." "No, I don't care if you cut me, Jesus loves you, Jesus love New York City." Now preacher, all of a sudden he got better. Now Nicky Crew is a great preacher in America. So, you gotta be careful. Don't deal with people. Now I work in prison, I work with the judges, I work with the lawyer and I see a girl living down here on 7th street. And she is 21 years old, she is a beautiful girl because she is half American and half Indian. But she have it to smell the paint thinner. And then the boyfriend too. And he came her, "oh Mercy please, my wife hit me, and she violence me." "Because you drink and you do all this. You point her, but you don't point yourself. You do too. Why you point at her?" "Oh because she want to kill me, she want." And she is behind bars now, and I visit her and I bring some track. The first week she was violent, "oh Mercy please, preacher take me out of here! Oh, don't like!" But that is when she missed the stuff, see? And then now, what you think, she has changed? She behave Bible study, and I went to see her and she look good, she looked beautiful. I
say you look bright you look beautiful, and she laugh and everything with me. And I work with her I am her counselor. So, I went to see the judge this morning with a letter, and that’s what we do. I believe I don’t, here is my stamp to work with the people (he shows me his stamp). See how nice letter. And I work with these people, with the community. Yeah nice?

EF: So you go to the prisons too, is it just for her?

MC: I work 20 years in the prison.

EF: You do? Just as a minister?

MC: Licensed minister, chaplain. I like minister work, Carson City, Grand Haven, West Olivet, Muskegon, Jackson, uh, Indiana, mostly 10,000 mile is to go see people. I put a 5,000 mile to go see people in income tax prove that. So hey, that's beautiful. You got to share the Gospel. Don't let people in the community, lot of people turn and face somebody in the corner looking for help or something like that. Don't turn your face, try to guide you your life by God and help those people. It was sometime you can do because if you go too fast to Grand Rapids some do something that you can. But there is a time that God speak to you, a Good Samaritan. Look what happen to Good Samaritan, the Jewish, one of the Jewish and then the Gentile pick it up and bring it to the hospital. It's a beautiful history to know God and the community and education. I love education, I'd like to go back to school, but I take all my books here and I study all these books here little by little. But I go more into religious history. I just got my diploma last night from school, and then I start again another college, Bible College. We have class every Wednesday. We four teachers. And the more you learn the more you really impress.
Just like the more you go to college to be a social, to be accountant, to be doctor, to be anything in your career, the more educate your life, the more you learn. The more you discipline to be that in your life. What you want to be? My son to me, "uh, I want to be aviation." Ok, go. He went to Kissimmee. And learn aviation. So he went to aviation for learn that, he don't learn much because he is a nice looking guy. He was nice looking kid, and then they write to me, "Marcy, your son don't learn much because the girl bug him and they don't let him learn nothing." I write a letter to them, but he finish. Then he went to work in line, but he don't like, he quit. Now he work in the computer and in nice job, and his wife got a business. And now he is in computer, the company they call it, they make make-up and he is in the _____. And this one here go to _____ Meijers. He got a friend making $90,000 a year. So they going to introduce him so he can start this year $30,000 and then they finish the college in December then they started working with Meijers. He want to go to Mercury. He a model. He went to Europe to take a school to be model, but. I show you my children. I show you in just a minute. We done everything?

EF: Yeah.