

ONE LUCKY DOG PRODUCTIONS

STORY SLUG:.....DOROTHY DAY: TAMAR
HENNESSY / FATHER JOHN
FLANAGAN / CHRISTIAN
HARRIS / CATHERINE
MORRIS

PRODUCER:CLAUDIA LARSON

INTERVIEWEES:
FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN, CHRISTIAN HARRIS, TAMAR HENNESSY,
CATHERINE MORRIS

TAPES:(1 THROUGH 8)

TAPE NUMBER: 1

[QUESTION]

[1]13:00:55

TAMAR HENNESSY

Well, she had me picketing and, when I was seven years old. (LAUGH) Mexico was in a very violent, anticlerical spell and they were killing priests so we were picketing the Mexican council somewhere in New York City. I did not like it. I don't think I ever went again. (LAUGH) I don't like, I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:01:24

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah. Well, (CLEARS THROAT) I was always interested in the ideas, I really listened a lot. And, and, and, uh, we sat in, in on the discussions 'cause I, I don't, I, Peter was fascinating to listen to. And all the other young people are fresh out of college. So, I mean, it isn't that I didn't like the ideas. But, um, I wasn't going to do, put myself out in front there. I mean, I was, it's, it's, it's a shyness but you know, it's more than that, even.

[1]13:02:02

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

(CLEARS THROAT) The fear of, of, I don't like, uh, people that much. I, that's why I don't notice them. (LAUGH) You have no idea. I have a hard time recognizing my neighbors. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:02:20

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, I never worried about Dorothy. She (LAUGH) she wasn't anybody I was, anybody you should worry about. No, I never was scared for Dorothy, at all. She came back from Quananio (SP?) where she'd been shot at (CLEARS THROAT) in the south. But, of course, that was when I was growing up, I think. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:02:45

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Nope. I don't know why not.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:02:52

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I don't remember her being in jail when I was a kid. At, at Lauder (SP?), that came later, didn't it?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:03:01

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, after the civil (WORD?) when she went every year. Yeah, that was kind of fun. As long as other people were doing it. (LAUGH) Yeah, I always tell the kids about that because, they are so, um, nobody tells these grandchildren anything about this. They have to discover it on their own, which I suppose is the right way to do it. But when they do start discovering it, I start telling them all the hairy stories. (LAUGH) And they can't figure it out. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:03:33

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Her being in jail. (LAUGH) That's a big nono. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:03:40

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No. No. But then, you know, I don't want to, them to just reject the whole thing. I want them to get interested, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:03:49

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No. Not much.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:03:56

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Only the farm. I would totally in love with the farm. Back to the land movement. And that's where David Hennessy interested me, too, because he was back to the land with the English distributor's aspect of it. And there were a bunch of (WORD?), too. And, you know? Well, we're talking about Maggie and Bill going out and, and living under a rock while they carved out a, some trees and stuff to make themselves a cabin. I was just that bad. (LAUGH) I did, I got, uh, Bill was worse but Maggie got hers from me, so.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:04:43

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, except (STAMMERS) Becky, uh, (STAMMERS) Kate's not a country person. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:04:51

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:05:00

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. Yeah. I think she's picked up more than anyone else has.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:05:14

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

They make soup? Oh.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:05:27

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, my.

[SIC]

[1]13:05:30

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

In the garden, yeah. Yeah. Well, I wanted, I got interested in day one in the organic garden movement. I followed that (CLEARS THROAT) very, very closely after all the years. A big part of the biologists study. (CLEARS THROAT) So we always had a garden, even though I didn't take care of it. I lacked energy, most of the time, to carry through. Too many big plans. (LAUGH) I was going to grow everything myself. We had a cow, and pigs, chickens and ducks and goats. We always had goats. (LAUGH)

[1]13:06:11 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

John Fillinger (SP?) was the original goat farmer for the eastern farm. He was one of that big strike, seamen strike of '36. He joined the worker and he had grown up on a farm as a child. And he never left. I guess he just secretly admired Dorothy. And he never left. He hadn't had a marriage and a divorce. And, so, he just was ready to do something and he threw himself into the worker. As the farmer, just a farmer, nothing to do with the writing or the reading or the discussion or anything like that, and he ran a complete old-fashioned farm with horses and the old farm machinery and the cows.

[1]13:07:00 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And I followed him, I tagged along right behind him, every minute. And he, he didn't like goats. Some of, one of the workers came along and said, we have to have goats, and he didn't like goats, he was a cow man. That's, farmers are like that. (LAUGH) So, us kids, there was, me and, and, and, um, um, another little boy, uh, at the farm, at that time. His mother had died and his father was out of work. Arthur, Arthur Sternburger (SP?) . Sternburger. Was, (SOUNDS LIKE) were bosoms and, and friends.

[1]13:07:40 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

So, so he taught us how to milk goats. He didn't want to be bothered with the goats. We were, I was only ten years old. I (UNINTELLIGIBLE) . And so I did the same things to my kids. They all milked goats. (LAUGH) So, but Americans don't know anything about goats. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:08:00 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, it's nice to be able to grow your own, and especially the poor, poor food that you get nowadays. It gets worse and worse. So they, they always, if they don't do it they wished they did it, so.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:08:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, and the kids were allowed free range in the garden, so they could go out there and graze. Eat the fresh, pick their own, eat it right there. Which I thought, a lot of kids won't touch vegetables. But my kids always had their (WORD?), like it. All they wanted. And that was wonderful. As they, as they grew up they, they all tried it, but they didn't, Maggie grew all her own, and, and Martha's doing pretty good. But the, the others got too busy.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:09:03 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, I think they're great. They complain, but (LAUGH), yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:09:12 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, isn't she something? She won't have anything to do with anybody. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:09:18 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I think she's going to be wonderful, when she gets going. She got ...

[QUESTION]

[1]13:09:29 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Kate's the best writer, yeah. I don't know that anybody else writes. She's been doing this since she was a school kid. I don't know if Maggie does. Susie was a nurse. She learned the, she, she did most of her learning from the farm family. Steven (WORD?) .

[QUESTION]

[1]13:09:59

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. (CLEARS THROAT)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:10:09

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Me?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:10:15

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah, being isolated. I was so depressed when I was having my third baby. I realized what a trap I'd got myself into. (LAUGH) It just seemed terrible. (LAUGH) Be careful of what you want, you're liable to get it. (LAUGH) And that's exactly what happened to me.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:10:43

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. Well I wasn't about to give up a marriage, I was a good Catholic. (LAUGH) Yeah, so.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:10:52

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, they're great kids. I, um, I'm very happy with the kids, though I feel a little guilty about having so many in the world of today. (LAUGH) But I guess both sides of the family (STAMMERS) love kids. Well especially Foster's family. They all have nice sized families. It's, you know, lots and lots of kids. Maybe not lots for each one, but when you get them all together there's a big mob of people and kids there.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:11:22

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

What?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:11:25

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yes, they're very close. They have, Lily bought a farm out in Andover, New Jersey. Are you from New Jersey? That's way out in the lakes.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:11:39

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. In the '20s, early '20s she bought this place. And she had three kids, and that wasn't enough for her, so she would, was always taking in kids. So I spent many a summer there with lots of other children.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:11:56

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah. I always had kids. And Del, of course, took me in, too. And she had three kids.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:06 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

They were always close, very close sisters.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:11 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Well they were always ...

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:14 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

John and Tessa who lived with Dorothy when they first got married. 'Cause John was only 19. He was a teenager. So they had a rough start. Unemployed teenager. (LAUGH) And I gave away the, he, he married Tessa unbeknownst to his mother. And we went to visit, we went down to, we used to frequently go to Florida. And I (UNINTELLIGIBLE) and out of the blue, with no reason to say it, I said, John calls Tessa Sweetie Pie. (LAUGH) That's when Grace hit the ceiling.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:50 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She didn't know they were married. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:57 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I guess so.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:12:59 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:13:04 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Peter Warren? He was the one I admired the most. I sat around, listened to him. I don't know why, because he was a very detached person. He was way up here, you know, in his own thing. Talk and, but everybody loved to, to listen to Peter.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:13:25 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Well I, the story is that I said to Dorothy, don't let Peter start talking 'cause he won't stop. I'm not sure about that. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:13:36 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Probably, I don't know. You couldn't stop Peter.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:13:40 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. Yeah, for some reason that was considered, church had all these rules about you had to get married at your, the, the, the woman's parish. For some dumb reason that was my parish. 'Cause I'd lived mostly in New York. I don't know why.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:14:08

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, they didn't have any plumbing or mirrors, or, it was pretty primitive, that farm. I thought that was the way to live, I liked it. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:14:23

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I didn't notice things like that. I don't know, I wasn't fussy about my, oh look at that. That's John and Tessa and Father Andy, not Father Andy, what was his name? Oh boy, don't I look young. Tessa looks real old, but she lived a long time. I have her as a young woman, she's very pretty. Oh, what a picture. I wish I could remember the priest's name, he was great.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:14:55

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, and that's the Tivoli place. These are, her jail, her jail house dress. (LAUGH) Everybody wrote all over it to autograph it. Great showing off. I don't know what this other one is. I can't read it.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:15:19

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh. What was I looking for?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:15:28

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, there's Dorothy cutting a birthday cake. I used to stuff my kids, I didn't believe in sweets, but come parties we went overboard. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:15:40

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. You know, oh, there's the wedding picture, yeah. Dorothy, oh, I don't have this one. I have the one with my motherinlaw. She's very sweet. She was nice. (TECHNICAL)

[1]13:16:01

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

There's me with my cabin in the background. I, I had everything as a could, goodness. Ever more I look at it, my own cabin. (LAUGH) That was an iron sheep, it wasn't real.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:16:13

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No. (LAUGH) It's just an iron lawn ornament. That's strange.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:16:23

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Old Mr. O'Connel built it. He was the town, the farm carpenter. He built, oh there's the old station wagon that I learned to drive in. I was going with a very, very nice fellow, Dwight LaRue who was driver for The Catholic Worker. And he had to, come the war he was CO, so he went to, into the, uh, CO camps. Up in New Hampshire. And I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:16:57 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I just got involved with Dave Hennessy and ditched him. It, it just didn't make sense. No sense. That was a good station wagon. We drove, see I was going, I was in high school and we were living in New York. And we, every weekend he would carry the weekly stipend out to the farm to keep them going. And I would go with him. So I learned to drive from him. I didn't drive, but he showed me the ropes. And just about a two hour trip, normally. But coming back during the war, the highways were totally clogged up because there weren't enough highways.

[1]13:17:39 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

During the depression nobody had a car, so it didn't matter. But suddenly there, there was a traffic jam beyond all traffic jams right at that time. That's what inspired the big highway.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:17:50 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Development, yeah. So it would take us six hours to get home on Sunday night. (LAUGH) And pull, the city up on the Polaski Skyway with the stinking garbage dumps and everything. (LAUGH) It was a weekend, but I loved it. I didn't mind. That's how I spent time with him. I think it was ...

[QUESTION]

[1]13:18:19 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:18:21 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh yeah, he was, but I didn't expect, I wasn't grown, I didn't grow up, I didn't think about that. Even at 15. I didn't know anything about that stuff. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:18:38 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Gee. Elsbeth started in real early.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:18:44 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah. The kids do. There was a bread line on Mott Street. I have a picture of that from the other angle. From Hester Street, this way, south. North, south, south. There's a Chinese sign there. That's funny 'cause that street wasn't Chinese in those days. There must have, they must have been moving up. Yeah. That was a nice neighborhood, I loved it. I, I don't know why I idealize everything. But Mott Street and Chinatown were just wonderful. (LAUGH) They were just gorgeous. Of course Dorothy could do the most embarrassing things.

[1]13:19:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

During the, the Chinese, Japanese invasion there, it was dreadful. Well we go to the store in Chinatown and she sees them selling (STAMMERS) Japanese products. So she confronts the proprietors. Where's your loyalty? (LAUGH) She'd do that over and over again when I was a kid, you know, I'd, I'd just sort of withdraw. (LAUGH) She never missed an opportunity. Poor guy. Yeah. I went to, for one year to The Transfiguration School, the parochial school was right there on Mott Street. And of course this was all Italian neighborhood, and it was still the push cart.

[1]13:20:11 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And the food was so wonderful, and you'd come home from church in the morning and buy your breakfast. Fresh made cheese and bread just out of the oven. And all the seafood is, snails all over the

sidewalk. (LAUGH) I always notice food. (LAUGH) Of course they, they both had big baskets of food out on the sidewalk. They don't do that anymore.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:20:36 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, no, the (STAMMERS) Little Italy and Chinatown, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:20:46 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Wonderful, yeah, yeah. And the people were so involved. It was a neighborhood. And I think they were so generous because who would allow a bread line across, running the whole length of the block nowadays? A family neighborhood? It just, they'd be in uproar. But they were, they were very friendly, kindly people. Hmm. A whole different generation.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:21:20 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah. I miss it all. I, I, I didn't realize how grim country people could be. It did, it didn't come to me until much later. They're a grim lot. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:21:47 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, Vermont's beautiful. But I've never been happy in it. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[1]13:21:57 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I missed, I miss all the other, I, I settled down too far from family. (CLEARS THROAT) Yeah, my kids didn't grow up with their cousins like I did. (CLEARS THROAT) 'Cause Dave Hennessy had seven sisters. Foster had six sisters. So there's quite a lot of relatives (CLEARS THROAT) that would have been very nice to have close contact with.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:22:28 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. When they were small that was enough, yeah. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:22:36 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. It was very nice, in a way. Until they got older and starting noticing things. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:22:48 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

He was selling books, on distributors, from the house. Mail order books, thing. Brought in about ten dollars a week.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:23:01 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Hilarba Locke (SP?), and, and Eric Gil. Yeah. There was a lot in that distributism (sic), and it's still, it still should be, everybody's forgotten it.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:23:21 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

It's keeping things small and local, you know. Owning your own little businesses, owning your own home and everything. You know, instead of the, we're going the, we're going the opposite way. The big corporate control and everything. So it, it still make sense to me, but who, who ever hears of that? (LAUGH) Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:23:51 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

It fits right in with the organic gardening movement and good food. Good fresh stuff. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:24:02 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No. Well farming is so strange. California took it over, and, you know, it's all irrigation, it isn't sustainable. The rest of the country were very good farm, at that time, well I remember things by strikes. You know, there was a workers' strike and Seabrook Farms, it's a big corporate farm in South Jersey. So there were corporate farms, but they're in, on the east coast. Well it still is, but it mostly, pigs and chickens is what it was. And it's just everything is, is, um, not local, but you have, everything has to be shipped. Refrigerator trucks, and that's changed everything.

[1]13:24:57 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

So the quality of food was always better back then. I'm not, I mean, I don't think I'm faking that, 'cause it was more local. Long Island had wonderful duck farms, I don't know. I think there's a little bit of farms left out there, but they're being ...

[QUESTION]

[1]13:25:19 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, there must be some left.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:25:35 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, that was on the farm, I might have. Isn't that funny, I can't, yeah, maybe I did. I, everybody used to make things for Dorothy. She had, I have one of her afghans, that red one there, she hates, she didn't like the color red, she kept saying, rip it out. What would you do with it after ripping it out? So I took it home with me. It's a very nice one. I'm trying to find out who made it. (LAUGH) Yeah. I did make her something, but I'm not sure, that was on the beach. That was so nice. We spent two whole summers out there.

[1]13:26:11 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And there was a mocking bird that used to sing to us. But then she got sort of feeble and cranky and she wouldn't go out anymore. And when I mentioned to her a couple years later, I said wasn't it nice that we were able to spend that time on Staten Island? And she'd completely forgotten it. She couldn't remember. Recent, recent happenings. And she looked so sad, she said, oh I'm so sorry. (LAUGH) It must have been nice. The Jordans were across the street from us, so that's, you know, the kids were little. I think he, Pat had to commute a lot.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:26:59 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah, he, I went to the Bronx Zoo with them. (LAUGH) That's a funny story, because that's the first time I got to the Bronx Zoo, when I'm way into my fifties. And Foster was supposed to take me when I

was a child. But he was so noncommunicative. Things were so tense between him and Dorothy. He sat there with his face buried in a newspaper, we went past our station. And we never got there. And it was such a disappointment to me (LAUGH) that to this day it hurts. So finally the Jordans took me 50 years later, (LAUGH) with their kids. It's so funny. Foster could flub up everything.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:27:55

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Was he?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:28:05

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, I, I don't know. No, he was ...

[QUESTION]

[1]13:28:16

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, he was handsome.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:28:20

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

On the beach?

[QUESTION]

[1]13:28:22

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, those pictures are nice. I have those pictures. Oh, that's taken at the time, oh, that's an interesting one. I don't, I've never seen it. Where'd you, you must have got this from, that one I have. That's not a very good copy.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:28:39

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

(STAMMERS) (WORD?) Marine was still standing. That stood until, into the '30s. But this thing here, somebody goofed up. They decide they were going to have a casino out on the water off the beach. And so they tow in an old ferry boat. Well the next storm demolished it. (LAUGH) It was a foolish idea. So I never saw that. So I, I don't know whether this is before I was born, maybe.

[QUESTION]

[1]13:29:08

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

But, and but, but at later years I was wading around there when I was about six, which, no I must have been seven or eight, with Freddy Rabino (SP?), have you met him? He comes back to The Worker, and he was five years old. And Dorothy of course was always picking up kids and taking them places. So the two of us were wading around, and there was a, a (STAMMERS) the framework of the boat was, of the ferry was under the water. And there was a hole there and he fell into it. And I can remember just as though it was yesterday, he, he, he was trying to get out of the water. He was frightened, scared face.

[1]13:29:46

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

So I yanked him out of the, out of the hole, and we go rushing back to the house over the rocks, and they were all barnacles. That's when the water was good. (LAUGH) Got ourselves all ripped up. Well when I met him (CLEARS THROAT) at the time when I was in New York, what is that 15 years ago now? (LAUGH) Sounds recent. He remembered it, too. And I, I didn't, you know, he was only five years old, he's a couple years younger than me. (LAUGH)

INTERVIEWEE: TAMAR HENNESSY

[END OF TAPE: [1]13:30:18]

TAPE NUMBER: 2

[2]12:00:35 **TAMAR HENNESSY**

You take a whole bunch of this stuff and then you cut it all apart? Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:00:46 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I know the local people, when the local newspaper comes to them and takes, then they expect to see themselves on and all they get is this little blimp. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:01:03 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

The, the growth of the trees. Oh, yeah, I even see the house. Isn't that funny. Yeah. But that's since, uh, Dave made the new railing, so it's not too long ago. Poor Dave. That was Laura's first husband. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:01:41 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah. I just got a, I would like to have a cityscape, but I don't know. (LAUGH) I would hate to tell him 'cause that's what he's (STAMMERS) painting now.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:02:11 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Maybe where we used to go. I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:02:14 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, we used to go there, I think.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:02:23 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, he's a good cook. (LAUGH) And his paintings, he was doing it then.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:02:34 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

He's kept it up. I was, I was taking, uh, painting courses in community college. I was good enough so the teacher was very encouraging, but I don't do it. I just don't do it. (LAUGH) So I read, Kate's moving books around and I ran across the book and she's, and the name of the book was Why I Don't Paint. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:03:01 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I hope it gives me the answer 'cause I'd love to do, at least draw. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:03:10 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I have, I have the paper and the charcoal right to hand but I, I don't do it. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:03:22 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, but usually I lie down. That's easier on the back.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:03:33 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, um, Randy Testa. (SP?) He was, he was, he had worked with, with Robert Coles (SP?) but now, now I think he's working in Dartmouth. He made a, a little, uh, monologue play of Dorothy's, of, and it was put on at one of the conferences in, in Boston. I forget the name of the woman who did it. I have pictures of her but I don't know where things are. So I guess he had this enlarged and framed. And that's Mike. I, this morning, I just had a call there, was from (STAMMERS) Judith Gregory. Mike, after this he became, he came up to Ridginton (SP?) and became a nurse.

[2]12:04:22 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And we went out to San Francisco and, and opened an AIDS hospice. And he worked there for 10 years. But then he sort of, it got, um, lack of interest now because they think it's all better. So he wasn't getting helpers and he got kind of burnt out. So he, he quit and now he's back east again living near Keen, (SP?) New Hampshire. And Judith is from there. So I'm trying to get them to come visit me. Like I say, everybody's (LAUGH) out there. I give them encouragement.

[2]12:04:59 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

So she just called me to say, oh, we're so busy, we're so busy, you know. But she's gonna, she promised to come up next week with some vegetables from the garden. So that will be nice. Yeah. And he'll be, well, he's going to Toronto to visit right now. But that's the funeral. You know what it is. And Jeff's there. Do you see him? And that's Mike. I don't the names. Everybody's who's carrying the coffin or the kids.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:05:29 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Mine.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:05:32 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No. Only six of them. Two didn't make it. Nicki (SP?) and Susie didn't make it. And Maggie. Maggie would have made it if I'd only got through in time. I just didn't, we just, just didn't click. (CLEARS THROAT) And then the, there's John Day, and Foster, they stand right out 'cause they're both quite tall.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:06:04 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

These two. They're just standing here. I can't see without glasses either. (LAUGH) But they're standing right there.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:06:13 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah. He and I were there and on the other side of me was Pat, his companion. She was wonderful. And John Day and Tessa. Tessa's very, very short, so she scarcely shows. And then behind them is Tom Chapin, (SP?) the cousin.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:06:34

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

My, well, um, Foster's sister's daughter's son. What is that, second cousin? (LAUGH) Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:06:45

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, his brother. 'Cause I think, yeah, Harry didn't make it. He was alive. I think he died the same year, didn't he?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:06:57

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, no, he racked up on the ...

[QUESTION]

[2]12:07:00

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

... on the speedway to Huntington. That's where they live.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:07:20

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah, they, that coffin that, that she boasts about that we carried for years, it wasn't even made like a coffin. It was like a 2-bin box. We used it for storage. I didn't know it disappeared somewhere along the way. (LAUGH) But she said I had my coffin made by Mr. O'Connell (SP?) who was the, the carpenter in the Easton (SP?) farm. But ...

[QUESTION]

[2]12:07:47

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Really, I didn't know that.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:07:50

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, that's wonderful. I wish I knew more about it. They didn't tell me. Frank set up a private gathering for us after the funeral. I would have so much more liked being at The Catholic Worker (WORD?) as a great big party. (LAUGH) But we were out at The Beachcomber, me and Foster and Pat and the kids. Hardly anybody. It would have been so much fun. (LAUGH) And I, of course I, I never know what's happening at the time it's happening, so I don't take charge.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:08:31

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yes, at St. Patrick's. I came down for that, yeah. Yeah. I, I kept close touch as long as Foster was alive. I kept coming down. And then I, and then of course (STAMMERS) Susie was, was dying at the same time that John Day was. So I, I came down to be with her in Marlborough (SP?) . And right, he died a few weeks before she did. So Tessa was alone. So then I came to New York and started visiting Tessa.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:09:09

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

When was that? No, he was already gone because I was buying this house at that time.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:09:17

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, thanks to him. He left me the money to buy it. So, everybody's, everything has panned out so wonderfully for me. (LAUGH) So, because I get royalties and a house. So ...

[QUESTION]

[2]12:09:46

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I don't know anything about it. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:09:52

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Well they let me know about copyrights all the time. I don't, I don't know. I'll have to ask, does Phil Runkle (SP?) know? Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:10:11

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She has her own letters? Oh.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:10:18

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. I don't know what I, I, for instance I didn't know what to with the letters I found in Foster's apartment. But I've had copies made and Audi (SP?) has seen them and, and you've seen them and, and, um, Orbis (SP?), um, Robert has seen them. So, but, uh, I don't if Phil, Phil has seen anything.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:10:45

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:10:51

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I know. I'll get them, I'm gonna get them to him. If I could corner Kate she'd help me to get them out to the post office, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:11:07

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) He's wonderful, yeah. Yeah, I had a long talk with him back then. He came to New York, I forget what for. Maybe it was the, uh, St. Patrick's. Because he was a close, close friend of William Miller. And I had encouraged William Miller to do everything and keep, you know, we were on very friendly terms. But for some reason the group at The Catholic Worker didn't like his book. They weren't nice at all and it broke his heart. So I talked to Phil about it and he explained, you know, how he, how Bill Miller felt. It was really hard to hear.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:11:58

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, I could see it, it was done hurriedly because Harper was putting him under pressure. So there's a lot of, of little bits of information that are mixed up. So, I mean, what does it matter? I don't know why they

got that way. They got real sticky about it and they wouldn't review it or anything. So that, that made me kind of miserable. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:12:28 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, I guess so. I don't read, I don't, I have a hard time reading it. I liked Robert Cole's the best. Wasn't that good?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:13:18 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, well that's great. That's another thing about Dorothy. She was, she was always on the lookout for people's talents and she always encouraged them so much. Many, many people have, remember that. She was good. She had great respect for learning and talent. She never would accept, um, complement, complementary degrees. What do you call them? (LAUGH) Because she said she recognized how much work went into the real thing. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:13:54 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Honorary degrees. Yeah, that's the word, yeah, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:14:00 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, that, uh, came up over and over again. She was, she was good at that. That's kind of a puzzle to me, like, I didn't get the encouragement I needed. Audi is the only one. Audi was wonderful. Audi comes from a scientific family. So her brothers are mathematicians and, and, um, they're all (STAMMERS) artists, too. And she, she wanted me to get back into school to, to pursue that interest. But I just threw it away. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:14:40 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah. It was strange. Well, I guess it was probably because of the war. The war made, was complete devastating at the Catholic Worker house. And Dorothy decides to retire. She leaves the work. (LAUGH) And it was in the care of Dave Mason. (CLEARS THROAT) He held things together. (CLEARS THROAT) And I went to Farmingdale and waited until I turned 18 so I could get married. So that was kind of a throwaway year. Everything temporarily fell apart. She got back (LAUGH) on track.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:15:23 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She was nearby. She was in a convent right (STAMMERS) next to Huntington. I forget the name of it. And Farmingdale, Farmingdale (MUMBLES) is in that same neighborhood.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:15:40 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Nine. I wanted 10. (LAUGH) That's how crazy I was.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:15:54 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I think it's 18, I'm not sure, grandchildren. And about six greatgrandchildren. I'm not sure. (CLEARS THROAT) I mean, Tia's the first one. There's two babies born in the last year. And then when, one was stillborn. So you don't know who to count and who not to count. Justin died in a terrible accident.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:16:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yes, he, he always called them that. He was very proud. And that's the funnies thing because (CLEARS THROAT) he didn't want any babies. He said this world is just too grim a place. You don't want, he didn't want to add to it. (LAUGH) But when I was born he was delighted and we were real buddies for a couple of years there. We just hit it right off. I think that must have been devastating to me, even though I don't remember it. We took off and went to California. I remember California, but not before that.

[2]12:17:00 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

So, (WORD?) got a job with (WORD?) to write, as a writer. And they were going under and they weren't telling anybody. So she got disgusted with sitting around with nothing to do, so she took her money and went to Mexico. And after she left she found out that they had given up the ghost and they didn't tell anybody. (LAUGH) What a way to treat your workers. I don't understand.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:17:32 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And so we went down, there was a woman named Laurel Rogers (SP?) . Everybody's forgotten about and I don't know what the story on her (STAMMERS) was but she was a dear friend who had had a couple of tragedies in her family, a divorce and a death.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:17:47 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah. I have pictures of LaLa (SP?) and holding me and taking care of me.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:05 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

In California?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:07 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Mexico?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:12 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Well, I don't think that was, uh, (SOUNDS LIKE) Armando and Garamina. That, that must have been the young people. That's them there. He came back many, many years later. Well (STAMMERS), not many, after the war, the '40s. But unfortunately he came back the same day that one of the workers came back from the front, so there was big excitement.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:35 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, that's in Mexico City. I guess that's in the city, too. That's Staten Island. But (STAMMERS) I have some of us in front of our house in (WORD?) . Oh, there we are in Florida. That's my grandma. I loved her. She was wonderful.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:53

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Glamorous lady, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:18:55

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, she was lovely. I just thought, she enjoyed her life. She had a car and, and we went to this, uh, swimming pool. We went to all the uppercrust what was going on in the '30s. (LAUGH) So I, I saw the glamorous side of Miami and Coral Gables.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:19:22

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

He was very gruff with us. He, he was funny. He didn't really pretend to like kids. I remember, uh, we were all visiting at, at Della's, uh, farm out in, um, Glen Gardener (SP?) . And I was being a real pest. I think I must have been an awful pesty kid 'cause people were always sending me off. (LAUGH) And he says I'll give you a nickel for every 4-leaf clover you find. Thinking he'd got rid of me. And I kept coming back with more and more 4-leaf clovers. (LAUGH) I don't know why I remember that. It was ridiculous. That was, I must have been only five.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:20:08

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, that was a big thing. He threw her out of the house. He didn't want (STAMMERS), he was a country, he was a southern gentleman and women had a definite place where to be. And she wanted to be a journalist, and women don't do that. So she went, I guess she went to college at the age of 16 for a year and then she went to New Orleans, isn't that the way it went?

[QUESTION]

[2]12:20:41

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

So they moved to New York.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:20:45

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, so that's why she left the university. But then (STAMMERS) it didn't last 'cause she wanted to work.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:20:57

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah. Yeah. Sam was the editor of the, of the Herald Tribune and, um, Donald went overseas as a foreign correspondent in, in Russia for the Chicago Tribune. And he (STAMMERS), he married a Russian woman whose husband had died in the, in the violence under Stalin. So he hated the Communists so much that he went and broadcast from Germany at the time. And that got him in so much trouble with the Americans they wouldn't let him back in the country. So they lived and died over there. Yeah. Dorothy loved Donald. He was very sweet.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:21:47

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And John, yeah, yeah. 'Cause John was born when she was 14 so she got the care of John when she was a kid. That was, and that grew on her. Yeah. But Sam wouldn't even speak. We'd go out there and visit 'cause her mother stayed with them when, when she was too old to go to Miami. And (LAUGH) Grace was

so funny. She says living in the suburbs of Long Island, she says, such a boring life. I don't see how these people can stand it. (LAUGH) But that's where she had to spend her days. And of course we, we went out there quite a bit to visit. But Sam would always go in the other room. He wouldn't even speak. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:22:35 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Both Donald and Sam were older than her. I don't know which came first. And then she and Della and then John. Yeah. So, yeah, they were, I think that's, one of the things she used to always say to me, my brothers didn't have any education and look what they've done. So you don't need one. Well, boy, they were talented people and they did go in the Army and the Air Force. So they did get a good education. You know, I mean, they knew how to do it. So I thought it was kind of unfair. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:23:22 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah. That's what her mother did. Yeah. That's where they met, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:23:28 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah. But her mother never thought that way. At least not with her children.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:23:38 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:23:40 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah, I loved her. (LAUGH) Foster's mother was wonderful, too. I thought I had wonderful grandparents. (LAUGH) I didn't know, I didn't know Foster's mother that well but she, I have pictures of her holding the babies on her lap. I think they were, one of them was me and one was Frances, Lily's, my cousin, yeah. I tried to get in touch with her in New York and I haven't been able to do it.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:24:13 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

He was always deeply attached to Dorothy. Well, he also had the habit of keeping his mother's letters. That was a, the generation that wrote constantly to one another. And he was their only boy and it, he, he had suitcases full of letters that he kept. And he kept letters from various girlfriends, too. So I looked at some of them. I wasn't too interested. I gave them to Pat and I don't know what she did with them. She might have given them to his sister 'cause he still had two sisters alive when he died. I don't know what happened to them.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:25:04 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I, my whole life I always thought that. I mean, very, very early I regretted that they weren't together. But I understood the Catholic thing. I understood, she (STAMMERS), you know, she spells it out in her letter, why can't we get married and have babies? Of course that's just totally hateful to him, the whole idea. (LAUGH) Which, I don't know, I can't explain her (STAMMERS), it's some kind of uncontrollable calling. It just had to be, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:25:53

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah, I didn't see that.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:26:11

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. (LAUGH) Her letters were (STAMMERS), yeah.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:26:18

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. And there's a lot of anger and a lot of hurt in a lot of them, too.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:26:42

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

The cat? (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:26:48

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. (LAUGH) That's funny.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:26:55

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Not as much as she would have liked. She was a huggy, kissy mother and I wasn't. I wanted to be up and doing and running around. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:27:44

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah. (LAUGH) Those letters are funny.

[QUESTION]

[2]12:27:51

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I don't understand it 'cause they were so, so much in love. I don't know how she could have done that. (LAUGH) Of course I don't have that. I mean, the church to me is just an obstacle. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[2]12:28:11

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh, yeah, up, up until four years at, two years after I'd left David. (CLEARS THROAT) I stuck with it and tried to drag those kids to catechism. I was dragging everybody along. They wouldn't, they just did not want to go and I, and finally I says to myself, there's a message in this for me. I better listen. So we quit. (LAUGH) Nobody was getting it. It was not, it was not for us. Which you can't, conventbred Catholic aren't supposed to get that way. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

INTERVIEWEE: TAMAR HENNESSY

[2]12:28:58**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I felt that was more Peter's ideas. (CLEARS THROAT) He wanted to found a community of workers and scholars (CLEARS THROAT) where they would, you know, exchange their ideas four hours a day and then work and everybody would, would exchange places and do all that was idealism. And a lot of the workers wanted to found, they bought a farm and they wanted to settle as families. And Dorothy just thought, they're not taking care of the poor. (CLEARS THROAT) And so she, the, the farms have always lasted, but she found other uses for them.

[2]12:29:38**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

She would introduce (STAMMERS) families that really needed care. (CLEARS THROAT) And so it was quite hard. And then she would turn them into conferences and retreats and, that was her uses for the farm. But as for community or family, she didn't see it. (CLEARS THROAT) She didn't want to support families and they just had to leave usually for survival.

[END OF TAPE: [2]12:30:07]

TAPE NUMBER: 3

[QUESTION]

[3]11:00:32
Who did?

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:00:34
Oh, that's right, you did, yeah.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:06
That's great. Oh, now, that's ...

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:08
(OVERLAPPING) ... nice, that's lovely (MUMBLES) .

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:12
Yeah, yeah. I don't know about that one of Dorothy. She ...

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:17
(OVERLAPPING) ... looks pretty hungover.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:20
(LAUGH) No.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:24
I never saw that one before.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:30
Oh, that's right, they ...

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:31
(OVERLAPPING) ... got a little prayer card. I have, I have it somewhere. I guess I didn't look at it. (LAUGH)

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:41

TAMAR HENNESSY

Well, they're (STAMMERS), (COUGH) I wrote the cardinal a letter but, and he was very, very, very happy to get it. But now he's kind of ill, so maybe he'll drop the whole thing, I hope.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:01:55

TAMAR HENNESSY

(COUGH) I don't know, it's a bit, just, well, I, you know ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:11

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:20

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yes, I asked him to, because ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:22

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) ... I have no idea ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:24

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) ... I would, it's a long, tedious thing. He has to bring her, a letter to the Pope and he has to think about and, and they're both in so, so precarious in their age and everything. I don't think it's gonna go anywhere. (COUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:51

TAMAR HENNESSY

Well, that's where I wonder whether that was before or after.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:02:58

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, so I know he's been there once, but I didn't think (STAMMERS) he had done anything yet.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:08

TAMAR HENNESSY

Well, I, you know, the church takes centuries to do anything, so why (LAUGH) ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:14

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) ... why worry? (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:18

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, it's interesting but ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:31

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, that's right.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:33

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, right away. I'm not sure if she's canonized, is she?

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:39

TAMAR HENNESSY

The first process.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:40

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) It goes through three or four of those ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:42

TAMAR HENNESSY

... steps.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:47

TAMAR HENNESSY

That's right, they have to get a miracle, and so ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:03:52

TAMAR HENNESSY

(LAUGH) ... well, Joe says that he was cured of, of, uh, lung cancer, but I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:04:05

TAMAR HENNESSY

(COUGH) What did he say?

[QUESTION]

[3]11:04:29

TAMAR HENNESSY

Isn't that wonderful? I never heard that. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:04:42

TAMAR HENNESSY

I didn't hear about it.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:04:45

TAMAR HENNESSY

Well, that'd be nice.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:04:57

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) Yeah, he was wonderful on the phone. I, I enjoyed that, told me a lot of, the whole process and told me a lot about himself and it was good. And he was very pleased with what I wrote because I had, I had touched on something. She, he was a question in his mind. And he hadn't brought it out. (STAMMERS) Even after talking to all those people.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:05:23

TAMAR HENNESSY

Whether or not we were in (STAMMERS) on good terms as a family, and we always were. She was always there for me. I mean, she was just, she did everything she could. It was just lovely and (STAMMERS), you know, she, she stayed with the kids when I went to nursing school and it was (STAMMERS) it was just constant, and I just can't believe that, and nobody should have (LAUGH) that should have been left out of their discussion, yeah. Yeah.

[3]11:05:54

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And of course, with her own family, they were hostile to the church, like, you know, like that, those people were. But, uh, she paid no attention. She was just this loving and close to everybody forever. And her, all her old friends, she never forgot a human being. (LAUGH) And kept it right up.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:06:22

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:06:31

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) And the writing, yeah. Even if it was just postcards, which she always sent, sent them. Stanley always warned me, he said, save everyone. Save everyone. I didn't pay much attention. (LAUGH) So now I have to gather what I have.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:06:51

TAMAR HENNESSY

That'd be nice.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:06:54

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah. I love to read everything about, from her.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:07:05

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, the ones to Foster. I have a hard time, it's, it's, it strikes something emotional in me because I met, you know, I missed my father and I don't remember it. But I missed him terribly. He was (STAMMERS), he was really wonderful. (STAMMERS) Everybody loved him too, you know, same kind, kind of a (STAMMERS) personality. But (LAUGH), of course, different. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:07:34

TAMAR HENNESSY

(LAUGH) (STAMMERS) He was antireligious to a degree. (LAUGH) Couldn't understand what she was up to. But I have a hard time. I can't read them through ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:07:46

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) ... so I can pick them up for a short period. But I found out a lot of things. She writes so (LAUGH), her stay in, her description of learning to drive was wonderful. I'm always telling everybody about that. (LAUGH) 'Cause she never took a driver's test (LAUGH). Well, of course, they didn't need them. You just hopped in your car in the '20s and they said, this is what, what steers and this is what stops it, and this is (LAUGH) what makes it go.

[3]11:08:16

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And that's where (STAMMERS), just took off. So she writes (STAMMERS) long letters. She, she bought the car in Florida, 'cause she was visiting her mother, about how she got in a car and drove around the block and then the next day, she went out for 25 miles. She was so proud of herself. (LAUGH) And then she proceeds to go crosscountry. (LAUGH) Yeah, that was, oh, she was so much fun to be with for a little kid.

[3]11:08:46

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

A little bit too stressful physically. I'd always end up coming down with something. (LAUGH) But I just remember her as a fun person.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:08:59

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yes, I remember a lot about Mexico. I loved it. Yeah, we, we were in Mexico City with the, a family, Armondo and Garamina. They were sweethearts. Then we went to stay out in (WORD?), even then, it was a tourist trap, I think. And that's where I, I think probably, I might have gotten malaria. I don't know, 'cause it's all canals. But that was fun. I remember sleeping on the (STAMMERS) floor and the mice running around and the birds and the (LAUGH) ceiling. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:09:34

TAMAR HENNESSY

No, I loved it. (LAUGH) Uh, little kids love things like that. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:09:41

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, yeah, that always interested me anyway. I always remember all the animals and, and the plants, wherever I've been, but I never remember the people. (LAUGH) People don't matter (STAMMERS) to me. I was the opposite of her (LAUGH) that way.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:10:06

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, I was always gathering up animals, yeah. Too much, so. I mean, imagine in a back apartment in a back house in, on Mott Street, I had 30 mice (LAUGH). It was unbearable. (LAUGH) It was just awful. I learned all about nutrition from those mice, 'cause I made them all sick feeding them people food. (LAUGH) The, they were same thing we were eating ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:10:35

TAMAR HENNESSY

... (STAMMERS) mice couldn't live on it. I should think they're, I don't know. (LAUGH) The wild ones, they're, they must make it somehow.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:10:50

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:10:55

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, yeah, I wrote home, bird nests. I, reminded me of an incident when I last talked to her. She said, I had a little cigar box full of (STAMMERS) sea shells and crabs and all kinds of little things and somebody threw it out. That happened to me over and over and over again 'cause my stuff, I mean, the place was so busy. We moved around a lot and nobody paid any attention to that. It was ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:11:23

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, I don't know. (LAUGH) I don't remember.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:11:27

TAMAR HENNESSY

Happened so many times I can't even, but ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:11:32

TAMAR HENNESSY

... oh, yeah, I used to build, uh, down in, in, um, Easton, they were digging pits for (STAMMERS), for (STAMMERS) outhouse but they came on clay, so I took the clay and I made it into a little castles and (LAUGH) had fun with that. I loved to do it. You know, I'm always interested in shapes and sizes of things.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:12:00

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, he, (STAMMERS), he was a naturalist all through and through. Yeah, but I don't remember him having enough contact with him to learn anything from him. That's how I regret that, uh, uh, he withdrew just to, because he was hurt so bad. (COUGH) So whatever contact we had was very distant. So it was kind of hard. (COUGH) We all met together for holidays at his sister's house. Lily, Lily was one of Dorothy's dearest friends forever.

[3]11:12:34

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And, um, we all gathered there. Course the family is real big so there's mobs of people. But I would play with my cousin and not have in, much contact with the (STAMMERS) grownups. They were all discussing stateoftheworld and listening to Wagner at the same time and the louder the music got, the louder they got. (LAUGH) Dorothy said it was an awful din. (LAUGH) So I remember all those things which is being so much fun. I enjoyed it. (COUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:13:13

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, uh, too quiet and, I, he withdrew and I would withdraw too, so we couldn't get together for that reason, I suppose. (LAUGH) But he always piled material things on, so I had everything.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:13:40

TAMAR HENNESSY

He sent bicycle down to my kids and we lived in West Virginia way out in the boonies and you can't ride bicycles on mud. (LAUGH) It was funny, and oh, he sent us our radio. Our first radio. It had to be battery, 'cause there was no electricity and we enjoyed that. I survived on that because I was so depressed in West Virginia. I didn't want, like it one bit. I didn't wanna go there. And it was horribly isolating and very, very primitive. Had to walk about 400 yards just for our water. And I had three babies. It was, you know, the whole chores was just keeping clean.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:14:24

TAMAR HENNESSY

And then I had a fourth while I was there. But he always sent things and he would, or we got the battery radio, and it tuned into old Virginia (STAMMERS) barn dance? (LAUGH) (STAMMERS) From a Richmond, Virginia (LAUGH), so we ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:14:46

TAMAR HENNESSY

... I enjoyed that. I loved to dance before I got married, because there was a big, um, folk dance revival in New York City during the war. And everybody was dancing. And we, one of the Catholic workers, Leonard Austin (SP?), he was (STAMMERS), maybe that's not his name, but Leonard anyway, (LAUGH) he was a dancer (STAMMERS), a professional, I think. And he had everybody dancing. And did we have a good time for a couple years there.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:15:22

TAMAR HENNESSY

Fifteen, 16, yeah. But (STAMMERS) after marrying everything just shut down. I didn't do anything. It was, I described my marriage as, uh, solitary confinement. (LAUGH) It brought everything to a close. (COUGH) But Dorothy was always there. She always came back.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:15:48

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) Yes, she came and stayed, 'cause when I was expecting Eric, we had first moved down there and I was extremely unhappy, she worried, so she came and stayed with us. We were about 10 miles from a hospital and didn't have a car. We didn't have a, no phone, no nothing. So she came to stay. And she writes about that in the book, and then when the baby is born she forgets to write for a couple of weeks.

[3]11:16:19

TAMAR HENNESSY

And (LAUGH) when the book was published, everybody was (LAUGH) (STAMMERS) writing her and calling her up and said, what happened when the baby came? (LAUGH) That was really comical. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:16:31

TAMAR HENNESSY

Fourth. No, third. That was Eric. That's right, it was Eric, 'cause Nicky was born down there, too. Yeah. But that time was different.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:16:52

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yes, it was a lot of fun. Everybody enjoyed me. I think they enjoyed me as much I did them. They were a lovely bunch of people.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:17:02 **TAMAR HENNESSY**

Yeah, yeah. Of course, when Dorothy went on her, on her trips, everybody would pitch in to take care of me. It was nice. It was very nice. I, I mean, I just had so much family, much better than most kids' experience, because a lot of other Catholic worker kids had, had a lot of painful experiences. But I don't remember any. (LAUGH) I loved it.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:17:32 **TAMAR HENNESSY**

Yes. She, we would get, we would, uh, everybody would gather from all over the city and they'd get that paper out in about 24 hours. (STAMMERS) Went 'round the clock, and then we'd all pile into the station wagon with the bags of mail and go down the middle of the night, go down to the post office, I, I was in on all that, and all the labeling and (STAMMERS), you know, gluing and all that stuff. And I learned about the mimeograph machine, 'cause we used that a lot.

[3]11:18:03 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And, um, (SOUNDS LIKE) Eddie Priest, who I lost, I, I lost touch with every, with everybody for 30, 40 years. But (SOUNDS LIKE) Josarella kept up. And so he was seeing him lately but I didn't hear until after he died that that, that they were in touch. But Eddie Priest ran the printing press. They had those regular foot pedal, but a, a regular booksize press, I learned everything. I hung, (STAMMERS), I would always, anybody doing anything interesting, I'd hang out.

[3]11:18:37 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And they'd tell me everything and show me everything. So I knew how to do the whole thing, the typesetting and the, the makeup and all, uh, printed journal, that stuff. And then another time, Dorothy took me to the great big (STAMMERS), uh, where the newspaper was published. So I was in the composing room there. It was vast, 'cause it was a big company. And watched them move everything around and do it in (STAMMERS) the linotype machines and everything.

[3]11:19:06 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

There was the old way of doing it (STAMMERS) that was regular newspaper work. She always tried to include me on anything interesting that was happening when she was there, you know. So.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:19:24 **TAMAR HENNESSY**

Yes, they were a couple who came after the, there was three big strikes in 1936 and a lot of unemployment, uh, course they lost everything. and she had married Steve Johnson who had become an invalid. He was (STAMMERS) working on the streets for the Irish cause. He was an Irishman, and I think he's strained something, he lost his vocal chords. And he would have died, I imagine, if it wasn't for her, she took wonderful care of him.

[3]11:19:59 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And they sort of became substitute parents for me. (COUGH) And that lasted a good, from until, until '41 or '42, from '36, and, and (STAMMERS) Steve Johnson loved this, they've (STAMMERS), oh, he was a born in Cork, so he loved swimming. I mean, I was, like, a fish. I loved the water so the two of us spent the, the summers on the water.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:20:33 **TAMAR HENNESSY**

Well, Dorothy, uh, had had her own cottage early on, but Foster took that after they separated, and I wasn't in touch. He was living with, um, Nanette over there. (COUGH) And, uh, (STAMMERS) I don't know. We just weren't in touch, least, not, not that I remember. (COUGH) But Dorothy would rent places on Staten

Island and hold conferences. And there was a group of, of, uh, college kids. There was a big deal whose history I know nothing about. You have to ask Tom. He told me a little bit. Whether he tried to make a split in the Catholic worker. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:21:21

TAMAR HENNESSY

I didn't know about it either. (LAUGH) But I remember they took all my toys and wrecked them. They were college kids, having a great old time, water fights and, and the Johnsons were, were (SOUNDS LIKE) being cook and (STAMMERS) chaperons and it's, it was pretty hectic. But I went about my business, I'd coming home with buckets of crabs and creepycrawlies. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:21:52

TAMAR HENNESSY

I don't remember cooking. She was a good cook most of the time, yeah. Yeah, I remember, he, she was gonna serve, uh, the funniest memories, but they don't make any sense at all. She was gonna serve whipped cream on strawberry shortcake one day and Stanley had the job. He was still a teenager. He had the job of making the whipped cream and he whip, whipped it too long, started to turn. (LAUGH) And she was so angry. When she was angry, you knew it. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:22:20

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh did she have a temper. And poor Stanley. (LAUGH) He got it (STAMMERS) so many times, poor (LAUGH), he had a rough time. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:22:31

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, yeah. (LAUGH) He was, and he, he and I were like, uh, siblings you know. I remember going, um, roller skating on Charles Street in front of the police station. (LAUGH) I guess there wasn't a lot of traffic in New York City. (LAUGH) And, that would be right after 15th Street, so it must have been like 35, some time like that. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:23:01

TAMAR HENNESSY

That was up in Harlem with the, with the, oh, Catherine De Hewick (SP?) and we were always close, there was always close connections, um, after the Easton Farm was brought in '36, Dorothy would (STAMMERS), well, (STAMMERS) Julia Pachelli (SP?) was connected with them. And she'd gather up all their kids and we'd (STAMMERS), take them out and have a little summer camp for them, and Mary Johnson sort of fed them and housed them in the barn. We had to fix the barn up in dormitories.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:23:41

TAMAR HENNESSY

(OVERLAPPING) Yes, and my parakeet ate my copy.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:23:48

TAMAR HENNESSY

Oh, no, that's a different one, that's when, that's when I was building those, that castle. They broke it down shortly afterwards. (LAUGH) Yeah, no, you don't (STAMMERS), I don't know if you have the picture. Oh, that's a wonderful one. There's (SOUNDS LIKE) Ody and everybody's there. (STAMMERS) ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:24:07 TAMAR HENNESSY

... yeah, right up back here. Wait a second, I don't see Mary, she must be hid behind something. Oh, she's, yeah, her head's behind somebody. Dorothy's right behind me. (LAUGH) That's a great picture. I wish somebody could identify all the people. I remember (SOUNDS LIKE) Dan Knoor and Frank O'Donnel. Kate Smith (LAUGH), she lived right in the apartment next door to us and she used to take my, all my, I've had everything of course, because of Foster, I had watches and all kinds of goodies.

[3]11:24:37 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I mean, talk about The Depression (LAUGH), I didn't know anything about it. (LAUGH) But she would take them and give them away to the neighbors. (LAUGH) And of course, when I protested, Dorothy (LAUGH), I'd catch it (UNINTELLIGIBLE) . (LAUGH) She thought I should be right, mature enough. I never was. (LAUGH) I couldn't, I never learned to take that kind of thing. Oh, there's Ody, and I think there's Larry Doyle.

[3]11:25:08 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

And Steve Johnson and, oh, gosh, I (STAMMERS), I wish I could, their (STAMMERS), their faces are so wonderful. They're family, you know, and, uh, but I've forgotten some of the names. Yes. Have you no, seen anybody who knows that stuff?

[QUESTION]

[3]11:25:27 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) Maybe he's picked it up yeah.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:25:34 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Oh you did?

[QUESTION]

[3]11:25:40 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, we, I was there (STAMMERS) after I'd met Dave Hennessy, Dorothy came back and she was devastated. She was gone for four months. (LAUGH) And, uh, so she sent me up to live with Ody, and I was so happy. It was nice up there. Ody's wonderful and her mother was great. (LAUGH) So I lived in the house with them.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:26:12 TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She always did that. It was so annoying. (LAUGH) No, her mother had us all knitting sweaters for the prisoners of war, Belgian. So we were, we were in Newport during the war years and it was a, supposed to be a blackout, because right across the bay from us, no more than a quarter of a mile, there was a munitions factory, and of course, another quarter of a mile there was a German submarines. WE were surrounded. But (STAMMERS) Portsmouth Friary was nearby where the rich people's sons all went, but they took them all home.

[QUESTION]

[3]11:26:55 TAMAR HENNESSY

So they (STAMMERS), it had, was sort of very quiet years for them. They were open a little bit, but we went up there a lot. It was very nice ...

[QUESTION]

[3]11:27:04

(OVERLAPPING) ... it was lovely.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:27:08

Yeah, Dorothy decided that she, for some reason she didn't think I should go to high school. Ody insisted I should go to high school, 'cause she recognized the fact that I was really interested in biology and it was some kind of a career. But it never occurred to Dorothy. I don't think she never recognized that. I don't know why, 'cause she always talked about here. (STAMMERS) This stuff with Foster taught her, how much she loved it. I don't know what was happening. (TECHNICAL)

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:27:50

(OVERLAPPING) Yeah, but, uh, but it didn't seem to apply to me. I don't understand it because I was the collector even when I was a little, very little, I had collected baby horseshoe crabs that you could barely see. You know, adults wouldn't even notice these things. And she took them to the Staten Island Museum. They became part of the museum. (LAUGH) She worked at that time for, right after they broke up she had, she was, we were living in Staten Island.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[3]11:28:20

And she worked for the Staten Island Advance as a garden reporter. So I remember (STAMMERS) traveling around in her model T (LAUGH) visiting gardens. That was fun. (LAUGH) I don't know. For, for me, everything she did was fun. (LAUGH) It was, it was mostly the work at the Catholic Worker that took her away from me, that kind of broke my heart. That was very, very hard for me.

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

[QUESTION]

[3]11:28:49

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, so ...

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:28:55

... well, she'd come home and she'd turn the whole place upside down. Oh, I didn't know whether it was (LAUGH) how to take it. (LAUGH) She'd make me go eat with the (SOUNDS LIKE) lion, for instance, and I was a picky kid. I'd, I'd gag over my food. (LAUGH) And I was spoiled rotten by the Johnsons, 'cause they made a lovely home for me. (LAUGH) And she decide I was being (LAUGH) treated too well, I guess.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:29:28

Yeah, that didn't last. (LAUGH)

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:29:32

I don't know how I, well, she didn't stay around long enough. (LAUGH) That was very, very hard, losing her so much.

TAMAR HENNESSY

[QUESTION]

[3]11:29:43

Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah. Her being away was, it was too much for me. (COUGH) So when I got sick all the time she decided on (WORD?) . It was very good place (STAMMERS) I went. I was, I did well there.

TAMAR HENNESSY

INTERVIEWEE: TAMAR HENNESSY

[END OF TAPE: [3]11:30:03]

TAPE NUMBER: 4

[QUESTION]

[4]14:01:25

TAMAR HENNESSY

I don't know. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:01:31

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Well she take, she would, I wasn't a good traveler, but one summer I enjoyed a lot. She took me to Nova Scotia. That was lovely, yeah. So that was fun.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:01:46

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She had a (SOUNDS LIKE) speaking trip up there, see there was a priest who had organized the miners, it's a huge mining, the mines go out under the ocean. It's amazing place. And they (STAMMERS) they organized themselves to built one of the houses, 'cause they wanted nice places to live. So she went up there to visit and, and then get the scoop on how to organize these self help things. Coops, or whatever they call them.

[4]14:02:18

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

There was a lot more of that stuff 60 years ago, yeah. So we went up there for that, and of course she always speaking engagements and I would get parked in convent libraries. And talk about junky books. (LAUGH) They weren't too picky.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:02:43

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, I read my eyes out. (LAUGH) So that was fun, but then we visited a convent way out at the tip, tip, tippy end, um, well the name of the island off, Scatterry Island, Manadoo (SP?) was what the name of the village was, Scatterry Island. And the priest took us out there 'cause he went out there once a week to, uh, say mass. So that was so beautiful and I remember riding out in a fisherman's special little motor boat, and about a five mile ride to the island. And there must have been 100 families out there. That isolated, you know, it seems kind of recent. They were fisherman. They, they weren't the miners.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:03:33

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

No, I never got much of a chance, Foster took me twice. He was a fisherman. Yeah, he took me out when I was 12 years old, I, my confirmation (LAUGH) that was funny. I don't know why he wanted to celebrate that. (LAUGH) So he took me out in a rowboat and I got terribly sun burnt, but I didn't get any fish (LAUGH). Yeah, that was funny. I enjoyed that, I guess, but I don't think we ever were too shy to talk one another. (LAUGH) Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:04:10

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, yeah, I thought that was a big deal, yeah. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:04:16 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

That's it, yeah, that happens. He, he, he wanted to go fishing with me out in, in Andover (SP?) one time, but he had put the worms away carefully and couldn't remember where they were. (LAUGH) So that, I think he was as scatterbrained as anybody, I don't know. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:06:01 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

That's the trouble I didn't get through (STAMMERS), um, the idea that I needed to grow up to support myself. I didn't get that idea. I thought everything happened like it did at the Catholic (SOUNDS LIKE) Worker. Everything came in (LAUGH). That was not good, but when, when I had her at home, she was wonderful. You know, she, she could cook delicious little breakfasts (SIC) and stuff.

[4]14:06:28 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And I, I don't know why just remembered silly little things like a soft-boiled egg or (LAUGH) a dish of stewed tomatoes or something. But I guess that was so seldom that it was kind of outstanding. Or else it was earlier. 'Cause I was (STAMMERS) almost eight when Peter showed up. That was my eighth year so, most of that real closeness was all before then. After then she was so busy.

[4]14:07:03 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I remember the Early Worker just taking on like wildfire. It was totally amazing. She was on the radio. The nuns would stop everything so the whole school could listen. She was doing a series, Lives Of The Saints. Imagine she wasn't even a raised Catholic, but (LAUGH), but mostly her emphasis was to come home and just comfort me, because I wasn't fit in with the poor well enough. (LAUGH) That was a bit much.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:07:47 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, (LAUGH).

[QUESTION]

[4]14:07:52 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I think she got so focused at the end, (SOUNDS LIKE) said, she was kind of intolerant when people had other ideas. But, you know, that was what she had to do. You know, it was driven like the, the Catholicism thing was too. She as a bit too driven, I think to, we, we all had, had to accommodate that. Make choices, breakups, (LAUGH) yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:08:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No, for some reason, I resented her going away, you know, just the fact that she was going. I nicknamed her, her, me going, and I, I scolded her, I think, you know. I wasn't a nice kid, I wasn't particularly nice to her, but I nagged her to (STAMMERS) to death because she smoked. (LAUGH) I hated that. I don't know why. (LAUGH) 'Cause everybody did in those days.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:08:59 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Well, she didn't quit until after the retreat when I was grown up. Yeah. That, I think that year when '40, '43, I think that's when it happened. (CLEARS THROAT) After the retreat, so. No, I don't know, I had a lot of misery in a way, but I didn't have, it wasn't directing at any particular thing. Mostly her going away. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:10:08 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, (LAUGH) I wanted to go. Better to be in nursery school than home alone. (LAUGH) Yeah. I don't remember any, any beginning thing. Well she was such an active, well, like her friend, friendships might, everyday were going somewhere. Everyday I was meeting people. You know, it wasn't as though we were ever home, home alone. So I guess I took to nursery school just fine. I always got along good with other kids. I remember (STAMMERS) the uncomfortable thing I remember about nursery school was not being able to take the nap. (LAUGH) I'm still having trouble sleeping.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:10:57 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

(LAUGH) Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:11:13 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No, I went to boarding (SOUNDS LIKE) school's eight. I was four year's at Saint Pat's. So.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:11:23 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Saint Pat's was good. It was a very, very small boarding school, and it was run by nuns from portugal. And, uh, they weren't a high tension (STAMMERS) ambitious American, whatever that is. They were good, very, very good. We were very much at home there, and there was only 20 kids. And it included from first grade to finishing high school, so it was family like, 'cause it had such a variety of kids. But it was very, very close, like, we weren't allowed to leave the room alone. (LAUGH) Very controlled, (LAUGH), our only recreation was long, long walks. And that was nice.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:12:10 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh yeah, we were all in line. But we would walk two or three or four or five miles. And that was nice. That was our, that was the entire physical thing to keep us healthy. Because there was no facilities in those days, there was no laws about what our, how the building should be or anything, how much space you had to have or anything. Our dormitory was a porch. In Staten Island weather. (LAUGH) I was cold.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:12:46 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No, no. That's funny, she must have come because that one of picture with her daddy, daddy looks so old it must have been the last year. Yeah, I must have missed her.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:13:05 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I think that's the one I wove, I can't see, yeah. It's a, it's a honeycomb weaving so it's got, it's sort of like a diaper. Very absorbent and, and it's preserved (STAMMERS), weaving is so much fun, it's so much, so much to explore, you can do something different everyday for 100 years. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:13:38 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, she used to show it to everybody. She was always doing that. (LAUGH) She loved to boast about me all the time. Sometimes it wasn't too good. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:13:53**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, (STAMMERS) well, I was sitting by, Foster was coming everyday too, he, we would sit by the bed there. He was so worried, 'cause he wasn't ready to let go, being, not a religious person. He thought that dot, they should, she should be hauled into the hospital and everything. But (STAMMERS) our doctor was Marianne Moses (SP?), wonderful women from, she works amongst migrant workers in California. She's really a, it's too bad you can't get to know here.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:14:28**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No, that day, he called up in the morning and he said, he said, shall I come over, and then Dorothy said, if I don't have to talk. She was just exhausted, her heart, heart is awful. And she would just lay there. And he was so worried, he (STAMMERS) thought the doctor should be there, and the doctor had taken off, it was Thanksgiving day, had taken off for Florida to be with her father.

[4]14:14:59**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

But she had already told Frank that Dorothy wouldn't last. 'Cause she'd had her into the hospital to, for tests. And, I didn't realize it. Sometimes nobody tells me. (LAUGH) But I, I said to the kids, don't count on me, I'm just gonna stay down there, 'cause I don't think Dorothy's gonna be last much longer. So, I had guessed it mostly. So he didn't come over that day, and he'd, she died at 5:00. Yeah.

[4]14:15:33**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And I was pacing the floor, really, and Dorothy get, looks up at me and she says, are you worried about me? (LAUGH) Yeah, I, I didn't know. It, it was just awful. So tense. And I was just there along with her. Then after she died, she died at 5:00. She had gotten up to go to the bathroom, so they had to put her back in her bed. Well, Frank just didn't want to tell the house.

[4]14:15:58**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

It was ridiculous, and the phone rang. The phone started to ring that instant. One phone call was from John in California. I told him, I said, tell Susie (SP?), family. (LAUGH) And Tom Sullivan, who's a gossipier of the century. I knew the whole world would know, so I told him and Frank was standing in the background, don't tell him, don't tell him, don't tell him. And I thought, well why not. (LAUGH)

[4]14:16:23**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Everybody would really want to know. So he busily got on the phone and the whole world knew in about half an hour. And Eileene (SP?) and, and Tom and, and John Day (SP?), and John Spears (SP?), his name is, yeah. So, I thought, and Foster, (STAMMERS) maybe I called him, I don't, I don't really remember. But then Frank goes off and leaves me sitting there with Dorothy all alone. And Jeanette (SP?) is downstairs saying what's happening, what's happening.

[4]14:16:56**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

And he wouldn't tell them. (SP?) He was sort of flipped out. He was protecting Dorothy. So finally she took things into her own hands and came up and sat too. So. Then the next night they decided to put me in her bed. I tried that for one night and I decided, this is a ghost story and I said, (LAUGH) said no more of this and I stayed somewhere else.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:17:29**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah she was in the chapel. Seems to me I thought she was in the, I went to the, I went over the next day and spent the day with Foster. And they were waiting for me to okay the way she looked. And I, I guess that was at the funeral home. I wasn't about to say anything about anything, you know. Let them decide. I just not a good decision maker. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:18:02 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, so we (STAMMERS), we were, (SOUNDS LIKE) well, Pat's a nonstop talker so she kept our (LAUGH) spirits up.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:18:10 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh yeah, he was devastated. I, he was walking back and forth between, he lived on tenth street. And he could walk that distance. He's, he's older than Dorothy. She was 83. So he was quite fit, except for (STAMMERS), oh, some kind of heart failure that did him in, in the end. But I was walking him halfway home (UNINTELLIGIBLE) that day before and he was so, he was so worried. He thought something could be done, but we'd had the doctor and we'd had the tests and. And then Frank was giving her, her medicine. But it, the last day she just refused, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:18:55 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, she knew. It wasn't anything to do about. Yeah. She'd been with an enlarged heart for about, since 50's. A miracle she carried on the way she did. So. So, I mean, sometimes you have to accept it, but no, not every body can. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:19:35 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I remember (LAUGH), as a kid, she would be away on a trip and everybody would, the place would start falling apart. Chaos, whatever. I never knew the details, I wasn't paying attention to that stuff. Everybody would say, everything will be all right when Dorothy comes home. And I remember my husband, he, he would, liked to be very disagreeable. Everything will be all right when Dorothy comes home and he'd be real, get real (STAMMERS) sarcastic about it. And here I was grown and on my own and I should have known better. (LAUGH) John's (UNINTELLIGIBLE) especially liked to make a joke of it. But, (LAUGH) that's our, all our attitude, it was funny.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:20:18 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

(LAUGH) Yeah, everything will be all right. Which wasn't true. (LAUGH) not at all.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:20:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Everybody felt better, I guess. They were happy to see her.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:20:37 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Well, she was just, she lit up your life I think, (LAUGH) if you knew her. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:20:46 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I was too dependent on, even after growing up. (LAUGH) I should have, I didn't do the teenage rebellion thing which is the right thing to do. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:21:02 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

She was a little bit powerful. A little bit, a lot of bit. Yeah. But that, yeah, I don't know. I, I just longed for her so much, it was really painful to be separated. But it had to, it had to be, I had to accept it. But it isn't that I didn't let her know and make her suffer for it. (LAUGH) Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:21:31 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, sure. (LAUGH) I think that may be why she moved me around from school to school all the time, and it was a, it was a (STAMMERS), bad, lot of bad moves. But I just, I didn't (STAMMERS), I didn't know when I was well off, 'cause I was still fussing at her about being away all the time.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:21:58 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I don't know what she said, I wasn't listening. I didn't care.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:22:05 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah. (SOUNDS LIKE) She'd come upstairs, she would go across country, she, she loved to drive. She loved her car, she really enjoyed that, so she would just go zigzagging across the country for months. And, uh, come back and find the house, everybody would jump on her from all directions. (TECHNICAL)

[4]14:22:49 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh she'll, she visited everybody all the time. Most remote, way back in (STAMMERS) farms and holes in the wall and everywhere. She, she never forgot anyone. Some of those were pretty strange when I got it in, but, um.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:23:05 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

She always had a car, I don't know how she did it. She was a miracle with cars, and the, and the cars were nothing anybody else would trust to drive across country. (LAUGH) She always got there, she never had breakdowns. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:23:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I must have, but I was a bad traveler, I couldn't sleep, and I, I easily got exhausted. I didn't have energy. That was one thing I never had. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:23:38 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, it was hard, I didn't have energy, no. And then I'd start a garden (LAUGH), oh, but of course, gardens are nice, they, they, they're so generous. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:23:56 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I remember Bill (UNINTELLIGIBLE) saying one time, we don't know miracles, we have a garden. (LAUGH) Yeah, so.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:24:09 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I didn't see that. I saw it and I was excited by it, I mean, but I thought it was her do, it was natural to me. But when people would come at me, I was this little thingy and these big, the nuns were still dressed all in there garb, they would come at me and say, are you gonna be like your mother? I was terrified. (LAUGH) I knew, no way, I wasn't gonna be like that. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[4]14:24:40 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Well, she was, she was so brave. I mean, she could, she, so, such conviction. I never had any of that. Yeah, she, I realized early on she had to do what she had to do. Yeah. It's, it's funny to know it, and yet (STAMMERS) not to accept it. From my, you know, worrying about myself as a child. I remember Mother Superior would come downstairs every time she would come out to (STAMMERS) pick me up at boarding school, and she was very, get all excited, I'm gonna have a visit with Dorothy Day. (LAUGH) And they'd sit down and talk. The nuns were, were so under sort of a cloud in the church for so long. And they were, they were so wonderful. Well educated and ready to go. And she was the showing the way.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:25:51 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yes them too, yeah. So, that's why that she got to speak to schools and colleges all the time. I, I was conscious of all that, but I wasn't mature enough to keep quiet about it.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:26:14 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:26:23 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I think all kids go through, uh, in that position go through that, yeah. So I, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:26:46 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

How would she feel about it? I think she, once part of her was glad to, to know that was (STAMMERS) mattered that much. Yeah, she had that, and you can call it vanity or something, but she did have that. Well, she was the kind of person who could enjoy things. (LAUGH) Yeah, she didn't, we, we teased a lot, even early on in the Catholic, there was a lot of teasing going on about what it meant to be a saint. (LAUGH)

[4]14:27:21 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Stanley would make jokes up and he was so good. His jokes were wonderful, they hit the nail on the head. He said (STAMMERS), he'd say there's the jokes, there's, um, saints and the martyrs. The martyrs are those who have to live with the saints. So that was always something everybody would (STAMMERS), 'cause she'd come home and she'd try to (STAMMERS) set everything straight, and there'd be so many clashes. (LAUGH) But we, we still were, felt the same way. (LAUGH) We didn't, looking so forward to her coming home.

[QUESTION]

[4]14:28:07 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, sure. That's true. yeah.

[QUESTION]

INTERVIEWEE: TAMAR HENNESSY

[4]14:28:20**TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

No, I don't think they had that then, did they? Catholic schools? I don't remember anything like that. When, um, the early years, I used to like, well before the Worker, she, I think she wanted me to, she had lots of big dreams about how accomplished I would be. And she used to take down my stories. I'd tell her stories and then later I would make drawings to go with the stories. She published some of my drawings in The Early Worker. (LAUGH) So that was, that, I remember that, but that died out very quickly. (CAR NOISE) She didn't have time, but she, (STAMMERS) as a mother she was just very, very close and attentive.

[QUESTION]**[4]14:29:08****TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, that's what happens. And it's (STAMMERS) grief for them too.

[END OF TAPE: [4]14:29:24]

TAPE NUMBER: 5

[QUESTION]

[5]15:00:54

TAMAR HENNESSY

Yeah, that's true. Yeah. But I was a fairly kid. I did adapt. But people (STAMMERS) seem to think it was the other way around. That she didn't care, but that's not true at all. No, that's exactly the way it was, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:01:17

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

She had to do it, yeah. I had to gradually realize that. And, and not, uh, hold it against her (LAUGH), whatever you're supposed to do. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:01:32

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Well, I guess, (STAMMERS) she did teach me the caring for (STAMMERS) the poor and the working (STAMMERS), I, I learned a lot on that, that angle. And it sunk in pretty (STAMMERS), pretty deep. She was able to, to give me that as a very strong value that stuck with me. So.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:02:01

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Pretty much, yeah. Yeah, they're close to that. (STAMMERS) You know, (STAMMERS), I mean, (STAMMERS) every (STAMMERS), Peter used to call them ambassadors of God. And I took that right in. And, of course, it, it, that's a hard lesson when there's alcoholics and very, very sick and old, and disagreeable people. (LAUGH) But everyone had to be (STAMMERS) treated and recognized as, I think the nuns had something to do with it, too.

[5]15:02:36

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

You're all children of God. Which was a very good lesson, very loving lesson. (LAUGH) I took that in. Which I guess helped a lot, just to recognize what she was doing. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:02:51

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

Yeah, I, that's, yeah, that's funny. Yeah.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:03:01

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I didn't, that's funny, yeah. I don't know. I didn't see any difference between the workers who came in to help and the, and, it seemed to me everybody pitched in. In those days, of course, the people on the line were the unemployed, and they were highly skilled people. And the minute they had a chance, they would pitch right in. They would do the cooking, and the, and that, I thought everybody had, was capable. (LAUGH)

[5]15:03:33

TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)

I remembered who could make the best oatmeal cookies, and (LAUGH) everybody was the same. It was good. It was a good lesson. You know, you, it's so lost nowadays, I get irritated. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[5]15:03:49 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

The people aren't kind to (STAMMERS), you know, there's not a lot of kindness out there, I don't think. Or, respect for, for others. I, that's one of the grim things I found about Vermont. I don't know.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:04:12 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, they're, they (STAMMERS), they're really rugged individualists. So much so that they're (STAMMERS) hostile.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:04:39 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah. (STAMMERS) Yeah, Kate (SP?) took my, I looked at what she wrote. It was amazing how (STAMMERS), you know, sensible and exactly what I was thinking it, but I know I don't have the ability to do that myself. So, I accused her of doing it. She said, no, that's exactly what you said. (LAUGH) So, maybe, it did come out right. I had to be sure of that.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:05:02 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

He was so happy. He wrote a letter almost right away. And then (STAMMERS) telephoned later, and it was a big point that needed to be made, I thought. That she didn't (STAMMERS), you know, let something come between us. Because I, (STAMMERS) you (STAMMERS), you know, my marriage was very, very, very difficult, and I suppose that can be a big hurtful point. And people can expand on it. (LAUGH)

[5]15:05:27 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

So. But that, that, little thing like that isn't gonna bother Dorothy. (LAUGH) She wasn't paying attention. She just helped as much as she could.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:05:46 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Well, I mean, you get (STAMMERS) ...

[QUESTION]

[5]15:05:54 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Oh, if somebody (STAMMERS) gives you a good tongue-lashing, you're, most people would walk out the door and say, I'm never coming back. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[5]15:06:06 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

My husband gave her that. (LAUGH) There was a lot of that going between them. Very, very difficult. It bounced off of me all the time. That's one reason, that may be a reason I would move as far away as Vermont. Which ...

[QUESTION]

[5]15:06:25 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

To protect myself from both of them. (LAUGH) It was that bad. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[5]15:06:36 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

I didn't have sense enough to figure it out. I guess she knew it. You know, I mean, she (STAMMERS), they were both misinterpreting one another all the time. It's, just was, (STAMMERS) too different. (LAUGH) Two different worlds.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:06:58 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah. (SOUNDS LIKE) Yeah, all I could do. (CLEARS THROAT) Try to pretend I, it's very, some people can pretend not to notice that's kind of stuff. But, I, I was six years in Staten Island, which was just a mile from The Work, which would have been an ideal set up because people came over. It was, it was really nice. (CLEARS THROAT) The (STAMMERS), the girls from The Work are, always wanted to come over and help out with the kids and read to them and play with them. It should've been very nice, but. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[5]15:07:35 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

He wanted to move. He wanted to get back to the country. (LAUGH) Same thing as that West Virginia disaster. He (STAMMERS), he dreamed about doing that again. He wasn't particularly competent. So, it was stupid. (LAUGH) Oh, like, he couldn't drive a car, and you can't live and work up here unless you can get yourself there. There's no other way to go. (LAUGH) And, um, well, people up here have to be pretty competent (STAMMERS) to survive. So, it wasn't a good, weren't a good idea. (LAUGH) It is so beautiful that the kids enjoyed it.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:08:14 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

It worked for them, yeah.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:08:18 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

So, maybe that's why I stayed, yeah. 'Cause I figured it, one more move isn't gonna help them. (STAMMERS) And I didn't know whether to (STAMMERS) the Catholic Work (STAMMERS), Dorothy moved too much. She would sell one farm, move on to another, and sell another, and I knew, so nobody was moving near them. (LAUGH) Here today, gone tomorrow.

[QUESTION]

[5]15:08:45 **TAMAR HENNESSY (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah. She was good about that. Brought people up. So, yeah, we had visitors. It was nice. It was okay.

[ROOM TONE: [5]15:09:25]

[B-ROLL]

[END OF TAPE: [5]15:16:13]

TAPE NUMBER: 6

[QUESTION]

[6]16:00:58 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

I guess my association with the Catholic worker goes back to when I was studying in high school, beginning my preparation for priesthood. At that time it was, uh, during the time of Vietnam War, and, um, uh, we would be going to a lot of the, uh, protests, uh, not (STAMMERS), not the marches, but more of the rallies that they used to have.

[6]16:01:24 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And, um, um, Dorothy Day would be at a lot of these protests along with Daniel Barrigan (sp?) and, uh, people like that, that were unmentionable at the time and maybe still are. Um, and part of the, uh, my relationship with some of my friends, I was bit reticent to get involved with a lot of protest movements, but I went along and I got associated with the Catholic worker by, uh, just going down and, uh, seeing the, the food line and seeing what she herself had done.

[6]16:02:01 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And, um, seeing other side of the, of life in New York that I knew existed, but didn't see first hand. So I was very much aware of, um, you get to know the needs of others and I think that's the reason for priesthood too. To, um, as, uh, Cardinal O'Connor mentioned in his remarks about Dorothy Day and the, also, relationship with the Church that, uh, she worried about the poor.

[6]16:02:30 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

She worried about other people. And, uh, part of the job of the priest or anybody who was concerned with other people is to worry about them and try to help to see what the, we can do to alleviate their pain and their suffering. So I think that was, um, a primary reason for, uh, getting to know something more about Dorothy Day. We, we often got, um, her paper, a penny a copy, and, um, every week they would send, uh, a, a bunch of them to the seminary.

[6]16:03:06 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So everybody could receive them and things like that. And we were encouraged to, uh, denote our time and energy to any type of activity, not just necessarily, uh, associated with her, but, uh, anything that had to do with helping other people, especially in poverty areas. So in my few years as a teenager and up to the time of college, I used to, uh, uh, teach in, in a inner city school, uh, teach kids English, and also their parents, remedial English. That was part of my, um, introduction to quotes, inner city ministry, in a sense.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:03:51 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Oh, yeah, during the '60s, that's when I was, uh, a teenager. So, uh, that's when she was really in her, coming into her prime as far as, uh, her, uh, visibility was concerned. Uh, there was always talk about her being part of the Communist movement and antiAmerican and all that. But, uh, there was something about her where you realize that, uh, being countercultural, uh, wasn't a bad thing.

[6]16:04:19 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And, um, that's when America was coming out of the very rigid, um, isolationism in a sense after the World War, after World War II. Uh, it wasn't just such a nice place to be, we had to face realities of, of life in those days. And that's basically what she and many others, and I have to put a plug in, in a sense, for Cardinal Speldman (sp?) .

[6]16:04:45 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

For Cardinal Speldman, himself, um, did many things for the church and one of them was to foster, um, her ministry here in New York. If it weren't really for Cardinal Speldman, um, and his advocacy, she

would not have really, uh, not, she probably would have done it, but his, uh, advocacy was very important to her, uh, her work here in New York.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:05:48 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

(OVERLAPPING) He understood it. I think he, in a sense was in the forefront of a lot of change. Cardinal Speldman himself, uh, I think he's pictured as being kind of rigid and maybe a partisan of, (SOUNDS LIKE) Pius The 12th at the time, but the two of the them were very, still malign, but very visionary for the church at the time.

[6]16:06:07 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

And I think, uh, Speldman realized that, uh, that there, especially even with the grave digger strike, there was a corporate work of mercy needed to do here. And, uh, even though it was very controversial to use the seminarians, he, he made a point of it, you know, that said that, that this can't go on and, you know, I'm in charge. And that's basically what came about. There was this big stand off over it, you know, so ...

[QUESTION]

[6]16:06:37 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

Uh, yeah, unionized and the union was (STAMMERS), held them back. I'm not too familiar with it all. I should have, I don't, not too familiar with it, but I do know that the unions were, were balking it. And since then there have been grave digger strikes. But (STAMMERS) Speldman realized the, the, the effect of this on the faith of the community that, uh, the dead were not being buried.

[6]16:07:01 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

And that was, you know, very much part of Catholic belief that, and so he said, well, I'm in charge of these cemeteries. I'm gonna go in and use my own people and he used the seminarians.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:07:17 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

Um, didn't know him, but, um, we did, he used to come to, uh, our school to do poetry readings. And, um, even up until about ten, ten years ago when I was living on the upper west side, I'd often see him walking along, um, uh, Broadway up to the Jesuit residence up in, uh, Woodstock, you know. So, um, always looking, uh, very poetical in a sense.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:08:16 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

Um, maybe I should give some background on, uh, the process and the meaning. Um, the word, canonization, uh, is a technical ecclesiastical word meaning to, uh, confirm by, by ecclesiastical law that a person's life here on earth, um, merits our devotion. And because of sanctity and good works and a, a life of holiness here on earth, the Church by formal procedure, um, gives consent that, by infallible consent of the Pope that this person now, uh, lives with God in heaven.

[6]16:08:58 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

So canonization, the word itself is the process of confirming the holiness of a person, of a person. And that person's, uh, now, uh, worthy of, uh, devotion of the Catholic people. So the, basically as we know, saints have been around for a long time. The New Testament speaks about the saints, the holy ones. And they were, at Saint Paul used to speak about the holy ones as the living people who worked for the Church.

[6]16:09:31 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

And then when the persecutions of, uh, the (STAMMERS) first, second, and third, and fourth centuries, the, those who gave their lives for the faith, known as martyrs or the greek word, (STAMMERS) witness, that's

what martyr means, um, those people were considered to be, uh, perfected in the faith by the fact that they shed their blood for Christ.

[6]16:09:57 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So they were considered saints and that's where we get the, the, uh, feast of all saints. But it was originally the feast of the martyrs of the Church, there was so innumerable that they couldn't be named so they just gave one day set aside for them. And then after the persecution ceased in about the fourth century with the freedom of the Church under Constantine, um, other people whose lives were, uh, worthy of emulation were considered to be saints also.

[6]16:10:30 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Um, they were called, confessors, or, and, uh, women would be, uh, considered to be confessors of the faith also. Um, it wasn't really until about the tenth century, the latter part of the tenth century that the formal procedure of canonization was given over to the, to the bishop of Rome, the Pope. Because of his status as the primacy among all the bishops of the Western Church, he was given the privilege, he assumed for him himself of declaring people to be saints.

[6]16:11:08 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And that was, so that was a process that developed for about a millennium. And it was during the time between the, about the 11th to about the 16th centuries that, that the process, um, became in a sense, codified or canonized. And, uh, it became part of law in, um, after the council of Trent and Reformation, uh, with the reign of Pope (STAMMERS) The Fifth, the one who built the Sistine Chapel.

[6]16:11:42 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So, uh, his, he'd, he'd set up the, uh, uh, the different congregations in Rome that dealt with different processes and one of them was the congregation of rights, which is now the congregation for the causes of the saints. And it was that congregation in Rome headed by one of the cardinals that, that received petitions from, uh, different diocese from bishops.

[6]16:12:10 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And, uh, after the compilation of, of letters and writings of a specific person such as, um, we're sitting in the church where Mother, (SOUNDS LIKE) similar to Seton (SP?) grew up. She's the first American born canonized saint. After what's a, receiving her letters and, uh, reviewing her, the, uh, her life, um, the reasons for her being introduced into the Church's process, she was declared, uh, (STAMMERS) in, in the early '50s to be a servant of God.

[6]16:12:49 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

That's the first process. So that she was basically a holy person, okay. Um, after review of, uh, of the process of, uh, of her writings and consideration by what they call a, postulator, (STAMMERS) her, Mother Seton's cause was, uh, given, given over to this congregation of the saints and she was declared to be venerable. So that's the, the first step in canonization, okay.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:13:26 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Dorothy Day has not been declared, there's (STAMMERS), there's no stage where she's been declared anything yet, uh, um, unlike Pierre Tusan (SP?) and, um, Cardinal Cook who was Cardinal O'Connor's (STAMMERS) predecessor, uh they had been declared, servants of God. So that their, their cause for canonization has been introduced and they have been accepted as people who have lived lives of holiness.

[6]16:13:52 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Dorothy's cause has not been introduced yet. Um, Cardinal O'Connor would, would like to see it be introduced, but since it has not been introduced, she has not been declared as a servant of God yet. So it's, her process or her, the process of canonization has not yet begun for her.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:14:17 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

Um, there are many reasons that are given. Uh, I think that, first of all, it's, I think it's basically a new, um, it's something new that's come to the attention of the archbishop in New York. Uh, it's only in the recent like, might be three or four years that people have been speaking about Dorothy Day as, as he calls to be a living saint.

[6]16:14:40 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

And her relationship with Mother Theresa, her, um, her work with the poor. Her work, no one identifying it, with the poor, and also, uh, being basically countercultural. Um, she's a controversial figure as we all know, but because of her own personal struggles, uh, people can identify with her. Uh, not only as a person, but as a woman, um, uh, coming through her own personal life trying to come to grips with her own, having to abort her own child.

[6]16:15:18 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

Um, there are a lot of things that people can identify. And I think that what's happening now is that, uh, that the process of, of gathering material on her life is being done. I mean there's a lot in writing because we know. But I think, um, until the archbishop of New York designates someone to be the, the postulator of her cause, uh, I guess people hope for that the, that (STAMMERS), that process will take place. But in the meantime I would imagine they're gathering the information so that this process can take place.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:16:44 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

Part of the process of declaring someone a, a saint is, um, is a confirmation of miracles attributed to the person. Um, the present holy father has reduced the number of miracles from two, from three to two. So that, um, the example that can be given in my own, um, reading is, uh, Mother Katherine Drexel who was, um, a Philadelphia socialite who used her vast inheritance to found a religious order of sisters to teach, uh, uh, Native American people and Black people.

[6]16:17:27 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

She started the first missions for Native American and Black children in the United States, (SOUNDS LIKE) Sisters Of The Blessed Sacred. Um, Mother Katherine Drexel died in like 1955 and her cause was introduced shortly after it by the archbishop of Philadelphia, Cardinal Crowe (SP?) . Um, very early on in her, her cause, uh, she was named a venerable and then, uh, an, a miracle was a tribute to her of a, um, a, uh, a boy who was born deaf.

[6]16:18:06 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

And there was no, uh, medical, um, reason, there was no (STAMMERS) medical way of changing this. So the, the mother, his mother was associated with the Sisters Of Blessed Sacred who asked her to pray to Mother Katherine Drexel. And then, uh, for some reason, medically unproven, the boy's medical condition, uh, improved and he now hears.

[6]16:18:33 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

So he's one of the persons part of the cause. And just recently I've read that, um, another miracle attributed also to hearing loss was attributed to Mother Katherine Drexel. So she's been declared a blessed.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:18:51 **FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN**

I, they don't know. I guess they, it's an act of faith that the, that's the whole thing, I, I guess people's devotion, it's like, um, like healing ministry in a funny way. I mean I, I think, see the Catholic Church believes in what's called a, communion of saints. And they believe that, that we're not just alone here on earth by ourselves, that those, um, who have gone before us in death are not somehow forgotten.

[6]16:19:23 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

But they actually help us to kind of cope. So that's why we have, All Souls Day and All Saints Day. So that the communion of saints are those people who have gone through what we've gone through, but now they kind of, uh, intercede on our behalf before God to help us. So, um, somehow the Catholic faith believes that through the intercession of saints, people are cured.

[6]16:19:54 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

I mean we know in our own, um, lifetime that when people go to Lourdes or to Fatima, there, there are cures been attributed to the Blessed Virgin Mary. And, um, I know from, uh, the Popes, uh, canonization of almost, almost 300 people in his short period of time, um, people like Max Ilain (SP?) and Cole Bayan (SP?), Edith Stein (SP?) .

[6]16:20:24 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

People in those, in our own generation who have given their lives for the Church, uh, miracles have been attributed to (STAMMERS), to them. I, I've read in Cardinal O'Connor's comments that, um, that someone prayed on behalf of Dorothy Day and, and received a, uh, a cure from, uh, incurable cancer. So that's possible as, if that is documented that that would be part of her docie (SP?) in a sense of, uh, bringing to the process to the first, um, uh, beginnings of the cause in, in Rome.

[6]16:21:06 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So, um, medical science always tries to maybe refute these things, but somehow or other, faith also is part of it. As I said, with the miracles attributed to, uh, Katherine Drexel, they met, there were miracles that could not, um, be explained by medical science.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:21:36 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

I would imagine the process that, the documentation has gotten to Rome. Um, I think what has to happen first is that Cardinal O'Connor or the archbishop of New York has to approve that the process begin. No, that has not been done.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:21:56 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

I, I don't really know. (STAMMERS) That's, it's really up to the archbishop of New York to make that decision. I don't know, um, why it's being held up or there might be reasons that I don't, I'm not privy to, so, um, it's (STAMMERS), it's the archbishop of New York has to, uh, appoint someone to be the postulator of the cause. And he hasn't done that yet.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:22:30 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

That's correct, that's (STAMMERS), and he's responsible or he or she are, is responsible for bringing the material to the Roman Congregation. And then when that material is presented then it's up to the Roman Congregation to use their, their own, um, advocates and, uh, expertise to, uh, to determine over the, if the process can go on or else, uh, or not. You know, that type of thing.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:23:02 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

It take years, it could take, it, it could take years, it could take months, you know. You never know. It was like, the person like, uh, Saint France Of Assisi (SP?) died and was canonized within four years. You know, um, they're already talking about Mother Theresa Of Calcutta. Um, the person like, you know, Mother Katherine Drexel, Edith Stein (SP?), they really died, quotes, in our lifetime, you know.

[6]16:23:31 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So that, um, it doesn't necessarily mean it takes, can take hundreds of years, it can be a short time, a long time depending on, um, how the congregation in Rome (STAMMERS) feels that the process has been, uh, fitted into. But it's also a decision of the Pope (STAMMERS), the Pope makes the ultimate decision that if the person is, has led a heroic life and is worthy of devotion, that he can make the decision also by the infallible declaration of canonization.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:24:11 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Um, I believe even more so that, um, uh, American culture has run amok. Um, a lot of it's based on greed and, um, she of all people tried to focus our attention on the people who are hurt by greed and prejudice and bigotry and hatred. And, um, I think we need to have that centering influence in our lives all the time. Um, people like Saint Vincent DePaul, but, uh, who was a model for Dorothy Day.

[6]16:24:53 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And he was the first person to really bring the Church out of the monasteries and bring it to the poor of the, of the, of the streets. Um, Saint Louis DeMariane (sp?) is the founders of The Daughters Of Charity, Ladies Of Charity. Mother Selton is in their footsteps. So it's, uh, it's the realization at every age that we need to be reminders that, that everything is not the stock market.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:25:25 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Well, yeah, that's, it's a regular lay person, which is not unusual, but it, it is unique in a sense. Uh, uh, she was not a religious, she did not found a religious order, wasn't a priest or a monk or a, or anything like that. But was a (STAMMERS) ordinary lay person who lived a good life, and I think that that also has a lot of, uh, appeal to it also.

[6]16:25:49 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

The fact that she was a woman who endured, um, abuse, um, and, um, you know, realized her own mistakes and, and, um, there's a lot to say about her own, uh, personal life, which I think many people might not think. We often tend to, uh, overlook or not overlook, but, uh, uh, (STAMMERS) disregard people's lives as being important or influential in our own.

[6]16:26:27 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

That's another thing that she taught, to be selfless instead of selfcentered. And, uh, in that regard she's another model for, um, for present day society.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:26:54 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Right, there's some thing of a, even in Mother Theresa there's a kind of a glitter (STAMMERS) about her, kind of, uh, paparazzi type of situation. Dorothy is, um, as Cardinal O'Connor would call maybe the Patron Of, Patroness Of Loneliness or, I wouldn't say (STAMMERS), that's a, I wouldn't use, aloneness, is a better word. Uh, loneliness means you're kind of isolating yourself, but she certainly didn't.

[6]16:27:19 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Aloneness is a good word because it means that you're (STAMMERS), you're centered on yourself and therefore being integrated in your own person, you can give more of yourself to others, you know. So maybe Patron Of (STAMMERS) Aloneness is a good word.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:27:41

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Institutionally she suffered, uh, not only from the Church, but from the government and society itself who looked down upon her work. And, but in the long run, um, if we look to the gospels, we have to look to the least of the brethren. And that's basically what she strove to follow, you know.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:28:07

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Oh yeah, that was her life. I mean I get (WORD?) and her, quotes, disciples, like Peter Moren (SP?) and people like that tried to keep up. She had a great affinity for Charles DeFolco (SP?) and people like that who, um, made a mark on society not by, um, by the camera and (STAMMERS) television, but by what they did not do, in a sense.

[QUESTION]

[6]16:28:50

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Yeah, we often would have said that if, to get, an easy way to get rid of a person is to make them a saint and they can forget about their life, their life. And I think she would probably agree with that, you know. Um, not that she didn't respect the institutional church, but I think she realized who, that within the institution there was a, uh, as it, as every institution there's a humanness about it that, there was some type of ladder climbing. There's a lot of competition involved and she wasn't into that stuff, you know.

[END OF TAPE: [6]16:29:28]

TAPE NUMBER: 7

[QUESTION]

[7]17:00:49

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

Um, a mystic is a person who, (STAMMERS) who personally receives a revelation from god or one of the saints and uses that revelation to, um, process personal thoughts and, and, uh, in a sense preaches those thoughts to others. It's, um, oddly enough, most of the mystics in the church have been women. Um, yesterday we celebrated Saint Theresa of (SOUNDS LIKE) Avala, who was one of the greatest mystics of the church, Saint Catherine (SP?) of Sienna, uh, Saint Gertrude of Saxony.

[7]17:01:37

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

A lot of these women have received personal revelations from god and have transmitted those revelations into writings that have, that kind of superseded the normal way of thinking about things, you know. Um, um, I would say that in a sense Dorothy Day could be conceived as that. I don't know if she would think about herself receiving personal revelation from god, but she certainly, through her own reflection and scriptures on the life of Christ, which is basically what mysticism (STAMMERS) is all about.

[7]17:02:18

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Mysticism means to personally reflect deeply on the (STAMMERS) mysteries of Christ and to (STAMMERS) in that personal reflection she put into action, uh, instead of maybe even more, more so than writings, her action, which she believed Jesus to be teaching her, that it was Saint Francis (WORD?) maybe we could look to as a, definitely a mystical type of person, you know.

[7]17:02:47

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Um, (STAMMERS) people who, like, transcend our own, um, excepted norms of behavior, and maybe we're, they consider to be kookoo somehow, but in some ways we know that they're not, you know. So, um, it's a very different way of looking at life, uh, (STAMMERS) a mystic's way of looking at life is differently. Um, we've had many of them in the church, um, because that's how in a sense our poetry has been written now, our songs.

[7]17:03:29

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Um, anything like that, that we, you know, (STAMMERS) when we hear modern songwriter, you know, we think of well, (STAMMERS) wow, what, what insight into life, you know, because they can put their thoughts into song. But this basically what these people did too. They didn't have the press or, you know, MCI Records or anything. They just had their own, uh, (STAMMERS) (SOUNDS LIKE) stillo and (STAMMERS) parchment paper and they did what they had to do.

[7]17:03:59

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And that's, we're the beneficiaries of those writings and thoughts, you know. Dorothy would be probably in that category. You have to be in a sense, um, alone also. You have to have, that's what a lot of, um, mystics, um, either have spent time in solitude or, or, uh, lived in monasteries, because you need silence, something that we don't have, as we well know. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[7]17:04:33

FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) Right, well that's, (STAMMERS) one of the, um, attributes of a person like that, that can actually put your thoughts down and, uh, allow people to share in them, you know.

[QUESTION]

[7]17:05:08 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(STAMMERS) The Middle Ages were particular were, uh, because they were such (STAMMERS) very difficult times. I mean, poverty, I mean, it just was a very hard time for people. I mean, (STAMMERS) that's when a lot of these, uh, mystical people began their writings and their vision, because they saw that they, somehow people had to be lifted up from their, their poverty and their terrible way of living. So, it continues.

[7]17:05:37 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

I mean, that's why we have, you know, those, when I looked at those doctors without boundaries, we see the Nobel Peace Prize. These types of people for almost 30 years have been doing quietly what many people could never have done. They just went around and, you know, told people to, you know, back off, we're gonna go in and help these people, and that's basically a mystical way of working with people, those doctors.

[7]17:06:06 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

You know, the same way with Mother Theresa or any of these people that just go and tell people that (STAMMERS) that even the poorest of the poor is, is, uh, god's, god's creature, you know, made in the image of god, and it shouldn't just sloth them off because they don't have a bank account, and so.

[QUESTION]

[7]17:06:39 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(STAMMERS) I would say, very timely, you know. Um, as you mentioned before the, the coming (SOUNDS LIKE) jubilee year, the whole year, um, we're trying to stay away from the word millennium because it has to do with New Year's Eve. The whole year is basically Christmas Eve (LAUGH) for us, and it speaks about the redemption of Christ, that Christ redeemed everyone so that now, for the whole year, we center on what that redemption accomplished and that's a reconciliation among all peoples.

[7]17:07:11 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So that trying to emphasize the breaking down of the barriers and prejudice and bigotry and hatred, which is not only, uh, been the curse of Christianity, but of the (STAMMERS) the whole world. You know, so it takes individuals to do that, and we need maybe the, um, example of a Dorothy Day who broke down those barriers of race, of, of religion of any type, sexuality, any type of lifestyle and just went right to the core of the human person.

[7]17:07:47 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

You know, we're always looking at the way people act, the way people think, the way people look, and she went down, broke those barriers down, you know.

[QUESTION]

[7]17:08:38 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) Oh yeah, well we were, we were basically kids, you know, 15, 16 years old, because I think she realized, also, that impression, impressions (STAMMERS) are made on the young. You're not gonna change the, the old guard unless you start from the very beginning, and that's why I think the '60s, even though they're disparaged, they were very important, not only for American society, but for the church.

[7]17:09:03 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Because we were, we were exposed as young (STAMMERS) people (STAMMERS) studying for priesthood, to a lot of these (SOUNDS LIKE) different situations. We heard (SOUNDS LIKE) Daniel Barrigan give poetry readings. We went to antiwar protests with Peter, Paul, and Mary. (LAUGH) We went down the (SOUNDS LIKE) Catholic worker with Dorothy Day, you know, (STAMMERS) summer in the city with Bob Fox up in Harlem.

[7]17:09:27 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

Uh, these are things that molded the people of the '60s and '70s to, to make outreach to, uh, to the poor, and, uh, (BACKGROUND NOISE) now in our present time we're kind of reacting with, we're kind of (SOUNDS LIKE)

retrenching the whole idea, in my estimation, of going back to the, (SOUNDS LIKE) quotes the Latin mass and all the stuff, when people don't even know what the word (SOUNDS LIKE) enhoc means. (LAUGH) You know?

[7]17:09:53 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

I mean, it's, (STAMMERS) it's all, it has nothing to do with real life. They're forgetting the fact that we struggled to get away from misunderstanding to understanding, and I think that's basically what the '60s were all about. That's what Dorothy Day contributed in her own lifetime to bringing people out of, um, kind of a darkness, and a, a misunderstanding of the way people are.

[7]17:10:22 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

And that's one of the important things that I believe is her contribution, that she in her aloneness allowed people to share in it and then opened people's lives to it.

[QUESTION]

[7]17:10:46 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) No, it had nothing to do with Catholicism at all. In fact in, in some ways that was the drawing card because, uh, it wasn't because beating people over the head. It was actually being Christ to others. (WORD?) One of the primary things of (SOUNDS LIKE) Saint Bendick's rule and for the monastery is to welcome all as Christ. That was put over all doors of each monastery, and that's why there was always a door keeper to give out food to the poor.

[7]17:11:17 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So that the, you know, it's not, it's nothing new for the Catholic Church. I mean, we're much (SOUNDS LIKE) benigned, but I think that we're in the forefront, as everyone (LAUGH) sometimes forgets, of, of being out there for the poor. Hospitals, nursing homes, (STAMMERS) anything like that, (STAMMERS) was started by the Catholic Church. (LAUGH) (TECHNICAL)

[QUESTION]

[7]17:11:55 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

No, I would say, in anything, it's actually a plus. If you look at the life of (SOUNDS LIKE) Saint Agusto of (WORD?), I mean, uh, who would have thought. You know, I mean, you just read his own confessions and know that he considers himself unworthy to be even considered to be even to be called a Christian, and then all of a sudden he became a great teacher of the church.

[7]17:12:21 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

So I, (STAMMERS) within, (STAMMERS) I always say that the Catholic Church is a niche for everybody, and everybody finds that niche, and they can do with the potential of what we call grace, to let that (SOUNDS LIKE) past potential within us be, and that's basically what Dorothy Day did. She didn't, you don't, you can't, you can't (STAMMERS), uh, regret what's happened in the past.

[7]17:12:44 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

If you live your life with regret, then you never get on with life. She basically used her whole life and the memory of it and got on with it, you know.

[QUESTION]

[7]17:13:07 FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) I just think the Cardinal's insights were very good. I think, I liked his thing about person who worried for others, and I think that's a very important concept for all of us maybe to keep in mind. That we don't think about others enough or worry about them, and then maybe put into action how we feel, uh, response to their needs.

[QUESTION]

INTERVIEWEE: FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN

[7]17:13:36**FATHER JOHN FLANAGAN (CONTINUED)**

Uh, I would say that Dorothy Day would be a perfect example of a, of holiness in our time, and whenever that process begins, and if it does come to (WORD?) whether in five years, 10 or whatever, I'm sure that, um, it's not gonna make a difference whether she's declared a saint, because people know from her own life that she contributed to the holiness of others.

[ROOM TONE: [7]17:14:14]

[B-ROLL]

[END OF TAPE: [7]17:20:51]

TAPE NUMBER: 8

[QUESTION]

[8]00:02:41

CHRISTIAN HARRIS

Uh, 'cause I like it.

[QUESTION]

[8]00:02:44

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) Yeah, yeah. (STAMMERS) No, I went there about, uh, (SOUNDS LIKE) just a moment, it was 19, 1990.

[QUESTION]

[8]00:02:59

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) No, no. (STAMMERS) I went, I went there in 1990 and I went again in 1991. But I just went for, like, two weeks at a time. And, uh, I stayed for, no, no, excuse me, I stayed for a month the second time. And, uh, I didn't really, I didn't really, uh, I didn't really like it as much as I do now because I was so, I was, uh, how do you say it, Hollywoodized, you know? I was, I was so caught up with the Tinseltown thing.

[8]00:03:30

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

(SOUNDS LIKE) Ends up, you know, everybody kind of looked, you know, they, they weren't fashionable enough and they, they just looked kind of weird and, you know, you know, things (STAMMERS) where the standard of living wasn't as good as ours. And (STAMMERS) everything, everything just wasn't as good as ours. So, I really missed, you know, I, I, I, I didn't see, I didn't see the life behind the billboard, you know, I was just looking at the billboard. I didn't see what was behind it. So, now, now I see that there's a life.

[QUESTION]

[8]00:04:12

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

Well, it wasn't really seeing the, (STAMMERS) it was seeing the ugliness of where I was at, which was, you know, in a totally materialistic state of, uh, of, of existence. And so, once I saw the, you know, how hideous that was, everything else, (LAUGH) you know, (LAUGH) just automatically looks better. So, it (STAMMERS) wasn't a matter of, you know, looking in depth for, for beauty somewhere.

[8]00:04:42

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

(STAMMERS) It was just waking up and seeing how, you know, how ugly, uh, the things that I was doing was, were. Things that I ... [QUESTION]

[8]00:04:55

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

I was just acting, uh, (LAUGH) acting pretty much, uh, like a lot of people here act. Oblivious to the rest of the world, selfcentered, uh, you know? Everybody knows who Michael Jackson is, everybody watches MTV, everybody dresses like that, don't they? Everybody has cars like these, don't they? Everybody eats hamburgers, don't they? No, they don't. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[8]00:05:45

CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

Uh, it was pretty much a, uh, um, just an act of desperation on a, on a, on a normal desperate day. I was, uh, I had totally transformed from a, from a, a Beverly Hills hairstylist, (CAR NOISE) who, uh, you know, (LAUGH) ate at 4-star restaurants every other night to, uh, a fullfledged, fullblown drug addict, uh, down here on the streets. And, uh, I was down here for quite a while before I even made it over this far.

[8]00:06:24 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I mean, that's, (STAMMERS) you, when you're getting your addiction, you sort of, you know, you start (STAMMERS) to hang in spots for, you know, what seems like days, but, (LAUGH) you know, (STAMMERS) there's really no (SOUNDS LIKE) cylindrical reference, you know, when you're, uh, you know, when you're doing what you're doing. It could be a week, it could be three months. You don't really know how much time has passed until you, uh, you know, you look at the weather one day and say, damn, it's cold. (LAUGH)

[8]00:06:48 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I don't have a jacket. (STAMMERS) And then you try to remember the last time you had a jacket and (STAMMERS) that sort of gives you a reference of how much time you've (STAMMERS) wasted and, you know. And anyway, I wandered over here one day 'cause I heard that Hippie Kitchen, Hippie Kitchen has good food. And I had probably eaten it every place down here, every, you know, I, I done the whole thing, but for some reason I just hadn't made it over to the Hippie Kitchen.

[8]00:07:16 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So one day I came over here to check it out, and I got here too late, a friend told me how to get here. Uh, you know, he said it's just over there, but it sounded too far. You know, every time someone would tell me it, it just sounded like too much trouble, like, ah man (STAMMERS) I don't and then he says only on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I said well if it ain't everyday then, you know, I and I can't, I can't, I can't coordinate my life enough.

[8]00:07:38 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, I can't let it cut it into my, my drug hunting schedule, you know. I'm trying to, I'm trying to get a fix. You know, I'm trying, I'm trying to get, you know, trying to get some, some, uh, some material. (LAUGH) Trying to get a hold of some material. I don't want, I don't need a, you know, food is, like, secondary. Food is a (STAMMERS) secondary issue, uh, when you're, when you're, uh, when, when drugs are your primary focus in life.

[8]00:08:03 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Food is, food, food and when, once, once you come downtown and you see the people are not only giving it away free but, uh, you know, on Sundays the various religious institutions are competing, competing for your charitable, uh, attention, you know. And so, it's, like, a joke. It's, like, oh, you know, you (STAMMERS) there's always a, you know, in the back of your mind a, a place where you can, you know, if you really, really need to, you know, they, it's not like, it's not like, uh, you know, being a refugee in one of these third world countries, you know.

[8]00:08:36 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, you, you know you got to, you know, you got a list of places where you can eat. So this is one of them (STAMMERS) and, uh, I didn't bother to get over here for quite awhile. Probably maybe about, maybe about a year and a half after I had really hit bottom, after I had, you know, like, lost my job, decided to, you know, (STAMMERS) is no longer (STAMMERS) they're no need to be undercover anymore because, you know, (LAUGH) everybody knows. Your family knows.

[8]00:09:04 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So it's, like, you, you almost feel a, a sense of freedom, like, oh okay. Uh, (LAUGH), you know, the mask is off. I can, I can, I can be, uh, I can be this, this, this, uh, person with an incomprehensible (SIC) behavior. I can be this person without, uh, you know, without the shame. Well actually you, that's what you think. The shame is still there. You just, uh, sort of been vexed by, by the, uh, by the anonymity that you thought you had disappearing.

[8]00:09:40 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But, um, uh, so I came the same, came down here and it was, uh, closed, but they were cleaning up and I saw Catherine from, uh, from a (STAMMERS) quite a distance. And, uh, I didn't eat at the kitchen that day and I actually didn't come back and eat there for maybe a week or two I think. Or I mean, I'm not even sure, but it was some time. But when I saw her I remember, uh, thinking that, uh, I, I, uh, I had, I had somehow elevated my, my, uh, my game plane. You know, I had, I had made progress at this point when I saw her because I, I said that's, so there's something, something about her.

[8]00:10:22 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And something, something, there's something going on down there. And I go that's, that's my way out. That's pretty much how I saw it. I, I sort of, you know, people say a light at the end of the tunnel or whatever, I don't know about all that, but I just, I just sort of made a mental note that oh there's a way out. There's a way out here. Because I was, I did, you know, previous to seeing her actually visually, you know, making visual contact, I, I didn't think there was, uh, really, or I hadn't gave it much (STAMMERS) thought about, you know, when or if I was going to stop using and, you know, get off the street.

[8]00:10:54 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But when I saw her this light went on and I, I said there's a, there's a way out. And I, and I, and I think, uh, I think, I think this is it. You know, and because I, because I been going around in this circus, these missions and stuff where it's just a joke. You know, people are just going in and out of these programs. But I said, uh, I said well, so and I (STAMMERS) automatically I felt better.

[8]00:11:18 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I remember feeling better for, for quite a, quite awhile. So, but I went, I even, you know, it didn't make me stop using drugs. I just kind of, I even sort of (STAMMERS) had a little more energy to use. I was, like, well shit I can go party now because I think, I think she's (LAUGH) she's onto something down there just the way she looks and (STAMMERS) there's something going, uh, you know, the flowers and everybody was, uh, you know, I (STAMMERS) I just didn't see people behave like that around here (UNINTELLIGIBLE) .

[8]00:11:45 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

There was something, something, I wouldn't say magic, but there was something orderly and peaceful. And it was, there was just an aura. Uh, there was such a positive aura that just boom. That just, uh, soaked, soaked, soaked into me and I absorbed it and I said wow, okay cool. There's (LAUGH) there is, there is a way out. And so then I just went back to using and mm, then one day I came to the kitchen and then and I ate here and sat down and ate.

[8]00:12:13 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And that experience that I had just in that 20 minutes was, like, wow, you know, this is, this is much different than, than what I been doing. And I don't know what it is. But so, you know, then I found myself, uh, sort of, you know, I couldn't wait 'til Tuesday. And then I couldn't wait 'til Thursday. Then I couldn't wait 'til Saturday. And then, uh, you know, then I, I started, uh, making a few comments, you know, talking to some of the people here and talking to, I guess talking to Catherine.

[8]00:12:45 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I don't remember the first conversations I had with her. But I remember just, you know, to getting, uh, you know, I, I watched the behavior of a lot of other people as they approached her and other people, and, you know, I, I, I sort of monitored the interaction of everybody. You know, and (STAMMERS) because I, I didn't want to, (STAMMERS) at that point I felt like I, I wanted to reach out to, to somebody in this organization, whether it was her or (STAMMERS) and kind of tell them that, you know, hey I, I'm, I'm not like the others.

[8]00:13:16 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I, I'm a little bit different. And you can just (LAUGH), you know, believe that. Uh, we can, we can, we can find out, you know, what's going on. So, uh, whatever I did, you know, it worked. I, I sort of, you know, I, I, I got a little feedback, positive feedback. (STAMMERS), you know, you know, and it felt sort of, uh, (STAMMERS) it felt sort of intimate. It didn't feel, like, you know, the, the blah blah talk that I, you get from, uh, the other missions and stuff, and even some of the guys that are sober, you know.

[8]00:13:48 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, I, I have some, you know, real heartfelt sort of, you know, people try to help me and stuff, and they're, like, man we need to, you're smart, you're this, you're that. You know, they found out all the things that I've done in my life and they, they, you know, they, they sort of, you know, they you, they want me to help me a lot. You know, and I, I, I, there was certainly no, uh, no shortage of people who, who would like to help me, you know, which it, which, which is more than I can say for a lot of people.

[8]00:14:12 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So (STAMMERS) I'm very fortunate, but, uh, basically fortunate enough to where I was the one who chose. You know, that's why I would always tell, tell Catherine that I chose her, you know. (STAMMERS) and, uh, it wasn't really chance that I, you know, that I actually, uh, I did the choosing. And, uh, obviously I made the right choice, which is something I pride myself on once in awhile in life making the right choices. The ones that matter the most.

[8]00:14:42 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I make a lot of wrong ones in between. But every once in awhile I, I'll make a right one and it will sort of, you know, straighten out that big crook (LAUGH) that's, that's been bending for quite awhile. So that was a good decision. And, uh, next question. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]

[8]00:15:16 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) Do, do you know where this place is?

[QUESTION]

[8]00:15:21 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) I don't think Catherine needs verbal, uh, verbal (LAUGH) verbal acknowledgement from anybody who is, who is using. (STAMMERS) it's pretty much of an intuitive, uh, uh, thing with her and, and everybody (UNINTELLIGIBLE) . No and the, and the thing is that there was no towing the line. That was the appeal here. There wasn't any line to tow, but yet everybody was towing it. That was the mystique. Everybody was acting like human beings here, but there was no catch.

[8]00:15:51 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

There was no, like at the other places where, you know, you got to listen to a sermon or you got to, you know, or there's a, you know, everybody's in line to get a free something after, you know, a (STAMMERS), uh, you know, there's none of that. But so I, I couldn't figure out (STAMMERS) why they were doing this. It had to be, you know, why they were giving these people so much respect for nothing, but the food that they were getting.

[8]00:16:16 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Which, you know, (STAMMERS) in, in, in a lot of ways it's, it's not what, uh, a lot of them would prefer. You know, they, they prefer meat and other things. You know, a lot of people eat, you know, you'll hear them, like, Hippie Kitchen, oh fuck that shit. (LAUGH) And, and vegetarian, I don't, I don't eat that beans and shit and all that, all that, you know, the hell with that. (STAMMERS) but, um, the fact of the matter is it's still the most, you know, consistent and most I don't know, there's, there's so many adjectives I could use to, to, to convey the, uh, the, the reason that the people respect.

[8]00:17:00 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Anyway there was such a tranquil, tranquil, uh, the side effect was tranquility. And that's really (STAMMERS) what the big, uh, you know, that's really what the main dish was here, was for me it was tranquility. And I think it was for a lot of people too. They just, they just didn't really know how to say it or, or put their finger on it. And, you know, I hear people giving Catherine and everybody else compliments all the time.

[8]00:17:22 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I don't know what kind of, you know, words they use or what kind of context they put their, their, their gratitude into, but I, I put into, you know, a few well spoken words and, and, you know, which lead to (STAMMERS) some conversation. And I felt, uh, I, I (STAMMERS) I genuinely felt like somebody was thinking about me or actually, you know, had their, had their, had their heart on my, uh, or my heart on their agenda, or their agenda was on my heart, something like that.

[8]00:17:55 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Vice versa. I felt that when I came away from here, you know. And so up, and I was still using. And then one day, uh, that feeling was so strong that I actually I made a pit stop down here. I mean, I was,

like, (LAUGH) I was, like, doing (UNINTELLIGIBLE) I was, like, I had, I was in a stolen car and I had just bought (SOUNDS LIKE) a gang of drugs, and I knew I was, like, out of control. I mean, I even, I even felt like I was, like, you know, this is, this is, you know, because I was basically bored with the usual humdrum, you know. I was, like, you know, and I was pretty excited about the things I had been doing for the last few weeks, which was, you know, a little bit more accelerated activity.

[8]00:18:36 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, all kinds of, you know, you know, just into all sorts of things, you know. Just abusive behavior and crime and all kinds of things. So, but I, I, I made, I took enough time out of my busy (LAUGH) not crime fighting schedule, but (LAUGH) crime, crime indulgent schedule, I took enough time out of it to stop by (STAMMERS) and say hello to Catherine. Run in, I didn't even get a bite to eat, because I wasn't hungry of course, yeah. Not after, uh, you know, injecting what I had just injected, I had no appetite.

[8]00:19:03 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But I stopped to tell her that, that I really think that, that, uh, that I, I should be, I should be the one down here helping people with her and like these people and not being in, you know, I shouldn't be the one in line. But I'm a little screwed up right now but, you know, would you please pray for me because I think, I think I'm out of control. And I remember saying that, you know, for me that was kind of weird because I, I never ask anybody to pray for me. But even after I got to know the work and stuff, you know, they, whenever I see they have a prayer board I, they, they, with (STAMMERS), you know, they, they chalk people's names up there, you know, every once in a while.

[8]00:19:53 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

People who, uh, you know, whoever they, you know, feel, uh, a need, you know, to, uh, to give special acknowledgement for prayer to, they have a chalkboard. And I, I, every time I see my name up there I always erase it. Because I'm, you know, I just, I don't think I even qualify to be up, there's so many people that are just, uh, way, way more in need of, you know, thought and attention than, than, than me. So, uh, because I really wasn't into that, but I can't believe I did it.

[8]00:20:25 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So I asked her, I said, I said I'm out of control right now and I don't know what's going to happen to me. But, uh, uh, you know, you know, something, something's, something's going to happen to me, I feel it. And it's not going to be, it's not going to be good. And sure enough, you know, you know, within I think days, just a few days I was, I was, uh, arrested. Found out I had hepatitis. Uh, I was really, I was hospitalized. And, and then, and the next time I, uh, I had contact with Catherine was, was the, through, through, uh, a letter.

[8]00:20:55 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I couldn't believe that she actually, you know, I didn't know that I was that, uh, that, that I had made myself that present that she would be able to track me down through I guess, uh, uh, a lady who works in the jail, uh, Sister Christine. And, uh, apparently I guess, uh, what, what now I realize what had happened because now I see she does this with a lot of people. If there's somebody that she hasn't seen in a while, and she wonders, you know, what's happening to them, you know, they may, I mean, it's easy just, you know, jails and hospitals.

[8]00:21:34 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, that's pretty much, uh, the agenda down here, you know. A good portion of the people if you haven't seen them for awhile they're either in jail or they're in the hospital, you know, it's very few, a small percentage, you know, have, have, uh, you know, have a good reason for disappearing, you know. Which is sad, but, you know, some do, some, some, some do get a job or so and so got clean, so and so went back home.

[8]00:21:59 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, so you do find out. You know, there are ways to find out because the, the great thing down here is it's, uh, is it's pretty dirty it's pretty, uh, pretty efficient. So anyway so she found me (STAMMERS) through, through, uh, through the-mail. Or I found her through the-mail, whatever. Anyway I, I got a

letter from her and thta sort of just sort of that became my sort of lifeline. I realized that would, that, that, uh, that was closer than any family member had ever gotten to me.

[8]00:22:34 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Even though, you know, my, my family knew I was in jail and stuff and they were concerned, but there was something about, you know, the effort and, uh, and time that she took to, to locate me and, and then write this letter and, you know, and since then she's, you know, she's, she's never stopped doing, doing things like that. And, uh, which is sort of the essence of, uh, you know, the Catholic worker is, uh, (STAMMERS) is, uh, you know, once you're family you're you're family.

[8]00:23:06 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I mean, it's, it's, uh, it's the closest, uh, thing to unconditional, you know, love that, that I have ever experienced, you know. I, I read about it, you know, quite a bit and, you know, heard a lot of talk about it. And, you know, in circles and various institutions especially on the westside. You know, these New Age churches and stuff. And I was really into those for awhile. And, uh, you know, because they're, it sort of it gave you, it gave you a little boost from, from where you're at is, like, you know, but and sort of, like, everything's okay.

[8]00:23:43 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, you know, everything's good and you're all right and this and, and but it's, uh, it's, it's a little more self centered than we need to be. (STAMMERS) and, uh, Dorothy Day and what she stands for is, is, uh, is real close, close to the truth. And I, I, even though I, I recognize it and I'm, uh, I'm privileged enough to, to be, uh, I guess in the circle to absorb it, uh, I have yet (STAMMERS) to feel like I even come close to, you know, the, the discipline and the, uh, I guess the, uh, the devotion that, that Catherine and, and the rest of the, you know, the real core, what they call the core Catholic workers, uh, have or, you know, have obtained.

[8]00:24:39 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Or and, uh, the funniest thing is, is I, is I don't try to (STAMMERS) and they don't, they don't try to convert me or (STAMMERS) and, and it seems, it's, it's the weirdest thing. Uh, and, uh, I (STAMMERS) I guess that's, that's sort of the, goes back to Dorothy Day too. Uh, the more, everything I've experienced here, you know, is (STAMMERS) obviously been, is the doctrine of Dorothy Day. And I, I know a little (STAMMERS) if anything about Dorothy, I haven't read much about her except for stuff that Catherine's, you know, slipped my way.

[8]00:25:20 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I don't like to read a lot, but I glance at things a lot and I, and I put things together, you know. Real quick with what I hear, see and, and know already. And, you know, I come to conclusions that are fairly accurate, thank God. (LAUGH) Uh, most of the time. But there, there's a lot of, I, I, I, I should, should know and, and need to know, but, you know, that's, uh, I'm not a scholar. And so what I, what I know about, uh, the movement is what I've, what I've seen and experienced.

[8]00:25:56 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I, I don't know, I, I, I participated in a lot of things too. (STAMMERS) so I learned a lot just by participation. And I don't even realize how many years have slipped by because, uh, because I, because I feel so young. After I, after I left up out of here, you know, I, uh, you know, I, I started, you know, I, I still came down here and worked at the kitchen and stuff, and then a couple of years ago I realized, you know, and I was quite honest, you know, and, and they, they were so cool, they, they, they didn't frown upon me and say, oh you can't cut the mustard or you, you forget where you came from?

[8]00:26:34 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

No I just (STAMMERS) I don't like it down here. (STAMMERS) I don't like seeing the same, uh, you know, every time I come here, I mean, it's sad for me to see people that I, you know, and not even that I was close to. It's, you know, it's, it's like seeing, and I see demons and angels they're all in the same, you know, at the same masquerade ball and, you know. And I feel like I've taken off my mask and moved on, you know, and, and it's just not fun to walk back into the same party, you know.

[8]00:27:00 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So it's like an all night rave, you know, that just goes on and, you know, for years and you keep coming back thinking damn (STAMMERS) this shit it's, it's not over yet, you know? It's still the same party because you still see the same faces (STAMMERS) doing the same things. And it's depressing. You know, and the, when you, when you get, uh, clean they, they teach you to, uh, well, you know, that they say, one of the main messages I think of, uh, of, uh, the rehabilitation programs is, you know, (STAMMERS) you can't change your environment, you can, you have to change who you are.

[8]00:27:33 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You have to change from inside. But at the same time they're telling you stay away from trigger this and trigger that. And, you know, stay away from trigger points and just stay away from places that trigger you and (STAMMERS), you know. Man, uh, what is that? If, if that's not saying change your environment? You know, they're saying, you know, changing in other words they're saying don't, don't, you know, some people try to relocate and, you know, that (STAMMERS) that, that just, you know, that's not the solution.

[8]00:27:56 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But, but yet they're telling you (STAMMERS) stay away, it's a, you know, relocate and change your life. You know, go through all the trouble and then hassle of, to me, to me, uh, uh, uh, sobriety was, was harder trying to do it, you know, trying to do what they say by not changing, you know, you know, I'm, I'm a firm believer that environment shapes the individual. I mean, I, I see that, you know, when you see somebody with, that looks, you know, is Chinese as Chinese can get, you know, and they can't speak a word of Chinese.

[8]00:28:27 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And they have mannerisms, characteristics and, you know, all the language, uh, affects of, uh, of a Westerner but be it British or American, you know, or New Zealand, you know, you, you see that environment shapes the individual. (BACKGROUND NOISE) So, I was lucky enough to, uh, to move over to Thailand where people aren't as rude. People aren't as, uh, the, the lifestyle over there is at first off it seems chaotic and people, you know, talk about the drugs over there, oh the drugs over there, the this and that.

[8]00:29:02 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

People aren't smoking crack out on the streets over there. You know, there's (STAMMERS), you know, I haven't, I've never even seen a crack pipe (STAMMERS) over there. I've been over there for two years. I have (STAMMERS) I have never seen a crack pipe. Never seen one. Uh, so, you know, I was fortunate enough to move over there at the same time that I was actually starting to learn some things from the worker, you know. You know, how to be less selfcentered and how to be tolerant and how to be, uh, more compassionate because I was never compassionate.

[8]00:29:34 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I, I still am not, not a very compassionate person. (STAMMERS) and that is another reason why it's hard for me to come down here because, you know, I'm even more critical than, you know, it just makes me, (STAMMERS) makes me very angry to see people still doing what I was doing and then it, and then it makes me angry. All it does is remind me of how time I wasted out of my life down here. And it's, it's just, uh, it's just, uh, it's just a, a wall of emotion that, that I don't even, it's not even worth climbing for me, you know.

[8]00:30:09 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I'd rather just, you know, okay, you know, if my world has four walls I, I can, I can live quite (STAMMERS) comfortably just, you know, leaning against these three, you know, arranging my furniture against these three walls. I don't need to look at that wall anymore. I know it's there. I, I really don't need to look at it, you know.

[QUESTION]

[8]00:32:11 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Well that's, you know, the way you (STAMMERS) sounds a little sappy to, to (LAUGHTER) tell you the truth.

[QUESTION]**[8]00:32:15** **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) Because it was (STAMMERS) she touched my life, she didn't really touch my life. All she did, her, the theology that she's, that (STAMMERS) that she, uh, introduced to the world (STAMMERS) through her eyes (STAMMERS) was nothing new. She was just, just basically, uh, you know, speaking the words of, uh, you know, the prophets, you know, Jesus, Buddha, Muhammad. She's, she's, uh, she, she's a smaller voice, you know, speaking the same message.

[8]00:32:43 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(STAMMERS) and, you know, it just took, it took, uh, it took a hands on experience with that message through the Catholic worker to make me realize what the core, the core issue and responsibility of every, every human being is. Uh, you know, which of sort of lost, you know, when you, when you go to a lot of these, you know, when a lot of people practice religion in their own way however (STAMMERS), you know. Uh, so if, if you're talking about touched, she touched in a, in a way, she didn't really touch me, she, she, she anointed me with a guilt.

[8]00:33:24 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I don't mean Catholic guilt but, um, there I had now, I now have a barometer, you know, which, uh, lets me know, you know, how, how far, how far from reality I really am. And, and, and I, and I'm, I'm at present not, not, not that close to it. I mean, I'm still very, very fond of the secular, secular (STAMMERS) secular amenities that, that I used to partake of (BACKGROUND NOISE) and, uh, and have, you know, quite a bit of desire to, uh, to participate and, and still enjoy it.

[8]00:34:02 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But there's no longer the, you know, I'm not naive anymore about what's really going on. And, uh, I don't see the, the, Dorothy Day's philosophy has, has helped me to discern, uh, politics in the world, discern propaganda, discern many, many, you know, to filter through many levels of, of, of bullshit that, that, uh, that a lot of people are oblivious to. And it doesn't mean that I'm, that I'm, you know, that I'm above them or below them, uh, I still, you know, I'm still floating around in them. But, you know, I know, I know, you know, I know what my hand's in. I know, you know, I know, you know, I know, I know what smells and what doesn't smell.

[8]00:34:56 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, uh, or how it's supposed to smell and, and that's more than, a lot more than I, I, I, uh, I could say for myself before, before this experience. So that's (STAMMERS), uh, how she, she touched my life. You know, it, she's given me a barometer for (STAMMERS) really what's going on and on, you know, on even, even when you, uh, you know, you like say, uh, the, oh there's a prayer that (STAMMERS) they, they have here about exacting masses, whatever, uh, uh, you know, I can't believe, uh, you know, when I come down here and I see, you know, see the people down here, I despise myself. (STAMMERS) And it's true what they said, that you, the, what, what most people, the reason (STAMMERS) the reason they, they, they want to, you know, get homeless people, uh, you know, do all these, you know, make all these laws and get homeless people off the street, there's so many rationale.

[8]00:35:46 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

The, at the core of all the rationale is, is, is we, we despise poverty. We, uh, we, it just, we despise it, especially if we, uh, what's funny about it is the people who have, uh, actually been there, uh, the people who have been on the bottom, who, you know, who have experienced the worst of the worst, we're the ones who despise it the most, you know, quite often, not all the time, but, you know, in, in my experience, and, uh, I, I, I despise it. I detest it.

[8]00:36:14 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, because, uh, it's just a reminder of the other side of life, you know, the one, you know, the one we don't see between the commercials, you know. It just, it just lets us know that, it's just, it's just a reminder that, hey, something's not right here, you know, and before, before I didn't really care because, you know, uh, I, you know, I, I didn't come down here, but then I decided to be an artist, and get a, a loft down here.

[8]00:36:40 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

That's when it all began. My curiosity for what went on here in the streets at night led me not only to the streets, but to finally, you know, in, in just a short matter of time, a few years, reside, reside in them. You know, and not from my, you know, fourth story \$1,500 a month loft, from my piece of sidewalk, you know, that I decided to lay down on that night. So I, I was completely, uh, you know, transformed into another human being, just by my own curiosity.

[8]00:37:21 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

You know, just by my curiosity of what goes on, you know, why, why is this happening. You know, and, uh, so now I know. Uh, now I know the whole, the whole (SOUNDS LIKE) gamut, you know. And you can't, you can't really, uh, you can't really deny it, yeah (LAUGH) . So that's, that's, that's what Dorothy, Dorothy started giving me the, the, uh, the ability or the, uh, (LAUGH) or the curse of not being able to deny, you know, yeah, every time I come back here, I, I get grounded, you know.

[8]00:38:05 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, and, and that's, that's what I have to do. But, uh, fortunately it's, you know, it's kept me, it's kept me (LAUGH) it's kept me, uh, out of the, out of the gutter, yeah, I, I, there's something must be, uh, some, there must be something to it. I didn't go back to Hollywood and Beverly Hills. And I didn't go back to the gutter. And at present I really don't know where I'm going but it's, uh, it's gonna be (STAMMERS) it's gonna be someplace good, as far ...

[QUESTION]

[8]00:38:43 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) Yeah, as far, yeah, as far as, you know, you're talking about, you know, position in life, occupation, you know, just a few lessons, a few lessons I've learned from Dorothy Day, stay away from status, don't look for it. Uh, try with all your heart to find the compassion that you require from others to give to others. You know, just another version of the Golden Rule. Uh, it's, it's, it's all (STAMMERS) simple. And, uh, what's the other thing I, the other (STAMMERS) the other thing, uh, that really throughout my travels that sticks in, uh, that is, is, is probably the truest of, of, of, of all her, all her, uh, theology that's trickled down to my awareness is the awareness that the only politics in life.

[8]00:39:57 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

There, there, there are no, there's really no ethnic, cultural, political, or racial boundaries. There are, but the most significant ones and what it all boils down to is the, the harshest boundary or the strongest boundary is, is the, is the economic one. At the end of the day it's, it all just boils down to wealthy, not wealthy, as wealthy, wealthiest, wealthier, getting wealthy (LAUGH), was wealthy, will be wealthy. That's, that's what it's all about. And that is what shapes everything that happens during the course of any day, at any point on the globe is the, uh, is the economic factor.

[8]00:40:51 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(BACKGROUND NOISE) Whether it be disparity, or, or abundance, uh, that's the, that's, that's the whole issue that the whole world is conflicting over on every, on every level of existence, as far as I can see, be it resources, be it land, you know, be it, be it, uh, (STAMMERS), you know, status, rights, recognition, whatever, you know, everybody wants, uh, you know, uh, you know, people want people to be aware of history for what reasons. You know, we want apologies for this, blah, blah, blah.

[8]00:41:27 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Because, people want to feel significant in their own way, because they've been, they've been spit upon by those, those who are, are, or were of, of, of a higher status, so it's, it's, it's all about, it's all about wealth. I have to keep that in mind all the time, uh, that the bottom line is that, you know, some people enjoy this because this was exploited over here. You know, it's, you know, (STAMMERS) every, every desire on Earth, uh, that can be realized ... (TECHNICAL)

[QUESTION]

[8]01:00:55 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) I'm getting there. (STAMMERS) I'm getting there.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:01:00 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Yeah, I just, uh, I, I, I, I do (STAMMERS) ... (TECHNICAL)

[8]01:01:36 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) (STAMMERS) That, yeah, I, I figured that out intuitively, and that proved to be, that was actually a major step, and people, people still can't believe I did it, and when they see me, some people see me back, like, (SOUNDS LIKE) Donovan, they, you know, they think oh, man, he, he's back down on the (SOUNDS LIKE) road. Uh, but they don't realize that, you know, that I'm only here for a week or two, and, and then I, you know, and then I go back. Uh, I, uh, I don't know. Uh, uh, the, the only time I'm really, enjoy myself here in LA is, is, you know, is, is being, uh, around the worker.

[8]01:02:16 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Uh, and another thing that (STAMMERS), uh, I guess I get from the Dorothy Day, (STAMMERS) when, uh, (SOUNDS LIKE) see, it's so funny for me to say (STAMMERS) Dorothy Day. They, uh, they, they, they talk about Dorothy a lot, and, you know, Catherine of course was, is, is, was, knew Dorothy or, you know, experienced her presence when she was a lot. I've only seen footage of her, and pictures, and she does not look like a nice person. Uh, she, she, she kind of looks, uh, scary. Uh, but there's, uh, mm, there's a, a, uh, there's a, a, a defiant sort of, uh, regality to her, her presence, you know, on film and, and in pictures, uh, that I pick up.

[8]01:03:01 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

That I respect, and I, and I have, I have one picture of her at my, at my house in ... (TECHNICAL)

[8]01:03:08 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Uh, it's a very classic photo of her, you know, talking about this, with the two cops in front of her in New York, and she's sitting there on a stool much like this, or not unlike this, uh, you know, saying, you know, that the, this dirty, what is it, this dirty, stinking, rotten mess that the, that the problem, the problem stems from the fact that we accept this stinking (STAMMERS) and that, uh, that's, you know, that's the sort of beatification of, uh, of, of who she is and what she stands for.

[8]01:03:41 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Uh, and if you sort of keep that in the back of your mind, and always, uh, go back to the, you know, this stinking, rotten mess, you know, and you know, if you're not, you know, what's it, if you're not angry, or, you know, if you're not angry then you're not, you're not paying attention. You know, that kind of thing. Uh, but, uh, I must say, I go through periods where (STAMMERS) I, I want to do something about it. I want to, uh, be more involved.

[8]01:04:07 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But I'm not. I've got, I've got a few, you know, demons and problems of my own. You know, that are, uh, uh, you know, that, that are, that are, (LAUGH) they sort of keep me (LAUGH) (STAMMERS) keep me occupied more than I'd like to be, uh, to, to, to even know what to, to get involved in, you know, full time. Uh, but throughout the years of knowing the Catholic Worker, I've pretty much taken up most of the issues, uh, that they have. You know, and, and, and I stand behind their, their perspective on them.

[8]01:04:44 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(BACKGROUND NOISE) Uh, I participated, uh, minimally in some things, uh, and quite, quite, uh, full fledged in other things. And for the most part, uh, since I, since I moved to Thailand, you know, my, my, my participation on most of the issues have, have pretty much tapered off to, you know. (BACKGROUND NOISE) I, I give, I give moral support and, you know, stuff like that. But I don't really get involved, um, for a few reasons. You know, (STAMMERS) during my addiction, I, you know, I was, uh, you know, in, arrested many times.

[8]01:05:26 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

So, you know, I had, I had the prospect of jail always hanging over me, with, you know, probation issues. So, I couldn't really participate in, uh, demonstrations. I could, but at my own risk. So, uh, I've, uh, there's just too much at risk for me personally, to, uh, that's, that's actually (LAUGH) I just said it. I just said it. That's, I just said the one thing that probably, is the reason that, uh, things aren't better around the world.

[8]01:06:04 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I'm, I'm, I just sort of, uh, (LAUGH) yeah. I just, that's it, actually. Yeah. I'm too, I'm too worried about my own well being, my own safety. My own personal agenda, to take risks anymore. I was willing to take them for drugs and, and other self gratification devices. And reasons. But, uh, I'm not as willing to take them for other issues. Yeah. Yeah, I mean, that's, uh, I'm, I'm, I'm not, I'm not, I'm not that happy about about my, uh, my lack of commitment to some things.

[8]01:07:01 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I guess I (STAMMERS) in the back of my mind, I keep saying, I can, I can be more effective once I get myself together. Because I, I tell Catherine she, (STAMMERS) she has this, uh, (STAMMERS) she calls people like Martin Sheen, who, is, you know, very wealthy, well known, famous, yeah, you know, he has, he has the whole gambit of fame and wealth. But, he's one of the good rich, you know. He's the, you know, he's, uh, he is definitely, you know, among others, you know, one who uses (STAMMERS) his, his stature, his wealth, his, his charisma.

[8]01:07:40 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

Everything that he has that has boosted his success in the secular world, he turns around, and uses, you know, (SOUNDS LIKE) for the, uh, for the entire pallet, to, uh, to (STAMMERS) facilitate and benefit the, uh, the mission that Dorothy, uh, that Dorothy set forth. So, using him as a model, you know, I, I feel comfortable. (LAUGH) Uh, with the way, but, unfortunately, I have, (STAMMERS), uh, firstall, I don't have, I'm not in the Screen Actors Guild. (LAUGH)

[8]01:08:17 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

I, uh, I don't have a paycheck. (LAUGH) I don't have any of those things that he has. But yet, (LAUGH) yet I'm, uh, I'm, uh, I'm, I'm dying to be like him. You know? But, uh, wow. Yeah, I just, I just said the one thing that (SOUNDS LIKE) praxis, you know, strikes the chord. You know. I can't take the risk. I, I don't have the time, (STAMMERS) that, and then that's just, you know, that's just the tip of the iceberg, you know. You know, I don't, you know, (MAKES NOISE) yeah. So, with that said ...

[QUESTION]

[8]01:09:13 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

But that's, that's also, you know, we, uh, didn't ...

[QUESTION]

[8]01:09:17 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) Well that's what I'm talking about, that's, that, that's, that's, that's how Dorothy touched me. Or, uh, is still (STAMMERS) because, (STAMMERS) making that, making that, uh, that idea, you know, (STAMMERS) in other words, knowing, you know, knowing, knowing the true potential of what you can do and what you should do, and what you are doing. If you understand those three things, you know, that's, uh, you know, among, you know, that, that's just another trinity. You know, that can, you know.

[8]01:09:50 **CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)**

It, you know, the, the Catholic faith has, you know, the trinity, that's, that's a, that's a trinity also, you know. Knowing what can be done, knowing what should be done, and knowing what you are doing. Always being aware of those three things, can, can sometimes be quite, quite depressing. (STAMMERS) In a, in a present. Especially when there's sort of, you know, in a, in a, in a state of confusion. You know, which, uh, uh, for most people, you know, the, that, that's a reality.

[8]01:10:25 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

They, they are in a state of confusion on those issues. And, but some people are quite clear on them. (STAMMERS) And, make a choice, you know, to do something. But, uh, I'm constantly thinking about stuff like that. And it makes me think, uh, I was just, you know, it, it, it, it, it shapes the way I make some of my decisions. And I, from day to day. (STAMMERS) You know, I (STAMMERS) Catherine doesn't really, she doesn't really, uh, applaud some things that I do. But she, she never, she always gives me support.

[8]01:10:57 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

But, sometimes I figure things out on my own. And like, uh, you know, the other day, I was, I don't know, for some reason, I, you know, I, I, I always wanna, I have to have this stimulus in my life and I, and I, uh, and I don't know what, what I'm doing (STAMMERS) half the time. I just head first into things. And for some reason (STAMMERS) I've never done AIDS bike ride and I was all, (STAMMERS) I got all, I just had this strong feeling, you know, that I wanted to do this AIDS (STAMMERS) bike rid.

[8]01:11:25 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

So I spent a good portion of yesterday researching it more and more. To see if it satisfied (STAMMERS) certain issues that needed to be addressed. You know, issues of conscience before, you know, before I just jumped in it. You know. Because it was marketed to me, at the right time, when I was at the right level of inspiration to be hit by it. And, uh, you know, in latter years, I would have never sorted that out by myself.

[8]01:11:52 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

You know, in a matter of a couple days. I would have just, you know, it would have just been a, it, it would have been a go, and, uh, you know, I wouldn't have, uh, even took time to, to, to, to think about it. To think about the, you know, why, why am I really so hyped on doing this, and why am I. So needless to say, I don't think I'll be doing the, (LAUGH) a bike ride for AIDS in Europe. (LAUGH) 'Cause, uh, uh, for many factors that I've, uh, decided are not even, uh, (MAKES NOISE) practical. (LAUGH)

[8]01:12:29 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

I mean, I can (WORD?) I could do it, but, you know, it would be very ridiculous. (LAUGH) It would put, uh, it would put a lot of pressure on, on, uh, on me after. I'd, I mean, I'd probably feel like an AIDS victim after I finished the ride. (LAUGH) As much stress it would put on my life for, (UNINTELLIGIBLE) and it's basically unrealistic. (STAMMERS) You know. So I don't, (STAMMERS) I'd be, uh, I think that I would think, think, the biggest thing I, I, I've, I've gotten from The Catholic Worker and Dorothy Day is, is the ability to, uh, observe.

[8]01:13:08 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

And, and, uh, and sift through reality. You know, exponentially, better than, than I ever could before. You know, to examine (STAMMERS) reality, and, and, know where it lies. And, and if I don't know where it lies, at least know how to start meditating on where it lies with me and, and if I still can't figure it out, you know, than I, than I, I've, I've, I, I've got, I've got my family here. And they, they are my family. They're, they're closer to me than my, uh, my biological family.

[8]01:13:47 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

Which is, uh, something that I don't believe can be taken for granted. And, and if, if that's what Dorothy Day's, you know, theology and philosophy about life has, has given people to give to me, then, uh, I, I have, have, have no choice but to advocate it to others. And to tell everybody that it's, you know, that it's, that it's, that it's what's, what's, what's, what's behind every human being. And that's pretty much how the world should operate.

[8]01:14:34 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

You know, and it doesn't need to be, you know, shouted from a, a megaphone, a P.A., which is another reason why I like (WORD?). There's no, I mean, there's once in a while, there's, you know, I, they traveled out, (STAMMERS) and they, they, they do do some preaching (SOUNDS LIKE) out there. And there's a lot of crooked monks. There's a lot of crooked monks. I mean, (STAMMERS) people think of monk, (STAMMERS) when you, when you, when you say the work monk, you know, most people, unless you've, you know, have traveled throughout Asia and seen a lot of monks.

[8]01:15:03 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

You, you know, you think, uh, uh, of a monk as, you know, a very holy individual. You know, a monk is this, you know, this, uh, monastic entity that, you know, has, you know, has wisdom beyond your comprehension. Not so. Not so. Uh, there's, uh, there's a lot of, uh, (LAUGH), you know. But at the same time, there, there's a, there's, there's a lot less, uh, fanatics. You know, preaching out on the street.

[8]01:15:31 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

Which, uh, I used to, uh, think that they were, they used to make me feel guilty. At one point, when I wasn't here. Living, you know, in the, in the States. I used to feel like, wow, you know, they're out there just telling the truth, and, but, uh, you know, and I, I, I found my own truth. And once I, once I found that, through The Catholic Worker, I, I was no longer, uh, a captivated (LAUGH) by, uh, by their, uh, by their message. (TECHNICAL)

[8]01:17:00 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

(OVERLAPPING) I wanna mention one thing. Martin Sheen, (STAMMERS) That's, there's so many (STAMMERS) things that have, (STAMMERS), uh, I mean, so many positive things that have happened to me, through The Catholic Worker that you, I mean, I can't even mention that, that would have, that have never, have happened in any other place, with any other set of friends. Or, acquaintances. (STAMMERS) And, Martin Sheen even, uh, sometimes he serves soup.

[8]01:17:25 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

And, and we were serving soup one night. This was a, maybe three years ago, four years, uh, and, you know, he, and I know it sounds, it sounds so corny. Or, you know, people give you the shirt off their back. But he literally, he saw that I was, (STAMMERS) 'cause I for some reason I came down here, uh, just real quick and wasn't thinking. And when we got down here, it was really cold. You know. I didn't realize I'd, I ran out of the house.

[8]01:17:50 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

And, you know, he had a, just a, it wasn't (STAMMERS) it was like a Russell sport shirt. I, I even have some now that I bought, because I buy them, they're real, and he, (STAMMERS) yeah, he gave it to me (UNINTELLIGIBLE) And, told me to keep it, you know, he wouldn't take it back. He's, yeah, he's just, uh, you know, and he wasn't trying to be, you know, it wasn't an act. It wasn't an act of chivalry, you know, 'cause there was nobody else around. You know, when he, when he gave it to me.

[8]01:18:15 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

And, uh, so, Martin, I'd like to thank you for the shirt you gave me. One night (LAUGH) while we were serving soup. (LAUGH) And then, uh, I saw him give the (STAMMERS), uh, a coat, a coat off his back to, uh, the, to, uh, to, uh, uh, to a girl, uh, just a couple weeks later. When they were doing the, the stations of the cross. Uh, during easter. He gave, he actually gave his coat to this girl. And, uh, he let her keep it. It, it, actually it was much nicer than the shirt he gave me. (LAUGH)

[8]01:18:48 CHRISTIAN HARRIS (CONTINUED)

I mean, ten times more expensive. This was a, this was a coat. (LAUGH) And, you know, it was quite nice. It was one of those coats that you get, like, from making a movie or something. It was a momento (SIC) that he got for working on a film or some project. It was like a studio jacket. And, uh, he gave it to this, this girl. And in fact, I think she has, she had down's syndrome, huh? Yeah. I don't know if that makes it, makes it any juicier or not. (LAUGH)

[QUESTION]**[8]01:24:49 CATHERINE MORRIS**

We are sitting in the work kitchen at Hospitality Kitchen except that the street name is Hippie Kitchen and the, uh, people on the street don't know it as Hospitality Kitchen. So we're right on Los Angeles Skid Row. And right outside the door here is an encampment of people. There are probably about 100 people sleeping on the sidewalk on our block of Gladys Street right now. And the, uh, the kitchen here is literally that because we have a dining garden outside.

[8]01:25:25 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So the, the building is used for prep work and the, um, there is no need for a large space, an auditorium or anything because we are very specifically a soup kitchen and we are not a shelter. We do not house people here and we are definitely not a mission. We do not preach. So Hospitality Kitchen or Hippy Kitchen is a really well known place because, uh, we serve probably the largest, uh, servings. We serve anywheres from 1200 to 2,000 lunches, uh, on, uh, three days of the week, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday that we're serving.

[8]01:26:08 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And we, um, do that in a rather short period of time, from 9:30 until noon. So that indicates it has to be quite efficient and have quite a, a, uh, fast pace. But not at the expense ... (TECHNICAL)

[QUESTION]

[8]01:26:46 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

We are at the corner of Sixth and Gladys Street in Los Angeles Skid Row and the building is the prep kitchen for what is known as the Hippy Kitchen. The Catholic Workers Soup Kitchen. The real name though used less and less is Hospitality Kitchen. And we use the word kitchen very specifically because we are not a shelter and we are not a mission. It means we have no housing here for people to, uh, sleep over and we do not preach and we are not in the business of converting.

[8]01:27:22 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So we do a lot of cooking and a lot of serving of food. The serving of the food is done outside in the garden and it has been a god send to have this garden. People feel extremely relaxed. They can smoke. They can, uh, stay as long as they, they choose. People nap during lunch because it's an expanding space. Uh, there's actual seating for 120 people but a lot of people, uh, choose to take their food somewhere else and as it says, uh, in, in one of Dorothy's books some move out and make room for others. (LAUGH)

[8]01:28:05 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

But, uh, it's a really nice space and the, uh, people have come to give it names outside such as Eden and, uh, Garden Paradise and these very biblical terms to, uh, define what they see as a space that is devoted to making them feel relaxed. So we are on a street that is recently, um, reinhabited by probably around 100 people literally in boxes and tents out on the sidewalk. The, uh, police have just once again engaged in a move around. They say they aren't but you'd have to say they are since these streets were almost vacant just a few days ago.

[8]01:28:53 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Um, it makes life a little more complicated when there are that many people living so close together and so close to us right here on the streets.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:29:06 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

On, uh, early parts of the month when there's some discretionary money in the area we probably serve 1,000 to 1200 meals in that period of two and a half hours. As the, uh, press of, of the days of the month come in on people and their money is gone the numbers increase to we sometimes estimated that we serve 2,000 meals at the end of the month. So it's a lot of, three days a week it's average 1500 it really adds up. It's a lot of people. We go through tons and tons of food.

[8]01:29:46 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, um, the food is mostly donated and what isn't (STAMMERS) donated in kind is, the money is donated so it's completely done by donations and volunteers. We have wonderful volunteers who come and work with us. The community members, the current crop of L.A. Catholic workers is a, a full time volunteer crew. And so it ends up that no money is spent on, on, um, payroll. The other day I picked up some cash at the, uh, at the bank and she's very curious about how our banking differs from other people's banking.

[8]01:30:27 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, and so after I'd given her an explanation of a question that she asked I took out 200 in tens and 100 in fives and said it was our payroll for 15. And that, that really gave her a puzzle to work on.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:30:47 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

(CLEARS THROAT) She asked us why, uh, do we have another account 'cause we, I just am always putting donation checks into this checking account. And I said that we just have that one account. And she said well, you should have another account so that you're earning interest on your money. And I said no, we didn't believe in that. Uh, that, that we, um, that it was in the bible that you shouldn't lend money at usury. She didn't know that word so I said well, it's just interest. That we should not be earning money off the backs of those who are doing the work. And she's quiet puzzled by us.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:31:37 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

The, um, the medical services that are available during our lunches on Tuesday and Thursday there's a health team here and they see people for, well, for anything. But they can only take care of that which does not require, uh, prescription meds because we no longer have the, um, free clinic that we did have for 17 years. We just have medical services. And, but it's a great deal of help to the people and then they also make referrals to the (STAMMERS) county clinic down the street or over to County Hospital and they give out plenty of, of, uh, meds, the kind that people need for their colds and their sore throats and their sick tummies and so forth.

[8]01:32:21 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And then, um, uh, Friday we do have a really fine doctor, a dentist and, uh, he sees, um, 12 to 15 people each week and he's really top of the line from the South Bay. And then on Friday mornings and Monday afternoons we have, um, we're a site for clean needles now and a needle exchange for people involved in, in IV drug use. And they have a, uh, they have nurse practitioners with them, um, mainly interested in abscesses and, and needle related problems. But they'll see anybody that comes in too.

[8]01:33:00 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So there's a fair amount of medical presence here. And then our little service desk, um, provides both hygiene items and, um, over the counter meds. And that's all during the lunch three days a week.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:33:18 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

I've been with the community for 30 years and, um, seen a lot of changes in that time. Uh, 30 years ago Skid Row drug of choice was alcohol. There was and always is usually at the background of a drug scene heroin but it doesn't, um, really make an impact on the work that you do. And, uh, alcohol does. (LAUGH) People passing out in your line and, and people having, um, alcoholic seizures. So we were very good at coping with, with that scene years back.

[8]01:33:58 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Um, when crack arrived on the scene it changed the way that we have to do things because of the energy level of the people involved. And, uh, so it's a godsend that we have this really fast moving line. Uh, you know, thinking in terms of everybody all of these 1200 meals that we're serving or 15 or 1800 meals means that the people are coming in through a line. So fortunately because of the outdoor, uh, garden dining and the fact that we now serve on paper makes it much, much faster and is, uh, much more tuned in to the energy that exists on the Row now.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:34:51 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

Well, I ran into the worker movement through the New York paper. I was working in, at the time I was, um, in a religious order and I was working in a high school in Pasadena and they used to get a bundle of the, the newspaper. Never went out to the students interestingly enough but the graphics would be used around on bulletin boards and, and the like. And, um, but I started reading it and then someone brought me The Catholic Agitator, the paper that comes out of the L.A. Worker and a friend and I came over to check it out.

[8]01:35:25 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, uh, that all happened to coincide with a time that I was, um, getting a little, well, really getting very, uh, conscious of the, uh, inequalities in the world because I was, uh, working with The United Farm Workers. And on Saturdays (CLEARS THROAT) I would go out to parking lots and picket with them and leaflet with them and gather letters with them, whatever their campaign was at the time and, um, so going from this very elite environment for the, during the week and then going on the weekends to the parking lots where people had come in from the fields.

[8]01:36:06 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So they were working seven days a week. They were working their week, uh, in the field and then they were coming in working for justice for their, for themselves and their coworkers. And I started thinking ooh, this is kind of uncomfortable. And, um, it happened that there were (CLEARS THROAT) growers' children, students in the school and, um, and so we, we had some retaliation actually, uh, from the, from these, uh, students who knew that we were in opposition to their parents and so forth.

[8]01:36:43 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

It was kind of interesting. But anyway, I started looking around and through a different lens seeing that all was not well. And, um, became more and more conscious. At that time the Vietnam War was going on and I really wasn't tuned into that. But quickly became tuned into that as soon as I was, um, (CLEARS THROAT) connected with the worker.

[8]01:37:06 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And after a couple of years I thought I think I'd rather do this than, uh, work with, uh, very wealthy people. So I really flipped from working with the, the, uh, rich to working with the poor. I'm much more comfortable here.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:37:28 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

A few times. Um, in conjunction with my work with The United Farm Workers, uh, we were arrested in, uh, the, one of the great, uh, Central Valley strikes and that was in 1973. It was her last arrest and my first. And, uh, so we spent two weeks in adjoining, uh, uh, dormitories. But they weren't dormitories, they were, we were out on, on a farm in the, in the (STAMMERS) the, uh, Fresno state's, I mean Fresno County system. And each day we'd meet at the fence and, and chat. And then, uh, when we got out of jail she came down to rest at our house, uh, before taking the bus back to New York.

[8]01:38:12 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So we spent that time together. That was actually, it turned out to be three weeks. And then, um, Jeff and I, Jeff, my husband and I in '95 I mean, uh, '75 Jeff had this feeling that Dorothy was getting old and that we should go see her. And, uh, we did. We spent some days with her at the farm in, uh, Tivoli. And, uh, so that was the last time that I spent time with her.

[QUESTION]

[8]01:39:03 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

(OVERLAPPING) While, while these hundreds of people were in jail among them myself and Dorothy Day, um, Caesar would come, Caesar Chavez, the head of the UFW would come everyday. Come through each one of these dorms and, um, and thank us all for being there. And, uh, one time Robert Ellsberg (SP?)

came with him and spoke to us and thanked us and so forth. And then, uh, Joan Baez came through and then we were all brought over to the auditorium and she did a concert for us.

[8]01:39:36 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, uh, so it was, it was kind of an entertaining, it was, it was not a jail experience, it was a very educational experience though because then we were actually, uh, spending more time than just being on picket lines with the farm workers. We were, we were staying with them and it was a, a very uplifting experience to be with them. Not, this is not to canonize all poor people but these people were, were pretty wonderful and (CLEARS THROAT) I like to tell the story that at night they wanted to pray.

[8]01:40:10 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And so, um, you know, the floor was like this, like concrete floor and there were picnic benches all the way down the middle and then there were these, uh, double decker, um, (CLEARS THROAT) bunk beds on the sides. So (CLEARS THROAT) we would, we would start to, uh, they, it was time to pray. So we would go over and, um, (CLEARS THROAT) kneel down, the nuns would kneel down leaning against the benches whereas the farm worker women would kneel away from the benches with their hands extended.

[8]01:40:42 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

(COUGH) And then we would pray the rosary and say every Mary and prayer anyone ever knew in their lives. Do the litany of Mary and it would just go on and on. And we'd be croaking on our, we, even though we were leaning against the bench and they never, they never faltered. Their arms were out the whole time and they weren't leaning against anything. So it was pretty inspiring to, uh, to see them. And, um, another fun story is that we would, uh, even though we'd been asked to fast (CLEARS THROAT) the, um, they made us go to, uh, to the, um, dining room.

[8]01:41:21 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

So we would go to the dining room and some people were eating and some people weren't. And, uh, at the end of the meal they, the, uh, guards were trying to get us going and we wouldn't go until everyone was finished. We wouldn't stand up, we wouldn't hurry, we wouldn't do anything that, that was out of keeping with a dignified meal.

[8]01:41:41 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And then when everyone was finished and the last fork was down, then we'd sing every verse of De Glorus (SP?) that has ever been written and then we would go. So it was, it was, it was kind of fun being there and it was very, uh, fine having that kind of time to talk with Dorothy.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:01:00 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

Well, Dorothy Day was a, a good teacher. And she did her work well. She, um, she laid out a plan that other people could pick up and follow in their own way. And so the, the philosophy and the, uh, function of The Worker movement is, is accessible and easy to understand for a lot of people who are attracted to it. And she, um, she didn't tell you how to be a Catholic Worker, and she didn't tell you what you ought to do and so forth, and so the idea, uh, remains new. And the, um, the workers, like our, our LA Catholic Worker House has, um, kind of berthed a dozen other communities from people who have lived with us, we call them the sister houses.

[8]02:02:05 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And each one of them is different. None of them look like LA. And so there is room, uh, for people to take the ideas, the ideals, the philosophy, and, uh, do something with it. And so I think that, like I see no reason for it ever to stop as long as there are people who take the time to, to, um, immerse themselves in what Dorothy had to say and how she did it. And, um, and then give it a try.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:03:46 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

I don't know because, uh, at the time of, um, the great wars, um, World War II, because it, the movement didn't start 'til '33. So it would have been World War II. You know, she did not, um, flop over as many pacifists did and support that war. And this is very similar, this situation. That, um, people think that this is a just war, this war against terrorism, and that this is, uh, this has to be done and this is different and so forth. And Dorothy would say you're, you're a pacifist, period. You're not a pacifist when, or, you know. It's, I've forgotten who said being a pacifist between wars is like being a vegetarian between meals.

[8]02:04:38 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And it's that way. And so when Nine Eleven came around, we, uh, at our sister houses, the 12 houses, were having a retreat. And we wrote a statement, even after all this we are still pacifists. And it was really hard for people to digest that and accept it. And, uh, I understand that a lot of people in various organizations related to peace work were very challenged by this. So hopefully people, um, will think through the fact that of course this would be the stance that Dorothy would take after Nine Eleven.

[8]02:05:19 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Um, the very stance that she took when she was challenged and (STAMMERS) houses closed at that time, and people withdrew, uh, from the movement, and didn't want to (WORD?) anymore. But her message would be the same now as it was then. Uh, if you want peace, work for justice. And a lot of people turn that around, and if you want justice work for peace. It goes either way.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:06:49 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

I am, but not all our community is. (CLEARS THROAT)

[QUESTION]

[8]02:07:07 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Right. The, The Catholic Worker movement it's, certainly it's tradition and its, uh, spirituality, uh, is based in the Catholic Church. But I think most Catholic Workers have people in their communities who are not Catholic themselves. That the message isn't, um, not there for people who are not part of the Catholic Church. There is a, a, um, community in Atlanta, Georgia called The Open Door Community that's referred to as the, uh, Protestant Catholic Worker because no one at that house is Catholic.

[8]02:07:49 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And the founders are both Presbyterian ministers. But they are very attracted to everything, they have study groups in their community, uh, about Dorothy. And they find no conflict in the fact that they, um, are not Catholic themselves, but that the, um, the words of Dorothy, the actions of Dorothy are all universal. And the, um, important thing about Dorothy is that she was very, she was what you'd call a staunch Catholic. But, um, but she didn't put people down for not being Catholic. She didn't exclude them.

[8]02:08:39 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, uh, so it, there is, I think, not sure I could put my finger on it, but I think there is a more universal bottom line than Catholicism. I think it's probably the dignity of each human person, and the right that they have to be, um, to be receiving whatever it is they need to live out that dignity. To live in dignity.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:09:50 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

(OVERLAPPING) Well, um, something that is often said, uh, about Dorothy is that she was not an easy person. You know, she, she, she had her heels dug in. And, uh, she, she had certain ways that she wanted things done. Didn't mean that over here at your place you couldn't do them another way, but she, um, had certain ways. A, a funny thing is that, um, one time when I was new to the, the community, we were having a financial problem and, and, um, I wrote and I asked her, and she said, well one house can't tell another house how to do things.

[8]02:10:31 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

But, then she told me what to do. And so she, she was a mother, and she was, um, she, she wore a lot of hats. She, she probably wasn't easy to live with.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:11:43 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Right, not a whole lot of people were around for Dorothy to commiserate with. Um, Stanley Visanuski (SP?) was the only person that was around from the getgo until she died. And then he died pretty shortly after, didn't he? And, um, and it's, it's interesting that when you are a person, or persons, who start something how, um, you, you have, uh, you have an awful lot of that in you that isn't necessarily easy to convey and to, to make clear enough for other people to get. And so I'm sure that she, well she, what did she call her, her, um, her biography was The Long Loneliness. And so probably a lot of, of time she felt very alone.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:13:08 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Uh, that the, um, it's good to remember that Dorothy Day and Mother Theresa were actually friends. And they admired each other. Mother Theresa became much more an international figure, very known, very photographed, very everywhere. You saw Mother Theresa leaning over sick people on the street, and picking up waiflike children and so forth. And, and saying very nice little God talk things. And, uh, but she did not have a political (STAMMERS) critique. And, uh, and probably that's the big difference, because many people believe that Dorothy was a very holy woman. And that, uh, and that she, uh, was, had a very unique spirituality. And some people even refer to her as a mystic. Um, but she was very political. And she was, uh, very outspoken about what she saw as wrong. And she saw that, um, in our American, uh, lifestyle, that the, um, rich lived on the backs of the poor. And she made no bones about talking about it. Well that's not popular. (LAUGH) And, like, and, uh, the movement has never received the big bucks, you know? And, uh, and part of that is that Dorothy said I don't want anything to do with the government.

[8]02:14:51 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And I will not be a, a corporation. I will not even do that. Incorporate and be acknowledged as doing good things by the government. And so, um, the fact that she always stood against war, whoever was warring against whomever. She was opposed to it. She stood by the United Farmworkers, when Cesar was having problems and when I he was doing well. She's, she just was very, very clear about standing on the side of justice.

[8]02:15:25 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, it often meant being critical of the status quo. Being critical of the empire. Being critical of, um, wherever the, the bad vibes were coming from. She never took the easy way out. (TECHNICAL)

[QUESTION]

[8]02:16:18 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

Something that is, um, going on at the present is talk of canonization of Dorothy Day. And, there are people in the movement who think that that's, a very acceptable idea. And there are those who don't. We happen to be in the don't column. Um, we, we're quite willing to take Dorothy's word for it when she is often quoted as saying, uh, don't call me a saint, don't dismiss me so easily. And we think she meant that.

[8]02:16:50 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

That she saw the, um, concept of saint in the existing ideas and literature as people who were kind of way out there. And she saw herself as very grounded, and, um, in the nuts and bolts, that she's, she thought of herself as gritty. And that she wasn't doing any, she wasn't working any miracles. She was doing what anyone can do. And that was really her concept was that, she was just doing ordinary things. And I'm not sure if she said, or it was added. That she did them in an extraordinary way.

[8]02:17:32 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

And, um, to, to work from 1933, to 1980, when she died, taking care of people (STAMMERS) cleaning up after people. Um, all the things that she did, (STAMMERS) she did each thing she did a whole lot of times. And that's pretty extraordinary. Btu she did not, um, mean to imply that it, that she had a way of doing it that no one else did. She really thought everyone, anyone, could do what she did. And that, um, it was not saintly to do what she did. That it was what one is called upon as a follower of Jesus, to do. He was always out there on the margins, and that's where she thought Christians belonged.

[QUESTION]

[8]02:18:51 **CATHERINE MORRIS**

Uh, the house was begun by, uh, Chris (SOUNDS LIKE) Adandalini, six months before Jack came. So neither of was involved in that seed, seedling stage. Um, (SOUNDS LIKE) let's see. An idea, well, the thing that I keep my eye on, the prize from Dorothy day, is that she did it for the long haul. And, I think that, um, that perhaps more right now than any other time in my years here, because they've gone by rather rapidly, I can't believe 30 years. It's a long time.

[8]02:19:33 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Um, but right now I think ah, I'm 68, I, maybe I should just kind of like, wrap it up. Try (LAUGH) something else. Move on. But Dorothy, Dorothy hung in. She hung to the end. And she died in the house. And she, they walked her in her coffin from the house to the church. And, uh, she took up her permanent bodily residence there on state, Staten Island. And so, a challenge to me is, can my long haul be as long as Dorothy's?

[8]02:20:11 **CATHERINE MORRIS (CONTINUED)**

Can I keep, keep with it to the very end? And so I have to always keep my eye on her. And, um, and honor that about her. That she was able to, um, make a decision to do this faithfully, fully, to the end. And so, I don't know if I can or not. But it's a, it's a great challenge that I receive from and accept from Dorothy.

[B-ROLL]

[END OF TAPE: [8]02:36:48]