

## Conversation with 43 year old Native American female, New Mexico (Transcription)

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FW: What's your name?

INF: <unintelligible text>

FW: Can you tell me something that happened a long time ago?

INF: Oh, like when we were kids?

FW: Uh huh.

INF: uh, stories, uh, I don't story

FW: You, know something funny, or something that happened to you.

INF: Oh, I don't know, I don't know any stories,

FW: I mean like maybe a family get together you went someplace,

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INF: Oh, yeah. Like now, when we used to go pinon picking at this time, and, uh, like in the afternoon, after supper we finished supper and washed the dishes and mom and dad and the whole family go down to visit grandma. My dad, fa-, I mean mother <unintelligible text> sit around the table and either grandma or my dad would tell a story, in Indian, and kids would just sit around and listen to them and eat pinons. Roasted pinons sometimes they have watermelon or a melon.

FW: Well, how about when you were young with the girlfriends you ox you used to go out with, where did you go. Dancing or something.

INF: No, at that time we don't think about going out dancing, most of the time we stayed around here at the pueblo cause there wasn't a way around to go down to the Espanola, there's very few people that have cars at that time, and mostly we stayed here at the pueblo but then at that time we have a movie here at the day school so that's where we go and then, uh, course we always have the Indian social dance that's out dance everytime when there's a wedding well then they always have a social dance at the kiva, at the little kiva right in the plaza there in the pueblo.

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And, other than that, well, we just go out in the afternoon and a bunch of us get together and we would sit in front of the store or at the old post office or in front of the chapel there and just talk about oh, about our school and everything else you know, dates and old boyfriends and other things like that.

FW: What do you think about these things going on at the San <gap> fiesta, did you go?

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INF: OH, no, I have no intention of going to the fiesta for what happend. I really don't know what really happened, but the way the <gap> had said over TV news so that kind of got me too, you know, like the, uh, people from Santa Fe doesn't want the Indians there and so I just didn't feel like going there and I don't think I would want, I wouldn't wanted to go when somebody doesn't, you know, doesn't want the Indians around their fiesta. So, we just stayed away from Santa Fe, we didn't go down for the fiesta at all.

FW: How would you feel about having New Mexico back in San JUAN, you know, the capital of New Mexico back to San Juan again.

INF: Oh, I think it would be something At least something here in the pueblo you like something to do, maybe they have a capital here at the pueblo, for then at least have a town a little city at least to, uh, well we wouldn't have to go all the way to Espanola or to Santa Fe all the way to Santa Fe.

FW: Did your dad ever tell you stories about the railroad track

INF: Oh, yeah, I remember that, just right down here the train tracks used to be right in there and my dad used to have a garden just right down below from here and my older sister Juanita and myself and my other sister, Francis, we used to bring lunch for ;him, he have a cornfield and

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Wheat and alfalfa and all that early in morning <unintelligible text> come out and work on the garden there and at lunchtime we we'd bring his lunch and we'd try to hurry because, uh, right over at the Rio Grande bridge soon as we'd cross there why then, railroad tracks start there, the railroad track is from right there on up and there's no way that we could avoid the train at that place so we have to rush in order for us to get to the other side so we rush and sometimes well he'll meet us right there and we just run from there so we can pass first before he gets there and sometimes when he's late well we'll meet him right up at the field and when he's going through we waved at him and then he'd throw some oranges and apples and things like that to us we always have alot of fun and my dad used to tell us that long before that that they used to ride the train for ten cents to Espanola, course I have never ride in that train I just remember that the train pass through here and it was lot of fun just to have a train passing through, well not through the pueblo but at least through right in here, it was real nice.

FW: Are you taking part in the dances this weekend, or not?

INF: No, I'm not, don't know anything about that dance, I know it's some kind of a sacred dance but, uh, I don't know much about that, I guess all the people that are willing to dance I guess can take parts I don't know, so I don't know anything much about the dance.

FW: Do you go to the state fair?

INF: We usually go every year for the past five years that I remember, we've been going every year but this year I don't think we'll go.

FW: When you go to the state fair what do you see over there?

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INF: Oh, gosh, we see more Indians than anything, more Indians than anything else, lot of people mostly Indians, of course, Indian day, that's the only day we always go is on Indian day, sometimes I bump into one of my old class mate or old friend that I used to know at the Indian school it's alot of fun to go down to the state fair like I said ;you bump into your friends once in a great while, it's always nice to see them again after, sometimes I see them there at Santa Domingo for the fiesta but I hardly go there either, once in a great while, so I see them at state fair. At least once a year you get to see your friends, you don't see them that often <unintelligible text>.

FW: I know, Where do you work at?

INF: I work, right now I'm working at Los Alamos, I'm doing domestic work, it's not a very good job but I guess that's about all I can do, well, not all I can do, I can work other kind of, I can do any other kind of job besides domestic but to me I think that's easy for me, a long time ago I used to work in Grants and I wait on table but that was real hard on my feet I got so tired by the time I get off I don't want to stand up once I sit down and it just, it's just too hard to do a waitress job, and I work in California in a factory and that's a good job but then its too hard, and I don't like to be in California, well not just in California but in city or a different place. I don't think there's any where else like San Juan I mean like you know here in our own pueblo there's alot of people and cars and I don't know. I just don't like that.

FW: Do you think the pueblo's changing alot?

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INF: OH, alot. A whole lot, comparing to when we were kids up till now, in those days, well you don't see those well this modern homes

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that are building up now from one end to the other end and those days when we were kids, all we seen was nothing but adobe homes and I think these adobe homes are much better then this modern home because I remember during wintertime when we used to all have just about two or three rooms and we have a firewood stove and with all that we spent the winter and now we have to pay the gas and lights and everything else and its just too much expensive and it seems like it's just getting worse and worse every year and when we were kids well I remember my dad just bring wood from the, uh, wagon and he just bring every weekend and he just goes for wood and during the winter, well he don't have to worry about paying a gas bill or a light bill or anything like that with the wood that he hauled during the summer well we spent out winter and it stays warm all night and now, as soon as the heat turns off well then the place gets so cold you just have to have the heat turned on full blast or otherwise you'll feeze, there's alot of difference comparing to when we were kids up til now and still yet its just getting worse and building all this modern homes instead of adobe; homes I wish they would build more adobe homes then, uh, then this frame houses.

FW: Do you have any grandchildren?

INF: Oh, yeah, I have one.

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FW: How many kids do you have?

INF: I've got two, they're both grown up, my baby's 18 years old, a big baby, he's 18 but he, he still thinks, I mean he still acts like a baby.

FW: Ok, thank you.

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