Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: CUONG C. TRAN
Interviewer: Allen Chen
Date: February 27, 2014
Location: West Covina, CA
Sub-Collection: Linda Vo Class Oral Histories, Winter 2014
Length of Interview: 01:09:18

FIELD NOTES

The interview was conducted in the home of Cuong C. Tran. Present during the interview were the narrator, Cuong C. Tran, and the interviewer Allen Chen. We followed protocol and signed all consent and release forms prior to beginning. I took a photo of the narrator and he was very accommodating during our interview.

Cuong showed up to the interview dressed casually with a striped shirt and shorts. He was sick during the interview and asked if the interview could be rescheduled. Unfortunately, I was short on time so I gently pushed him to continue on with the interview. I gave him twenty more minutes to review the questions, which seemed to ease the experience.

We began the interview at 8:09PM and began with the first set of questions from the interview list. I turned on both an H2Zoom Recorder, and iPhone to record, and around 8:22PM I noticed that the record was not blinking. Cuong agreed to start over, and I ended up using my iPhone to record the interview in its entirety.

He seemed emotional during the interview; perhaps it was because I had asked him personal questions. There were several things I also learned during the interview that would have gone more smoothly if I had practiced outside of the interview. These were things such as being confident. I found that if I was nervous at any point my energy would directly affect Cuong, which in turn would make the interview less fluid. This meant that me as the interviewer was responsible for creating a very even pace so that a nice flow would be steady throughout the interview. However, Cuong was willing to share these details, and the interview successfully concluded at approximately 9:31PM.