Narrator: NGỌC MỸ LÊ
Interviewer: Tiffany Ngocmai Le
Date: May 16, 2015
Location: Fountain Valley, California
Sub-collection: Vietnamese American Experience Course, Spring 2015
Length of Interview: 01:51:16

Time Log
00:00:50 Ngoc My Le describes herself and her family.
00:04:30 She talks about her hometown and moving around in Saigon.
00:07:14 She remembers her childhood in Vietnam, being the oldest sibling.
00:10:47 She describes her memory of the war and how her family protected themselves from the shooting.
00:14:22 She explains what she knew about the war as a young student and how it motivated her.
00:20:10 Her vision for her future was to be educated and conquer poverty.
00:23:27 She describes her choice to study dentistry.
00:29:00 She discusses the decision-making process of leaving Vietnam.
00:32:50 She talks about her journey leaving Vietnam on boat.
00:44:57 She met Thai pirates after 7 days on the open sea.
00:50:30 She describes her refugee experience at Ku Ku and Galang Refugee Camp in Indonesia.
00:57:44 Her childhood friend gave her advice to come and settle in America.
01:04:52 She arrived to America, in Poughkeepsie, New York, and faced culture shock.
01:08:42 Her classmate in dental school suggested she move to California and should pursue medical technology.
01:11:54 She describes getting married, moving to El Cajon, California and starting school for medical technology.
01:15:24 She followed her husband to New Orleans, Louisiana and started to consider nursing.
01:18:43 She and her husband moved back to Los Angeles, California where she enrolled in USC Medical Center School of Nursing.
01:24:27 She remembers the difficulties of being a full-time nursing student at USC and
a mother of two children, while her husband was in Chicago.

01:30:00 She describes settling in San Fernando Valley with her family and transferring to UCLA Medical Center.

01:31:33 She explains her divorce from her husband and her move to Orange County, California.

01:35:25 She describes the differences between being a woman in Vietnam and being a woman in America.

01:37:43 She explains how her identity of being Vietnamese American has not gotten in the way of her dreams.

01:41:28 She remembers three turning points in her life.

01:43:18 She has no regrets about how her life has turned out.

01:46:00 She gives advice to future generations.