Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: THAO NGUYEN
Interviewer: Mai Nguyen
Date: November 19, 2012
Location: Santa Ana, California
Sub-collection: Vietnamese American Experience Course, Fall 2012
Length of Interview: 01:08:35

Time Log

00:02:03 Introduct herself, her family, where she came from.
00:06:14 She talks about her dream job of becoming a nurse but her mom stops her from pursue because her family is going through financial difficulties.
00:10:02 She mentions that she never got married before.
00:10:58 She works to mainly support her parents and younger siblings.
00:11:10 It took her 8 times to succeed in escaping to the United States.
00:13:50 Her family run and run after bombs and bombs, her family was near the death door all the time.
00:14:50 She have 14 siblings but 7 youngers die.
00:16:02 Her family have move around and her father have to work to support his family.
00:23:13 She gets caught and is in prison for 6 ½ months, talks about her life in the prison
00:25:53 Her feelings when she have to leave her homeland, and family.
00:29:23 How she comes over to the US, 8th attempt in total
Her arrival in Pulau Bidong through her small boat

List people that help Vietnamese people at Malaysia

Moving to Sungai Besi Camp

Back to Vietnam in 1996

got a call for interview to come to US after 2 years doing and waiting for paperwork

went to mental hospital when come over here and affected her memories.

Taking bus to go to Nails School and her career begins

Talks about how she becomes a US citizen.

She talks about what kind of Vietnamese Traditional things to keep for the future generation and what not.

Final Farewell, message for younger generation.