

Interview of Zofia Hockin and Maria Roba
Mebourne Holocaust Centre
12/30/1995 RG 50.407*23
Duration 1Hr 47'

Zofia Hockin was born in Warsaw in 1947. Zofia's parents, Leon Nadel and Estella Lipshitz, were both born Jewish but survived the Holocaust by passing as non-Jews. After the war, the couple continued to live in Poland under their assumed identities. Zofia's father was a university professor and her mother worked in Polish radio.

As a child, Zofia had no inkling of her Jewish background and only discovered it as a teenager, when a Jewish boyfriend pointed out to her.

In 1968 during the anti-Jewish campaign her father was demoted, but chose to stay in Poland. Ever since, Zofia has been struggling with her identity. She says that she has "Jewish baggage," calls it "hiding in plain sight" and looks for spiritual meaning in her life. She has recently decided to join an encounter group second generation holocaust survivor.

Zofia was accompanied to the interview by her Aunt Maria Roba. Though Maria's participation in the interview was minimal, she is Zofia's only relative who left Poland before the war and never concealed her Jewish background.