

RG-50.407.0270

Summary

Anna (Enterberg) Goutman was born in Kraków, Poland on July 19, 1939. His paternal grandfather was named Enterberg and involved in timber. Her maternal grandfather, Moses Shukoski (?), was a tailor who gave in to Anna's grandmother's desire to move her three children (Anna's mother and two sisters, Regina and Ida) from a small town to Kraków, for the educational benefits of a larger city. Her mother, Manya (?) was a kindergarten teacher and met her father, Heschel Enterberg who worked at a Zionist organization. They had permits to go to Israel just before the war, but declined as Anna's mother was too pregnant with her. They were not a religiously-observant family. Her grandparents and one aunt were killed early in the war through unclear means. After a near deportation, her parents smuggled her into the home of Mrs. Joseph Dadakova, a childless divorcee working as a social worker. Anna lived there three years, was placed in a convent school and well cared for under the circumstance. Anna maintained contact with Mrs. Dadakova and financially supported her after the war until she died.

Anna and her mother were reunited shortly after the war, though the re-familiarization was difficult. They traveled to Florence staying with her mother's sister, Ida, who had married into a large, non-observant Catholic family; Anna also considered herself Catholic until she was in Australia at age 9. She started school at age seven. Her uncle, who had been a doctor with the partisans, offered to adopt her. Other relatives resisted, urging Anna and her mother to immigrate to Palestine, but her mother declined not wanting to enter another war zone. While seeking to enter America, they accepted a relative's arrangement of entry to Australia. They traveled there on the SS Napoli in 1948.

Their sponsor took them into her large home and Anna acclimated quickly, though her mother did not. Anna was distressed to learn from her of her Jewish heritage, having a subliminal sense of darkness about Judaism. Her mother was passive about Anna's gradual return to Judaism. They eventually moved to their own apartment, while her mother worked in her sponsor's hat factory. She received her first antisemitic slur in a park from another child around this time. Her mother married Jacob Frisch, allowing her to leave her factory job. Anna describes her socialization and her gradual adoption of Zionism, Judaism, Jewish culture and history, in which the book, *Before the Statue of Apollo*, was important.

Anna attended university in Australia. At age 22, she visited Israel and remained nine years studying Hebrew and a Masters in psychology. One of her academic focuses was the impact on children of an absent father, in contrast to the many studies on the absence of mothers. Her mother died in 1976. She discusses at length her relationship issues with family and friends. She met and married her husband, Rodney Goutman, at Hebrew University with the ceremony at the "mushroom" synagogue. They returned to Sydney, Australia. Then on to Adelaide in 1973. Her daughter, Sonya, was born in October, 1973. Following her husband, she adapted a more traditionally Jewish life, beginning to attend synagogue for the first time. She chose to pursue language interpretation (Italian) instead of teaching and sought the appropriate certifications.

In the mid-1990's, she returned to Melbourne after an operation for a non-malignant brain tumor. Recovery was prolonged with complications from high blood pressure, related operations and a recurrence of the tumor. Anna believes that her childhood traumas contributed to her depressive stages later in life that held her back professionally.

(The segment on tape 2 from 00:54:43 to 01:49:00 is a repeat of the first segment of that same tape).