

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:51,000

2
00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:53,460
You don't tape my legs, I hope.

3
00:00:53,460 --> 00:00:55,270
Just my head.

4
00:00:55,270 --> 00:00:55,920
OK.

5
00:00:55,920 --> 00:00:58,710
So I'll be comfortable.

6
00:00:58,710 --> 00:00:59,410
OK.

7
00:00:59,410 --> 00:01:01,440
We're all set.

8
00:01:01,440 --> 00:01:03,180
You had some questions, Jack?

9
00:01:03,180 --> 00:01:11,010
Gloria, I keep noticing there is
such a family-orientated person

10
00:01:11,010 --> 00:01:14,340
that you are projecting here.

11
00:01:14,340 --> 00:01:16,710
And the one question
that I keep wanting

12
00:01:16,710 --> 00:01:22,620
to ask you is, do you feel
that you survived for yourself

13
00:01:22,620 --> 00:01:25,570

or did you survive
for your family?

14
00:01:25,570 --> 00:01:26,730
Can you answer that?

15
00:01:26,730 --> 00:01:28,590
Very easily.

16
00:01:28,590 --> 00:01:35,310
I have really survived for
my mother and my sister,

17
00:01:35,310 --> 00:01:36,810
and mainly for my mother.

18
00:01:36,810 --> 00:01:44,520
I have always just wanted to
prove to her that I'm alive

19
00:01:44,520 --> 00:01:49,500
and that I must keep
myself well, otherwise,

20
00:01:49,500 --> 00:01:53,060
I bring her down.

21
00:01:53,060 --> 00:01:55,610
If I go, she goes.

22
00:01:55,610 --> 00:01:58,170
We were very close.

23
00:01:58,170 --> 00:02:03,980
I am her first child, first
daughter after four boys.

24
00:02:03,980 --> 00:02:09,970
And you can imagine
how much I was wanted.

25
00:02:09,970 --> 00:02:12,740

I mean, I grew up
with this story.

26
00:02:12,740 --> 00:02:17,370
but we are a very close family.

27
00:02:17,370 --> 00:02:19,520
We always were a
very close family.

28
00:02:19,520 --> 00:02:22,760

29
00:02:22,760 --> 00:02:27,770
Since the Holocaust, however,
those of us who survived

30
00:02:27,770 --> 00:02:30,620
and who were trapped
behind the Iron Curtain--

31
00:02:30,620 --> 00:02:36,450
I'm the only one who came
to the US from Sweden.

32
00:02:36,450 --> 00:02:39,950
From Sweden I came
directly here.

33
00:02:39,950 --> 00:02:43,760
The rest of my family who were
liberated by the Americans

34
00:02:43,760 --> 00:02:48,800
and the British
and the Russians,

35
00:02:48,800 --> 00:02:51,290
they were sent back home.

36
00:02:51,290 --> 00:02:55,850
Home became the Soviet Union.

37

00:02:55,850 --> 00:03:00,440

The Soviet Union took this
part of what was Czechoslovakia

38

00:03:00,440 --> 00:03:04,290

and what became Hungary and
it became part of Ukraine.

39

00:03:04,290 --> 00:03:08,930

And it is still today a part of
the Ukraine since World War II.

40

00:03:08,930 --> 00:03:13,910

And you know the turmoil
today about this area.

41

00:03:13,910 --> 00:03:17,600

Ukraine wants to be independent.

42

00:03:17,600 --> 00:03:19,460

That is the part I come from.

43

00:03:19,460 --> 00:03:22,730

44

00:03:22,730 --> 00:03:25,310

The point I wanted
to make is they

45

00:03:25,310 --> 00:03:29,270

lived through difficult
days after the Holocaust,

46

00:03:29,270 --> 00:03:32,750

only to be trapped
behind the Iron Curtain

47

00:03:32,750 --> 00:03:34,220

and couldn't come out.

48

00:03:34,220 --> 00:03:38,420

I saw them after a

hiatus of 17 years,

49

00:03:38,420 --> 00:03:41,840
in 1962, for the first time.

50

00:03:41,840 --> 00:03:45,290
And I vowed to myself
that I would not

51

00:03:45,290 --> 00:03:50,460
rest until we brought
them to this country.

52

00:03:50,460 --> 00:03:55,790
And so we did, family by
family, starting with my dad.

53

00:03:55,790 --> 00:04:01,640
But I found that they had
a very difficult adjustment

54

00:04:01,640 --> 00:04:03,620
after the Holocaust.

55

00:04:03,620 --> 00:04:10,460
And I had such a good
start in life again.

56

00:04:10,460 --> 00:04:13,040
I fell into loving
hands in Sweden.

57

00:04:13,040 --> 00:04:15,800
A Swedish family
wanted to adopt me

58

00:04:15,800 --> 00:04:25,340
and I couldn't have asked for a
better life after the Holocaust

59

00:04:25,340 --> 00:04:28,220
compared to everybody I know.

60

00:04:28,220 --> 00:04:32,640

This was like Dunedin for me.

61

00:04:32,640 --> 00:04:35,390

And from there, I came
to relatives in the US.

62

00:04:35,390 --> 00:04:37,580

Of course, this is not
to say that I didn't

63

00:04:37,580 --> 00:04:40,880

have my own problems
dealing with the fact

64

00:04:40,880 --> 00:04:43,820

that I was all alone
in a strange country

65

00:04:43,820 --> 00:04:45,750

whose language I didn't speak.

66

00:04:45,750 --> 00:04:47,900

And I didn't have any family.

67

00:04:47,900 --> 00:04:53,900

And I set to work immediately
searching for my own family.

68

00:04:53,900 --> 00:04:55,730

They wanted to adopt me.

69

00:04:55,730 --> 00:05:00,050

I was 15 years old and they had
a little girl one year younger

70

00:05:00,050 --> 00:05:04,370

than me and I wanted to
go and live with them,

71

00:05:04,370 --> 00:05:08,600

but the adoption

was out of question

72

00:05:08,600 --> 00:05:13,340

because I still hoped to
find my very own family.

73

00:05:13,340 --> 00:05:20,870

And long after we
brought them over here,

74

00:05:20,870 --> 00:05:25,940

we found how the years have
affected us so differently.

75

00:05:25,940 --> 00:05:29,060

76

00:05:29,060 --> 00:05:31,320

In a way we are all the same.

77

00:05:31,320 --> 00:05:37,250

We all have this very strong
family feeling for each other.

78

00:05:37,250 --> 00:05:40,550

But the fact that
they had to struggle

79

00:05:40,550 --> 00:05:47,840

so much where they
were left deep scars

80

00:05:47,840 --> 00:05:51,670

in their psychological makeup.

81

00:05:51,670 --> 00:05:54,410

It's clearly evident.

82

00:05:54,410 --> 00:06:00,800

But they still are very,
very well adjusted and happy

83

00:06:00,800 --> 00:06:05,600
individuals, as people can be.

84
00:06:05,600 --> 00:06:11,720
They came here and they
were willing to settle,

85
00:06:11,720 --> 00:06:16,400
doing anything just
to be a free country.

86
00:06:16,400 --> 00:06:19,970
They didn't go to a movie for
so long unless we took them.

87
00:06:19,970 --> 00:06:23,690
I mean for years they
all, children, everybody

88
00:06:23,690 --> 00:06:25,820
they put the money
together so that they

89
00:06:25,820 --> 00:06:29,270
could put a down payment
down on a little house.

90
00:06:29,270 --> 00:06:33,740
And they did, and now the
young people have graduated,

91
00:06:33,740 --> 00:06:39,230
they have professions,
and everybody's name

92
00:06:39,230 --> 00:06:40,740
is on the title of this house.

93
00:06:40,740 --> 00:06:45,950
I've never seen a deed
of trust like that,

94
00:06:45,950 --> 00:06:52,230

to answer the point that you've made, including the children.

95

00:06:52,230 --> 00:06:56,730

96

00:06:56,730 --> 00:07:08,400

Who in your family do you feel created this more

97

00:07:08,400 --> 00:07:10,886

than the other individuals?

98

00:07:10,886 --> 00:07:15,450

Do you attribute to your father's teachings

99

00:07:15,450 --> 00:07:19,290

as a young girl, you were 14?

100

00:07:19,290 --> 00:07:22,408

Did you get strength from your father, did you get strength

101

00:07:22,408 --> 00:07:26,460

from your mother, or did you determine

102

00:07:26,460 --> 00:07:30,360

that you had your own strength or were you able to find

103

00:07:30,360 --> 00:07:32,070

that you had your strength?

104

00:07:32,070 --> 00:07:39,270

Or did you get the strength combined between the two?

105

00:07:39,270 --> 00:07:43,080

Could you answer that?

106

00:07:43,080 --> 00:07:46,030

I think that's a
very good question.

107

00:07:46,030 --> 00:07:49,590

I thought about this
many times and I

108

00:07:49,590 --> 00:07:56,220

feel that Dad and Mother both
made very strong contributions

109

00:07:56,220 --> 00:08:03,740

to my well-being, and I was
very close to both of them.

110

00:08:03,740 --> 00:08:06,390

111

00:08:06,390 --> 00:08:13,170

Also, we were a large
family whom we helped

112

00:08:13,170 --> 00:08:16,110

during the latter years--

113

00:08:16,110 --> 00:08:17,850

excuse me.

114

00:08:17,850 --> 00:08:24,120

For example, after 1939, when
we had to close our store,

115

00:08:24,120 --> 00:08:27,000

we had the farm
and vineyard left.

116

00:08:27,000 --> 00:08:33,570

But many people who didn't have
any fields closed their stores

117

00:08:33,570 --> 00:08:39,690

and used up their cash, and

many times funds in banks

118
00:08:39,690 --> 00:08:45,660
were frozen, they had no
money to buy food with or--

119
00:08:45,660 --> 00:08:50,745
We at least grew grow our own
food, and so this was shared.

120
00:08:50,745 --> 00:08:53,460

121
00:08:53,460 --> 00:08:57,420
When a cow delivered a calf,
there was a lot of milk,

122
00:08:57,420 --> 00:09:02,130
and we had several cows
and this got spread around.

123
00:09:02,130 --> 00:09:04,860
Eventually, Mother
even sold some of it

124
00:09:04,860 --> 00:09:12,995
because we too eventually
became short of liquid assets,

125
00:09:12,995 --> 00:09:13,950
I would say.

126
00:09:13,950 --> 00:09:17,310

127
00:09:17,310 --> 00:09:20,640
The children were growing,
shoes had to be replaced,

128
00:09:20,640 --> 00:09:25,540
clothes became too tight
or too short or whatever.

129

00:09:25,540 --> 00:09:29,460

And materials
couldn't be gotten,

130

00:09:29,460 --> 00:09:41,020

and so eventually alterations
became the way of life.

131

00:09:41,020 --> 00:09:46,720

We even took men's pants and
turned them into dresses.

132

00:09:46,720 --> 00:09:48,690

And so you had to
use your imagination,

133

00:09:48,690 --> 00:09:50,520

and everybody sort
of worked together.

134

00:09:50,520 --> 00:09:53,250

135

00:09:53,250 --> 00:09:56,190

I come from a small
town near a city,

136

00:09:56,190 --> 00:09:58,210

just nine kilometers
from the city,

137

00:09:58,210 --> 00:10:01,800

and we commuted into the
city, Mother and Dad,

138

00:10:01,800 --> 00:10:03,870

on a regular basis once a week.

139

00:10:03,870 --> 00:10:08,680

And we to high school.

140

00:10:08,680 --> 00:10:14,010

But I think it was
a family affair.

141
00:10:14,010 --> 00:10:16,140
Everybody helped each other.

142
00:10:16,140 --> 00:10:18,390
When someone's
father in the family

143
00:10:18,390 --> 00:10:24,630
was taken into the
military or into,

144
00:10:24,630 --> 00:10:28,140
such as my cousins across the
street with six daughters,

145
00:10:28,140 --> 00:10:30,870
and my father's
sister, my father

146
00:10:30,870 --> 00:10:33,870
became their father, too.

147
00:10:33,870 --> 00:10:36,930
Their father was taken into
not the military service,

148
00:10:36,930 --> 00:10:42,300
to the labor force that
Jewish men were taken into.

149
00:10:42,300 --> 00:10:48,750
And he disappeared,
leaving six kids.

150
00:10:48,750 --> 00:10:53,050
So how does one
answer that, really?

151
00:10:53,050 --> 00:10:54,800
I think both my

mother and father--

152

00:10:54,800 --> 00:10:57,840

And my grandmother
lived with us,

153

00:10:57,840 --> 00:11:00,720

who I remember telling
us lots of stories

154

00:11:00,720 --> 00:11:06,700

about American history by the
way, about slavery in America.

155

00:11:06,700 --> 00:11:10,000

I just finished writing
in my book about that.

156

00:11:10,000 --> 00:11:15,180

And it's amazing things come
back to me as I write it.

157

00:11:15,180 --> 00:11:17,160

So I asked her as
a little girl how

158

00:11:17,160 --> 00:11:20,280

come you let your children
go to a country that

159

00:11:20,280 --> 00:11:23,830

steals people and
turns them into slave?

160

00:11:23,830 --> 00:11:26,670

I just remember
asking that question.

161

00:11:26,670 --> 00:11:33,060

And, well, she had
her way of answering

162

00:11:33,060 --> 00:11:35,370

that she had children here.

163

00:11:35,370 --> 00:11:38,550

All her children were
here except for my mother.

164

00:11:38,550 --> 00:11:41,340

And she said, the
people who lived

165

00:11:41,340 --> 00:11:45,180

there fled from other
countries because they did not

166

00:11:45,180 --> 00:11:51,180

have freedom and their
people are generally free.

167

00:11:51,180 --> 00:11:57,690

And I don't know, the slavery
wasn't explained too well.

168

00:11:57,690 --> 00:12:01,320

How does one explain
slavery and justify it?

169

00:12:01,320 --> 00:12:02,040

You can't.

170

00:12:02,040 --> 00:12:04,110

No.

171

00:12:04,110 --> 00:12:10,000

The other I wonder is it's
because of the is that one

172

00:12:10,000 --> 00:12:15,390

Hungarian officer who
said that basically you

173

00:12:15,390 --> 00:12:18,130

could jump off of the truck.

174

00:12:18,130 --> 00:12:23,500

Did you find at any time
other than that there

175

00:12:23,500 --> 00:12:27,790

were any traces of kindness
given to you by the Nazis

176

00:12:27,790 --> 00:12:29,080

at any time?

177

00:12:29,080 --> 00:12:31,450

No, never.

178

00:12:31,450 --> 00:12:34,430

I have found
differences among them.

179

00:12:34,430 --> 00:12:40,630

For example, some were
more sadistic than others.

180

00:12:40,630 --> 00:12:48,970

And some were simply nice
in that that person wouldn't

181

00:12:48,970 --> 00:12:50,150

beat you up.

182

00:12:50,150 --> 00:12:53,410

But he was to be
feared nevertheless.

183

00:12:53,410 --> 00:12:56,950

The word nice hardly fits.

184

00:12:56,950 --> 00:13:03,190

But then he didn't do anything
to prevent any mistreatment

185

00:13:03,190 --> 00:13:05,080

by another SS.

186
00:13:05,080 --> 00:13:12,640
So I can see these individual
differences between them

187
00:13:12,640 --> 00:13:14,380
as well.

188
00:13:14,380 --> 00:13:16,900
Mengele didn't beat
us up, and yet he

189
00:13:16,900 --> 00:13:20,320
could shoot a child
just as easily

190
00:13:20,320 --> 00:13:26,500
and perform experiments
on twins without thinking

191
00:13:26,500 --> 00:13:28,430
anything of it.

192
00:13:28,430 --> 00:13:31,420
He was convinced that he
is helping medical science.

193
00:13:31,420 --> 00:13:34,580

194
00:13:34,580 --> 00:13:38,140
I'm not really
totally certain that

195
00:13:38,140 --> 00:13:40,640
was the only reason he did it.

196
00:13:40,640 --> 00:13:43,244
That's all the questions I have.

197
00:13:43,244 --> 00:13:46,960

198
00:13:46,960 --> 00:13:51,302
Did you talk with you children
from the time they were

199
00:13:51,302 --> 00:13:53,200
little about your experiences?

200
00:13:53,200 --> 00:13:54,900
Did I talk to my children?

201
00:13:54,900 --> 00:13:55,400
Yes.

202
00:13:55,400 --> 00:13:58,720

203
00:13:58,720 --> 00:14:02,860
I let my children set the pace.

204
00:14:02,860 --> 00:14:06,400
My children started
asking me questions

205
00:14:06,400 --> 00:14:07,930
when they saw my tattoo.

206
00:14:07,930 --> 00:14:11,410
As soon as they
became aware that I

207
00:14:11,410 --> 00:14:19,630
have a tattoo on my arm, A6374,
and I felt that it was up to me

208
00:14:19,630 --> 00:14:29,080
to give them concise answers,
limited ones depending on how

209
00:14:29,080 --> 00:14:31,480
much they can understand.

210

00:14:31,480 --> 00:14:33,490

And of course at
that time survivors

211

00:14:33,490 --> 00:14:40,540

were still not talking.

212

00:14:40,540 --> 00:14:44,590

They were still mum
on the Holocaust.

213

00:14:44,590 --> 00:14:47,000

We didn't even
talk to each other.

214

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:49,330

There was a silent
understanding between us

215

00:14:49,330 --> 00:14:57,760

that we went through what we did
and we know, we as survivors.

216

00:14:57,760 --> 00:15:00,710

217

00:15:00,710 --> 00:15:03,550

But we would not ask
each other questions.

218

00:15:03,550 --> 00:15:07,030

Even survivors didn't
ask each other questions,

219

00:15:07,030 --> 00:15:08,065

or rarely would.

220

00:15:08,065 --> 00:15:10,960

221

00:15:10,960 --> 00:15:15,760

One survivor may have said,

I see you've been there, too,

222

00:15:15,760 --> 00:15:17,320
and that's it.

223

00:15:17,320 --> 00:15:21,610
Or you have any parents left?

224

00:15:21,610 --> 00:15:24,020
Just, yes.

225

00:15:24,020 --> 00:15:25,150
Brothers, sisters?

226

00:15:25,150 --> 00:15:27,730
Yes.

227

00:15:27,730 --> 00:15:28,900
How did you do it?

228

00:15:28,900 --> 00:15:31,000
You know it was
always a miracle.

229

00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:37,690
But the children would ask
some very good questions.

230

00:15:37,690 --> 00:15:38,950
Why were you there?

231

00:15:38,950 --> 00:15:40,840
Why did they take you?

232

00:15:40,840 --> 00:15:42,770
Because I was Jewish.

233

00:15:42,770 --> 00:15:46,510
Well I'm Jewish too,
will they take me?

234

00:15:46,510 --> 00:15:48,970
No, they won't take you.

235
00:15:48,970 --> 00:15:52,360
They don't exist anymore.

236
00:15:52,360 --> 00:15:56,200
We won the war and they
were wiped out just

237
00:15:56,200 --> 00:15:59,200
like so-and-so and
so-and-so in the history.

238
00:15:59,200 --> 00:16:04,090
And so I tried to compare
Purim, for example,

239
00:16:04,090 --> 00:16:07,570
the celebration of Purim.

240
00:16:07,570 --> 00:16:11,800
Because at that
time, or so legend

241
00:16:11,800 --> 00:16:15,640
has it, that the Jewish
people were to be killed

242
00:16:15,640 --> 00:16:17,920
and instead they
ended up killing

243
00:16:17,920 --> 00:16:21,040
the person who wanted to do
away with the Jewish people.

244
00:16:21,040 --> 00:16:26,380
So that was one way
that a young child

245
00:16:26,380 --> 00:16:29,980
could understand or compare.

246
00:16:29,980 --> 00:16:35,390
But as they grew older, I dare
to tell them more and more.

247
00:16:35,390 --> 00:16:41,890
And so the children heard
little bits and pieces

248
00:16:41,890 --> 00:16:43,570
about my background.

249
00:16:43,570 --> 00:16:48,820
And never having heard
most of these stories

250
00:16:48,820 --> 00:17:01,930
until about 13 or 14 years
ago Dorothy Rabinowitz,

251
00:17:01,930 --> 00:17:09,900
I don't know how many years
ago, Dorothy Rabinowitz

252
00:17:09,900 --> 00:17:16,920
came to San Francisco
and interviewed me

253
00:17:16,920 --> 00:17:21,089
for her book called New Lives:
Survivors of the Holocaust

254
00:17:21,089 --> 00:17:23,160
Living in America.

255
00:17:23,160 --> 00:17:33,300
And Dorothy said, could
we sit in the living room?

256
00:17:33,300 --> 00:17:37,530
And our two boys asked
if they could sit in,

257

00:17:37,530 --> 00:17:40,950
and she said, certainly you can.

258

00:17:40,950 --> 00:17:45,420
This is the first time since
I've been across the country,

259

00:17:45,420 --> 00:17:47,580
this is the first time
that the children wanted

260

00:17:47,580 --> 00:17:50,370
to sit in and hear the stories.

261

00:17:50,370 --> 00:17:55,470
Until now, the children
would always leave and find

262

00:17:55,470 --> 00:17:58,170
some reason not to be here.

263

00:17:58,170 --> 00:18:04,170
And that apparently
made her feel

264

00:18:04,170 --> 00:18:07,560
really good that they wanted
to hear their mother's story.

265

00:18:07,560 --> 00:18:13,230
And that's really the first
time that our two sons heard

266

00:18:13,230 --> 00:18:20,190
my story connected, and it
left quite a deep impression

267

00:18:20,190 --> 00:18:22,110
on them.

268

00:18:22,110 --> 00:18:23,850
In the meantime,

our youngest son,

269

00:18:23,850 --> 00:18:33,060

Jonathan, who is a man of 34,
and our older son is 37, David,

270

00:18:33,060 --> 00:18:35,370

have come to hear
me a number of times

271

00:18:35,370 --> 00:18:38,140

when I spoke in
their communities.

272

00:18:38,140 --> 00:18:40,720

273

00:18:40,720 --> 00:18:46,510

Gloria, I think we need
to take the photographs

274

00:18:46,510 --> 00:18:50,150

of your photographs.

275

00:18:50,150 --> 00:18:52,150

--what you're thinking
about that you would just

276

00:18:52,150 --> 00:18:54,130

like to conclude
this interview with?

277

00:18:54,130 --> 00:18:58,700

278

00:18:58,700 --> 00:19:01,700

I think I concluded
one of the others

279

00:19:01,700 --> 00:19:16,420

with I think it's
very important that we

280

00:19:16,420 --> 00:19:23,800

educate our children
about the Holocaust

281

00:19:23,800 --> 00:19:34,540

and have them learn man's
inhumanity to man through what

282

00:19:34,540 --> 00:19:36,220

happened during this period.

283

00:19:36,220 --> 00:19:39,790

284

00:19:39,790 --> 00:19:48,170

And that racism
must be eradicated.

285

00:19:48,170 --> 00:19:51,160

We must learn to
live with each other.

286

00:19:51,160 --> 00:19:56,440

We must find love
for each other and--

287

00:19:56,440 --> 00:20:09,750

288

00:20:09,750 --> 00:20:11,460

I'm sorry, I just can't have--

289

00:20:11,460 --> 00:20:15,800

I just don't have the words to--

290

00:20:15,800 --> 00:20:19,070

Would you shut if off, please?

291

00:20:19,070 --> 00:22:20,000