

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,430

2
00:00:06,430 --> 00:00:07,410
[INAUDIBLE]

3
00:00:07,410 --> 00:00:40,265

4
00:00:40,265 --> 00:00:40,765
OK.

5
00:00:40,765 --> 00:00:44,450

6
00:00:44,450 --> 00:00:47,520
So the gentleman went
to Washington DC,

7
00:00:47,520 --> 00:00:53,600
and he typed out everything,
and finally, they

8
00:00:53,600 --> 00:00:56,000
allowed us to come
to the United States,

9
00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:57,830
thanks to this
gentleman from Boston.

10
00:00:57,830 --> 00:01:06,420

11
00:01:06,420 --> 00:01:09,940
We'd been waiting for
two years on a list.

12
00:01:09,940 --> 00:01:10,950
There were many people.

13

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:13,470

14

00:01:13,470 --> 00:01:15,020

Finally, they called us.

15

00:01:15,020 --> 00:01:16,770

Well, actually, it is
less than two years.

16

00:01:16,770 --> 00:01:19,200

They called us to
come to America.

17

00:01:19,200 --> 00:01:27,220

18

00:01:27,220 --> 00:01:31,370

The first and second times,
there were so many questions.

19

00:01:31,370 --> 00:01:34,870

20

00:01:34,870 --> 00:01:39,330

And there was a list,
and one of the questions

21

00:01:39,330 --> 00:01:42,570

that they asked had you been
a member of the Nazi party?

22

00:01:42,570 --> 00:01:45,150

And I answered, no!

23

00:01:45,150 --> 00:01:49,170

And in my mind, I looked
back, and I thought, oh,

24

00:01:49,170 --> 00:01:51,690

if I had said yes, they
wouldn't let us come to the US,

25
00:01:51,690 --> 00:01:54,630
if I had joined way back when.

26
00:01:54,630 --> 00:01:56,380
This is true.

27
00:01:56,380 --> 00:02:00,870
So I'm so happy that
that never took place,

28
00:02:00,870 --> 00:02:02,010
that they didn't force me.

29
00:02:02,010 --> 00:02:05,100
So they swore us in.

30
00:02:05,100 --> 00:02:07,440
You have to obey the laws
in the United States,

31
00:02:07,440 --> 00:02:09,020
and they explain
some of the rules.

32
00:02:09,020 --> 00:02:10,210
We said, yes, yes I do.

33
00:02:10,210 --> 00:02:10,710
I do.

34
00:02:10,710 --> 00:02:13,510

35
00:02:13,510 --> 00:02:14,010
OK.

36
00:02:14,010 --> 00:02:20,810
Let's go back, and
again, I need to know

37

00:02:20,810 --> 00:02:25,190
if they explained why
this operation needed

38
00:02:25,190 --> 00:02:28,880
to happen to you deaf children.

39
00:02:28,880 --> 00:02:31,460

40
00:02:31,460 --> 00:02:34,350
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

41
00:02:34,350 --> 00:02:38,410
She has to start the
answer with my question.

42
00:02:38,410 --> 00:02:56,740

43
00:02:56,740 --> 00:02:58,240
They explained to
the deaf children

44
00:02:58,240 --> 00:03:02,230
that they didn't
want deaf children--

45
00:03:02,230 --> 00:03:05,410
that they had to be sterilized,
because they didn't want

46
00:03:05,410 --> 00:03:08,170
deaf children to have
children who would

47
00:03:08,170 --> 00:03:10,325
grow up and be deaf as well.

48
00:03:10,325 --> 00:03:11,950
So this is how they
explained it to us.

49

00:03:11,950 --> 00:03:16,160

My brother was
deaf, as well as me.

50

00:03:16,160 --> 00:03:19,790

So a long time ago,
in the generation,

51

00:03:19,790 --> 00:03:21,350

it just happened
to the two of us.

52

00:03:21,350 --> 00:03:22,250

We don't know why.

53

00:03:22,250 --> 00:03:27,760

54

00:03:27,760 --> 00:03:37,960

This other classmate of mine,
her parents were hearing,

55

00:03:37,960 --> 00:03:40,090

and she was free from
it, because her father

56

00:03:40,090 --> 00:03:41,680

was a member of the Nazi party.

57

00:03:41,680 --> 00:03:45,070

58

00:03:45,070 --> 00:03:50,420

Did you think, because
there was so much time

59

00:03:50,420 --> 00:03:55,650

that passed from the time
that they first told you--

60

00:03:55,650 --> 00:03:59,580

so you were 16, and they

took you for the operation.

61
00:03:59,580 --> 00:04:04,040
Did you think all that time that
you were still possibly going

62
00:04:04,040 --> 00:04:05,270
to get this operation?

63
00:04:05,270 --> 00:04:13,840

64
00:04:13,840 --> 00:04:16,019
Well, really, I wasn't
even thinking about it.

65
00:04:16,019 --> 00:04:22,730

66
00:04:22,730 --> 00:04:26,060
My mother didn't
explain it to me enough,

67
00:04:26,060 --> 00:04:29,810
and the teachers certainly
didn't explain it to all of us.

68
00:04:29,810 --> 00:04:32,030
Once was enough.

69
00:04:32,030 --> 00:04:35,400
That was all, once they told
us and not more than that.

70
00:04:35,400 --> 00:04:37,210
So I really didn't
give it much thought.

71
00:04:37,210 --> 00:04:47,490

72
00:04:47,490 --> 00:04:51,720

Did anyone, either in your family or in the school

73

00:04:51,720 --> 00:04:57,570

try to stop them from doing these operations?

74

00:04:57,570 --> 00:04:59,800

The school, people from the school but not my family.

75

00:04:59,800 --> 00:05:00,300

OK.

76

00:05:00,300 --> 00:05:03,040

She has to, again, nobody's going to know what I asked her.

77

00:05:03,040 --> 00:05:21,330

78

00:05:21,330 --> 00:05:24,430

The men that came from the government to our school

79

00:05:24,430 --> 00:05:32,890

told the teacher to choose which children that we

80

00:05:32,890 --> 00:05:38,880

should send to the hospital for sterilization.

81

00:05:38,880 --> 00:05:42,222

But did anyone try to stop them from doing it?

82

00:05:42,222 --> 00:05:46,690

83

00:05:46,690 --> 00:05:49,797

My uncle who was a judge tried to stop it from happening,

84
00:05:49,797 --> 00:05:50,380
but he failed.

85
00:05:50,380 --> 00:05:54,156

86
00:05:54,156 --> 00:05:54,656
OK.

87
00:05:54,656 --> 00:06:03,620

88
00:06:03,620 --> 00:06:14,530
After-- no that's
[INAUDIBLE] after the war,

89
00:06:14,530 --> 00:06:20,710
how did the operation
affect your plans to marry?

90
00:06:20,710 --> 00:06:37,060

91
00:06:37,060 --> 00:06:41,620
My husband, I felt
sorry for my husband.

92
00:06:41,620 --> 00:06:45,230
He was sterilized too, and
he had gotten the letter.

93
00:06:45,230 --> 00:06:48,040
And they sent him to the
hospital, and he refused.

94
00:06:48,040 --> 00:06:50,080
He rebelled against it.

95
00:06:50,080 --> 00:06:52,780
Then, he got a second letter,
and he rebelled again.

96
00:06:52,780 --> 00:06:57,670
The third time, they came
and took him to the hospital

97
00:06:57,670 --> 00:06:59,800
without any anesthetic.

98
00:06:59,800 --> 00:07:04,810
They just tied his hands
down, and they sterilized him,

99
00:07:04,810 --> 00:07:05,590
and he screamed.

100
00:07:05,590 --> 00:07:08,260

101
00:07:08,260 --> 00:07:12,980
But he was very strong in
his mind, very wonderful.

102
00:07:12,980 --> 00:07:15,445
He was a good sportsman.

103
00:07:15,445 --> 00:07:17,200
He was in the Olympic swimmers.

104
00:07:17,200 --> 00:07:19,870
He was an Olympic swimmer.

105
00:07:19,870 --> 00:07:22,675
After the operation,
no, he went downhill.

106
00:07:22,675 --> 00:07:25,960

107
00:07:25,960 --> 00:07:30,070
So he was looking for a
woman, and then he found me,

108

00:07:30,070 --> 00:07:31,540
and I was a good swimmer too.

109

00:07:31,540 --> 00:07:34,380

110

00:07:34,380 --> 00:07:37,940
So we had peace of mind neither
of us could have children.

111

00:07:37,940 --> 00:07:41,040
So it was a good
marriage in that sense.

112

00:07:41,040 --> 00:07:45,260

113

00:07:45,260 --> 00:07:48,620
How old was her husband
when they did this to him?

114

00:07:48,620 --> 00:07:57,330

115

00:07:57,330 --> 00:08:01,860
I think he was 17 or
18 years old, I think.

116

00:08:01,860 --> 00:08:03,770
He was 17 or 18 years old what?

117

00:08:03,770 --> 00:08:07,200

118

00:08:07,200 --> 00:08:08,490
When they sterilized him.

119

00:08:08,490 --> 00:08:14,010

120

00:08:14,010 --> 00:08:18,720

His aunt from Michigan
had come to see him.

121
00:08:18,720 --> 00:08:23,070
My husband must have gone to
the hospital for sterilization,

122
00:08:23,070 --> 00:08:26,340
and his aunt said, come with me.

123
00:08:26,340 --> 00:08:31,701
Come with me, and he said, no.

124
00:08:31,701 --> 00:08:33,159
He was in the
headlines, because he

125
00:08:33,159 --> 00:08:38,552
was a famous swimmer, like
Johnny [? Wissmiller ?] was

126
00:08:38,552 --> 00:08:39,135
in the States.

127
00:08:39,135 --> 00:08:41,640

128
00:08:41,640 --> 00:08:46,800
He kept all of these clippings
together, and his aunt did.

129
00:08:46,800 --> 00:08:52,200
And his father said to him,
you have to play with girls,

130
00:08:52,200 --> 00:08:55,130
before you have a baby,
before you get sterilized.

131
00:08:55,130 --> 00:08:57,525
And he said, no, I don't
want to play with girls.

132
00:08:57,525 --> 00:09:01,120

133
00:09:01,120 --> 00:09:02,430
But it failed.

134
00:09:02,430 --> 00:09:04,080
They took him anyway.

135
00:09:04,080 --> 00:09:10,910
So even though he was a
famous, admired athlete,

136
00:09:10,910 --> 00:09:13,720
that didn't keep them
from doing this to him?

137
00:09:13,720 --> 00:09:18,240

138
00:09:18,240 --> 00:09:19,870
No.

139
00:09:19,870 --> 00:09:24,970
I don't know why, but they
didn't ask him any questions

140
00:09:24,970 --> 00:09:25,470
really.

141
00:09:25,470 --> 00:09:30,850

142
00:09:30,850 --> 00:09:34,630
I really don't like to
think of the past so much,

143
00:09:34,630 --> 00:09:36,163
and he didn't think about it.

144
00:09:36,163 --> 00:09:37,330

We now have to look forward.

145
00:09:37,330 --> 00:09:41,440

146
00:09:41,440 --> 00:09:47,800
I feel sorry for thousands
of people who died.

147
00:09:47,800 --> 00:09:52,600
In the camps, they had it
worse than I did, actually.

148
00:09:52,600 --> 00:09:53,950
I'm thankful.

149
00:09:53,950 --> 00:09:56,280
I'm very thankful.

150
00:09:56,280 --> 00:09:59,510
I'm still alive.

151
00:09:59,510 --> 00:10:03,350
I'm 80 years old.

152
00:10:03,350 --> 00:10:04,330
I can climb.

153
00:10:04,330 --> 00:10:05,470
I can do lots of things.

154
00:10:05,470 --> 00:10:08,974

155
00:10:08,974 --> 00:10:09,755
I have a question.

156
00:10:09,755 --> 00:10:12,390

157
00:10:12,390 --> 00:10:18,750

It sounds like your
family life was wonderful.

158
00:10:18,750 --> 00:10:19,995
Yes.

159
00:10:19,995 --> 00:10:27,010
So to your parents, there
was nothing wrong with you,

160
00:10:27,010 --> 00:10:31,320
but you couldn't hear,
except you couldn't hear.

161
00:10:31,320 --> 00:10:31,990
Right.

162
00:10:31,990 --> 00:10:33,150
And then, the government--

163
00:10:33,150 --> 00:10:35,480
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

164
00:10:35,480 --> 00:10:39,496
And then the government comes
and says, you're defective.

165
00:10:39,496 --> 00:10:43,930

166
00:10:43,930 --> 00:10:44,890
Defective?

167
00:10:44,890 --> 00:10:47,800

168
00:10:47,800 --> 00:10:52,540
M parents were very proud
of us, and they were proud

169
00:10:52,540 --> 00:10:54,220
that I could come to

the United States.

170
00:10:54,220 --> 00:10:58,330
They applauded that,
without an interpreter, just

171
00:10:58,330 --> 00:11:01,690
the two of us, ourselves.

172
00:11:01,690 --> 00:11:04,480
Because that world is
certainly different,

173
00:11:04,480 --> 00:11:07,015
and I learned English.

174
00:11:07,015 --> 00:11:11,670
In Germany, I learned
English there too.

175
00:11:11,670 --> 00:11:12,570
I could say goodbye.

176
00:11:12,570 --> 00:11:13,240
I love you.

177
00:11:13,240 --> 00:11:17,500
Thank you, just a little bit of
English, and then I progressed.

178
00:11:17,500 --> 00:11:20,520
But my question
is, when you were

179
00:11:20,520 --> 00:11:24,240
a child there, in the
school, when they were doing

180
00:11:24,240 --> 00:11:28,840
these operations, did you
suddenly feel like something

181

00:11:28,840 --> 00:11:31,330
was wrong with you that you--

182
00:11:31,330 --> 00:11:35,223
before, you didn't feel like
anything was bad about you,

183
00:11:35,223 --> 00:11:37,390
and then now somebody is
telling you you're no good.

184
00:11:37,390 --> 00:11:45,350

185
00:11:45,350 --> 00:11:49,310
Later, I woke up,
when I realized

186
00:11:49,310 --> 00:11:51,230
it was because I couldn't hear.

187
00:11:51,230 --> 00:11:55,750
I was really very innocent
when I was younger.

188
00:11:55,750 --> 00:11:58,950
So in fact, she didn't know why
they were doing the operation?

189
00:11:58,950 --> 00:12:04,410

190
00:12:04,410 --> 00:12:06,420
I knew that they were
doing the operation

191
00:12:06,420 --> 00:12:11,096
so I couldn't have children
to perpetuate deafness.

192
00:12:11,096 --> 00:12:15,100
So she did know that.

193

00:12:15,100 --> 00:12:16,370

Yes.

194

00:12:16,370 --> 00:12:20,760

I knew why they were
doing the operation.

195

00:12:20,760 --> 00:12:21,260

OK.

196

00:12:21,260 --> 00:12:24,110

197

00:12:24,110 --> 00:12:25,910

Do you have any more
questions that you'd

198

00:12:25,910 --> 00:12:27,350

like to know about this?

199

00:12:27,350 --> 00:12:30,536

Because really, I pretty
much got everything.

200

00:12:30,536 --> 00:12:33,730

201

00:12:33,730 --> 00:12:34,780

No, I'm asking you.

202

00:12:34,780 --> 00:12:38,420

203

00:12:38,420 --> 00:12:39,440

I have one.

204

00:12:39,440 --> 00:12:39,940

OK.

205

00:12:39,940 --> 00:12:40,710

Yeah.

206
00:12:40,710 --> 00:12:41,480
I had a few, but--

207
00:12:41,480 --> 00:12:44,700

208
00:12:44,700 --> 00:12:47,460
There was a conversation
in some papers

209
00:12:47,460 --> 00:12:49,960
that she carried with
her for a long time

210
00:12:49,960 --> 00:12:51,880
and then were torn
up, and I never quite

211
00:12:51,880 --> 00:12:53,810
understood what
those papers were.

212
00:12:53,810 --> 00:12:56,112
But apparently they
were bad papers.

213
00:12:56,112 --> 00:12:57,190
[INAUDIBLE]

214
00:12:57,190 --> 00:12:58,750

215
00:12:58,750 --> 00:13:00,488
Explain what the papers were.

216
00:13:00,488 --> 00:13:16,040

217
00:13:16,040 --> 00:13:20,660
It said that I was a
member of the Nazi party,

218
00:13:20,660 --> 00:13:21,890
because I was a Girl Scout.

219
00:13:21,890 --> 00:13:24,530

220
00:13:24,530 --> 00:13:27,350
So those papers
that I carried said

221
00:13:27,350 --> 00:13:29,333
I was a leader of
the Girl Scouts,

222
00:13:29,333 --> 00:13:31,250
and so I had to carry
those papers that said I

223
00:13:31,250 --> 00:13:32,660
was a member of the Nazi party.

224
00:13:32,660 --> 00:13:37,830

225
00:13:37,830 --> 00:13:42,670
I really wasn't, but
that's what the paper said.

226
00:13:42,670 --> 00:13:47,660
They were forcing me to join,
but in the back of my head,

227
00:13:47,660 --> 00:13:48,550
I knew.

228
00:13:48,550 --> 00:13:51,070
God helped pull me back.

229
00:13:51,070 --> 00:13:52,210
I would not go in.

230

00:13:52,210 --> 00:13:56,480

I had the papers to become a member, but I wouldn't do it.

231

00:13:56,480 --> 00:14:00,280

And every day, when I would walk from the house to the job,

232

00:14:00,280 --> 00:14:02,530

and I would pass by the soldiers.

233

00:14:02,530 --> 00:14:05,380

I would just feel the fear that they

234

00:14:05,380 --> 00:14:07,770

might ask if I was a member or not,

235

00:14:07,770 --> 00:14:09,130

and for years this went on.

236

00:14:09,130 --> 00:14:11,710

237

00:14:11,710 --> 00:14:16,870

After America claimed Germany, that's when I felt like a bird,

238

00:14:16,870 --> 00:14:20,850

free, I could fly free.

239

00:14:20,850 --> 00:14:24,290

But the papers said she was a member of the Nazi party?

240

00:14:24,290 --> 00:14:32,330

241

00:14:32,330 --> 00:14:35,590

They weren't filled in.

242
00:14:35,590 --> 00:14:37,060
The papers were not filled in.

243
00:14:37,060 --> 00:14:40,150
I just carried them with me.

244
00:14:40,150 --> 00:14:43,780
There were no answers, and
I hadn't signed the papers.

245
00:14:43,780 --> 00:14:46,270
So they didn't
really say anything.

246
00:14:46,270 --> 00:14:47,350
I didn't sign them.

247
00:14:47,350 --> 00:14:51,040

248
00:14:51,040 --> 00:14:53,740
An American soldier said
I must go to my boss

249
00:14:53,740 --> 00:15:00,940
and ask for a file to see if
I had anything on my record,

250
00:15:00,940 --> 00:15:04,570
but I had a clean record.

251
00:15:04,570 --> 00:15:08,560
The Nazi had a huge
file in the basement,

252
00:15:08,560 --> 00:15:11,290
and they found papers
on them, because I

253
00:15:11,290 --> 00:15:12,805
knew some of the people.

254
00:15:12,805 --> 00:15:15,430

255
00:15:15,430 --> 00:15:19,810
Some of my friends'
uncles or nephews,

256
00:15:19,810 --> 00:15:23,180
they came from Bulgaria to the
United States, and they said,

257
00:15:23,180 --> 00:15:24,190
do you remember?

258
00:15:24,190 --> 00:15:26,590
And they asked them, were you
a member of the Nazi party?

259
00:15:26,590 --> 00:15:29,320
And they denied it.

260
00:15:29,320 --> 00:15:31,540
They said, OK, you're
accepted, and then they

261
00:15:31,540 --> 00:15:34,433
could support these people
when they came to America.

262
00:15:34,433 --> 00:15:36,100
When you went to the
American consulate,

263
00:15:36,100 --> 00:15:41,330
you had to take an oath
two to tell the truth.

264
00:15:41,330 --> 00:15:45,800
And they asked, are you a
member of the Nazi party,

265

00:15:45,800 --> 00:15:48,410
and somebody confessed
to saying, yes.

266
00:15:48,410 --> 00:15:49,940
They took their file.

267
00:15:49,940 --> 00:15:53,150
They put their name in the file.

268
00:15:53,150 --> 00:15:55,640
So I was afraid that that
same thing would happen to me.

269
00:15:55,640 --> 00:15:57,580
So I never signed those papers.

270
00:15:57,580 --> 00:16:00,891

271
00:16:00,891 --> 00:16:04,580
Do you have any questions
that arose during this?

272
00:16:04,580 --> 00:16:08,130

273
00:16:08,130 --> 00:16:12,900
As a deaf woman, did you
know German sign language,

274
00:16:12,900 --> 00:16:14,880
and then how, when
you came to America,

275
00:16:14,880 --> 00:16:17,160
did you learn American
Sign Language?

276
00:16:17,160 --> 00:16:21,660

277

00:16:21,660 --> 00:16:24,870

I would meet friends and
I asked them to help me.

278

00:16:24,870 --> 00:16:29,850

279

00:16:29,850 --> 00:16:32,490

And I picked up a
dictionary, English,

280

00:16:32,490 --> 00:16:39,150

German, German and English, so
I could learn different signs.

281

00:16:39,150 --> 00:16:45,960

And the Lutheran
preacher at the church,

282

00:16:45,960 --> 00:16:48,870

I asked him to come to
my aunt and uncle's house

283

00:16:48,870 --> 00:16:54,643

to teach me finger spelling
and sign language for one year,

284

00:16:54,643 --> 00:16:55,685

and that's how I learned.

285

00:16:55,685 --> 00:16:59,790

286

00:16:59,790 --> 00:17:03,410

What happened to your
brother with regard

287

00:17:03,410 --> 00:17:04,849

to the sterilization?

288

00:17:04,849 --> 00:17:07,010

Was he supposed to
be sterilized also?

289
00:17:07,010 --> 00:17:11,720

290
00:17:11,720 --> 00:17:13,470
No, they didn't sterilize him.

291
00:17:13,470 --> 00:17:15,119
He has twin daughters.

292
00:17:15,119 --> 00:17:17,945
They're both hearing,
beautiful girls.

293
00:17:17,945 --> 00:17:21,690

294
00:17:21,690 --> 00:17:23,670
He was lucky.

295
00:17:23,670 --> 00:17:28,349
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

296
00:17:28,349 --> 00:17:29,340
He didn't avoid it.

297
00:17:29,340 --> 00:17:31,890
He was supposed to
go to the hospital,

298
00:17:31,890 --> 00:17:33,540
but the hospital was full.

299
00:17:33,540 --> 00:17:37,290
And it was wartime, and
many soldiers and people

300
00:17:37,290 --> 00:17:39,090
were being rushed
to the hospital.

301

00:17:39,090 --> 00:17:41,520
There was no available space
for him, so he didn't go.

302
00:17:41,520 --> 00:17:44,880
So they did not sterilize him.

303
00:17:44,880 --> 00:17:45,930
He was very happy.

304
00:17:45,930 --> 00:17:53,206

305
00:17:53,206 --> 00:17:54,160
I was happy.

306
00:17:54,160 --> 00:17:56,440
People would ask
me, do you feel bad

307
00:17:56,440 --> 00:17:58,002
that your brother
has two children

308
00:17:58,002 --> 00:17:58,960
and you don't have any?

309
00:17:58,960 --> 00:18:02,890
I said, no, I'm very
happy that he has twins.

310
00:18:02,890 --> 00:18:06,490
I'm just happy that I
have two beautiful nieces.

311
00:18:06,490 --> 00:18:09,850

312
00:18:09,850 --> 00:18:18,040
Did any health
officials or anyone

313

00:18:18,040 --> 00:18:21,700
come to your family to
explain that they thought

314
00:18:21,700 --> 00:18:23,470
deafness was hereditary?

315
00:18:23,470 --> 00:18:30,320

316
00:18:30,320 --> 00:18:31,290
No, nothing.

317
00:18:31,290 --> 00:18:33,490
There was no
discussions about that?

318
00:18:33,490 --> 00:18:36,040

319
00:18:36,040 --> 00:18:38,830
When I was 28 years old, I
came to the United States.

320
00:18:38,830 --> 00:18:45,230

321
00:18:45,230 --> 00:18:48,570
Germany, during
wartime, was different.

322
00:18:48,570 --> 00:18:51,200
It was a very rough
life over there,

323
00:18:51,200 --> 00:18:52,640
but it was different here.

324
00:18:52,640 --> 00:18:58,750

325
00:18:58,750 --> 00:19:05,800

But when you were going
through this operation,

326
00:19:05,800 --> 00:19:09,250
or when they took you
for this operation,

327
00:19:09,250 --> 00:19:13,990
did anybody explain that
deafness was hereditary,

328
00:19:13,990 --> 00:19:16,585
and this was something
that they had to do?

329
00:19:16,585 --> 00:19:25,230

330
00:19:25,230 --> 00:19:27,790
No, nothing, nothing
was explained.

331
00:19:27,790 --> 00:19:35,200
Only once did the teacher tell
us that you can't have babies.

332
00:19:35,200 --> 00:19:38,020
We're going to make
you not have babies, so

333
00:19:38,020 --> 00:19:40,330
that the deafness doesn't
become perpetuated.

334
00:19:40,330 --> 00:19:44,110
And that was it, just one time,
and we didn't have any time

335
00:19:44,110 --> 00:19:45,280
really to focus on it.

336
00:19:45,280 --> 00:19:48,970
It was a very confusing

time for all of us,

337
00:19:48,970 --> 00:19:50,740
all the time confusion.

338
00:19:50,740 --> 00:19:53,590

339
00:19:53,590 --> 00:20:00,760
Now, you're making me look
back on it more in depth.

340
00:20:00,760 --> 00:20:06,800

341
00:20:06,800 --> 00:20:09,660
I didn't realize about the
deaf world itself back then.

342
00:20:09,660 --> 00:20:12,770

343
00:20:12,770 --> 00:20:17,270
They would call some of
the mentally retarded.

344
00:20:17,270 --> 00:20:18,995
They would mainstream
them in a church.

345
00:20:18,995 --> 00:20:24,770

346
00:20:24,770 --> 00:20:28,405
All of us deaf people,
mentally retarded people,

347
00:20:28,405 --> 00:20:29,280
they would put them--

348
00:20:29,280 --> 00:20:31,790

349

00:20:31,790 --> 00:20:45,960

there was a church, and a lot
of the people died from fire.

350

00:20:45,960 --> 00:20:48,550

Most of them were
mentally retarded.

351

00:20:48,550 --> 00:20:52,870

They would take them
away to this church,

352

00:20:52,870 --> 00:20:56,780

and years later, some of
the kids were still alive.

353

00:20:56,780 --> 00:21:00,230

Most, if they were
deaf, they were

354

00:21:00,230 --> 00:21:02,270

allowed to go to the church.

355

00:21:02,270 --> 00:21:09,990

They were healthy, except
they just couldn't hear,

356

00:21:09,990 --> 00:21:13,760

and so they would send
them off on their way.

357

00:21:13,760 --> 00:21:22,140

358

00:21:22,140 --> 00:21:26,530

You know, to the gas
chambers, to the camps.

359

00:21:26,530 --> 00:21:29,260

I didn't know where they
were really taking them.

360

00:21:29,260 --> 00:21:35,050

One boy came from
Guatemala, South America.

361

00:21:35,050 --> 00:21:37,360

His father sent him to
school for the deaf.

362

00:21:37,360 --> 00:21:40,030

363

00:21:40,030 --> 00:21:44,090

He was two or three
years older than me.

364

00:21:44,090 --> 00:21:47,600

He went out of
class from school.

365

00:21:47,600 --> 00:21:48,530

He liked me.

366

00:21:48,530 --> 00:21:51,640

367

00:21:51,640 --> 00:21:55,700

He explained all about the
Nazis and how bad it was,

368

00:21:55,700 --> 00:21:57,080

and I learned a lot from him.

369

00:21:57,080 --> 00:21:59,970

370

00:21:59,970 --> 00:22:02,510

And I said, how do
you know, and he said

371

00:22:02,510 --> 00:22:06,050

his uncle took care of him.

372

00:22:06,050 --> 00:22:07,680

His father stayed
in South America,

373

00:22:07,680 --> 00:22:09,200

and his uncle took care of him.

374

00:22:09,200 --> 00:22:11,510

His uncle told him
about the Nazis,

375

00:22:11,510 --> 00:22:16,740

and they said they will kill
everybody, all the German kids.

376

00:22:16,740 --> 00:22:19,170

They'll sterilize
all the German kids.

377

00:22:19,170 --> 00:22:21,000

He knew so much.

378

00:22:21,000 --> 00:22:23,550

That's when I started
to become afraid,

379

00:22:23,550 --> 00:22:26,850

and he was fearful as well.

380

00:22:26,850 --> 00:22:28,860

I talked to my father,
and he would just

381

00:22:28,860 --> 00:22:33,630

try to pacify me
and calm me down.

382

00:22:33,630 --> 00:22:37,230

He'd say, don't
worry, don't worry.

383

00:22:37,230 --> 00:22:40,740

My father was very sensitive.

384
00:22:40,740 --> 00:22:50,110
My father's sister, my aunt,
and I asked my aunt, I said,

385
00:22:50,110 --> 00:22:53,280
is Hitler bad?

386
00:22:53,280 --> 00:22:57,840
I went to Munich for a
visit with another aunt,

387
00:22:57,840 --> 00:23:00,720
and I learned from them
that Hitler was bad,

388
00:23:00,720 --> 00:23:02,640
and we should all
be against Hitler.

389
00:23:02,640 --> 00:23:04,798
But we had to do
it very quietly,

390
00:23:04,798 --> 00:23:06,090
and they'd listen to the radio.

391
00:23:06,090 --> 00:23:09,810

392
00:23:09,810 --> 00:23:13,200
And if they'd hear out of
their county, like from England

393
00:23:13,200 --> 00:23:16,020
or out of their
country what they

394
00:23:16,020 --> 00:23:21,800
were saying against Germany,
they'd listen very carefully.

395

00:23:21,800 --> 00:23:23,580

They'd have to be
careful, because there

396

00:23:23,580 --> 00:23:27,530

would be a knock at the door,
and they put them in jail.

397

00:23:27,530 --> 00:23:30,790

So I learned from my aunts.

398

00:23:30,790 --> 00:23:32,920

Then, I told my father.

399

00:23:32,920 --> 00:23:34,390

They told me, Hitler's bad.

400

00:23:34,390 --> 00:23:36,580

My father said, sh, sh.

401

00:23:36,580 --> 00:23:39,750

He was frightened.

402

00:23:39,750 --> 00:23:42,450

He said, if you talk against
Hitler, they'll put you away.

403

00:23:42,450 --> 00:23:50,780

404

00:23:50,780 --> 00:23:54,070

They warned that the enemy
could hear you all over.

405

00:23:54,070 --> 00:23:56,380

It didn't matter where you were.

406

00:23:56,380 --> 00:23:59,140

So you needed to be careful,
if you said anything

407

00:23:59,140 --> 00:24:01,654
in front of anybody, because
they could take you and send

408
00:24:01,654 --> 00:24:03,190
you to the camps.

409
00:24:03,190 --> 00:24:07,000
So I learned a lot from my
two aunts and from the boy

410
00:24:07,000 --> 00:24:08,080
from Guatemala.

411
00:24:08,080 --> 00:24:10,542
Ask her how old she
was when this happened.

412
00:24:10,542 --> 00:24:14,860

413
00:24:14,860 --> 00:24:16,240
I was still in school.

414
00:24:16,240 --> 00:24:19,140
Maybe I was 12 years
old, 11 or 12 years old.

415
00:24:19,140 --> 00:24:28,010

416
00:24:28,010 --> 00:24:29,520
I'm trying to remember.

417
00:24:29,520 --> 00:24:32,840
I kind of forget some
things about the past.

418
00:24:32,840 --> 00:24:36,236

419
00:24:36,236 --> 00:24:36,736

OK.

420
00:24:36,736 --> 00:24:39,171
I think we're done.

421
00:24:39,171 --> 00:24:42,880

422
00:24:42,880 --> 00:24:43,380
OK.

423
00:24:43,380 --> 00:24:46,590
We need to sit and be
quiet for 30 seconds.

424
00:24:46,590 --> 00:24:50,650

425
00:24:50,650 --> 00:24:51,360
Room tone.

426
00:24:51,360 --> 00:25:31,698

427
00:25:31,698 --> 00:25:32,720
All right.

428
00:25:32,720 --> 00:25:33,220
OK.

429
00:25:33,220 --> 00:25:36,600

430
00:25:36,600 --> 00:25:37,706
We have the [INAUDIBLE].

431
00:25:37,706 --> 00:25:42,038

432
00:25:42,038 --> 00:25:42,580
That's right.

433
00:25:42,580 --> 00:25:43,788
The date's on the back of it.

434
00:25:43,788 --> 00:25:45,880
1977, I think.

435
00:25:45,880 --> 00:25:46,380
Right.

436
00:25:46,380 --> 00:25:48,550
She was born what year?

437
00:25:48,550 --> 00:25:51,450
23?

438
00:25:51,450 --> 00:25:52,410
[INAUDIBLE]

439
00:25:52,410 --> 00:25:57,690

440
00:25:57,690 --> 00:26:00,510
This is [? Helga ?]
Gross at age 14 in front

441
00:26:00,510 --> 00:26:02,730
of the School for the Deaf.

442
00:26:02,730 --> 00:26:04,035
And that's in Hamburg?

443
00:26:04,035 --> 00:26:06,840

444
00:26:06,840 --> 00:26:09,380
In Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.

445
00:26:09,380 --> 00:26:15,460

446
00:26:15,460 --> 00:26:16,240
[INAUDIBLE]

447
00:26:16,240 --> 00:26:24,930

448
00:26:24,930 --> 00:26:25,735
I can do this.

449
00:26:25,735 --> 00:26:32,962

450
00:26:32,962 --> 00:26:35,200
I might be able to give
you a little squeeze in.

451
00:26:35,200 --> 00:26:50,152

452
00:26:50,152 --> 00:26:51,360
Did you give me the wide one?

453
00:26:51,360 --> 00:26:53,610
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

454
00:26:53,610 --> 00:26:54,400
[INAUDIBLE]

455
00:26:54,400 --> 00:26:58,072

456
00:26:58,072 --> 00:27:00,405
I don't want to go in any
farther, because the picture's

457
00:27:00,405 --> 00:27:02,400
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

458
00:27:02,400 --> 00:27:04,170
Well, yeah, we're
just way beyond

459
00:27:04,170 --> 00:27:05,850
the limits of magnification.

460
00:27:05,850 --> 00:27:07,310
OK.

461
00:27:07,310 --> 00:27:09,250
I can't do any moves
on the [INAUDIBLE]..

462
00:27:09,250 --> 00:27:09,750
Right.

463
00:27:09,750 --> 00:27:20,320

464
00:27:20,320 --> 00:27:20,820
OK.

465
00:27:20,820 --> 00:27:22,730
So [? Orville, ?] you can
tell us what's going on here.

466
00:27:22,730 --> 00:27:23,230
OK.

467
00:27:23,230 --> 00:27:28,230
This is Helga [? Gross ?]
with her mother and father.

468
00:27:28,230 --> 00:27:31,140
Helga is on the
left, and her sister

469
00:27:31,140 --> 00:27:32,670
is on the right on
her mother's lap.

470
00:27:32,670 --> 00:27:36,630
Helga's on her father's
lap, and her sister's

471
00:27:36,630 --> 00:27:38,600
on her mother's lap.

472
00:27:38,600 --> 00:27:39,665
[INAUDIBLE]

473
00:27:39,665 --> 00:28:06,110

474
00:28:06,110 --> 00:28:06,610
OK.

475
00:28:06,610 --> 00:28:09,680
It's turning.

476
00:28:09,680 --> 00:28:10,630
[INAUDIBLE]

477
00:28:10,630 --> 00:28:19,560

478
00:28:19,560 --> 00:28:22,574
Helga's father
died at 90 in 19--

479
00:28:22,574 --> 00:28:23,390
61.

480
00:28:23,390 --> 00:28:23,890
61.

481
00:28:23,890 --> 00:28:26,545

482
00:28:26,545 --> 00:28:27,660
Let's see if we can get--

483
00:28:27,660 --> 00:28:30,345
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

484

00:28:30,345 --> 00:28:34,910

485

00:28:34,910 --> 00:28:35,730

[INAUDIBLE]

486

00:28:35,730 --> 00:28:38,730

487

00:28:38,730 --> 00:28:40,580

She talked so much
about her father.

488

00:28:40,580 --> 00:28:44,660

My father was in England for
26 years and was married there,

489

00:28:44,660 --> 00:28:48,590

and then his first wife died.

490

00:28:48,590 --> 00:28:53,820

He met a second English
woman for years,

491

00:28:53,820 --> 00:28:58,730

and then there was
the first world war.

492

00:28:58,730 --> 00:29:01,140

My father moved out of England.

493

00:29:01,140 --> 00:29:02,350

[INAUDIBLE]

494

00:29:02,350 --> 00:29:16,530

495

00:29:16,530 --> 00:29:20,400

So the two of them together
have five children?

496

00:29:20,400 --> 00:29:21,630
My mother was very young.

497
00:29:21,630 --> 00:29:23,760
She was only 23 years old.

498
00:29:23,760 --> 00:29:25,374
My father was 50.

499
00:29:25,374 --> 00:29:27,030
Wow.

500
00:29:27,030 --> 00:29:28,890
OK.

501
00:29:28,890 --> 00:29:29,480
Here we go.

502
00:29:29,480 --> 00:29:40,970

503
00:29:40,970 --> 00:29:42,250
[INAUDIBLE]

504
00:29:42,250 --> 00:29:44,920
If people come by,
and they watch,

505
00:29:44,920 --> 00:29:49,610
and they see video tape rolling,
and they see her signing,

506
00:29:49,610 --> 00:29:50,895
you can have captions.

507
00:29:50,895 --> 00:29:53,970
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

508
00:29:53,970 --> 00:29:56,940
So this is Helga,
Helga's mother.

509

00:29:56,940 --> 00:30:01,350

Helga is on the bottom
left on her mother's lap.

510

00:30:01,350 --> 00:30:05,190

Standing up is her
sister, and the baby

511

00:30:05,190 --> 00:30:06,930

is her hearing brother.

512

00:30:06,930 --> 00:30:12,188

513

00:30:12,188 --> 00:30:14,394

[INAUDIBLE]

514

00:30:14,394 --> 00:31:11,000