



EILEEN WILSON- OYELARAN INTERVIEW TWO ABSTRACT

Oral history interview with Eileen Wilson- Oyelaran, Southwest Michigan Black Heritage Society Engaging the Wisdom African- American Literature Archive Project. Interviewed on May 8, 2015. Interviewed at Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Interviewed by Lauren Perlaki.

Interview 2

Time segment Index:

| Minutes | Description of Interview Content |
|---------|--|
| 51:53 | Introduction |
| 51:16 | Explanation of family members and elaboration on their traditions |
| 53:11 | Story of her father meeting Langston Hughes when he was young |
| 53:56 | Story of how Wilson- Oyelaran's parents met |
| 54:57 | Description of relationship with father, his influence, and his activism |
| 57:34 | Description of father's personal involvement with Malcolm X |
| 59:51 | Father's prominent position in any community he was a part of |
| 1:04:48 | Story of mother's unconventional leadership style and recruiting Joe Louis for a rally |
| 1:07:29 | Explanation of being a middle- class African- American woman during 1960s |

| | |
|---------|--|
| 1:10:49 | Discussion of how people are critical of angry black men and women, including President Barack Obama |
| 1:12:09 | Description of race being more constraining than gender throughout her lifetime |
| 1:16:09 | Story of being the only woman who was a professional at a dinner |
| 1:17:47 | Description of awards received and work done for the advancement of young women |
| 1:20:15 | Story of becoming aware of race in the second grade |
| 1:22:24 | Reaction <i>The Mark of Oppression</i> and Black Power conference in Berkeley in a race and relations class in college |
| 1:27:10 | Memories of being one of very few black women while at college |
| 1:31:16 | Profound effect of first academic advisor on the trajectory of her college experience |
| 1:32:44 | Description of working to develop Black Studies program for the Claremont Colleges |
| 1:37:19 | Comparison and differentiation between 1960s at Pomona College and 2010s at Kalamazoo College |
| 1:40:16 | Reasoning for going to Nigeria to teach after graduation |
| 1:41:23 | Concerns of being a mother with black male children |
| 1:46:28 | Reflections on the changes of race relations over the course of her life |
| 1:48:01 | Description of how her children's stories are different than her own because they are Nigerian-American |
| 1:50:20 | Personal reflection on current state of race relations and Black Lives Matter |
| 1:52:14 | Description of influential people, Audre Lorde and Grace Lee Boggs specifically |
| 1:53:52 | Description of difficulties presently facing Kalamazoo College |
| 1:56:17 | Concluding remarks |

