

## Interview Data Sheet - Stephanie Bell

**Collection/ project name:** Queer Mississippi Oral History Project

**Processor's name:** Buckingham, Danielle

**Interviewee:** Bell, Stephanie

**Interviewee occupation(s):** Director of the Metamorphosis Project @ OUTMemphis

**Contributor:** N/A

**Interviewer:** Buckingham, Danielle

**Recorder:** TapeACall app

**Date of interview:** [2020-08-07]

**Location of interview:** Phone

**Interview context:** Prior to the interview being conducted via phone, the interviewee and interviewee met via Zoom video to build rapport.

**Recording equipment:** TapeACall App

**Recording settings:**

**bit-depth** N/A

**sampling rate** N/A

**Length of interview:** 0:48:09

**Note about sound quality:** N/A

**Interviewee biographical Information:**

<b>Gender</b>	Grey-Gender
<b>Age</b>	37
<b>Birth Date</b>	June, 5, 1983
<b>Birth Place</b>	Oxford, Mississippi]
<b>First Language if not English</b>	N/A
<b>Residence</b>	Water Valley, Mississippi
<b>Education</b>	Mississippi University for Women - BA in Psychology, Itawamba Community College. Associate's degree

**Additional notes about interviewee:**

N/A

**Abstract:** In this interview, Stephanie Bell discusses her journey to discovering her gender identity and sexuality. She discusses her experiences growing up in rural Mississippi as a Black masculine-presenting lesbian, and the ostracization she faced after coming out as a teenager from the church and teenage peers. Bell also notes the impact religion had on her becoming more accepting of her identity. In college, Bell decided to devote her life to LGBTQ Youth Advocacy and Mentorship. As the Director of the Metamorphosis Project at OUTMemphis, Bell uses her story to assist and inspire Homeless LGBTQ Youth.

**Subjects and Key-words:**

**Names:** N/A  
**Organizations:** OUTMemphis, Itawamba Community College, Mississippi University for Women, Violet Valley Bookstore  
**Events:** Oxford Pride, Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage, COVID-19  
**Topics:** LGBTQ Youth, LGBTQ Advocacy, Gender Identity, Sexuality, Homophobia, Family, Dating/Relationships, Religion, Racism, Community, Queer BIPoC  
**Geographic:** Water Valley, MS, Jackson, MS, Memphis, TN, California  
**Temporal:** 1983-2020