

**Sally Jean Heuer**  
**Narrator**

**Cole Steinberg**  
**Concordia University, Saint Paul**  
**Interviewer**

**Landmark Associates**  
**Transcriber**

**June 22nd, 2022**  
**Minnesota**

**CS: Cole Steinberg**

**SH: Sally Jean Heuer**

**CS:** This is an interview conducted as part of a larger faculty and student research project initiated by Dr. Julie Luker of Concordia University St. Paul. Today is June 22nd, 2022, and I'm here with Sally Heuer. My name is Cole Steinberg and I'm an undergraduate at Concordia University St. Paul. Today I'll be talking to Sally about what life was like growing up in the Twin Cities. During this interview, I'm going to ask you to reflect on your childhood life experiences as they relate to a variety of social topics from that time period. For the purposes of this interview, we have defined childhood as birth through 17 years of age. To begin, please state and spell your full name, including a maiden name that's applicable.

**SH:** Sally Heuer. That's S-A-L-L-Y. Middle name J-E-A-N, last name H-E-U-E-R.

**CS:** Please identify your race and gender.

**SH:** Caucasian, female.

**CS:** Please state your date of birth.

**SH:** June 29th, 1952.

**CS:** Finally, please share where you grew up such as this as the name of the neighborhood or nearby street intersection. Include any major moves you made during this time period.

**SH:** I lived in the same house. Our family had built the house, so it was built in 1952 on Sherren Street near highway 36 and Lexington Avenue, and our street was a dead-end street. It was nice in that you didn't have a lot of traffic.

**CS:** Thank you. I would like to learn more about your family life. Let's begin with the memories you have for immediate and extended family. Please share some memories that you have about these relationships.

**SH:** Well, I was the second oldest, four girls, no boys. I had a sister almost two years older, a sister, four years younger, a sister, eight years younger than me. We were all born within a 10-year period. My mom and dad were married the whole time and lived at home. My dad always

had a job. He was a mechanical engineer, worked for architectural firms, engineering firms. My mom, as typical in the fifties, was a stay-at-home mom. I would say we were a close-knit family that just seemed normal to me, all my neighbors. Mom and dad lived together. Everybody was married. Everybody had at least three kids. Many of them had five or six. Some of the families had eight kids and generally, all the moms stayed home, and all the dads went off to work in the morning.

We had a dog. We had a bird. Sometimes a turtle. Then we had some cousins, my dad's side of the family, there were cousins just living north of us about five miles, and then other cousins in Mankato. We were always excited to see our cousins on holidays. My grandparents on my mother's side lived in St. Paul on near Edgcumbe Road, near Randolph in that area, so we'd see a lot. They'd come over a lot. We'd come back and forth. My dad's mom died when I was three, so I don't remember her at all.

She was in her early 60s when she died, but my grandpa Heuer lived near Como Park and then he sold the house after a few years and lived in a trailer for a while. Again, we were very close, so my parents were close to their parents, and we were close to our cousins and pretty much every week, like Sunday, grandpa Heuer would come over for dinner. We saw our grandparents a lot. Then we had one set of cousins in California on my mom's side. We were always super excited to see them 'cause that was a big deal. They'd come every couple of years, they'd drive 'cause everybody drove. Nobody flew.

My aunt and uncle were both schoolteachers so they could get away a long time in the summer. They'd come and stay at our house or usually the grandparents' house. It was really exciting 'cause every three or four years, we'd get to drive to California and see them. They lived in a San Francisco Bay area. I feel close to my cousins, actually closer to California cousins and now too, I have family living in California. My sister moved out there. I'd say socially, and just were more similar to the California cousins than the Heuer cousins, we see 'em now and then, but they're really conservative and we don't discuss a lot of things beyond the weather.

**CS:** How were household chores divided between family members?

**SH:** I think the fact that I had no brothers, there wasn't any sex, the boy takes out the garbage, the boy mows the lawn. It was like Sally mows the lawn 'cause she's not afraid of the power more, the older sister Judy. Judy and I helped my mom cook every single weeknight. That was a big tradition 'cause my dad was home promptly at 5:30. Dinner was served in the dining room promptly at 6:00. I was usually in charge of the salad and Judy would make maybe a white sauce or something.

My mom was the director, and dinner was on that table, and I'll never forget, once for something my mom was helping my sister 'cause we sewed our own clothes, that was pretty common. You'd buy stuff a little bit, but most of it you'd sew. She was helping her finish some sewing project for school or something. Dinner was not on the table at 6:00 p.m. my dad hit the roof. He wasn't a violent person, but he was extremely unhappy. I think dinner was at 6:20 or 6:30 and oh my gosh, that was not acceptable.

You could say it was a formal household in that every day there were traditions. I'd wake up to the smell of bacon. I'm a vegetarian now, but as a kid, I'd wake up bacon or sausage or something was going on. My dad would be at the kitchen table completely dressed 'cause we only had one bathroom. Nobody had two bathrooms back then. He was up and showered and completely dressed for work, which meant a tie and a white shirt, and a vest. Usually a vest and his jacket, he'd probably put the jacket and tie on the way out the door. He was all set out of the bathroom. My mom had oatmeal or eggs, but always some meat. I'm sorry, what was the question?

**CS:** No, that's good. It's a lot of good information. I was just asking about household chores, how they're divided up.

**SH:** Oh, chores. Two of us were always responsible for cleaning the kitchen after dinner and usually if two of us did the cooking, the other two younger ones would help clean up but the youngest one who was Molly, 8 years younger than me, 10 years younger than me, I think Molly was generally so young that she got out of kitchen clean up but oh my gosh, that kitchen was cleaned, the dishwasher was loaded. Usually, my mom didn't have to help clean up 'cause it was our job. We didn't have a snowblower and sometimes we'd help my dad shovel the driveway. We had a long driveway. It seems to me my poor dad had to do most of that.

Cleaning, my family hired a cleaning lady that came in every two weeks and several of the other neighbors used her. Her name was Josephine. When Josephine was coming, we had to clean our rooms 'cause she was coming to clean the house. She would scrub that kitchen floor. Usually, by the time I came home from school, she was on the kitchen floor on her knees. She would not use the mop. She said, mops are no good, you got to scrub the floor on your knees. She was white. I thought elderly, she was probably in her forties, for all in her thirties, but she wore very sensible shoes. She always wore a dress, what they used to call a house dress.

The whole time I lived at home till I went off to college at age 18, she came in every two weeks to do deep cleaning. I would vacuum again, I think the older, the two of us that were older did some lighthouse keeping, vacuum, taking out garbage. Once I went off to college, and of course, the two younger ones left at home helped but everyone had a job. Oh, and then we had this Collie dog and it seemed like now trying to remember, other than I ran the power mower in the backyard that was really big, and my older sister was afraid of it. She ran the push mower in the front yard, but I think everyone pitched in at least depending on your age. An eight-year-old kid isn't going to do as much as a 16-year-old.

**CS:** True

**SH:** Boy, that kitchen had to be cleaned. Every counter wiped off, every dish washed and dried, and dishwasher filled, which is fine. I'm happy that I grew up in a clean house.

**CS:** Thank you. Next, please describe the ways in which your family's economic status influenced your childhood.

**SH:** No, that's funny because however you grow up, whatever the situation, we are all unique. You think that's normal, 'cause that's how you grew up. I never thought of us as wealthy. I never thought of us as poor. I was always like, well, we're middle class, well when I got to college I

was told no, you were upper middle class. I'm like, huh? Because I was told college like I dunno if it was a class or what, but did you ever worry about money? No, we never worried about money. Did you ever wonder about food on the table? No, but there were so many girls at high school with beautiful clothes. Way prettier than I was. Much more beautifully dressed 'cause back then you actually had to wear a dress at school.

I had piano lessons. We all had piano lessons, I had clarinet lessons. We all went to summer camp for a week or two. Band camp, music camp, bible camp, camp fair girls camp, so all different, four of us went to some camp for a week, maybe two weeks. To me, that was totally normal to get sent to summer camp. We each had a bicycle, but I never felt we were rich because there were rich kids at school whose daddy's bought them a car when they turned 16. That didn't happen for me. No car. I never owned a car until I was 23 and I had to buy it. We didn't go skiing in the winter, we didn't have these winter vacations in the mountains. I had never been to Florida until I turned 28. Those were the rich kids.

I felt we weren't rich but when I think back to the whole neighborhood in general, it was this brand-new neighborhood built in the fifties. Completely white by the way. Dad's all worked. Everyone had one car and a one-car garage. I think I was in eighth grade when we actually got our second car and built a two-car garage. I would say, socioeconomically, is somewhere between middle and upper middle class.

I had friends that I'd meet in high school that weren't high school kids that I'd meet, and I remember some friends that lived in South Minneapolis drove me home from some outing. We were all out or whatever. They drove me home and one of the kids in the car said, "Oh my God, you live here?" I was like, "Yeah, this is my house." You'd think we had driven up to a mansion on Summit Avenue or something and it was just our house. I said, would you like to come in? Trying to be gracious.

We walked in the front door and my parents were around there always home, especially when I was out, they were nervous. I just showed 'em the living room and the dining room and they were like, oh my gosh, this is so nice 'cause all my other friends in high school and church and all that had similar homes, you know. It was a two-story house. We had a fireplace; I don't know what else to say. A big yard, lot of trees, we didn't have a swimming pool.

**CS:** Now I would like to know about your experiences with religions such as Catholicism, Lutheranism, et cetera. Describe what you can recall about your family's religious practices when you were growing up.

**SH:** We were Lutheran, and we went to church every single Sunday, the whole family. Later I learned that I was extremely fortunate that we were not Missouri Senate Lutheran or Wisconsin Senate. Back then I think it was called Lutheran Free Church, but we were the Lutherans that it was okay to dance and okay to be a Boy Scout or whatever 'cause my husband Steve, he grew up Missouri Senate and oh boy, they couldn't join the Boy Scouts that was super conservative. I was confirmed in eighth grade.

My mom was a Sunday school teacher. In grade school, my older sister and I sang in the choir. I often played the piano in Sunday school just for the little songs. We'd sing bible camp. Being

Lutheran was a big deal. My grandparents were Methodist. I had friends that were Catholic at 'cause kids were always, are you Lutheran or Catholic? Well, a couple of them were Baptist. I always thought the Catholics were very mysterious because I heard that they had incense in their churches and that they couldn't eat meat on Fridays. At school, grade school, they'd serve fish sticks on Friday 'cause of all the Catholics. I just thought they were mysterious.

I had never even heard of an atheist, so I felt at the time that it was nice to be raised in the church 'cause my parents weren't ultra-religious. They weren't wackos or anything like that. Then when I got older, senior in high school, I had something to rebel against. If you're not raised in a church and you get to the rebellious age, what are you going to rebel against if you never attended church? I think it was huge and every neighbor, again, all of my friends went to church, whether it was Methodist or Lutheran and we all had friends. A lot of our school friends were also church friends. It was a big deal.

**CS:** How important is religion to you now as an adult?

**SH:** Well, I became a Unitarian. My husband and I joined a Unitarian church in 2001. Up until then, I was married in the same Lutheran church where I grew up, and then most college kids, no church, no nothing. In my twenties, let's see, thirties, twenties, and most of my thirties, it wasn't a big deal. Actually, my dad died when I was around 40. He died of cancer. I think it got me more spiritual thinking about losing a very, very close family member. Obviously, I didn't think he went to heaven, but I felt that sometimes that he could see me or that he was with me somehow in spirit. The Unitarian church really spoke to me 'cause their emphasis is on spirituality more than any dogma. I'm a Unitarian.

**CS:** Now I'd like to learn more about the neighborhood in which you grew up. If you move during childhood, you may wish to reflect on more than one neighborhood. That is fine to do but indicate as you do it. Please describe what comes to mind when thinking about the neighborhood in which you grew up.

**SH:** It was the same neighborhood and I lived there. My parents didn't even sell the house till I was like 35. Every single neighbor in our close seven or eight houses around, all lived there the whole time. Nobody sold their house. Nobody moved out. Well, one or two people. It was very close-knit. All the kids again, baby boom, 1950s, everybody had a kid their age or a year older or a year younger. There are lots of kids that would play together outside unsupervised, riding bikes.

We had a big backyard that didn't have a lot of trees 'cause some of the backyards were wooded. Our backyard was where everyone played softball and I was considered a tomboy. That was the word they used back then 'cause I was good at sports, which made me a tomboy somehow. Boys and girls in general, in grade school, you just all play together. Some of the families had older brothers that I was always, ooh, cute guys and mysterious, and ooh, they'd have a driver's license. Boys were Catholics to me in that they were very mysterious, I didn't know much about.

We had very close friends in the neighborhood, people go door to door borrowing stuff. If my mom was cooking dinner and she was out of, she's making a tomato sauce or whatever and she needed tomato paste, she'd send me to the Markham's next door, "Sally, go borrow some tomato

paste," and there's that joke, well, oh, borrow a cup of sugar and it's true. If you were out of something, you just go next door, the neighbor, and what's funny about that is, I don't remember us ever paying them back really like here's a cup of milk back that I borrowed last week. It was just people didn't think about it. If you needed something and you asked, you'd get it. Then I mentioned all the mothers basically did not work and this is grade school and junior high, after the kids got older, some of the mothers went to work.

I know in the summer when I was home that my mom and two or three of the other moms would get together in someone's backyard for cookies and coffee, coffee break at 10:00, or something. In some ways, you could say it was idyllic, rather idyllic on the surface, lots of kids the same age, hanging out outside a lot. Oh, you never thought about violence. Violence was, if someone accidentally ran over somebody's cat, that was violence, you know, accidental. The only thing we worried about was nuclear war.

**CS:** There's a section for that at the end. How well did the residents in your neighborhood know each other and what were some of those relationships like?

**SH:** Well, we all could name every parent, every child, the ages of the children as in Patty was my age, Barbara was a year younger. Johnny was three years. These are the next-door neighbors. David was Judy's age. Linda was the oldest. Oh, and it was Mr. And Mrs. Markham. It was not Joyce, my mom, even in front of us would say, Mrs. Markham. You a teacher or any adult was Mrs. or Miss or Mr. This, it was never by name. Quite a few of our nearby neighbors went to our church, Roseville Lutheran.

Again, there were some Catholics, couple of the kids went to Catholic school, St. Rose of Lima. We'd still play with them. Oh, and one of 'em went to a Lutheran school. There's a Lutheran school in Lexington Avenue. Can't remember the name of it. They were still our friends even though they didn't go to our same grade school. Another family was Mormon. Everybody was pretty good friends. We all knew all things about each other. As far as the seven or eight homes near my house, there was some babysitting. I did some babysitting when I got older.

**CS:** Next I'd like to learn about the values shared by your family and your neighbors. Values of principles or standards that help guide a behavior. What memories come to mind that demonstrate what these values were for your family and your neighbors?

**SH:** Well, sharing is a big one. Like I said, playing together and be nice, and don't be a bully. Nobody bullied anybody, everybody, boys or girls, was nice. We were all taught, I would say, I'm just thinking of the closest neighbors. The Methodists and the Presbyterians and the Catholics. You never heard a swear word and quite frankly, I never heard my dad or my mom say one swear word and now you know, it's all over TV and all that. You could say polite, people were polite. My next-door neighbors 'cause we were closest to them.

I also thought it was funny 'cause when their dad came home from work, if we were playing in my front yard like hopscotch with the chalk drawings or something, they'd quit the game run home, go, daddy, daddy and hug him. I also thought that was funny 'cause when my dad came home from work, like, hi dad, but the next-door neighbors, they drop what they're doing and run and hug him. There was a lot of love that you could see.

Values, oh, another thing, moms and dads or moms, I'll say moms 'cause the moms were around all the time and looked out for other kids. Like if let's say maybe I did something bad, whatever, stick up my tongue at somebody or that was considered naughty behavior. My friend's mother was perfectly fine to say, Sally, you stop that. Not that anyone would hit me or spank me, but anybody's mother felt free to call out bad behavior. That was a given and if say any of my neighborhood friends, if they might have done something wrong and my mom was around, she probably said, Bob, you don't do that. They felt comfortable, let's say holding up the standards or something.

**CS:** Now I'm going to ask you all about leisure time. Describe some of the ways in which you, your family, and your neighbors engaged in leisure time when you were growing up.

**SH:** I remember having a lot of leisure time when I talked to my husband about this. He grew up on a farm and he didn't even have leisure, he was always milking cows. He didn't have leisure, but I did. I had a few chores, but it seems that was minor compared to just playing outside. We had games. One of 'em was called, gosh, you had a ball. It wasn't a basketball, just some big ball. You'd throw it over the top of the house, throw it over the roof. We all had two-story houses. I think it was called Annie-Annie Over. You had some kids in the front of the house, some kids in the back of the house, and you'd throw the ball over the house, up over the roof, two stories and then the other kids caught the ball or something but that was a very favorite game. You'd be surprised if a ball never got stuck up on the roof. It would all come back down.

Then there was one called, it was hide and go seek, but what did we call it? It was a form of hide-and-go-seek. We'd often play after dinner. We had to count to whatever, 50 or 100, one person was it and all the other kids would go and hide. That was a game we played. We did softball, that was a big one. We had a tether ball in our backyard that was fun to do, tether ball and bike riding was, of course, every day you're off on your bikes going somewhere.

I love to swim but that had to wait till Friday to go to the Y 'cause my parents rarely took us to the local beaches, sometimes. We played cards, in fact, the whole family did a lot. Our whole family did a lot together. We'd all sit at the kitchen table. Well, the winners are long. We'd play Monopoly or Scrabble or some game. That was a big one. Kids would play card games in the summer if it was a rainy day.

**CS:** What television shows did you watch growing up?

**SH:** Everything was live. Nothing was prerecorded and TV in the fifties was very new. It hadn't just been invented but the whole idea of commonly watched programs that was pretty new in the fifties. There were some local shows like Captain Kangaroo and Romper Room, and I once went with my Bluebird troop to one of those local shows in Romper Room or something where the kids sit in bleachers, and I can see whose birthday it is. I saw Sally and I saw Mary.

We had rules though about TV. My dad, oh you've watched enough TV, like Saturday morning cartoons, Bullwinkle, Rocky and Bullwinkle, Huckleberry Hound, the Jetsons, Flintstones. We were always up early on Saturdays to watch cartoons but my dad, at a certain time, 9:00 or 10:00, he'd walk in the room, shut the—'cause we only had one TV. He had one car and one TV, and it was black and white. Excuse me, I got to grab some water, I'll be right back.

**CS:** No, that's okay.

*[Pause 31:45 - 31:55]*

**SH:** It was funny that my dad, he was strict, he wasn't a jerk or anything, he was a very loving person, but he was like, you've watched enough TV so Saturday wise, and we almost never had TV on during dinner. Almost never. It would've been super rare. There were shows like the big one, Lassie. I think that's one reason we ended up getting a Collie dog 'cause the show Lassie, Leave It to Beaver, Ozzie and Harriet, and all these shows.

Every single person was white, every family, mom, and dad, were married and three or four kids. I feel that I watched a lot of TV. Now I got tiresome about TV. People started buying color TVs and that was a big deal. My grandparents, well, my grandpa was a dentist, the ones that lived over by Edgumbe Road, they got a color TV and there were two shows on in color, two shows. Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color Sunday Night, followed by Bonanza.

After they got that color TV, every Sunday night we'd go over there and watch. Maybe we had dinner first, but it was never dinner with the show and that was really exciting. There's this NBC peacock with all the colors. The following show is brought to you in living color by NBC. Well, my dad had a job in Alaska, a couple of times he went, back then in the like late 50s, early 60s, he had a couple of times he had to go to Alaska for work. He came back and he said, we're getting a color TV.

We're like, oh, what? We're going to get a color TV. He goes, it's so primitive up there and I've been thinking why not, we've got living here in St. Paul, we've got all this stuff.

We were one of the first on our block to have a dishwasher and we are definitely the first to get a color TV and my next-door neighbor, my best friend Patty, she was jealous. I probably rubbed it in too, we had a color TV. Gradually there would be more and more shows in color but it was pretty gradual. It seemed like forever that the only two shows are those two NBC shows.

**CS:** That's pretty cool. Next, let's discuss your experience with schooling. Please describe what it was like going to school as a child.

**SH:** My grade school was about three blocks away. I walked, everybody walked to school. In fact, there wasn't a bus that served my neighborhood 'cause of course you're going to walk, and girls were not allowed to wear pants. You had to wear a dress and you know what winters are like and we had to walk to school. I remember you could wear your snowsuit over your dress and one day I was probably in third grade or second grade, the zipper of my snowsuit got caught in my dress 'cause we just had these cotton dresses and little white anklets who wear saddle shoes. I had just saddle shoes, and one pair of shoes for school. I couldn't get my snow pants off.

Half the morning I'd go to class. I said to my teacher, my zipper's caught, I don't know what to do. Every single kid in my grade school was what, I didn't really know what Hispanic meant. There was a Ramirez family, whatever the name was. Something like that but at the time I didn't know that that meant they were Hispanic. I just know they had a lot of kids and they lived in a bad unpainted house on a corner. I didn't know that the name Goldblum was Jewish. I knew nothing about that because ethnic stuff, because to me, ethnic was somebody who was Catholic



or Baptist instead of Lutheran. That was a strange ethnic group to me. It was extremely white. All the teachers were white.

About half women, half men. Class size, I'm trying to think, 20 to 25 kids. I'd say it was a good experience in grade school 'cause I was with my friends. I liked recess. We'd have slideshows or film strips, they'd call 'em, the technology back then, you can't even imagine how primitive it was. Again, that was normal for us. The playground at my grade school, OSHA would have flunked that playground.

There was this ancient merry-go-round, a big old wooden merry-go-round, a slide, a huge slide with metal that so if you're wearing shorts, you'd burn your butt on a hot day. See-saw. That stuff is all probably forbidden nowadays. It's pretty funny but nobody died. I never ever heard of a kid getting injured on that big old merry-go-round. You go as fast as you can and the swings whoop, see how high you go. Then junior high was farther away. There was a bus, we had to take a bus to junior high 'cause it was about three, four miles.

Then, high school, now it's called Roseville Area High School, and back then it was called Ramsey Alexander. Ramsey was named after the first governor. We walked to school. There wasn't a bus to our neighborhood, that was about three blocks the other way. I was in high school in '67, '68, '69, and '70. I graduated in '70. That was a pretty tumultuous time with the Vietnam War and all that.

**CS:** Well, that's a good segue to our next and our final topic. I'm going to ask you to reflect on local and global issues such as war, poverty, discrimination, social unrest, et cetera. In your opinion, what were some of the biggest local or global issues affecting the people in your neighborhood when you were growing up?

**SH:** Well, as a child, and by that, I'll say grade school and early junior high, I don't feel that I was particularly affected because things like civil rights and all that, if everybody you know, is white, you don't think about discrimination because nobody, you know is discriminated against. I have to tell you a story. This is, you could put it under the civil rights heading. I mentioned there were no black kids in my school.

Other than trips downtown, downtown St. Paul, I just didn't even see black people. I didn't spend a lot of time thinking about somebody that I never saw or never knew, or you just didn't think about it. I told you about Josephine, our cleaning lady, and she was white, but one day it was summertime, so I was home all day. My mom had a little talk with me before Josephine came over and she said, "Josephine is bringing a little girl with her." I don't know if it was 'cause the girl needed daycare or what, but she's a negro 'cause that's what you called them back, the negro, she's a negro.

I was probably in fourth or fifth grade or something. She said, my mom, I love this story because she said, now she's every bit as good as we are, and I want you to be nice to her. Even though she says, you treat her as nicely as you treat the Markham's. She's Josephine's guest or whatever, and I want you to be nice to her. I was like, sure, okay, why wouldn't I? The girl, I don't remember her name or anything, but she came, and Josephine came for a full day.

We would always have lunch together. We'd all sit down and eat lunch. My mom would prepare lunch. The girl, we all sat together and the only thing, well, two things I remember, you know how the outer part is dark and the inner hand is light colored and that was real fascinating to me 'cause again, I've never been up close with a black person. I remember she ate so many potato chips, she just loved potato chips 'cause they're just in a bowl. It's like helping yourself. For the longest time, she was my only experience with the black person. I thought, oh, black people like potato chips, and the hand thing, the lighter color. I just thought that was fascinating. Issues, we didn't really think about poverty again because nobody was poor.

I didn't know any poor people until, I mentioned that friends of mine in South Minneapolis, there was this guy who was Catholic, and I dated him a little bit. I met him, I don't know, it was actually a church event or something. His name was Patrick. Well, so Patrick invited me to a Jimmy Hendricks concert in Minneapolis on the back of his motorcycle. My parents were just appalled, but they let me go. We heard The Doors.

Anyway, I went to a bunch of concerts with Patrick. Oh, one day we were supposed to go somewhere, and he canceled. He called me to cancel because his car was broken down 'cause he had a car too, some old beater. I told my parents, oh, I'm not going out tonight because Patrick's car broke down and he can't drive. My dad right away said, can't he borrow his father's car? I said, his father doesn't have a car. My dad was like, he couldn't imagine.

This was probably 1968 or so. My dad couldn't even imagine somebody's dad not owning a car. Well, they lived in South Minneapolis. He took a bus to work. One issue with negro, one issue with a poor person. Then I started getting very environmentally aware, the first Earth Day was 1970 and we marched, I was a senior in high school, we marched in downtown Minneapolis.

I was super opposed to Vietnam War and back then they actually had news that would show stuff like wounded people being evacuated. That was on TV, that was on the 7:00 news. I was very concerned about that.

I was very concerned about nuclear energy 'cause back then it was, well it's still a problem in that they talk about clean nuclear power plants, but the radiation and the rods, the cooling rods that have to be separated with water for literally thousands of years 'cause in that whole containment building thing. Anyway, I felt nuclear power was, oh, I still do, but it's changing. Oh, companies that supported the war like Honeywell or Westinghouse. I actually wrote letters. I joined the Unitarian Universal Service Committee. I don't know where I heard of it 'cause I wasn't Unitarian, but I joined the UUSC and got all these radical ideas and wrote letters to these companies saying, how dare you produce napalm, or how dare you produce weapons to murder babies in Vietnam?

As I was maybe sophomore, junior, became very socially aware of big issues like that. Mostly because of the Vietnam War and I mentioned the Markham's, our next neighbor named David, his, I probably shouldn't use the name in because what happened is he was Judy's age. He disappeared because boys my age were too young for the draft. Boys born in 1950 were not only getting drafted, it was terrible. People were trying to flunk their physicals and this whole

numbers thing and if you were in college, you could get a college deferment. It was terrible because of course it favored the wealthy. Wealthy didn't have to work.

David next door, he disappeared. He was probably 18, 19, turns out he went to Canada. He just was like, "I'm outta here. I am not fighting. I will not be drafted." So, that was a big deal when your next-door neighbor doesn't get much closer than that. Then again, I personally didn't know anyone who went to Vietnam. I think that's a social economic thing again, because, well, partly it was because of my age. People my age weren't getting drafted.

I think they ended the draft right around then. Judy, who was in college, they had the college deferment, so they didn't have to, as long as they kept their grades up or whatever, they didn't have to worry about getting drafted to fight against their will. Also, people whose families had money to either send them to college or get a good education or whatever didn't have to worry about a job. It was the poor families that would join the army or whatever, 'cause the kids needed to figure out how to earn a living. I think there's so much of a divide between the wealthy, the middle class, the lower classes, the underclass. Don't get me going on that. I'll stop.

**CS:** I do have another follow-up question. Did your family or your neighborhood have a bomb or fallout shelter in case of a nuclear war?

**SH:** Oh, yes. My school, I think every one of my schools, there's this little sign with the three, I think it's the three yellow and black. Oh, they were ubiquitous. You'd see 'em everywhere.

Probably the churches. In fact, in our neighborhood, we all had big yards. It was 0.6 acre or 0.7 of an acre. None of them were a full acre but my dad at one point actually considered, should we invest in a fallout shelter because we went to the state fair that summer and there was a whole booth about fallout shelters.

There were films about how to build it or have it built and what canned goods you should have. He decided not to spend the money being a good German, too expensive. The fact that we were even seriously considering building a fallout shelter, because of course now everyone knows, if and when nuclear war comes, I want to be one of the first to be evaporated. I don't want to be in some fallout shelter, learning how to use a gun to keep my neighbors from eating my canned foods that are 25 years old, not rusted. Oh, yeah, you saw that everywhere.

**CS:** Did you ever go inside the fallout shelters that you saw at churches and schools and stuff?

**SH:** I never actually toured an official fallout shelter, but the irony is those little signs that you'd see, the black and yellow signs. Most of it was from what I could tell, just basement. A basement area. It was really weird because as a little kid we worried about tornadoes and there were several tornadoes in neighborhoods near mine where there was serious damage. We knew tornadoes were a threat and that you'd go in your basement for a tornado. A little kid, dangerous, okay, tornado, dangerous, nuclear war, dangerous, go in the basement. It was all a jumble.

**CS:** I think that's good for this section. This is the end of our interview. Your responses are invaluable, and we really appreciate that you took the time to do this today. Thank you so much for participating.

**SH:** You're welcome.