

Conversation with 46 year old Native American female, New Mexico (Transcription)

M6 B(1)

Speaker: know. (Interruption in background) I'm busy right now. <unintelligible text> Then, and then...so anyway, we went ahead and we...So then Minnie was running after her, calling her..him you "<gap> ", you "<gap>". So then they started to work on the bike, you know, they put up, the seat up little higher because he said, Yeh, I'm gettin to be a big boy now, Pop. Put the seat up for me. So on his little bike that he built by himself, he went to the dump and got parts, you know, and everything, for his birthday he made his own cake, and he went and fixed up the...what was it? The bike from different parts that he bought little by little. He got money for his birthday and he buy little parts and put it on. He finally built his bike. That's the way he got his bike, the one he got hit on. So anyway, that was...we were

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Speaker: doing that. Pretty soon, he got on his bike and he told me, I'm going to go get Virgil from down at Grandma's, he said. And I says, Well you better not go because we're just about to have supper. I said, the potatoes are almost done and we're just about to have supper. No, he said, I'll be right back, he said. I'm just gonna go pick him up. So that's when he got on his bike and he left. In a few minutes, Elmer came running...you know how fast Elmer <talked?>...ta-ta-ta-ta-ta, you know, like that, you know, real fast, you know. And I said, What? And he said Danny got hit...Danny got hit by a car. Says Hurry up, hurry up! Boy, didn't finish saying that when John and Pop already had dashed

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out...they were settin the table, and they dashed out, you know. And we forgot, I forgot all about my potatoes...I don't know whether they burned, or whether they were still there, or they turned them off, or what. I just ran, you know. But it looked like I never could get there. I thought I'd never get there. So then so when we got over there, well, I saw him laying on that (inaudible)...the Father was already there. See he had waved at, like this at the Father before he went. He waved like that. Then Father just seen him and knew it was him. So what he did, he ran inside and he got his little pack, you know, to...you know, for the Last Rites. And he ran over there, and the Sister too, you know, seen it. So then, he, she ran in and got a blanket right away, I don't know how she thought so fast, you know, to get a blanket. And she went...By the time we were there, they were already there and...Oh, I didn't know what to do. I just lait right down with him, you know. And I put his little hair up like this and he had a big ole gash. He didn't talk to us me no more, you know, no more. All he would do is just press my hand like that, you know, that's all. So then they called the ambulance. They already had called the ambulance then. So I just lait with him...Pop lait on that side of him, I laid on this side. And John was just standing, he didn't know what to do, you know. So then...then I started to cry. And Sister told me

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Speaker: don't cry, she says, and she picked me up. And I had that white dress. I'll never forget that white dress. I t was like a (inaudible). And I had blood all over it. Where he was bleeding, where the blood was running, you know. So then, I got up. Then we ran to...we waited for the ambulance. The ambulance came and they took him, you know, and Sister kept telling me, don't cry, Mrs. Berg, don't cry Mrs. Berg, because he's still alive. He lives, you know. God is great, she kept telling me...God is great. Just have faith in God. So then, they took us...we went to the am...to the hospital. And whathisname, <gap> took him, took him. And then we got into this other ambulance from the (inaudible). So we went to the hospital. And we, ooo..it took them so long, looks like for that doctor to come, I was so anxious...ooo....I didn't know what to do. I was...we were both an...the two boys and I

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were anxious. And the Sister was there after, after...She went in her car, you know. She followed the ambulance. Then, I was shaking and oooo it was terrible. Then this Fairview ambulance was parked there. It wouldn't leave. It wouldn't leave because he knew that that little boy was bad enough to where he was gonna need to be transferred. You know. 'Cuze he head injuries. He was gonna have to be transferred. And they were just getting started, so they were like solicitating their business, you know. So then while, when you're in...all shook up like that, you never think twice. The first thing that's right there quick enough to take him, well, that's why I said go ahead, take him, you know. So that ambulance... <gap>'s ambulance was gonna take him, so I said, yes, go ahead...anybody take him. Please, just get him to the hospital quick. So we got in the...in the car you know. And we took off. We took off to...to...Albuquerque. Then we were going, you know. And Pop was sittin on this side. John was with him in the back. He was holding him, you know. And that Johnnie Demarcas and me and Pop and Mr. <unintelligible text>...all four of us were in the front seat. We were going, he was taking us real fast. And then in the other side of Santa Fe, the

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Speaker: ambulance began to go real slow and I kept telling that Mr. Mohan, I says can't your ambulance go faster? You know? Because John said, O Momma, Momma. And I lookit back at him and he'd say...he wants to throw up, Momma. And then, I said, let him throw up. So anyway, we kept goin. But he wouldn't go anymore than forty-five miles an hour (inaudible). That was slow. Then, finally we were gettin there and it was getting dark. Then, pretty soon I was telling Pop not to...kinda cool it, I says, you know, be quiet, so he'd...just say a few prayers for him, I said. Let's, let's pray for him. So all of us were praying, all of us in the front seat were praying, you know. Then Pop would say, Oh dear Momma. The lights, somethings are wrong with the lights. And I said, yeh, I know. What's wrong with your lights, Mr. Mohan. Look, they're not even on, you know. And he says, Well, I don't know, he says. It's still a little bright outside, he says. Then pretty soon, Pop

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says, Don't worry Momma. Look. God's providing us light out there and there was the moon was shining so bright, you know. It was already shining then, but the lights were dim! So we kept going and going. Finally, we (inaudible) and he kept (gasp) like that you know. (Cough) (Cough)...that real funny, you know. John...oh, Momma, he said, Momma, momma, you know. But he was still...he still...you alright sonny? I kept tellin. Yeh, he's alright Momma. So we kept going. Then when we got to that...just close to that first turnoff on San Mateo, you know? Right there, just about a mile, not even a mile, you know, less than a mile. Well then that darned ambulance just stopped. Just completely stopped. The red light wasn't going no more. There was no lights in the front, no lights in the back, no lights nowhere. So then...there's lot of cars passin up you know. Then pretty soon Pop jumped down. Right away, he didn't even stop to (inaudible) to tell him nuthing. He just jumped. And he waved them. And the first car that came, stopped. And he tell em, take me to the first filling station. So I call an ambulance. He says. So then they took him...that car took him real fast, you know...took him to the first filling station. And he called the

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Speaker: ambulance from the (inaudible). So they came. Pretty soon we saw the ambulance coming. But...just before then...he went (gasp). That was it, he died right there. There's where he died. Then John said, Momma, momma, he said. And then I said, what? He's gone. And I said, no he's not. And he said, I don't think so, Momma, I don't think so. He didn't wanna tell me, you know. So then...I was jumping in the middle of (inaudible). It's a wonder a car didn't hit me! I was in panic! Then, then Mr. Lujan told me to kinda cool down. So just then, the ambulance came. We couldn't take him from the back part of the ambulance because it was locked. See, it ran battery. So we couldn't take him out through there. So they have to take him out through the side, like that. But he was already gone. Then...then Pop didn't know what to do, you know. And they got him in the ambulance. John went in the ambulance. And then there was a man from somewhere he said, come on, Lady, he says...come one. And that other lady - his wife I guess it was - and got Pop

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and we put us in the car and we followed the ambulance to...then we went to got to <unintelligible text>, those people stayed there. Then we sat there and Dr. <gap>, you know, she went and she came out. They took him in. They checked him over right fast, and he was gone though. So then he, she came out and she called us together and she said, I'm sorry, but he's gone. Oh, My God, it looked like they hit us with a ton a rocks. Just a ton a rocks. But Pop kept hitting his head on the wall. And John just didn't know what to do. I didn't know what to do. Just then, Father. Where Father came from, dear Lord, I, I don't know. But he walked in to the room and he sat us down. He calmed us down. And he prayed. He asked us to pray. He gave us communion, he gave us confession, he said not to worry because he had given the Last Rites to Danny and he had given him communion. And he says, and...then I told him, well he already had that over here...right there at the road, you know. So then, he sat down and he cried and he explained to us. By that time the nurse was in there. She had given us shots. She gave shots to all of us. Pop, and me, and John...me and John, yah. Then

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Speaker: ...then, I don't know. Some nurse was there and she said, Is Helen <gap> any relation to you, she said? An Indian lady, you know? And I said, Yeah. She says, Yeah, I know she's a Bird. Is she any relation to you? And I says, Well, yes. That's their Daddy's sister. So then, the boy's Daddy's sister, I said. So she went and she called her before I knew it Helen was there before I knew it. Ole John Bird was there. The old man? He was there. So then, it was really a big blow. But not once...it didn't tell him to call the father...I didn't tell him anything. They did it. They went and called Bertha in Utah, they called, they called everybody. When I went.. I was out because they had given me a shot. And they gave that shot to the two boys too, so they were kinna calm. We went to Aunt Libby's afterwards. But, boy, I'm telling you, that was a real, real low blow.

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FW: That was quite awhile ago, huh.

INF: Yeah, it was. It's been quite a while, but things like that, you can never forget.

FW: Yeah...I don't know where I was when it happened.

INF: Where were you?

FW: I don't know.

INF: You were working out in Los Alamos.

FW: Yeah.

INF: You were working out in Los Alamos that time.

FW: Yeah. Things like that happen along time ago.

INF: So. So that was, that's part of my story of my life. Me and my kids, not really, just part of it.

FW: What are some of the games that you played when you were a kid?

INF: Oh. Games that we played when I was a kid? Oh, we played "kick the can" and jacks and jumprope and hopscotch and "<gap>". And that was about more or less

