

## Recent immigrant workers in Iowa's meatpacking industry

Archie Green Fellows Project, 2015-2016

Joel Mungongo Mbemba interview, 2016-12-24 : interview conducted by John W. McKerley

Interview ID: afc2015026\_03361  
Date: December 24, 2016  
Duration: 00:59:56

00:00:00	Introductions
00:00:25	Birth in Kinshasa, Congo
00:00:50	Family
00:03:00	Growing up in Kinshasa; class and education background
00:03:50	Ethnic Groups in the Congo
00:05:20	Public School and College
00:06:10	Father's Path
00:06:55	Immigrating to the United States
00:07:20	Diversity Visa
00:09:00	Making decision to leave
00:11:00	US v. England
00:11:53	Figuring out Visa Procedure
00:12:50	Going to the Embassy
00:13:44	Looking for people in the US
00:14:32	Adjusting to the US
00:16:05	Being homeless for 3 weeks
00:17:30	Rescued by father's friend

00:18:05	Living with father's friend and learning English
00:19:25	Working in warehouse
00:19:50	Leaving North Carolina for Iowa
00:21:12	Making friends on Facebook and becoming French Interpreter
00:22:12	Creating Facebook group
00:24:25	Becoming Line Worker
00:25:44	Packaging
00:27:00	Working as a team
00:28:40	Diversity on the line
00:29:50	Fitting in on the line
00:30:40	Learning the tricks
00:33:20	Joining the Union
00:35:00	Unions in Congo
00:36:20	Unions solve problems in the Congo
00:38:00	Becoming a French Interpreter and help from the union
00:40:30	Problems with Interpreting position
00:43:10	Helping union find issues
00:44:10	2 years as Interpreter and the future
00:46:00	Going to school for Engineering
00:47:00	Being a part of the Congolese Community
00:48:50	Educational Requirements
00:50:50	Similarities in Community
00:52:30	Similarities with other Ethnic Groups

00:53:40      Difference between Africans and African Americans  
00:55:00      Relationship with whites and racism  
00:57:15      America as home