

Recent immigrant workers in Iowa's meatpacking industry

Archie Green Fellows Project, 2015-2016

Gei Htang Htun interview, 2016-12-23 : interview conducted by John W. McKerley

Interview ID: afc2015026_03380

Date: December 23, 2016

Duration: 01:14:43

00:00:00	Introductions
00:01:45	Family life in Chin State
00:02:15	Description of Chin State
00:03:15	Subsistence rice farming
00:04:45	Schooling
00:05:45	Religion in Chin State
00:07:18	“Distant” education at University of Mandalay
00:09:00	Paul’s father’s hopes for him
00:10:00	Comparison between US and Burmese education systems
00:11:45	Reasons for leaving Burma; forced labor
00:18:00	From Burma to Malaysia
00:18:30	Comparing experience of Burmese refugees in Thailand and Malaysia
00:19:40	Working in Malaysia
00:23:12	Obtaining refugee status
00:24:00	Coming to US; reuniting family
00:28:37	Life in Waterloo, Iowa
00:29:22	Chain migration
00:30:00	Value of safety

00:31:40	Getting work at Tyson
00:33:30	Learning English
00:35:00	Association between English and Christianity in Burma
00:36:00	Work at Tyson; working with knife
00:39:00	Opportunities for advancement; work as interpreter
00:40:00	Line work in multi-lingual context
00:44:00	Employee input into process
00:46:00	Consideration of union membership
00:52:30	Language as barrier to union membership and workplace rights
00:56:00	Work at interpreter
00:58:30	Internal life of Burmese community in Waterloo
01:00:00	Burmese Christians in Waterloo
01:02:00	Burmese community organizations (presence of) in Waterloo
01:05:30	Recent study of animal science at community college; interest in animal breeding
01:08:00	Relationship with Burma today
01:10:28	Children, hope for
01:12:30	Starting over in US; importance of safety