

TAPE ONE SIDE ONE

**Vivienne Felix:** Today is July 10, 2002. We are in the Special Collections Reading Room of Skillman Library with Judy Hochman, Class of 1973. Thank you for being a participant in Lafayette College's Oral History Project.

**Judy Hochman:** You're welcome.

**VF:** First please tell me about your family and where you grew up.

**JH:** Okay. I grew up in a small town in central New Jersey, called Fanwood, New Jersey. And my family at that time was my parents and one older sister. My family now is... is that what you mean?

**VF:** Yes.

**JH:** Okay. I have... I'm married to a Lafayette alum actually. We've been married for thirty years. (*Laughter*) And we have two children, two grown children. My daughter Jocelyn is twenty-seven and just, she and her husband just had a baby, so I'm a new Nana. And my son Kendall is twenty-five. Jocelyn is an orientation and mobility specialist with Maryland School for the Blind. She teaches blind students how to develop

independence skills. And my son Kendall is a financial analyst with Morgan-Stanley<sup>1</sup> in Manhattan.

**VF:** Please describe your high school experience.

**JH:** Oh, my high school experience. I thought high school was a lot of fun. I was in a lot of activities, student government, a lot of clubs... just organizing dances and doing a lot of things. I just remember getting by on very little sleep, and I really enjoyed both the academic stimulation and the social atmosphere of high school. I liked it a lot.

**VF:** How do you feel that your high school prepared you for your college education?

**JH:** There was a very high percentage of students who went on to higher education. It was a suburban New Jersey town. It's kind of a commuter town to New York. It was a professional type community. And the school district was pretty demanding academically. So there were a lot of opportunities for honors courses, and I know learning to write was a big deal, and that was very helpful once I went to Lafayette.

**VF:** How influential was your family in your decision to attend college?

**JH:** My family was pretty naïve about college. My mother had actually attended a junior college which for her generation was I guess somewhat unusual, but came out of that as an executive secretary. I mean that was the endpoint of attending that. My dad

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<sup>1</sup> Morgan-Stanley Dean Witter & Co. is a global financial services firm.

was intending to go to college and actually... I guess up until a few weeks before he was all set to go to college. But it was around the time of the depression, and his dad, my grandfather, worked in a bank and lost his job. And as the oldest son in his family. College was no longer an option for him so he went right to work. So they had very little experience in helping me choose a college. They encouraged me all along to go to college, but they really didn't know how to choose an appropriate college. And in fact I transferred to Lafayette as a sophomore really because the first college I went to was a very poor match for me in a lot of ways.

**VF:** How so?

**JH:** It was a very small school not that Lafayette isn't small. (*Laughter*) But it was even smaller than Lafayette. It was in a very rural area, and it was not challenging enough academically. And politically I felt very, very out of the mainstream there. It was very much more conservative than I felt that my views were at the time. They were very proud of their attitude of *in loco parentis*. Girls were much more restricted in the hours that they could be out of their rooms and everything than the men were. I just saw with everything especially that was going on in the world at that time, it was not a diverse community at all and I felt very uncomfortable and really wanted to leave.

**VF:** And this was at Susquehanna<sup>2</sup>?

**JH:** Right. But it was Susquehanna University at the time.

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<sup>2</sup> Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania.

**VF:** How did you choose colleges? Did you have a guidance counselor or anything like that?

**JH:** I did have a guidance counselor in high school. He was not very helpful. He gave me a very, very broad list and said, "You could probably go to any of these schools." And you know, no guidance. And my parents knew some of their friends whose children had gone to Susquehanna, and that it was a very pretty campus. And we went to visit it and, you know, my interview went well. And they said, "Oh sure, you're in." And that was it. So it wasn't really a very good selection process at all.

**VF:** How did you hear about Lafayette?

**JH:** I had heard about Lafayette when I was growing up because it's only a little over an hour from where I grew up. And had some friends, obviously males at that point, who had gone through Lafayette. So I guess that I probably came here as a result of friendships that I had with people who were either here at the time or had been here. And I mean part of it was also that I really did need to get out of the situation I was in. And my parents realized this. And this was pretty close, so it wasn't going to be a big travel issue. Although the expense was significantly more at that time even though I think tuition was maybe \$3500 (*Laughter*) which now sounds so insignificant. But it was, for my family it was a big issue.

**VF:** What was your personal opinion of coeducation considering that many colleges and universities during the late 60s were now becoming coeducational?

**JH:** I was really welcoming it. I was glad to be part of kind of a new experience here. That was initially... and I mean, I'm not saying there weren't growing pains, because there really were. But I think that it was exciting to me.

**VF:** Did Lafayette's move to coeducation affect your decision to apply there as opposed to other schools?

**JH:** Yes, yes. Definitely. Definitely.

**VF:** Did you apply to other schools?

**JH:** I don't think I did because I heard very early from Lafayette. As a transfer student I think I applied in December, and they let me know very quickly that I would be accepted the following year. So I, I never got to the point of applying anywhere else because when I visited here I thought this would be a good match.

**VF:** What was your first impression of Lafayette?

**JH:** Well, it's beautiful. You know, I remember coming here, and it was just absolutely I mean, we used to call it the country club because it was so manicured. And it still is.

*(Laughter)* And it was kind of, you know, unreal in some ways. I had put on my application partly because of the money issue, and partly because I was interested, that I really wanted to become a resident advisor. At that time, I don't know if this is still true, but resident advisors had their rooms paid for and lunches, so it was part of your meals. And you actually got a phone in your room, which, you know at that time, there was one phone per floor. So you had a phone in your room and free local calls. And that was helpful to my family's financial situation, for me to be able to contribute in that way. So that was part of the motivation, but since I had put that on my application and there were so few upperclass women the first year, I received a call from the faculty member who was running the summer orientation program asking if I would come and be the orientation counselor. Which I thought was sort of hilarious because I hadn't spent, you know, two days on campus, but I was going to come and orient these incoming women.

*(Laughter)* So I did that. I did that for the summer, and I took a couple of classes. And that was a wonderful way to get acquainted with Lafayette because it was kind of downsized. I got to know a lot of people. There were a lot of little social opportunities with faculty members and administration. And I was kind of like known as the first female on campus, which had its good sides and its bad sides. But it was really very nice to be able to find my way around without the hustle and bustle of a full schedule.

**VF:** Approximately how long was the orientation?

**JH:** I think it was six weeks and every week a different portion of the class, like one sixth of the class came in. So I think there were about two hundred women in the class of

'74. And one sixth of them would come the first week and the second week and the third week. So we basically filled one floor in Marquis Hall each week. That was it.

*(Laughter)*

**VF:** How do you feel that the presence of women on the Lafayette campus altered the academic and social atmosphere?

**JH:** Oh drastically. It appeared to me, and actually as RAs we were told this by the... She wasn't called the Dean of Women. She was, I believe, in the Dean of Students' office, but they, they kind of brought her in because women were coming. And her name was either Sue Hermann<sup>3</sup> or Sue Williams. One of them was her married name, and I can't remember which was which. But I remember she had told us that there was an effort to really identify and select very high achieving women to ensure that this experiment would work because there was a lot of opposition among alumni. And so it was very competitive academically having the women on campus, not that it wasn't before, but these tended to be very, very bright women with strong personalities, diverse in their interests and their experiences. But it was a very stimulating group to be around. Socially it was strange at first. *(Laughter)* I won't kid you. We were all in Ruef Hall. We all fit into Ruef Hall. And there were seven floors. Seven RAs and seven floors. And there were times when there was just this group of men, you know, kind of circling the building. It was just real interesting human behavior. *(Laughter)* But it settled down, you know, after that.

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<sup>3</sup> Sue Hermann, Assistant Dean of Students.

**VF:** Did you feel that Lafayette overall had a welcoming atmosphere towards the women?

**JH:** Yes. I really did. You know, not to every single person who was here. And I think faculty members tried to work it out in different ways. And because I had had a lot of the requirements that at that time were essential freshman year I was often the only woman in my classes. Because I was a sophomore, and so I was in upper level classes. And there just weren't that many of us. So there might be one or two of us in there. And I was often looked at for the female point of view. And that, that was a lot of pressure. And sometimes I just absolutely refused to cooperate (*Laughter*) with that because I didn't want to be representing all of womanhood. But I had one professor tell me, "Well, I'm just gonna call you all by your last names because I think that's the most equitable thing to do. All right Campbell?" And I said, "Okay." (*Laughter*) And then other ones would call me "Miss" and, you know, they worked it out all different ways. They weren't sure exactly how to be polite and respectful at the same time. You know, whether it was better to just act like we weren't women or to really treat us a little differently.

**VF:** How was life in the residence halls?

**JH:** It was... I thought I, it went well. I thought it was interesting. There was always... there was certainly some getting used to everybody that I don't think is that unusual anywhere. It was an all female dorm. But that was typical for that time. You know, there weren't really coed dorms I don't think in many places back in 1970. I tried to run



my floor as democratically as possible. We voted on a lot of things. You know, the social rules were left up to us, like when visitors would be allowed, when men would be allowed and for how long. And what the arrangements would be as far as notifying other people that they might be on the hall and that sort of thing. So we did, we had a lot of meetings. I was very strict about quiet hours because I don't like to study in the library. I like to study in my room. And so I was very strict about that, but then when it was over there was a lot of spontaneous fun and things that went on. And a lot of good discussions about political issues at the time and also just coping here. And people's experiences as they went out into different areas at Lafayette.

**VF:** How did being an RA affect your involvement with the Lafayette community academically and socially?

**JH:** It was somewhat demanding, but I welcomed it. I thought it was a great way to meet and get close to, you know, a group of people. At the time, you know, it wasn't anything formal, but I just remember being pulled into a lot of meetings for our opinions about what needed to be the same or be different at Lafayette now that women were living in these buildings. Socially I guess I became privy to a lot of, sort of the growing pains of some of the women on my floors. You know, the first time they got drunk away from home, the first time, you know, they had any kind of an intimate experience with a guy. There was definitely some hand holding and counseling kind of things that happened.

**VF:** Were there ever any issues of sexual harassment, abuse either physical or emotional? Or anything like that?

**JH:** There... There were not overt issues like that that I can remember. I felt that there were... I worried sometimes about some of the younger girls, both years, the freshman girls that I had. And the fraternity system was very strong at that time. That was the predominant way that people socialized on campus, and there was a lot of alcohol flowing at the fraternities. And I worried about the young girls who had never been away from home and experienced any of that going to fraternity parties, and I mean, there weren't overt cases of, you know, sexual abuse or harassment, but I thought that there was manipulation of them by attention, just by the new experiences that they weren't maybe quite ready for.

**VF:** How did you feel about the dorm regulations?

**JH:** Well there weren't too many dorm regulations. We were able to make our own rules. Especially coming from Susquehanna where, I mean, I had to be in at ten every night. Like the guys didn't, but the girls did. (*Laughter*) I think on weekends it might have been eleven. So to me, if there were any I didn't really notice them. You know, I don't even know that we... that the... I don't think the dorm was even locked at that time. It may have been. Maybe the outside door was locked after a certain time. I can't even be sure about that. There was a lot of coming and going, you know. So I didn't feel that it was too restrictive in any way.

**VF:** What was the arrangement for your floor regarding male visitation?

**JH:** It was... hmm, let me think about this. I think on weekends it was twenty-four hours open, and there were signs on the bathroom that would get flipped if a male was using the bathroom. And on week nights, on study nights I think, I can't really remember, but I think it was just like an earlier time in the evening, like maybe seven to nine or something like that.

**VF:** Was there enough housing for women?

**JH:** Yes. There was. I believe so.

**VF:** What was the role of College administration in assimilating new female students during the academic year?

**JH:** We were certainly invited to express our opinions on committees and that sort of thing. There was always a big attempt to kind of learn our names and greet us going around campus. I don't know what the faculty was told but... (*Laughter*) You know, there... There just seemed to be a lot more, a lot of opportunities for us to mix with the faculty and with male students in... in committee work and things about issues. Not just socially.

**VF:** So do you feel that there were enough infrastructures for support?

**JH:** Yeah, I did.

**VF:** Describe how social life for women differed from that of men.

**JH:** I think the biggest difference was that there was such a strong fraternity system. If you did not want to participate in that then it was kind of an effort to find other alternatives, especially because most people at that time didn't have a car on campus. You know, I never did. And so it was limiting, you know, to just be on campus or in walking distance. And, you know, there were different rules about, I'm trying to remember. I think alcohol was very strict in dorms which was, you know, kind of unequal because that's where the women lived. And most of the men lived in fraternities, and there weren't many restrictions at that point. And so if that, if people chose for that to be part of their social life, that was certainly unequal. But... fraternities just kind of organized a lot of things on campus. I mean, good things too, charity work and that sort of thing. But also parties, a lot of parties.

**VF:** Describe your initial interactions with men during your first year here.

**JH:** They really varied. Someone who later I found out was one of my husband's good friends later on I found out, told me that he thought I was really a snob (*Laughter*) because he was hanging outside the dorm, and when I came out I wouldn't even talk to

him. But there were always the first year these guys kind of hanging outside the dorm. I tended not to really interact with them. But I think that the way that I became more acquainted with men was in small classes and discussion groups. And also I did a lot of volunteer work and met people that way.

**VF:** Considering that there were more males than females here was it easy to find a date?

**JH:** Oh yeah. (*Laughter*) I mean it was like... I don't know, I think it was like eighteen hundred to a little over two hundred or something like that. It was really out of whack.

**VF:** Do you recall any divisions among the women in terms of race or class or religion or anything else like that?

**JH:** There were, but I don't think that they lasted. I think that it was sort of I know I've used the term "growing pains" before. But I do think that it was kind of like I'm really into human development and parenting and that sort of thing. And it's the way that teenagers kind of separate. And, you know, they try to separate from their parents, and they don't know how to do it, and so it's real inappropriate at first. It's the same kind of thing. There, there was... the black students especially really wanted the, the ABC<sup>4</sup> which I think is still...

**VF:** Yes, it is.

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<sup>4</sup> Association of Black Collegians.

**JH:** ...going. Okay, well that was like in its infant stages. And... I had black women on my floor and also in my classes and everything was going fine and then all of the sudden it wasn't. It was kind of like, "No. We're gonna go... We're gonna do this now. And this is gonna be our place. And you're not allowed here." And there was some tension for a while, and then, it didn't last long. It was kinda like, "Well, this is kinda silly. We've always been friends. And it's okay." I didn't see anything with regard to religion really. And, I mean, social classes, that happens everywhere. I mean, just economic differences. I mean I was not one of the well-off people on campus, but I certainly didn't feel that anybody discriminated against me because of it at the time.

**VF:** Did the women tend to stick together then?

**JH:** Yeah, I would say they did. I would say so. I mean, there were certainly groups according to interest just as there are anyway. But yeah we were kind of all in it together.

**VF:** Can you describe the racial climate on campus at that time?

**JH:** Well, the racial climate was probably reflecting what was going on nationally. You know, and there were a lot of civil rights issues, and, and women's rights issues, and the war in Vietnam, and, you know, all kinds of things going on. So I think there were kind of tentative steps for black students to assert themselves. And this was I think, you know,

in some ways a pretty accepting community. But I'm not sure that that was their experience off campus.

**VF:** Where did you have your meals?

**JH:** Oh at Marquis Hall. That's where everybody did I think at the time. (*Laughter*)

**VF:** What was it like eating in Marquis Hall?

**JH:** It was noisy. (*Laughter*) It was okay. Well, you know, I got these lunches for free so I made sure I ate lunch everyday (*Laughter*)... probably not breakfast that much. And then usually I'd have dinner there too. But, it was fun. It was a lot of times, you know, either dinner or lunch if we didn't have classes in the afternoon, that would be the place where we kind of had this changing group of people that would get together and really stay a long time and talk about, you know, social and political issues. We'd be there a long time.

**VF:** What type of music did you listen to as a college student?

**JH:** What was popular at the time. (*Laughter*) I don't... I don't know what the name for it would have been. I mean, some of it maybe was folk music, and some of it was rock.

Do you mean like by bands or like bands?

**VF:** If you have favorite bands.

**JH:** Oh, gee, you know, Blood Sweat and Tears<sup>5</sup>, Chicago<sup>6</sup>, the Beatles<sup>7</sup>... whatever was... nothing real alternative or anything.

**VF:** What was the role of music in your Lafayette experience?

**JH:** I guess it wasn't strong for me. I was a very serious student. I mean that was really kind of what I was supposed to be here for, and you know, according to my family, and I understood that. I agreed with them. And so I didn't even really play that much music in my room, you know. It was hard work getting good grades at Lafayette at the time. It definitely was. And I was serious about it. But the campus especially on weekends was just really full of music because there were parties and windows were open and doors were open, and that was just kind of neat to walk around and hear that.

**VF:** Being that the Greek system was so dominant what types of things did people do for fun outside of that?

**JH:** What did we do? Nothing expensive. I mean there was just kind of taking walks and sitting and talking. I don't know...it seemed like people got by on very little money. You know, it was things that really didn't cost very much. I guess there was nothing that

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<sup>5</sup> A rock band formed in the late 1960s.

<sup>6</sup> A rock band which began as *The Big Thing* in Chicago, Illinois in 1967. Still touring in 2002, Chicago has produced twenty top ten singles and sold over one hundred and twenty million albums.

<sup>7</sup> Rock band formed in the U.K. in the early 1960s.



really stands out for me. I mean, impromptu like games on the quad, you know, frisbee and stuff like that. That's, that's about it... sitting around in people's rooms.

**VF:** How was the interaction between other Lehigh Valley Colleges such as Cedar Crest<sup>8</sup> and Muhlenberg<sup>9</sup>?

**JH:** I didn't have any. I think that was a big deal before women came here. You know, there seemed to be a lot of upper class men that were dating women from other schools and then that had always been... like mixers or whatever they called them were arranged. But at the time... I think we got together... I'm trying to think when Lehigh<sup>10</sup> went coed if it was... I think it was the year after Lafayette. Do you know? I think it was the year after. And so I think we, especially the RAs were kind of asked to go and talk with them about what was gonna happen. And even the first year that they were coed we had some organized kind of interaction with them about, "Well, this is what might happen, and this is how we handled it." And that sort of thing.

**VF:** How did your social life change between your first year and your last year at Lafayette?

**JH:** Well, I was married at the end of my junior year, so (*Laughter*) it changed a lot. Yeah, I got married very young. And my husband graduated in '71, and we were married

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<sup>8</sup> Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

<sup>9</sup> Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

<sup>10</sup> Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

in May of '72, so I still had another year of school. So I lived off campus and, you know, it was very different. (*Laughter*)

**VF:** How did that affect your Lafayette experience being married after your junior year?

**JH:** Well I was definitely different than everybody else. I mean, a lot of people didn't even know I was married though. You know, I would just come to class... I mean, I would pretty much come here everyday and, the only thing was I wasn't an RA anymore. You know, I had been an RA for two years, and my senior year I wasn't. But people were often surprised to find out that I was married. But you know, we'd have people over to our house, and it would just be more of a focus off campus than on campus, you know, when I wasn't in class. (*Laughter*)

**VF:** Why did you choose psychology as your major?

**JH:** It just made so much sense to me. You know, I had had a little bit of psychology at Susquehanna, and it just seemed like this is just so practical and so sensible and so functional. It all just made so much sense to me that... Not that I didn't have to study. I mean certainly doing research and papers and that sort of thing. But it just was fascinating to me. I mean, human behavior was fascinating.

**VF:** How was your transition to Lafayette academically?

**JH:** I think I was really scared that I wouldn't be able to make it, and I really plugged hard. You know, I always tried to keep up with assignments. And you know I was a little compulsive about doing well.

**VF:** Did academics here differ from that of Susquehanna?

**JH:** Yes. Yes. Susquehanna was much more... not that there wasn't a work load because there was, but it was more busy work. And here I felt that it was much more mentally challenging and stimulating. And that, you know, it was more application. It was more drawing on your experiences and being able to apply things than just memorizing and spitting back and knowing facts.

**VF:** How would you rate overall your academic experience at Lafayette?

**JH:** I thought it was excellent. In fact, when I applied to graduate school, which was a number of years later, and I had taken the GREs<sup>11</sup> when I was here. I went to the school psychology program at Lehigh, which is pretty competitive and selective. And I found out later on that I was like the only one in the class that they didn't interview. And I went to the head of the department, and I said, "You know, you never interviewed me." He said, "I didn't have to. I looked at your credentials from Lafayette in the Psych Department, and it was, there was no question." I said, "Oh. Okay." So I thought it was a great, a valuable experience. It was certainly... it was a good basis for my graduate work.

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<sup>11</sup> Graduate Record Examinations.

**VF:** That is quite an honor. Is there anything that you would have changed about your experiences at Lafayette academically?

**JH:** I think that I really concentrated on psychology, and probably if I had it to do over again I would have... there... By the time actually I think they were loosening up requirements maybe our first year, and by the time I left there weren't really any requirements. So you could basically take whatever you wanted just as long as you had the same number, the appropriate number of credits. And I took so much psychology that I think if I had it to do over again I would take things that would maybe broaden me more.

**VF:** How did you choose your classes?

**JH:** Somewhat with an advisor but usually independently. You know, what would fit into my schedule, and what I was interested in.

**VF:** Do you remember your first day of classes? What was that like?

**JH:** I remember more when I took the summer classes when I was here as a counselor for the summer program. You know, one of them was an American literature course, and there were just so many books, and it was so compacted because I think the class was maybe five or six weeks. And so I just remember thinking, "I'm either gonna be reading

or I'm gonna be writing about what I'm reading." It just seemed like a lot, but, you know, it worked out fine. I don't remember too much, you know, in the fall because I think I had already taken a couple of courses in a kind of a slower pace, and I was pretty comfortable with it.

**VF:** Were you immediately aware of the male/female ratio in your classrooms or did it take a while to realize there was such a difference?

**JH:** No, I was, I was immediately aware because I, I was sometimes the only female.

**VF:** Did that affect, you think, your performance in the classroom?

**JH:** It did. It probably affected my class participation. I don't think it affected any of my written work or my studying. But it affected my class participation because I think by nature I tend to kind of observe and watch for awhile before I would participate. But I felt sometimes that I was expected to say something maybe quicker than I would have given a different, a more equitable male/female ratio.

**VF:** How did your male peers treat you inside the classroom?

**JH:** Oh... well I never experienced anything distasteful. It would just be kind of like anywhere else. Sometimes, some would ignore you. Some would be very polite. Some would just be kind of like a friend. It was pretty ordinary.

**VF:** Did you find that male professors ever treated you differently from their male students?

**JH:** Sometimes. And I think if they did, the ones that did, the few that did, it was in an effort to just make me feel more welcome. I mean it was well intentioned. It was nothing that ever offended me. You know, it was just kind of like, “Oh, it’s so nice to have you in class Miss Campbell.” *(Laughter)* Things like that. But they didn’t go around the room and say that to all the men. *(Laughter)*

**VF:** Did you ever have a female instructor?

**JH:** I don’t think I did.

**VF:** Do you feel that affected your student experience here at all?

**JH:** I’m sure it did, you know, looking back on it. In fact, I was looking through the yearbook kind of to get in the right frame of mind, and I was looking at the faculty section. And the women faculty members were listed by their husband’s names at that time in 1973. And looking back at that I can’t even believe it, you know. They, the men would be like Joseph Smith, but the, if there was a woman faculty member she wouldn’t be Mary Smith. She would be Mrs. Joseph Smith listed as a faculty member. And I

thought, “You know, maybe the women faculty had it harder than we did.” I mean, you know, maybe they were, I don’t know, in some ways more put in a box than we were.

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**VF:** Did you have any mentors at Lafayette?

**JH:** Yes. I would say... you know, and unfortunately as I said, I can’t remember her maiden name and her married name, but Sue Hermann Williams. I think when she got married it was Williams. She was very, very helpful to me, and I think to most of the women the first couple years we were here. Just kind of being realistic about what we could expect, and you know, how to go about getting things that we wanted. And then academically I would say it was Howard Gallup<sup>12</sup> who was in the Psych Department at that time.

**VF:** How effective was your advisor during your college experience?

**JH:** Actually it was Howard except that my senior year he was on sabbatical, so he wasn’t here then. And he was very helpful, but ultimately the philosophy at the time was it’s really your decision. I mean, you know, I’ll present you with the options and, and you kind of decide what you, what you want to do.

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<sup>12</sup> Howard Gallup, Psychology Department.

**VF:** Is there any one particular incident that stands out in your mind as one of the worst female/male interactions on campus in the classroom or socially or anything like that?

**JH:** Involving me or just anybody?

**VF:** Involving you or someone else...

**JH:** No...

**VF:** ...that you had heard about in passing.

**JH:** I didn't have anything that negative happen. And I guess, you know, I'm not really recalling anything for anybody else either.

**VF:** Okay. Do you think that the college's focus on engineering and the sciences hinder students academically who are in the social sciences and the arts?

**JH:** I didn't think so. I mean, I know it was known as an engineering school, and that was like someplace I never went. I mean, I was never involved in any of those classes. But there were women who were. And I think they may have had a tougher time just because it was such a traditionally male oriented, major. But no... You know, there, there would be snide comments about well being a psych major's easy, or, you know,



being a sociologist, or you know, what... history major, that's nothing, you know, we have all this. But it was just kind of friendly.

**VF:** Okay. Do you remember any distinct changes in the way female students were treated during your experience here as a student?

**JH:** You mean changes while I was here?

**VF:** Yeah.

**JH:** I think it just became more ordinary and more normal because about like three years into it there were just more. You know, the classes were getting more equal in terms of the balance of male and female. People weren't walking on their tiptoes around each other. It just became more normalized, which was good.

**VF:** What was the emphasis for post-college initiatives at Lafayette for the women? Were women expected to find a husband more so than finding employment or continuing with their education?

**JH:** No, I was, very much encouraged to go to graduate school. And I think that that was, certainly in the Psych Department I would say that was very, very much encouraged. And I did consider it at the time. I really wasn't sure what I wanted to go into graduate school for. You know, somebody... One professor was talking to me

about clinical psychology, and I didn't think that's what I wanted so... (*Laughter*) So I wanted to work for a while. I thought I wanted to do something in special education. And I had done a lot of volunteer work in that area, so I wanted to work in that area to determine whether that was going to be something I wanted to go into. And so, but it wasn't because I wasn't encouraged to do it.

**VF:** Speaking of other students are there any people that you remember from your time here that you think we should interview?

**JH:** I... yeah, I think you should interview Darlyne Bailey<sup>13</sup>. Do you know Darlyne?

**VF:** I don't know her, but she comes up...(*Laughter*)

**JH:** Okay. Okay. Well she was on my floor freshman year. And I know that she's... I think she's teaching... her concentration is I think in organizational psychology. And I haven't seen her in years. But she might give you a whole different perspective. I mean, I... We had... We had a really... a friendship that I valued, although we haven't seen each other in years.

**VF:** Now you were involved in a lot of activities. What was that like?

**JH:** Well, it was, most of the activities I was in, especially my last year or two were, were really off campus. I kinda saw myself as transitioning out of school maybe before

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<sup>13</sup> Darlyne Bailey, Class of 1974, A.B.

most other people did. But on campus it was... it was demanding, but it was very stimulating to be part of talking about policy and things like that. And I guess I just decided later on when I started really doing more volunteering that I wanted to transition to the real world. I always saw Lafayette as very protected, sheltered place that was a good place to get what you needed academically, but I never thought the real world was gonna be like this. And it was time to kind of get my feet wet and start seeing what I really could do out there.

**VF:** What type of volunteer work did you do?

**JH:** I worked quite a bit at what at that time was called United Cerebral Palsy of the Lehigh Valley, and it's now combined with another agency, and that's no longer the name. But they had an infant class for babies with developmental delays, and I worked in there with the babies and their mothers just kind of teaching them how to interact with their children and stimulate them. And then I also co-ran, actually with my husband. This is kind of how we met. They called it a teen club but the age range was really much more like upper teens to young adults. Kids with developmental disabilities. I mean some of them were actually older than we were at the time, but not developmentally. And so we would run this on weekends and just take them on field trips and teach them how to, kind of do life skills and also just offer the family some respite so that they could go to a movie on Friday night or go somewhere on Saturday because really there were no options for these people to be supervised or watched by others. So I did... we did that.

**VF:** Were you ever involved in any sports here?

**JH:** No, I really wasn't. I mean just, you know, impromptu little things on the quad, but no. I wasn't.

**VF:** Did many women get involved in sports? What was the prevailing campus attitude towards that?

**JH:** It was just all new. I couldn't tell you the percentage. I mean I know that there were teams starting up, and they were, you know, they were new, and they were new to the league. It was I think a little challenging to find opponents at that point because they couldn't play the opponents, all the opponents that the men played because they weren't all coeducational at that time. But I know that there were women that were very interested in sports, had always played sports in high school. And, you know, there, there were programs although, you know, I'm just not sure how they were... if they were funded as well, or if they, you know, I mean I don't... whether the coaches were full-time or part-time or that sort of thing I don't, I don't know.

**VF:** How much involvement did you have in political and social movements?

**JH:** I attended a lot of discussions on campus, a lot of speakers. There were a lot of speakers brought in. Well, actually the spring before I got here the student strike<sup>14</sup> was

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<sup>14</sup> In the spring of 1970 Lafayette students refused to attend classes as a protest against the Vietnam War.

going on to protest the war in Vietnam. I remember at that time there was a lottery system for draft numbers. I mean, this might be all like ancient history to you, but basically everybody, all, all the eligible young men according to their birthdays were assigned a number of how... like where they would stand, how soon they would be drafted. And that was a really tough time. I just remember people that got low numbers were just so down, so full of despair because they were pretty sure that as soon as they graduated, there was a student deferment at the time, but as soon as they graduated they might be going to Vietnam. And, you know, people with high numbers celebrated because if your number was, you know, three sixty-two you probably weren't gonna be drafted. (*Laughter*) So it was more of awareness and raising my own consciousness about a lot of issues than active participation I guess.

**VF:** Were you involved in any campus demonstrations regarding the Vietnam War?

**JH:** Actually I was but it was before I was a student here. I happened to be visiting the previous spring and, you know, I was in the student strike.

**VF:** Would you say that feminism was something that crossed your mind as a student?

**JH:** Oh, yes. Definitely.

**VF:** Were there any activities that you were involved in that you think now were pretty radical?

**JH:** I don't, I don't think they were radical. I remember that, you know, we asked and, and got Planned Parenthood to come in to the... the RAs requested that Planned Parenthood come in and, and give a presentation to the dorm. And, you know, because we saw as looking around, we saw a real need for education in that area for the women students and I think there was a little nervousness about that on the part of the administration. But they let us do it. And it was, it was a good discussion. It was in the lounge, and it was crowded I remember. And it went on for a long time, and then the nice thing was that they offered information about how to contact them for individual needs too. So, you know, I was a part of that, but I don't know if that was... It's certainly not radical now. Maybe at the time it might have been.

**VF:** What was the campus reaction in terms of the faculty or even students for things such as abortion and birth control and things like that?

**JH:** I don't think... It wasn't talked about real openly. There were a couple of maintenance men in, in Ruef Hall that, you know, since I was here early and as an RA I got to know them. And they were very nice. They were very nice older gentlemen. And they felt very protective of the women. But they were so worried. They kept telling me, "Somebody's gonna get in the family way. I know they are. Judy somebody's gonna get in the family way." And they'd (*Laughter*)... So there was this... undercurrent that somebody was gonna get pregnant. That that was definitely gonna happen. And then

coeducation was just gonna be ruined because it was just gonna be such a scandal. But, you know, that didn't really happen so. (*Laughter*)

**VF:** What was your best experience outside of the classroom?

**JH:** My best experience outside of the classroom. I don't know. I didn't have like a lot of real highs and lows. It was just kind of meeting with friends, and some, some funny things. I love dogs, and so there were a lot of dogs on campus, and I would usually, not that I was supposed to, but I would take them to my room and play with them and stuff like that. (*Laughter*)

**VF:** What do you think was the most pressing issue for women during your time at Lafayette?

**JH:** I think we were all trying to figure out, and I honestly thought it would be better now, but it really isn't... how to balance a family and career. You know, if we chose to do that. And I just remember having so many talks with both women and men about that. You know, and there were very idealistic men that said, "Oh well, you know, it'll be shared parenthood. I mean, nobody will have to make a choice. It'll just, it'll just work out." And, of course, you know, that realistically that doesn't happen very often. And, you know, the fact that I now have a grandchild, and my daughter's faced with the same thing. You know, we really haven't come very far in many ways. I mean, there's some

companies that make it easier, but generally I think it still falls very much on women, and it's a tough, tough little wire to walk.

**VF:** How would you characterize the politics of Lafayette while you were a Lafayette student from the politics of Lafayette now?

**JH:** Well, I mean, the official politics at that time I think were very conservative. I think the president was very conservative. There was some animosity between the political views of the student body, and... or some of the student body and probably like the newspaper, you know, what was represented in, in the college newspaper, and the president at that time. I mean I remember they would really actually, you know, ridicule him (*Laughter*) in the newspaper. It was pretty rough. Because there was just this kind of restlessness on the part of so many people at the time that, and maybe some guilt that here we were, we were so protected and, you know, we weren't the ones going off to war, and we weren't the ones being discriminated against because we were protected here. We had this really nice little life, but this wasn't the real world. And I don't, you know, I guess I'm not too aware of what the politics are now to compare it.

**VF:** Do you think that the *Alumni Magazine* represents Lafayette as a whole?

**JH:** Oh, I think it's gotten a lot better. You know, I think in the beginning it didn't. I have kind of a funny story about that. I don't know if you have time for it, but... (*Laughter*) When my husband and I got married we got married locally outside. You



know, in, in this field and people were there, and it was, it was sort of what a lot of people did at that time. And his hair was on the longer side as, as many people wore their hair at that time. Well, a newspaper reporter for the local newspaper was driving by and took a picture of us in this, this field full of people and somebody at Lafayette picked it up and put it in the *Alumni Magazine* just as two Lafayette... Well, I guess my husband was graduated by that time, but I was still a student. And I don't think there was much about it. It was just a picture with our names and, you know, the years that we would graduate. And this was a quarterly magazine, and the next quarter there were really... this was probably my worst experience now that you talk about my worst experience with Lafayette. There were very negative attacks on us as not representing the Lafayette ideal. We were called hippies. You know, this... "If this is what coeducation means then, you know I knew it wasn't a good idea." That sort of thing. There were, there were letters from alumni that were very negative. And, you know, we were kind of hurt. We didn't ask to have our picture in there and now we're getting attacked personally. Then the following quarter when it came out there was this backlash of people... some knew us and some didn't... but there, you know, there were professors that knew us, there were friends that were in our classes, and their parents who knew us and said, you know, "These people work with handicapped children. You don't even know them. You have no right to judge them like this." And, you know, which was comforting but also like, we don't really want all this attention. And we actually went into the, the alumni office at one point and said, "Is this gonna stop now? Could we not have anymore of this?" And they said, "Yeah." They weren't gonna publish anymore... So that was sort of indicative of how there still was really a big split just based on appearance.

**VF:** What was the Lafayette ideal so to speak supposed to be back then?

**JH:** Oh, I think you were just supposed to go work on Wall Street and make a lot of money, and you know. (*Laughter*) You know, it'd be nice if you, if you contributed to causes, but you know, it was all really about making money.

**VF:** Do you think that that type of ideal has changed at all right now?

**JH:** I think it changed, but I'm not sure that it hasn't changed back. I think it did change for awhile, and then... I think it, it goes up and down, and I'm not sure where it is right now.

**VF:** What is your perception of Lafayette now?

**JH:** I think it's an excellent school. I really still value the type of close attention that it's possible to get here and, and the quality of the education. And I think people are a lot freer to express themselves. I'm just not sure... and I'm not sure, you know, I'm not saying whether this is right or not, but how much diversity there is here, especially economically given the expense. It's just so expensive.

**VF:** What did you do after graduation?

**JH:** I worked as an associate teacher in special education classrooms. And then I had my children. And it was important to me to be home with them. So at that point I worked a number of jobs that were not really towards a career, but they fit in with our family's schedule as far as somebody being with the kids. And actually I worked at Lafayette. I worked in the library here as a night and weekend supervisor, you know, kinda locking up and making sure everything's going well. And then I worked in the college relations office when my kids were younger... like first starting school. It was a part-time job, so I could work nine to three everyday. And I did research on major donors and you know, helped out at some college functions and that sort of thing. And then when they were a little bit older, and they were both really, you know, in school then I went back to graduate school at Lehigh. And that took three years to get my degree there, and I've been working as a school psychologist since.

**VF:** How did you come to find a job at Lafayette?

**JH:** In the paper. In the newspaper. It was... you know, I just applied and was interviewed, and they hired me.

**VF:** Did you feel adequately prepared for the challenges you faced in the workplace after graduating.

**JH:** Oh, yeah. Yeah. I think I learned a lot of critical thinking skills here.

**VF:** What was the male/female ratio like in the workplace?

**JH:** Well, that's interesting because since I worked primarily in schools, they're still, it's very female dominated now. Most... I mean I work with a lot of teachers. You know, I've worked in elementary schools as well as secondary schools, but mostly elementary schools. And now I work exclusively in special education classrooms and most of the teachers I work with are female. So it's, it's more female dominated.

**VF:** Do you think that there are any issues from your time as a student that are still relevant to Lafayette students today?

**JH:** I still think the women's issues of career and balancing, you know, home life are still... I think that's still really tough.

**VF:** Looking back now do you think that Lafayette was the ideal place to foster your growth both academically and socially?

**JH:** I think for me it was. I think it worked out real well for me. And I probably appreciated it because I was very unhappy my freshman year, and, and so to me, it just represented a lot more opportunity and a lot more stimulation.

**VF:** What impact do you think that you left on the Lafayette community being one of the first women on this campus?

**JH:** I kind of feel like we got it off to a good start. You know, that we... I think we were aware that it was not totally accepted, especially by alumni. I mean, especially by alumni. That was very evident to us. We were told that, and it was kind of like, "We really want this to work. You understand that don't you? You really want this to work because not everybody's in favor of this." (*Laughter*)

**VF:** How did that type of attitude from the alumni make you feel?

**JH:** Well it... I think if it had been directed at me personally as one person I probably would have been upset or hurt by it. But, you know, I just saw it as, "Well, I'm in this group, and we're really smart. And we're really good. And we're just gonna show them. I mean, we're gonna show them that this is not a mistake, and that traditions can change. And it's still gonna be a really good school." So it was kind of a challenge, (*Laughter*) I guess.

**VF:** Considering that we're interviewing you for this oral history project clearly we think that being in one of the first classes of women is something really interesting. What do you think about this as a significant thing?

**JH:** I'm really impressed... as soon as I got the letter from Kristen I was really anxious to participate. I think it's really wonderful. I hope you get a good response because, you

know, I know I'm not the typical Lafayette woman of that time, and I don't know that anybody is. So I hope that it, you really get a lot of good information.

**VF:** Do you think that being in one of the first classes of women affected your future in any way either positively or negatively?

**JH:** I think it gave me a lot of confidence. It's kind of like I got used to asserting myself in a good way. Being able to state my opinions, my rationale, my reasons for things. I think I grew a lot.

**VF:** When you look back now at your overall experience in broad terms what do you want to say about it to sum it all up?

**JH:** It was, it was very positive... overall it was very positive. You know there were some, some rough spots, but there was a lot of camaraderie. There was a lot of opportunity, and I'm really glad I was part of it.

**VF:** As you reflect back on your college experiences, is there anything that you would change?

**JH:** I don't think so. I don't think so.

**VF:** Do you think that you would do it all over again?

**JH:** Well the times are different, but I think I probably, you know, as much as I can say that, I would, yeah.

**VF:** Is there anything that you would like to say or talk about that I did not address?

**JH:** I don't think so. I think you did a good job. (*Laughter*) I hope we hit everything.

**VF:** What advice would you give to an incoming Lafayette student?

**JH:** Well, you know, to me, as I said I was a serious student, so be prepared to work. It is demanding. But certainly try to meet as many people as you can and, and expose yourself to as many opinions and viewpoints as you possibly can. And, and think about things.

**VF:** Thank you for your interview.

**JH:** Sure.