

BARNARD COLLEGE CLASS OF 1971 ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

The Reminiscences of

Kathy Galvin

2015

PREFACE

The following oral history is the result of a recorded interview with Kathy Galvin conducted by Frances Connell on September 28, 2015. This interview is part of the Barnard Class of 1971 Oral History Project.

The reader is asked to bear in mind that she is reading a verbatim transcript of the spoken word, rather than written prose.

Barnard Alumni Class of 1971 Oral History Project

Interviewee: Kathy Galvin

Location: San Francisco, CA

Interviewer: Frances Connell

Date: September 28, 2015

00:02:02 Q: Okay. Here we go. All right so this is an interview, taking place with Kathy Galvin in San Francisco for the Barnard College Voice Oral History Project, the class of 1971. The interviewer is Frances Connell, and our guest videographer today is my son, Caleb Connell. So, Kathy, thank your very much for joining us. We usually start by just asking you to reflect a little bit about—tell us about your family, your childhood, your memories of growing up, things you did as a child, your schooling. And we'll go from there.

00:02:52 Galvin: Okay. So, you want to prompt me a little—

00:02:54 Q: So, where were you born?

00:02:55 Galvin: Oh okay. Yeah. So I was born in Dallas, Texas. I am the oldest of five. I have three brothers and a sister. My mother is from Brooklyn, but my father basically is from Dallas. We're Irish catholic. I went to Catholic school from kindergarten to senior in high school. My high school was a catholic girls school. My parents were liberals, which was unusual in Dallas. Not to mention my mother, because she's from Brooklyn, but certainly my dad. His parents were Roosevelt liberals. My father was a law school dean, a law school professor, and then he was dean. My mother did not work outside the home. So, I grew up kind of in an academic household. Education was definitely something that there was no question that would go on after

high school. And, also, politics, what was going on in the world, was something that was discussed at the dinner table. So, I grew up with knowing what was going on in the world as well.

00:05:14 Q: What were some of events that you remember from your childhood through high school?

00:05:18 Galvin: Well certainly I would say the [John F.] Kennedy election, because I was in the minority and I used to wear like thirty buttons for Kennedy. And one time, I remember distinctly, that I was waiting at a corner to cross the street, waiting for a light to change, and these two grown ups actually spit on me because I had all these Kennedy buttons. And kids would take away our signs in the front yard. So we would have fights—not so much me. Sometimes—but my brothers. The neighbors kitty corner from us were also Kennedy supporters but we were probably the only two in the whole neighborhood. And, I remember one kid saying, “You know, Nixon’s going to win.” And I said, “Well, Nixon might win in Dallas, but Kennedy is going to win in he United States.” And he had never thought about that. You know? And then of course I remember the assassination, because I lived in Dallas. My parents were at the luncheon waiting for him. So, it was very, very real. Yeah. It was pretty traumatic for us.

00:07:23 Q: Schools were closed right away, I’m sure?

00:07:24 Galvin: Yes.

00:07:25 Q: There was a lock down of the city?

0:07:27 Galvin: Yes. Yes. And of course it was very, very hard for my parents, because they were also great Stevenson, Adlai Stevenson supporters, and there was an incident with him, maybe a month before. A friend of my father, who maybe two years later, had gone to Germany, and the inspector when he was going through immigration stamped his passport and noticed somehow that he was from Dallas. And he said, “Oh, Dallas. Where you killed Kennedy.” And he said, “Oh, Germany. Where you killed six million Jews.” And I learned when I was in Europe in '69, never to say that I was from Dallas, just to say that I was from Texas. People's attitudes were different about it. But I hated Dallas anyway [laughs], for different reasons. But it was an interesting place to grow up.

00:09:11 Q: Were you right in Dallas or one of the towns outside?

00:09:15 Galvin: Right in Dallas.

00:09:16 Q: And you were in a private Catholic school—?

00:09:24 Galvin: Right.

00:09:25 Q: What were the size of your classes? One of those gargantuan Catholic schools or—?

00:09:29 Galvin: Back then—well, back then—the first grade, there were two classes. Each class had about fifty students.

00:09:45 Q: fifteen or fifty?

00:09:46 Galvin: Five-oh. There were not enough desks. So, I distinctly remember kids sitting on the ledge. I don't know how we learned to read, to tell you the truth. But we somehow did because we were the baby boomers and you know, in a Catholic school, we were—so in high school, there were probably, thirty, thirty-five kids in each of my classes. It was not any kind of elite fifteen kids in a class kind of thing.

00:10:42 Q: Do you remember some of the things you did as a child? Kitchen-Aid—

00:10:44 Galvin: The whole family would pile into the station wagon every other year and go wherever the American Bar association had it's convention. So we went to Los Angeles and it took us a whole twelve hours to get to El Paso. And my mother's sister lived in Palo Alto and we also went to Yosemite. One time it was in D.C. so we went to Monticello and all the museums in D.C. One time it was in New York and so we all slept in one hotel room. One time, I think it was in Montreal. So, you know, we would go on these long trips. Those were the only vacations that we ever took. No. That's not true. My brothers went to sleep away camp. I went one time to Girl Scout sleep away camp. And I actually had very happy teenager-hood. I hung out with a lot of girlfriends and went to the movies then. I don't know how we did our homework, but we did. But we also just hung out and had a really fun time. We worked in the summers.

00:13:15 Q: What kind of work did you do?

00:13:18 Galvin: Well I was lucky. I actually worked in the law school.

00:13:20 Q: Is it SMU [Southern Methodist University] or—?

00:13:27 Galvin: Yeah. Yeah.

00:13:28 Q: And so you were exposed to the law, then? Most likely.

00:13:32 Galvin: Yeah. I was. I was.

00:13:33 Q: I'm really curious about how it _____ [??]

00:13:37 Galvin: Oh, you are?

00:13:39 Q: _____ [??]

00:13:46 Galvin: Richardson. Yeah.

00:13:50 Q: _____ [??] But anyway, I remember being like in the late fifties sort of suburban, very conservative—

00:14:04 Galvin: Yes.

00:14:08 Q: So, my next question is how did you sort deal with being the child of a very liberal, a very academic, a dean, family? Were you accepted?

00:14:34 Galvin: I guess because they were pretty strong personalities, and my friends were not—even though they were Republicans—at that time we weren't really discussing the Vietnam war or anything. I mean, you know, sometimes I would with some people, but it wasn't—I mean that's not what we really talked about, politics. And it just wasn't—I wasn't, a political activist at that point. And so, I would have conversations with my father and maybe somebody in the law school about, “Well do you think that if Kennedy had lived would we still be in Vietnam?” You know? That kind of thing. I didn't have those kinds of conversations with my friends. I didn't feel left out or anything.

00:16:24 Q: And, can you say something about your mother? Can you explain whether she was a role model for you or somebody you could rebel against?

00:16:34 Galvin: Well, let's see. I did rebel against her. But I think it was just typical mother-daughter kind of thing. And she probably was a role model for me, but in the sense that she was not in any way, obviously, a southern mother. I think most of my friends' mothers were not either. They had kids and they were dealing with their kids and stuff. She was smart. She was curious. She was very involved volunteer-wise with everything. She cared about what was

happening in the world. And frankly, she was dealing with my four siblings as well as having to deal with me. Unfortunately, I was the oldest, so everything was new and that was hard, with her, with me. And so, everything could get to be a battle. But she pretty much trusted me. So, I really didn't—there weren't these curfews and stuff like that. And I had to take a lot of responsibility for the other siblings in the house, taking care of them and helping her. So, yeah.

00:18:56 Q: _____ [??]

00:18:57 Galvin: Yeah.

00:19:00 Q: All right, tell me a little bit about this whole thing with _____
_____ [??]?

00:19:09 Galvin: Yes. I think we did. I did not feel, ever actually, that I wasn't prepared for college. So we did. But you know it was a lot of other things. I would assume that kids in public school got the same '50s and '60s crap [laughs] that you learned about at that point. But as far as how to think critically, and how to do research and writing, we got a very good foundation.

00:20:15 Q: And were you a part of any particular groups? Clubs? Activities?

00:20:20 Galvin: I was the co-editor of the newspaper in high school and I was president of the national honor society. And we had a book club that I started. And there was also a film club that was good. It was actually some Jesuit priest had—some probably progressive Jesuit priest—

started. And I was on the school government council. I think because I was president of the national honor society.

00:21:20 Q: Prior to college, who was the most influential person, you would say?

00:21:28 Galvin: In college?

00:21:29 Q: No, prior to college.

00:21:30 Galvin: Oh, in college. Maybe in an indirect way, my father.

00:21:55 Q: Was he a very present father or was he busy with other things?

00:21:57 Galvin: He was probably too busy with other things. My mother was really the more present parent.

00:22:11 Q: But when you say he was influential, was it his ideas or his leading you in discussion? Was it at the dinner table?

00:22:16 Galvin: Yeah. Yeah. And when we were together, alone, he would be interested if I had an idea that was contrary to—I can't think of anything off the top right now—but anything that was, let's say if it was religion, something in Catholicism, that didn't make sense. He would find

that good. He would want to talk about that. He liked anything in the mind. So, I knew that he appreciated my mind to talk about anything. And so I think that probably was influential.

00:23:42 Q: What about dating or anything like that? Were you part of that whole scene at all?

00:23:54 Galvin: Not too much. I was more with friends who were boys and would go out in a group kind of thing, with boys. But I didn't have a boyfriend. Yeah. I didn't have a boyfriend.

00:24:27 Q: So, how about _____ [??] During this period how aware were you of civil rights in the middle of Dallas?

00:24:46 Galvin: Yeah. I was pretty aware. But not engaged in any kind of activities. You know, I'm not sure that there was very much. When I was in third grade I took the bus by myself to downtown Dallas for guitar lessons. For some reason, I went to sit in the back of the bus and the African American women looked at me funny. And I remember saying something to my mother. "Why were they looking at me kind of funny? That I was sitting in the back of the bus." I don't remember actually what she said. But I remember she was kind of hemming and hawing to try to explain why. And I also remember the first time I went to Woolworths—oh! Because I had to go to the bathroom—and it was on the second floor. When I got to the second floor, the first water fountain that I saw said, "Colored water". And I thought, "colored water?" I guess because I was on my own, these were new to me. And I never saw, pretty much, a black person who wore a suit or was in any kind of position except as a yard worker. You know? Or as a housekeeper. I was

aware of that. And it wasn't until I was a senior in high school—I was in some kind of interracial kind of conference, and we met maybe four or five times.

00:28:08 Q: These are all high school students?

00:28:10 Galvin: Yeah. Yeah.

00:28:11 Q: And the schools were totally segregated?

00:28:14 Galvin: Oh, sure. And I went out a couple of times with a friend at my high school, and her boyfriend was Latino, but never African-American.

00:28:45 Q: Was it much of a latino presence in Dallas in those days?

00:28:47 Galvin: Not too much. Not too much.

00:28:57 Q: Okay. So let's look at sort of the whole progression and how you ended up at Barnard _____ [??] Which subjects were in interested in?

00:29:11 Galvin: English. History. Probably those subjects.

00:29:20 Q: So, when the time came to apply to a college. What was that process like?

00:29:27 Galvin: Oh, I looked at—you know that book that has every single college in it. Not every single one. I poured through that book constantly. I applied to Northwestern because my mother was signed up for the navy, like towards the end, because she thought she could travel, but she ended up in Bayonne, NJ. And my mother was in the Navy during the war. But with the G.I. bill—

00:30:09 Q: She'd been in Northwestern and then she got—?

00:30:10 Galvin: No, no. My mother, because she was in the navy at the end of the war, and my father was in the navy, got the G.I. bill. They got married and she got a masters, in Northwestern, and he got a law degree, finished his law degree and got an M.B.A. there. So, I applied to Northwestern because they convinced me to apply. And I applied to Smith, and I applied to a couple of other colleges that were small, that I don't even remember. I did not get into Smith, and I got into Northwestern, and I got into these other small colleges. And so, I thought, Okay, I'll go to Northwestern.

So, I went to Northwestern. And I—you know, it was very good academically, and I made some good friends. But the dorm room, they made a double into a triple because they didn't have enough. So they put a bunk bed. So it was a bunk bed and a single bed into the room. And they put one of the chest doors out in the hallway. But, you know, you're young. But it was just too fraternity and sorority for me. And that summer, I lived with one of my cousins in New York, and worked in New York, and decided I wanted to go to school in New York. So, I went to University of Texas, at Austin, where it was fifty dollars a semester and didn't really like it, and

found a semester abroad program that sophomores could go. So, I went to the Syracuse semester abroad in France. And then I went to Barnard junior and senior year.

00:33:20 Q: So what stands out in your memory in those years, 1967 to 1969? Your first year in Chicago? And then Austin? Politically?

00:33:35 Galvin: Well, you know '68 was a pretty heavy year. I think that's both—it just was—the assassination of Martin Luther King, and then the assassination of Bobby [Robert] Kennedy. Okay, we were in central standard time, and my parents had actually awakened me to tell me that Bobby Kennedy had died. And that my father was in a position to be chair of the war on poverty in Dallas and he felt he had to take it. And I remember going into the communal bathroom. And my friend, probably the best friend that I had, was on the floor in the bathroom floor. I sat down on the bathroom and—I just remembered that, just being kind of overwhelmed by it.

Oh, and then the other thing, one person had a TV in her room, on our floor, and she was a friend. And I also remember watching Lyndon [B.] Johnson saying that he wasn't going to run. And we all looked at each other and said, "Wait a minute. What did he say? What did he say?" And what else? I think that year, also, I realized—like I read the Geneva Convention. And I took sociology, and the TA we had was black. And he was the first person to say, "I'm a black man. I am not a Negro. I am a black man." And actually at Northwestern, the black students did take over the administration building.

00:37:02 Q: They did?

00:37:03 Galvin: Yeah. In '68. And I had two black roommates, neither of whom—one was in the music school and one was in the journalism school. The one who was in the music school had no interest in anything, at all, but music and she ended up in the Metropolitan Opera. The other one, I don't know what happened to her. So, yeah, there were a lot of changes.

00:37:54 Q: So, were you involved in any demonstrations or marches? Against the war?

00:37:58 Galvin: No, there weren't any. I mean no, not in Chicago. And that summer in New York, I don't recall any. So, the first one that I went to was the one in '69 in Washington.

00:38:30 Q: So that meant that you were coming from Austin.

00:38:34 Galvin: Yeah.

00:38:34 Q: That's a long trip.

00:38:38 Galvin: Well no. In '69 was when I started Barnard.

00:38:42 Q: Okay, that right. And then, the different part of the convention, that was in Chicago that summer?

00:38:52 Galvin: Right, I was in New York.

00:38:59 Q: But, you were in New York City. Okay.

00:39:00 Galvin: So, I watched on TV.

00:39:05 Q: What about friends from those days? Can you think of any? That you kept in touch with from Northwestern?

00:39:17 Galvin: No, not really.

00:39:19 Q: You sure?

00:39:20 Galvin: The friend who was at Northwestern, transferred to Barnard too. But, we kind weren't—we didn't hang out together at Barnard. Beth Mehlhop, yeah. And then after I graduated law school, she was living in London. No, she was living Oxford. And so, I saw her then and I knew her sisters and I had seen them. But, I lost track of her too.

00:40:15 Q: Okay. So let's go back then to—you tried out two schools and now you've moved on to Barnard. What was your impression when you first arrived? Had you lived in New York before?

00:40:28 Galvin: Oh, Yeah. And my mom is from Brooklyn, so we went since we were kids.

00:40:38 Q: Had you had a tour of campus?

00:40:45 Galvin: No, no. I had not.

00:40:48 Q: So you arrived, and where did they put you?

00:40:53 Galvin: Yes. They put us on 121st street between Broadway and Amsterdam, and it was a building that Teacher's College owned. And it was a building where, it was stipulated that none of the women who lived there were to be evicted. It was kind of an SRO [single room occupancy]. So one of my roommates was an eighty-year-old woman.

00:41:30 Q: An eighty-year-old woman?

00:41:32 Galvin: Yes. And it was run by a sister and a brother, who had to be in their sixties, maybe older. And we were told we could not go between units. We could not like go visit other apartments. And we had curfew at eleven or ten or something ridiculous. And we couldn't have visitors. Not even women visitors. You know? So, it was hysterical. It was ridiculous.

00:42:30 Q: Yeah. I can't believe they did that to you. I never heard of this.

00:42:33 Galvin: Yes. It was ridiculous. So, we would have to sneak around to have dinner with our friends. And then if a friend was in from out of town we'd have to do [laughs] like a—she'd have to sneak behind and I would do a distraction, because there would be either the brother or

the sister at the window. And then the eighty-year-old woman had Alzheimer's and so she would get dressed in the middle of the night, maybe at eleven or midnight, and she would think she was going to church down the block—going to mass. And I'd try to explain to her that it was dark outside. "See Jonny Carson's on TV." Oh my god, it was awful.

00:43:35 Q: How long did this last? How long did they keep you there?

00:43:38 Galvin: For the whole year, that was where I lived for junior year.

00:43:42 Q: I had never heard of this. It's absolutely scandalous. And you're paying tuition?

00:43:44 Galvin: Yes. And the first night, my father came with me. He had business in the city, so he took a plane—I brought a trunk and so he rented a car and drove up. We got into the elevator and there was a banner, like a sticker, that said "Jews for Jesus." And he said, "Oh my God. Those poor parents." And so we get up there and get into my room, and my mother said, "Well what was her room like?" And he said, "Well, do you remember *Midnight Cowboy*?" It was pretty bad.

00:44:45 Q: So, you must have just tried to stay out of there as much as possible.

00:44:48 Galvin: Well, I remember a saying to my mom that at first, for lunch—in the beginning I didn't really know anybody, or my class schedule was such that I came home and made lunch. We had a kitchen and then three, four bedrooms. One of the women was living with her

boyfriend. She was never there. So, I don't know, I said something to her about being lonely. So, my mother's, sister's husband owned a TV store in Palo Alto. So, she had him send me like a tiny, tiny TV so that I would have somebody on the other side of the table [laughs]. So, I had the *Galloping Gourmet* on while I would eat lunch.

00:46:13 Q: So, how about academically? What did you find while you were at Barnard? Were there particular professors? Classes? Was it up to the standards you were seeking?

00:46:22 Galvin: Oh, Yeah. I had a great time. We had a great time. I can't remember what was junior year and senior year. Oh, junior year, it was the seventh strike. The first semester I don't remember what was what. But, Dennis [G.] Dalton, I loved. And I took his class called, Movement. That was great. There was a history class at Columbia, American History. I'm reading a book about John Brown, a fictional book—and I don't know if it was John Brown, or Nat Turner, but the professor—and I can't remember his name—he was saying that he was a crazy person. John Brown was, I don't know about Nat Turner. But, there were two brothers in our class. And I swear that class, there was constant arguing with the professor. And one of the brothers said, "No, he was a revolutionary." There was very often, when the bell rang—and there was a class afterwards coming in—our class would still be arguing with the professor and we'd have to go out in the hall and there would be this discussion, and you know. He taught the class in '68 and then in '70 he would say—he was so upset—"I'll never get to World War II because of the strike." You could never get to—he was great. I can't remember his name.

00:48:52 Q: So, you were a history major?

00:48:55 Galvin: No. I actually took English courses. But, I was going to be an English major, but then I thought that it wasn't relevant. So, I became a poly-sci major.

00:49:10 Q: Oh, okay, okay. So Dalton—many have spoken about him. It was a whole cult of people who took his class. What do you remember that made his class so special?

00:48:23 Galvin: He just, what was it? He was very respectful to us, to the students. I took a seminar with him too, but I can't for the life of me, remember what it was. I think it was more political philosophy, although I definitely might not be right. But he just is an endearing person, man, to begin with. He just was so respectful and he was so open to ideas that we had. And there were some pretty out-there people in the class. But he was very tolerant, even though some of us wanted to gag her. He was just wonderful to talk to. The political-science department was—there were really very good professors.

00:51:02 Q: So, you were taking classes both at Columbia and at Barnard.

00:51:06 Galvin: Yes.

00:51:07 Q: And were there any other professors that you remember?

00:51:10 Galvin: Yes. Well, my advisor was Bruce Feld He was young and he was great. I liked him. And then there was Peter [H.] Juviler—

00:52:00 Q: Peter Juviler ?

00:52:01 Galvin: Yes. And I liked him. I liked him. There was a guy who taught an English course at Columbia, but I can't remember his name. There was a French teacher, this woman who was French—she was very French [laughs].

00:52:20 Q: Your French must have been pretty good.

00:52:24 Galvin: Yeah. My French after that was good. And we only had to take three years of language. So, the third year was easy. And PE [physical education], that third year, I think I took bowling.

00:52:48 Q: Bowling?

00:52:49 Galvin: Yeah. And something else that was kind of fun, but I can't remember what it was. I took political sociology at Columbia, and that professor was hard. It was difficult, really difficult. Oh, and then the one that was ancient art, that was also like second semester senior year—when you're—but he was fun.

00:53:42 Q: Okay. What about other activities, other than the main experience?

00:53:45 Galvin: At Barnard?

00:53:48 Q: Yeah. Did you have other things you did?

00:53:55 Galvin: You know, just the strike. That took up a lot of time.

00:54:02 Q: In '70?

00:54:03 Galvin: Yeah. In '70. Action for Peace was what we were involved in. I was supposed to be the person to find out what other schools were doing. And it seemed like everybody was the person who was trying to find out. But we really did. That weekend there was a meeting about the Panthers. And then there was the Columbia meeting. And I remember the guys that were running it—there was a woman who stood up and she raised her hand and the guy said, “Oh, what do you want to say, honey?” And she said, “Don’t call me honey, you male chauvinistic pig.” And then of course all the women cheered. And I saw her in the elevator the next day, and I said, “That was so great what you did.” And she said, “Well what did he think calling me honey?”

But anyway, it was that whole thing about click. The click when you realize that somebody is being a chauvinist, some man is being a chauvinist. Remember that? And I remember my friend Ronnie was told—this was during the strike—told to go mimeograph—remember the mimeograph stuff?—to go mimeograph something. And that was the click for her. Then one time Bella Abzug asked us if we could find somebody to translate a leaflet in I forget what language. And we could. And she invited us to come down to whatever her democratic club was at the

time. And so, Josh Rubenstein from Columbia, and Rima Kopelman, and I, went down there and explained to them that the workers and students had to strike. You know, all of us had to strike. And then the whole marching down in the downtown and the construction workers throwing stuff at us.

And what was that place called that would be open to three o'clock? The Huddle? What was it called?

00:57:39 Q: On campus or on—?

00:57:40 Galvin: No. On Broadway just down—we would go there at like two o'clock in the morning to eat. It was dark. Anyway, so that seemed to be the second semester of junior year.

00:58:10 Q: So, was there ever _____ [??] when were aware that the incidents that you describe, and kind of that whole women's movement or was it something you already knew before you got there?

00:58:35 Galvin: I don't know. I kind of always felt it, but as far as the movement, I guess it was that. And then it took more of a form, than a movement. I mean, it just never occurred to me that I, or women, shouldn't do whatever they want to do. And that was ridiculous that—the plight of women was ridiculous, kind of.

00:59:42 Q: Was there ever a time during those two years at Barnard were you thought, “Oh my God, what am I doing here? This is not what I planned for?” I mean other than junior year with that roommate and that awful housing.

00:59:58 Galvin: Well, no. Not really. I mean I guess February in senior when you don’t know what you’re going to do and it’s slushy and horrible and it’s kind of depressing, but not really. No. I thought Barnard was great.

01:00:29 Q: What about the whole sexual revolution? Anything about that? Any change from when you were_____ [??] Any relationships?

01:00:44 Galvin: No. I was kind of slow. It took me another year to kind of catch up on that. Yeah.

01:01:05 Q: Okay. Any drugs or anything like that? Any Experimentation? Further rebellion?

01:01:08 Galvin: Not too much. Not too much. Yeah, again, that was more the following year. You know, just occasionally, not a lot.

01:01:33 Q: So, in coming to Barnard, what did you imagine your life was going to be after you left college? Not when you’re in college and a senior trying to figure out what you’re going to do next, but what were some of your expectations about what your life would be?

01:01:50 Galvin: Well, I went to law school right away, so that was what I did. That was what I thought I was going to be.

01:02:04 Q: So you did that for a month.

01:02:06 Galvin: Yeah. It was kind of—Ph.D.s were driving taxis at the time. Again, this relevance thing. And I thought, well, get it over with. I debated a lot about whether to law school. Was I going to law school because I wanted to go to law school, or was I going to go to law school because my father wanted me to go, and did I really want to—? You know, back and forth. But, I thought, well, you don't have to be a lawyer if you have a law degree, blah, blah, blah. So, I went to law school. I know. Next thing.

01:03:05 Q: Where'd you go to law school?

01:03:07 Galvin: Boston College.

01:03:08 Q: Oh. So, now you're in Boston.

01:03:10 Galvin: Yeah.

01:03:11 Q: Did any of your classmates go with you?

01:03:14 Galvin: Yes, one of my friend-roommates went and we roomed together.

01:03:22 Q: Just the two of you? And how was that experience after—? they say law school changes you whole mind.

01:03:33 Galvin: It was very difficult. I hated it. Hated it. Really. It also—you're right it does, and so you start thinking that you're stupid, that you don't understand what is going on. And, I didn't particularly like it, either.

01:04:12 Q: You mean the changes in yourself?

01:04:13 Galvin: Well not so much the changed in myself.

01:04:14 Q: The whole curriculum, the whole—

01:04:Galvin: Yeah. I had so much work that was not very enjoyable or interesting and understandable. And I thought I was a smart person, and it was so boring. But I made some really good friends [laughs] and I loved Boston. But I was not particularly happy in law school.

01:05:10 Q: I think the people I like the most have probably said they hated law school.

01:05:19 Galvin: Yeah.

01:05:20 Q: Anyway so you completed law school and you got your J.D. What were some of the jobs you had when you were in New York and then when you went to Boston. Were you working some summers? Were you traveling?

01:05:41 Galvin: Okay, so in between my freshman and sophomore year, I was in New York. I worked for the Mayor [John F.] Lindsey summer youth program.

01:06:05 Q: Oh the Urban Corps! Yeah. Where did they put you?

01:06:14 Galvin: They put me, among other things, going to all of the vest pocket parks. And the kids would clean it up and make a little park. Or in Harlem, the project was to go through the building and ask their neighbors what was wrong with the apartment. And the kids were astounded that their neighbors had problems too, just like their apartments. What can we do about it? So, it was various projects that the program had for kids in the boroughs. So I went to all the boroughs. So, for me to hear that Williamsburg is like hipster now—I mean I cannot believe it.

Between sophomore and junior year I was in Europe. I traveled through Europe by myself. And then between junior and senior year I had a friend out here in Santa Clara, so I went to Stanford summer school and I kind of worked before and after. And after graduating I worked for a continuing education program for lawyers, helping in their seminars and stuff.

01:08:45 Q: This is Boston or New York?

01:08:46 Galvin: New York. And then in Boston during the summer, there was a national commission on marijuana and drug abuse, and my father was one of the commissioners. So I, and this guy, an African American guy who was a Rhodes Scholar, we went around to the drug education programs in the New England states and interviewed people. And then I was doing legal services between my second and third year. And then I graduated law school and got jobs.

01:09:30 Q: Let me just go back a second. You mentioned that your father had worked on the war on poverty in Dallas, and now he's doing another national, high profile job. _____ [??] he had a vision and how did you respond to that?

01:09:53 Galvin: No, I was—he got a lot of harassment for being the war on poverty chair.

01:10:30 Q: Harassment from his colleagues or from the—?

01:10:33 Galvin: From the conservatives in Dallas. Through the national commission on marijuana and drug abuse, I think he sided with the people who thought there should be a decriminalization of marijuana. I don't know if he thought all drugs, but certainly marijuana. And so, yeah, I mean, he was a tax professor so he was in a lot of the tax stuff. So, I really, I didn't pay attention much to that.

01:11:35 Q: Okay, so you manage to get through law school. You got yourself a job as a legal aid. And where did you go there after, after you graduated?

01:11:47 Galvin: I worked in a place called Project Place in the South End part of Boston. It was for runaways kids. They had a kind of an ambulance for kids who overdosed, and they'd go pick up homeless kids and they had a counseling center. And on the top floor we were a law collective. We mostly, for free, represented juveniles. And we also had a private practice in addition. So, I did a lot of family law and tenant stuff, mostly that. And then—

01:12:59 Q: So what was the kind of community you had in south head?

01:13:01 Galvin: South End, not south head.

01:13:04 Q: Sorry, South End.

01:13:05 Galvin: Both elderly white people and younger black families in the South End at the time. And so then I went to Legal Services, after that, in a town called Brockton. That was for three years. Oh no, no, no. Sorry. In between Project Place and Brockton, I went with a guy who was a big tenant lawyer, especially public housing tenants, not exactly public housing like city public housing, but federal public housing. He and I opened a law office in East Boston. He was very difficult to work with. So that lasted only a year. And then I went to legal services n Brockton and that was for three years.

01:14:44 Q: What kind of cases were you mostly doing with legal services? Juvenile delinquents still?

01:14:49 Galvin: No, it was tenants. Some public benefits. Really mostly housing. We brought a class action to try to upgrade the housing, and get rid of the lead paint, but to try to get the city to enforce the housing laws, the housing codes, to make the apartments safe and habitable.

01:15:30 Q: And then?

01:15:31 Galvin: And then I moved here.

01:15:35 Q: San Francisco?

01:15:36 Galvin: Well, Berkeley, Oakland. I just didn't want to be a lawyer anymore. Here, I worked for a publishing company called Nolo Press, which publishes legal books for non-lawyers. And so, I edited and I wrote a book for media people about media law. I moved here in 1980. I was very involved, politically, in Central America work and I did that full time for about a year or so. Then I—

01:16:40 Q: In terms of your work in Central America, what were you doing?

01:16:43 Galvin: It was mostly just trying to stop the U.S. intervention, and its support of the Salvadorian and Guatemalan governments, by focusing on lawyers and the illegality of our government's intervention, using the legal community as a target audience. We went to the

various bar associations, and we would be part of coalitions as the legal components. So that's what we did.

01:17:58 Q: And what sort of drew you to that part of the world?

01:18:02 Galvin: I had been to Guatemala for a month and just was really taken by it. Growing up in Texas, I had been to Mexico a couple of times, and I had taken Latin American politics at Barnard. I'd taken Spanish in high school and grade school.

01:18:53 Q: Did your paths ever cross with Axya Rey-Diaz? She was a judge down in Puerto Rico—she's Puerto Rican—and very involved in a number of issues in Central America? She was in your class at Barnard.

01:19:05 Galvin: No. I hadn't. I went to Cuba a couple of times.

01:19:13 Q: How did you get to do that?

01:19:14 Galvin: Legal delegation with the National Lawyers Guild, and then once with the Center for Cuban studies for a month to learn Spanish. But you had to have some reason to travel to Cuba, so I went to learn about the law in Cuba. We would go on little fieldtrips. So, yes, so, I got caught up in the whole Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala wars. And went on the first legal delegation to Nicaragua, and went to Nicaragua again just as a tourist. Went to Cuba twice, Nicaragua twice, Guatemala only once.

[INTERRUPTION]

01:21:10 Q: Okay. So, here we are. You were just talking about your experiences with Central America, law, Guatemala, Nicaragua.

01:21:21 Galvin: And El Salvador

01:21:22 Q: El Salvador, excuse me. What kind of reaction were you getting from the individuals, and who were you working back in “No Trees” [??]. You said you were lobbying people in the states, but what about your interaction with people there?

01:21:45 Galvin: In where?

01:21:46 Q: Say in El Salvador. And Nicaragua, excuse me. I haven't gotten it right yet.

01:21:53 Galvin: What reaction?

01:21:54 Q: Yeah. I mean, were you working with attorneys there as well? Who were you working with?

01:21:58 Galvin: Oh. One of the projects was that the Nicaraguan legal community wanted us to send experts on different areas of the law to help them draft a constitution.

01:22:17 Q: Constitution.

01:22:18 Galvin: Yes. So, we did do that. We helped them by sending some law professors there. Most of the work with Guatemala and El Salvador was really human rights work, and sometimes it was with legal people but not necessarily. It was—

01:22:56 Q: So were you collecting testimony about violations of human rights or—?

01:23:00 Galvin: Well, we were part of a campaign of people who had fled here. We would take them to what we called house meetings, and they would talk about what had happened to them in their country. And that was a way we thought would touch people and interest people in what was happening so that they, not only would give money, but also would make it real and hopefully inspire them to do something. And then we would have things for them to do. So, that was one thing. And again, we would try to—I was trying to find legal people who would have house parties in this Bay Area Central America Peace campaign. That was what it was called.

01:24:34 Q: The Bay Area Central America Peace Campaign. Okay. And then where did you go after those three years?

01:24:41 Galvin: Oh. During that time for work, I went back to the law, because I had to support myself. And I was working in a asbestos plaintiff firm. So, I was back to being a lawyer and I didn't want to be a lawyer [laughs]. I thought if I went to the Harvard Kennedy School maybe I

could break away. So, I went to the Kennedy School and I was in Boston, Cambridge for '86, '87. Afterwards, I was in Cambridge for a couple of years, just really doing different things. Different little jobs. And then I got a job with the Rockefeller Family Fund in New York, so I moved to New York and I worked for—

01:26:31 Q: And what did that job entail?

01:26:32 Galvin: I was a program officer. The Rockefeller Family Fund is the foundation of the children of the brothers, of like Nelson [A. Rockefeller] and those guys. So, they tend to be more progressive. They fund smaller groups and non-profit groups and the amount of funding is in the area of about \$40,000, not millions or hundred of thousands. They fund advocacy. That's what they fund.

01:27:30 Q: Advocacy in the U.S. or overseas as well?

01:27:32 Galvin: Here, only in the United States, and only in certain areas, like women, and the environment, things like that. So, I was a program officer and it was just me and the director. He was difficult [laughs]. So, I left there and worked for Women and Foundations, which was like a focus organization for foundations who want to fund women and girls.

It was hard living in New York. I was forty and I didn't have a lot of money. And I was living back across from the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. It was hard being forty and not having a lot of money. You can be young and not have a lot of money or you can be forty and have a lot

of money. But it was hard in New York having neither, even though I love New York. So, I decided to move back here. So, I moved back here in September of '90 and basically decided to adopt. Well, first I decided to have a child biologically, but my eggs weren't sticking. Then I decided to adopt a child. So, I got a job with the asylum program of the federal government, a stable job. And it's kind of continuing work with helping the Salvadorans and the Guatemalans. I adopted a two-year-old girl. I went to Belarus in December of '95 when she was one, and I met her. I was okay'd by the orphanage and was supposed to have returned in January of '96 with more papers, like January eighth, or something. Around January fourth, I found out that the country, Belarus, had stopped all international adoptions on January first. So, I organized and persisted until August to try to get her out of the orphanage in Belarus. And then, I just let go because it seemed like it would never happen. And as soon as I—

01:31:39 Q: This is Belarus, you're saying?

01:31:41 Galvin: Yes. Belarus. And as soon as I let go, there was hope on September first. The facilitator said there was a possibility. So, I tried again and was able to go get her in November of '96 when she was almost two. So, I brought her home the day before Thanksgiving. For the next twenty years I have been a single mom to an adopted girl. She's almost twenty-one. And that's been a whole other life.

01:32:49 Q: Okay. I'd like to hear a little more about that. But you continued working with the asylum program or were you in a different position.

01:33:00 Galvin: I stayed in one job [laughs].

01:33:01 Q: Well, children have a way of making you do that.

01:33:09 Galvin: Yes. And I'm still there—

01:33:10 Q: You're still working?

01:33:15 Galvin: Yes. Still working.

01:33:16 Q: Well, yeah. I did refugee resettlement in Washington for many years, so I'm aware of the asylum program. Okay. So, talk a little bit about your daughter, how your life changed, and what those twenty years were like.

01:33:38 Galvin: She, as a child, was very, very shy. Well in the beginning she didn't understand English of course. She also had difficulty hearing, so she got tubes in her ear. She was very shy but very sweet. She was very popular because she was very sweet and very kind. She went to a private school that was a progressive school and she was there from quarter-to-eight to six o'clock every day. So, everybody knew her. It was a very nurturing school. But because she was in the orphanage a year longer than she had to be, she had, has, learning issues that are not extremely severe, but they are pretty serious. And because, it's hard for her to read, she doesn't like to read. She's not a reader. She's beautiful, and so, unfortunately, she kind of relies on her outward appearance. But she's also aware of that.

She became a teenager, and thus a stranger, at thirteen. It was a very difficult time, very difficult time. She, at fifteen, met a man who was twenty-eight and has been with him 'til today. I didn't know he was twenty-eight. She represented to me that he was twenty. So, I only found out last year, that he was so much older than she. And, so I'm pretty unhappy that she is still with him.

She has a very strong work ethic, but she's very afraid of academics. So, she hasn't gone to school. She did graduate high school. She's now a barista in a private coffee stand in the cafeteria of a hospital. Currently, she's waiting for an opening to be in the hospital transport team, where they take the patient everywhere. And so, she will be exposed to all the jobs in the hospital, and figure out what she wants to be in the hospital and then go to school to get the degree or certificate. She lives with me two or three nights and with him the other days of the week.

01:38:45 Q: And you're out near Berkley, right?

01:38:50 Galvin: Yes. Next door to Berkley, in Albany—

01:38:54 Q: Yes. Albany. Okay. Well, that sounds like it's been a challenging single parenting kind of experience, very, very hard. So, let's look at a couple of other things, then. Can you tell me about a moment or a day when it really changed your life? And that may well be it.

01:39:22 Galvin: Yeah, I would say that would be it. That definitely would be it.

01:39:25 Q: Adopting. What is your daughter's name?

01:39:29 Galvin: Molly.

01:39:30 Q: Molly?

01:39:32 Galvin: Molly. Yeah.

01:39:33 Q: And she has your same last name?

01:39:35 Galvin: Yes.

01:39:36 Q: And does she know at all about her background?

01:39:38 Galvin: She does. She does, and I had someone find her birth mother and her birth mother wrote her a letter, a really nice letter and sent photos and encouraged Molly to write her back. Molly did want to write her back, but I think it was just, where does she start. Molly wanted to go there, meet her, but she hasn't talked about it in a while. I'm not sure what she's thinking.

01:40:21 Q: Are you encouraging that? Is that kind of painful?

01:40:23 Galvin: Oh yeah. No. I definitely would encourage her, but she has to make—it has to be on her own time.

01:40:36 Q: Sure. All right, can you tell me about an obstacle that you think might have been placed in your path and how you dealt with it in the course of your life, your career? I find this is a difficult question.

01:40:56 Galvin: Well, I don't want to—I would say that that year that it seemed like I was not going to adopt her was a real obstacle. I kept a notebook and I honestly, daily, contacted everybody from the U.S. ambassador to Belarus, and the Belarus ambassador to the U.S., and the president of Belarus. And every possible person who knew anybody. And my senators and congress people. Just everybody that I could think of. I was pretty tenacious until I just felt like there was no hope.

01:42:15 Q: And then it happened.

01:42:17 Galvin: And then it happened. Yeah.

01:42:19 Q: Okay. So what would you say is the most joyous day of your life or a moment when you were most proud? Something you did or someone you care about, what they did? It's kind of a wide open question.

01:42:35 Galvin: I know. I'm not really sure. I mean you're always really joyous when you fall in love with somebody, but whether it's the most joyous day—

01:43:20 Q: Well, that's actually an area we haven't talked about much. What about relationships and falling in love. Has that been something very big in your life?

01:43:29 Galvin: Well, I would say that I really had fallen in love like three times maybe, but it's been a long time. It's been a long time.

01:44:00 Q: Were they relationships you could have seen turning into marriage or long-term partnership?

01:44:04 Galvin: I would say two were. And one was already married, so at the time, no, but if he wasn't married, yes [laughs].

01:44:30 Q: There had to be a lot of pain in there as well though, when they ended.

01:44:35 Galvin: Yeah.

01:44:36 Q: And now we're at that age when we're invisible.

01:44:40 Galvin: Yes.

01:44:41 Q: It's a little hard to start again.

01:44:44 Galvin: Yeah. Exactly.

01:44:45 Q: Yeah. Okay. Is there anything that you've done, or not done, in your life that you would change if you were able to change?

01:44:53 Galvin: Well I think I wish that I had gotten married. You know? I wish I had been smarter and more flexible about that, about relationships.

01:45:04 Q: And what would you say you're most afraid of now?

01:45:29 Galvin: Probably death.

01:45:30 Q: Whoa. That's so hard.

01:45:32 Galvin: [Laughs] Yeah. And probably—I've had a lot of physical problems and I guess also further physical problems.

01:45:53 Q: I'm sorry?

01:45:54 Galvin: Physical problems.

01:46:03 Q: And these obviously are a drain on your life.

01:46:05 Galvin: Yeah.

01:46:06 Q: These physical issues.

01:46:07 Galvin: Yeah they are. Pain. Chronic pain.

01:46:15 Q: Now, what about your family, your first family. Have they been supportive of you over the years? Do you still have close relationships with them? Are your parents still alive? What's the status of them?

01:46:28 Galvin: My father died about five years ago. My mother, who is ninety-four, is still fine. She lives by herself. She just stopped driving last month. She cooks and reads and watches *Breaking Bad*. The family forced her to watch *Game of Thrones* and even read the book. And no, she's fine. My sister and one of my brothers are more supportive than the other two brothers. Yeah, they are.

01:47:25 Q: So, do you have nieces and nephews that you keep up with?

01:47:27 Galvin: Well, not a lot. [Laughs] There are ones who seem fine, and there are others who I worry about a whole lot. But I hardly ever see them, and I'm not very good aunt as far as keeping up with them.

01:48:00 Q: So, is anyone else in California?

01:48:02 Galvin: No.

01:48:03 Q: Or anyone near you?

01:48:04 Galvin: No.

01:48:05 Q: So, where is everybody else? Still in Texas or—

01:48:07 Galvin: Pretty much all are in Texas, except one nephew is in Colorado and one brother and most of his family is in Missouri.

01:48:18 Q: Oh. Okay. That's a distance.

01:48:22 Galvin: Yeah.

01:48:23 Q: Okay. Did I ask you what you were most proud of in your life? Either personally or professionally?

01:48:53 Galvin: I think that I'm most proud of maintaining some semblance of values.

01:48:56 Q: That's a big one.

01:49:00 Galvin: Trying to anyway.

01:49:01 Q: Well, you have a whole history of having been involved socially with a lot of cutting edge and often-discouraging issues. What about the whole work with the asylums and people who are very socially challenged and come to the states with horrific stories? How have you dealt with that over the years? And are there particular successes that you remember or any that you want to share?

01:49:33 Galvin: You know, I supervise the people who interview those people, so I'm a little bit removed. But I think that I feel proud that I have influenced a lot of the officers by initially making sure that the folks that came in to do presentations and training were very refugee minded and sympathetic and highly respected. The people I supervised, I influence that—I feel like I had a lot to do with the fact that our office has always had the highest grant rate and has been considered the best office.

01:50:57 Q: That's very impressive. That's quite a lot to say.

01:50:59 Galvin: Yeah. So, I feel like the old gray mare at the moment, but I have seen and been through a lot and have tried to do the best for the applicant, and have tried to somehow make sure that the people who work there care about what happens.

01:51:46 Q: And in terms of—I know different waves are allowed in at different times in the country, Afghan or Eritreans or Ethiopians. What about in the Bay Area? What do you mostly see, or what have you mostly seen?

01:52:02 Galvin: You know, we see everything, everybody. We also travel to Portland and Seattle.

01:52:15 Q: Oh, you cover the whole west coast then?

01:52:20 Galvin: We cover from Alaska to Bakersfield

01:52:22 Q: Oh my. That's huge

01:52:23 Galvin: So, yeah. There's a Los Angeles office that covers down there. We see applicants from the former Soviet Union. We see Eritreans and Ethiopians. We see Somalis. We see Chinese. We see Nepalis. And then of course Guatemalans and Salvadorans. And now we're seeing a lot of kids.

01:53:00 Q: Unaccompanied minors.

01:53:01 Galvin: Unaccompanied minors from Central America. Soon, we'll probably have to help the Refugee Corps much more with the Syrians since we're going to increase the number of refugees.

01:53:27 Q: Are you at all optimistic about dealing with, one, the unaccompanied minors coming from Central America, and two, the whole border issue?

01:53:40 Galvin: Not until they figure out how to undo the damage our government did back in the '70s and '80s. I actually want to do a video for the—I call them the kids—for the new people who are between twenty-seven and thirty-seven, of which we have many, who weren't even born during the wars in Central America, to tie together how we messed up those countries. And then the people came here and they didn't get asylum because it was based on foreign policy and then how we messed up their lives. That's how the asylum corps was founded. Now, we're interviewing the grandchildren and children of the people who went through the horrendous things they went through back in the '80s. It's the legacy and trying to tie it all together.

01:55:24 Q: I think that's much needed.

01:55:29 Galvin: Yeah.

01:55:30 Q: All right, well I won't ask you about class and race and gender, because you've been in the middle of the whole world. The flotsam and jetsam and everything. And likewise I think in terms of causes you've been involved in many. Anything in particular, in addition to your work, that you've been working on outside, in terms of social causes and movements that have really embraced you or that you volunteer with?

01:56:04 Galvin: No. I just think that I was of the generation that realized that I was told a lot of lies [laughs]. So that I don't believe a lot of stuff. You know? It's Catholicism. It's the government. I think that was probably also why I became so involved in Central America. Because it was like oh my god, we just got through with Vietnam. You mean we have to start with this? They're going to do this now? I think racism and sexism is more inside you. It's like your own experiences. It's a developing thing. It's not so much like finding out that everything you thought is real, is not real. You know? Kind of—I don't know. I just think that we all kind of came to the realization together in a way.

01:57:55 Q: I think part of it is that we had that idealism from our youth that horizons were limitless, that everything was going to be great, that the United States was a good country. And heroes began to fall and the truth began to become more evident.

01:58:11 Galvin: Yeah, and that all these other countries were bad. You know, we were the only good one.

01:58:21 Q: We had figured it all out and it's far from the truth. I can't even read the news anymore. I mean I have to, to be educated. But it's like, oh my god. Where are all these people coming from? Anyway, I'm sure you feel the same way. Okay, lets see. So you started out as Catholic. Let's ask a little bit about your spirituality or any sort of sustaining beliefs that might have pulled you through this. You started out as a Catholic. You were brought up through Catholic schools, and then you parted ways with the Catholic Church?

01:58:50 Galvin: Yes. I mean, I respect the Maryknolls—the churchwomen in Central America, the churchwomen here—who minister to the poor. I, though, really don't have much use for organized religion. I really, really, mean that. I really find it difficult to even tolerate some of the behavior of people in the name of God or whatever, especially toward women in a lot of different countries. I'm kind of not too tolerant towards religion, anymore.

02:00:28 Q: Any other sources of spirituality? Meditation? Buddhism? Anything that you—?

02:00:41 Galvin: Not yet. Not yet.

02:00:42 Q: Catholicism has a way of doing that too you. Those highs are a little too big [laughter]. Although, I don't know, this new guys is—

02:00:54 Galvin: Oh, I appreciate him.

02:00:55 Q: Pope Francis. He's saying the right things.

02:00:58 Galvin: Oh he is. Definitely. And doing the right things.

02:01:04 Q: So, I guess we'll move in to our closing questions. Which again are very big and kind of deal with a lot of superlatives. First is, what do you look forward to happening in the future, in your future.?

02:01:23 Galvin: Well, I look forward to retiring, which I hope to do in a couple of years. If I can, I look forward to traveling. Maybe taking some courses and maybe volunteering, doing something different. Taking it easy [laughs].

02:02:00 Q: Where would you like to travel?

02:02:03 Galvin: Well, to tell you the truth, I haven't been to Europe in a long time. I'd kind of like to go to Europe. Yeah. Nothing too exotic, I don't think. Yeah.

02:02:25 Q: So, traveling, taking it easy, and maybe doing some volunteer work or things that you care about?

02:02:32 Galvin: Yeah. And taking some courses.

02:02:34 Q: And taking courses.

02:02:38 Galvin: Yeah

02:02:39 Q: So, have you kept up your languages? You must be fluent still in Spanish.

02:02:42 Galvin: No. I haven't. So maybe that too.

02:02:51 Q: How about hopes dreams or fears for the future?

02:02:53 Galvin: Well, I hope that I can get more active, stronger. I hope that I can be as intellectually active as my mother.

02:03:32 Q: Yeah. That's a good role model.

02:03:33 Galvin: Yeah. And I hope that I feel content at the end of my life. And I hope that my daughter and I will recapture our more loving relationship.

02:04:05 Q: Yeah. I forgot to ask you earlier, and then we will get to the conclusion here. Did you ever experience a sense of being discriminated against as a woman in any of your jobs? You've mentioned a number of very difficult directors—I mean, now you're in charge.

02:04:38 Galvin: You know, as a young woman in court, yes, pretty obviously. Yeah.

02:05:04 Q: You weren't addressed as honey, but something similar, I guess?

02:05:06 Galvin: Well, the first time I was in court, when I was a law student, I don't know if it was honey. It may have been honey. The judge said something like that. Yeah, but I don't know. It would make me angry. Sometimes it was just like, oh the guy's just stupid, you know? Yeah.

02:06:01 Q: Okay. In reflecting back at your two years at Barnard and connections that came out of that, is there any one decision or event that you would have done differently?

02:06:24 Galvin: You know, I had the opportunity, from one of my friends, whose father was close to Walter [L.] Cronkite [Jr.]—Walter Cronkite was looking for an assistant or something.

02:06:45 Q: Oh my.

02:06:46 Galvin: Yeah. And I stupidly said—because I had written my thesis on the political influence of the TV documentary. And I was interested, actually, in media influencing. But I was going to law school. I was just so stupid. So, that was the mistake.

02:07:29 Q: So you would've—now how about the writing. Have you pursued that? You said you started out as an English major, you kept a journal when you were dealing with the adoption of your daughter. Have you done more writing?

02:07:41 Galvin: I did do writing. I did some research and writing, but not since this job.

02:07:59 Q: Well, maybe that's something else to go back to.

02:08:02 Galvin: Maybe.

02:08:03 Q: All right. Well. If you could whisper a piece of advice to yourself, back in the past, what do you think that would have been? If there was a moment in your past that you could go

back to and whisper some advice to yourself, what would that advice be? And this might be something for your daughter or the generations to come.

02:08:24 Galvin: Oh gosh. I think at times I would have told myself to relax [laughs].

02:08:54 Q: This is a big one.

02:08:56 Galvin: I think also I would have maybe—I don't know. I didn't have much money, but I think I would have told myself to do more travel, maybe. And the advice I would tell my daughter is, reach out and explore when you're young.

02:09:47 Q: Okay. So, is there anything else that you'd like to share, that is about you and your life that we haven't covered?

02:09:56 Galvin: You know, that there is part of me that is glad that I have had these different experiences. And there is also a part of me that would have liked to experience raising a kid with a partner and having maybe a more traditional family.

02:10:45 Q: Okay. All right well, we will stop there. And thank you very much, Kathy, for allowing me to interview and for being a part of this project. You will have a chance to review the transcript in a while when we get it transcribed and we'll go from there.

02:11:03 Galvin: Well, thank you Francis for persisting [laughs]. I'm sorry it took so long.

02:11:10 Q: No. It's fine. It's actually a common story and I've learned to be persistent [laughs].

Well, I hope to meet you sometime when I come out to visit my son.

02:11:20 Galvin: I do too.

[END OF INTERVIEW]

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