Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: Huy Dieu Trinh
Interviewer: Katrina Trinh
Date: March 2, 2012
Location: Diamond Bar, California
Sub Collection: Vietnamese American Experience 2012
Length of Interview : 48:58

00:01 The interview began with Katrina Trinh stating the name and date.
00:16 The interviewee, Huy Trinh, began with his name and other general information.
00:32 Huy began to talk about his parents.
1:28 He began to describe what it was like living in Saigon, Vietnam when he was a young man.
1:57 He explained that he could not remember any childhood memories.
2:08 He began to talk about traditions that he liked. He also began to talk about Tet and how he enjoyed it.
2:34 Huy began to talk about the industries that were in Saigon.
2:58 He began to describe his neighbors and what kind of relationship he had with them.
3:24 Huy began to talk about the festival that went on in Vietnam and how he would celebrate holidays.
5:05 He began to talk about his school life in Vietnam and what it was like. He also began to talk about what the teachers were like and how strict they were.
Huy then started to talk about his family and the differences between his generation and his parents.

He began to describe the languages he spoke, like Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. He also described how he would speak different languages in different situations.

He began to talk about the careers of his siblings. He talked about his brother that was in the war and how he and his siblings were students.

He talked about his parents met and how it was an arranged marriage. He then talked about why his parents moved to Vietnam.

Huy began to talk about how he would celebrate holidays in juxtaposition to Vietnam and America.

He then started to talk about his spouse and his family in America.

He began to talk about the traditions that holds in America and how he celebrates them with his family.

He discusses that he does not practice any religion.

He discusses how the Vietnam War effected his life and how difficult it was for everyone he loved.

He started to discuss what it was like leaving Vietnam and what his journey was like.

He starts talking about his journey to an Indonesian refugee camp and how hard it was for them.

He talked about who went with him to America.

Talked about where he first moved to in America.
26:37 He talked about his first job as electronic technician.

26:56 He talked about his life in America and what it was like; he talks about life with his brother and how he took care of them.

30:02 He talked about how his older brother sponsored him and his two younger brothers. He also talked about how his journey to America.

30:59 He talked about how it was difficult it was for him to learn English and how that effected the way he got a job.

32:43 He starts to talk about his association with America and what it was like.

35:19 He began to talk about voting and what it was like in the US compared with America.

36:18 He talked about how he keeps in touch with his sister in Vietnam.

39:21 He talked about his trip back to Vietnam and what it was like going back. HE also talked about how different it was.

43:31 He talks about how he preserves the tradition of going to festivals.

44:40 He talks about how the Vietnamese community in America is expanding.

45:28 He talks about his trips to Little Saigon and how it brings back memories to him and how it reminds him of seeing family.

48:58 Interview ends.