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Ashley Cake: So I'm just going to ask you to state your name

Larry Haskins: Larry Haskins

AC: Ok, and where did you grow up?

LH: Um, I grew up in Buckingham, Virginia, and um spent the last 3 years of high school at Fuqua School just here in Farmville, Virginia.

AC: Okay, and so you graduated from Fuqua?

LH: Yup

AC: Okay and, well I guess we'll start with the basic, how old are you?

LH: I'm 21

AC: Okay, and your level of education currently?

LH: I'm a senior

AC: Senior? Okay, and what school do you go to?

LH: Um, Hampden- Sydney College

AC: Okay, um what hobbies do you have?

LH: Um, I like to run, fish every now and then, read every now and then. That's about it. Also play football outside of football, sports and everything.

AC: What position do you play?

LH: I play free safety

AC: How long have you been playing football?

LH: I've been playing since I was 6.

AC: Six?

LH: Yea

AC: Who go you started in that? Was it kind of a dad thing?

LH: Yea, my dad got me started. I didn't really want to play at first. Took me a couple years to actually get me interested.

AC: Yeah, Yeah, definitely. Okay, have you lived anywhere else besides Buckingham county and Farmville area?

LH: Been here 21 years

AC: Have you traveled?

LH: Vacation, I mean vacation wise, yea. I've probably been, let me see, I've been to Canada, I've been to Florida, and been to Oregon, on the west coast, through football, two years ago. When I was a sophomore we had a game up there.

AC: Have you been outside the country at all?

LH: Yea, Canada. I was 2 though so I don't really remember it.

AC: Have you been to the moton museum? That's kind of something that's going to be one of our topics.

LH: I've been there once actually to look around. Then last year we had a community service project with some other people to get involved with the museum so.

AC: That's good. How'd you like the moton museum?

LH: It was fine, it was very interesting. I went there with a class, I think it was like literature. I went in 10th grade at Fuqua. And so yea, I learned a lot of things.

AC: yea, so has it been updated? I think it was refurbished.

LH: Yea, it was. Last year when I went I know they had just built the little building beside it. I don't know if it's for storage or what it's for.

AC: Yea, I've seen it. I know what you're talking about.

LH: And they remodeled the inside of the entrance of the building. To, I mean on the outside it obviously looks old, but on the inside it's brand new basically.

AC: Yea, do you remember anything, or does anything stick out to you?

LH: Um, not particularly. I know there was like a few I guess like podiums that had like the persons picture and name and I guess they're people who went to the school. There's a MLK podium too. I don't remember people's exact name from it.

AC: Yea, definitely. Alright and kind of another topic we're going to get into a little bit. Not too much, but just the overall theme. Have you read Kristen Green's book, *Something Must be Done about Prince Edward County*? What were your first impressions when you heard her topic and um, what she was speaking about and trying to accomplish through her book?

LH: Uh, well from what I was told, I haven't read it myself, but from what I was told it got a lot of people in the area kind of stirred up. And I guess some of the quotes she said and the characteristics she said about a few people in particular, like named them, I um heard it was not 100% true. I don't know that, but that's just what I heard so-.

AC: When you say stirred a lot of people, what do you mean by that? Can you clarify?

LH: um, they didn't exactly like the book.

AC: Can you say commentary? You don't have to name the people.

LH: Just basically they didn't think everything was 100% true. They thought it misinterpreted a few people in the community. A few people from Fuqua. I had actually forgotten all about it, but I think maybe like my senior year at Fuqua she had a cousin of hers go to Fuqua, and she had communicated through her that she would maybe want to sit down with me too and maybe like a few other students. She was like in the process of doing it.

AC: Did she end up sitting down and talking?

LH: No.

AC: Do you know people that she did talk to?

LH: no

AC: okay, I know you haven't read the book so I'm not going to get really into the book. Actually I'm probably going to stop talking about it after this. But when you said that they misinterpreted a few people do you know those people, specifically what they misinterpreted. What wasn't true or just in general there were some misconceptions portrayed?

LH: Um, the basic thing I knew is just that people's attitudes towards, like integration, and I guess that's basically what it is. Integration is saying certain folks weren't on board with that. I guess when, like I said I can't say when cause I don't know for sure, I wasn't even around back then, but from what I gathered those people don't believe it to be that way. They believe they were on board with it.

AC: To segregate schools? Have blacks and whites come together, and be taught equally?

LH: Yea, or they didn't mind it at least.

AC: Yea, she gets a lot into something I perused for in this is that she thought that the person she talked to she didn't necessarily think that they um, overall they were trying to prevent whites and blacks in marriage. They were afraid of integrating and stuff like that. That's something I don't know if you've heard anything of that? And then she kind of goes into that as well. But um I don't know have you heard anything of that perceptions?

LH: Not really as far as the marriage part.

AC: Yea, that's something that was brought up into her conversation, and I just thought I'd say it, or ask at least. Alright, so let's talk about your family a little bit. What makes up your family dynamic, or your household growing up? Who'd you grow up with basically?

LH: I had both parents, my mom and dad. I had two older sisters. They're um, one is almost 30 I guess, 29. The other is 26.

AC: Mhm, and can you give me their names?

LH: Uh, yea, the older sister is Lakita, and the middle sister is Latia.

AC: okay so Lakita? L-a-k-i-t-a?

LH: Mhm, yea

AC: And then Latia? L-a-t-i-a?

LH: yea

AC: Alright and so, let's talk about your mom for a little bit. Where's your mom from?

LH: She's from Buckingham County. She's actually, it's called Scottsville which is actually in Albemarle County. Um, she grew up she actually had a huge family. She had like 18 siblings.

AC: Wow

LH: Yea, and um, both of her parents passed away when she was like 6. So she was basically, she didn't really know her parents that well.

AC: Oh wow, how did she, how does your mom, what did they do?

LH: She lived with her, I guess she is the second youngest out of all of them so her oldest brother by that time was like in his mid- twenties.

AC: So he became a dad basically?

LH: So he and his wife, yea they took her in.

AC: Wow, so how many kids did they take in?

LH: Um, just, I think it was just her and, one brother that's younger than her. So just the two of them.

AC: Wow, okay. Interesting.

LH: I guess the rest of them back then, I guess by the time you were probably in your teens you were working and stuff. But they were so young that they just took the two of them in. Everyone else was I guess pretty much older by then.

AC: Yea, so do you know much about your grandparents on your mom's side?

LH: I don't know a lot.

AC: You don't know a lot?

LH: My mom doesn't really talk about them. I know my dad, my grandad, her dad's family originated in like West Virginia and then moved out here before he started their family. And her mom is from Buckingham originally.

AC: okay, alright. So she is from Farmville? Okay. So did she attend school her, your mom?

LH: Yea, um, she went to Buckingham County High School.

AC: Buckingham County High School? And she went to school probably round 90's? 80's?

LH: It was, she probably graduated in 80-82. Somewhere around in there.

AC: And you dad graduated the early 80's?

LH: Yea, he probably graduated around 76-77.

AC: Okay, alright so did your mom, your mom graduated from Buckingham County. So did she end up attending college or graduating college?

LH: Uh, she didn't initially. She, went back later and got an associate's degree from Shaw University. Which is in North Carolina I believe.

AC: Awesome. What did she major in? Or what did she concentrate in?

LH: It was just like administration.

AC: Okay, cool. What is her career right now?

LH: Uh, she, I don't know the exact title of the job, but it's like she works with insurance with UVA in Charlottesville. So it's like hospital patient insurance and stuff like that.

AC: Oh, so she moved from Farmville, or from the Buckingham area?

LH: She still lives, we still live there, she just has to commute every day.

AC: Okay so she lives in the same house you grew up in?

LH: Mhm

AC: With your father? Okay, and, um, can you describe your relationship with your mom?

LH: It's very close. Yea it's very close I mean um, since we live so close. They live, I mean, 25 minutes away. So I see them sometimes a couple times during the week. At least once a week, cause they come to every game on Saturday. But, um, yea, I'll probably see them twice, maybe three times a week.

AC: That's awesome. That's really good. Can you describe your mom as a person or as her character? Just basic stuff.

LH: Yea she's a nice lady. She's really outgoing. She does a lot for me and my sisters. My oldest sister lives in Maryland and she'll go out of her way, she'll drive all the way up there is she needs anything. She's just sort of in the process of settling down. Sort of on her own. She's really outgoing, really kind. She's open minded, open to new people. She welcomes anyone and basically any one of my friends around the house.

AC: That must have been nice growing up. Nice having that type of mom. Made all your friends jealous. Alright well, let's move onto your dad. So you said your dad was from West Virginia?

LH: Um no, that was my mom, her dad.

AC: Oh yea. So where is your dad from?

LH: My dad is from Buckingham too. Yea he, um, grew up with like five siblings I believe.

AC: Wow, you have a big family. I come from a big family too. Or at least that generation. Okay, so he attended school here as well?

LH: Yea he, um, went to Buckingham County.

AC: Wow, so that's how your parents met?

LH: Yea, um they're a little separated. Probably like 5 years apart. So they knew like each other I guess, but they didn't really start to like go out on dates and stuff until probably after high school. Like in their 20's or so.

AC: Yea, they had like a second meeting like in café or something. Okay, alright. So he attended high school and graduated from Buckingham. Did he attend college?

LH: No, he, uh, went into the military for 4 years. Then he went straight into work. He's a mason, so he does like brick work, and foundations on houses, and different sorts of buildings, and all that. I used to help him with that a lot.

AC: You said he was a what?

LH: He's a mason. It's called masonry.

AC: Okay, you said he went into the military, do you know what his rank was? Or what he ended up with?

LH: I don't really know.

AC: He didn't tell you any stories or anything like that?

LH: Maybe corporal? Or private? I guess that's what you all it? I don't think he got like that high cause he only did one tour. But yea just stories of like going to different countries. I don't think he was in like war time. He's been to pretty much every continent.

AC: You said the military, what branch? Navy, army?

LH: Army.

AC: Army? Okay, cool. Can you describe your relationship with your dad?

LH: We're really close. I'd say closer than my mom probably. We're really close. So, like I said, he got me into sports and everything when I was really young. I, um, him I probably see four times

a week cause he's like always over here when he's not at work. So me and him we talk at least twice a day on the phone. So we're really tight knit.

AC: That's awesome. You make me jealous. Alright. Can you describe your dad's character?

LH: He's really outgoing too. He speaks his mind all the time, and he's not afraid to do it. But he's a nice guy and he's willing to do anything for me and my sisters, our whole family, basically, and our friends.

AC: That's awesome. Okay, cool. So Lakita is your oldest sister? And she's like 30?

LH: Yep, she is 29, she'll be 30 in January.

AC: Okay, and what grade school did she attend?

LH: She went to Buckingham County as well.

AC: She went through the whole system? Elementary, middle, and high? Yea? And she graduated from Buckingham County high school? Yea? Did she attend college?

LH: Yea, she went to George Mason University. That's up near D.C., well it's not quite D.C. It's up in Fairfax.

AC: Yea, I know where it is I'm from there. What did she major in?

LH: She was, uh, I think hers may have been administration too.

AC: Business administration?

LH: I think it was business administration.

AC: Yea, they have a good business program there. A lot of people go there.

LH: She switched her major like two or three times.

AC: Yea, it happens.

LH: Yea, I know

AC: Yea, okay. Did she have a career yet? Or is she working on a career? What does her career look like?

LH: Yea she uh, I'm not exactly sure what career she wants to have but she works at a, she's like a secretary at a dentistry up in um, Arlington. So she lives there. She lived in Maryland for like a year and then she moved to Arlington this past summer.

AC: Arlington is good. It's by D.C. but not in D.C. Okay, and what's your relationship with her? Are you guys pretty close?

LH: Yea, I don't see her as much. Obviously cause she lives up there. But she comes to home games during the season. So I'll see her every other weekend during the fall. Outside that it's not a lot of face to face time, but we keep in touch through phone, email, Facetime and stuff like that.

AC: Is she married? Does she have kids?

LH: No she's not married.

AC: Okay, and can you describe her a little bit as a character I guess?

LH: She's um, I guess the same as my parents. She's outgoing. She really looks out for me financially, and as far as giving advice for school and stuff like that. She's bought me something for football probably all four years I've been here. Because she just always looks out for me, and she always checks my grades and stuff probably more than my parents do. Yea, always looking out for grades. Making sure they're A's and B's.

AC: Yea, and what major, you said you went to Hamden Sydney earlier--

LH: Yea, um, economics and business with a minor in mathematics.

AC: Nice, that's great. What career do you want to go into?

LH: I'd like to do financial advising, maybe investment management at some point.

AC: Awesome. Sounds great. Thinking about going pro if you can?

LH: I wish. That used to be the dream.

AC: Okay, so your younger sister, she is how old again?

LH: She's 26.

AC: 26? And did she attend-. Well I'm guessing she went through the same way as her sister? Did she attend college? Does she have a career right now?

LH: She did not go to college. She just went straight into the work force. I know she worked at as an assistant at the nursing home in Buckingham, and now she works at, she left that last year, and now she works at the courthouse in Charlottesville.

AC: Cool. Okay, and you're pretty close with her as well?

LH: Yea. I see her a little more, cause she still lives in Buckingham. So I get to see her a little more than my older sister. She comes to every game, so I see her at least once a week, and outside of the season I see her every other week or so.

AC: Yea, I'm seeing a trend in your family. So she's kind of like everyone else?

LH: Yea, yea.

AC: Alright. That's awesome. Sounds like you have a great family. Do you know anything about your grandparents, or your dad's parents? I know your mom's you didn't know so much.

LH: Yea, my dad's dad actually died before I was born so I never met him. I know he was a mason too and that's how my dad got into it. His whole family was pretty much into it, so that's how he got into that. I do have a grandma, his mom is still alive.

AC: Are you close with her?

LH: Um, yea we're close. I see her maybe every couple weeks. Not as much as the rest of the family. It's a close family, but I see her every couple weeks.

AC: Where's she from?

LH: She's from Buckingham too.

AC: She's from Buckingham too? Do you know what school she attended?

LH: She went to Buckingham High School too.

AC: All the way down? Wow that must be-

LH: Yea, I'm an odd ball.

AC: That must be cool. Does she still live in the Farmville/ Buckingham area? Yea? Okay. And can you describe her as a character?

LH: Yea, she's a nice lady. She had six kids. She is a great cook. She's outgoing too. Which I'm sure I've said about five times already, but that's where they all get it from I'm sure.

AC: Who do you think is the most influential person in your life? Who has affected you to kind of bring you here to where you are today?

LH: I would say my dad, if I had to pick one person. He's probably the closest within me outside my, I don't wanna say my actual family because he's the frontier outside friends my age he's like my best friend for sure.

AC: What about him makes him so influential? What about his characters? Because he motivates you or you gotta be like him.

LH: Yeah he's a big motivator, always tells me to give it a 110% in like everything school sports. He knows that obviously I'm doing a different career path than him, we're a little different personality wise. I'm more laid back and he's more out there but I like it.

AC: Sounds great! Did you and your family have any kind of family traditions like watching TV on Sunday or things that you did together kind of like bonding? It sounds like you had a lot of those things.

LH : Like I said I got into football pretty young so by the time I got a big interest in it we would always spend like Sundays just hanging out and watching games all day which is pretty much what we still do when I'm there now.

AC: Cool! So football is kind of the unifying character, activity I should say.

LH: Oh yeah!

AC: How do you think education overall is valued into your family?

LH: It's a big part of our family, my dad tries to be realistic about it but he expects A+'s in every single thing and we had to tell him that that's almost impossible to.

AC: When did that start? First grade? Third grade?

LH: It was early. I know him and my mom both were doing it for a good cause and the anticipation I'd be where I am today about to graduate from college and all that so.

AC: Yeah wow that's awesome! So you talked about your dad and your mom feels the same way? Grandmothers? Sisters?

LH: Yeah!

AC: Definitely! Pressure's on!

LH: Oh yeah definitely everybody sticks it in.

AC: Why do you think that your sister chose to not go to a school kind of closer to home? I know that she went to George Mason and that's not a huge difference but you chose to go to Hampden-Sydney. Why didn't she choose to go to Longwood so she can keep that family intact because it sounds like you guys are close?

LH: uh she..... that's a good question actually I know she did apply here and it was thought for a little while but she I guess wanted to get away sort of. She's more of an individual person I mean I guess I am too but I chose Hampden-Sydney for different reasons. I guess she felt dependent and wanted to get out there a little bit and see a different area, meet new people.

AC: Yeah! Definitely! She's probably more city-.

LH: Yeah! She loves DC she's always there.

AC: And why did you choose Hampden-Sydney? Why didn't you choose Longwood? Did you have any contenders?

LH: I wanted to keep playing football so that was a big thing, Longwood didn't work out.

AC: So you thought about Longwood?

LH: Yes! Yes I did! I know Hampden-Sydney has a great reputation as far as networking with alums and the students that are there now and it's really a tight knit network. There's always like, we have like this career site alums always posting like opportunities and stuff on the website so

it's just that and the small community feel is what got me interested in it and eventually got me to sign up.

AC: Any others that are further away other instate tuition or even out of state tuition or just thought about Hampden-Sydney and Longwood.

LH: No it came between Hampden-Sydney, UVA, and Richmond and then I chose Hampden-Sydney.

AC: so it was definitely important for your parents that you attend college. It kind of wasn't an option.

LH: No!

AC: No option whatsoever?

LH: No.

AC: So I'm gonna switch gears a little bit and um actually no. Did your parents want you to attend Fuqua?

LH: Yeah. My dad was I guess the strongest advocate for it, my mom is kind of more do what you will whatever makes you happy sort of thing.

AC: Why do you think your mom was a little more hesitant than your dad?

LH: I'm not really sure. She wasn't I guess I wouldn't say hesitant she just wasn't very pushy about it and he wasn't pushy either but he was kind of the main one.

AC: Did your mom have a different tone about it?

LH: No, not really. She was open to it just didn't really speak up. I don't know if she really had an opinion about it she really didn't say but she was just kind of like you know if this is something that interests you go for it if not then I love Buckingham so that's fine that's a good fit for you too. My dad was sort of in the more like I said he wasn't pushy but he would sort of push for it a little more.

AC: What did he push?

LH: Fuqua, it has a good reputation with rewarding scholarships and stuff. Usually I know most graduating classes get like between 3 and like 4 million like total and that's for like financial aid and stuff so he was like in love with that and the student body is like way small like probably around 130 to 150 kids and the entire high school was like 800, 900 in public school in Buckingham so I guess he felt like the student ratio will give you better chance to learn with the ratio with the teachers.

AC: Definitely! That's kind of the universal around public school and private school. Why did you choose to attend Fuqua?

LH: I wasn't going to actually but-

AC: When did that get brought up on the table even?

Larry Haskins: It was brought on, I went there sophomore year of high school so it was like around maybe February of freshman year Buckingham and I sort of spent that semester thinking about it and I think I really decided to go with it until maybe the last week or two of school there at Buckingham and I kind of brought to his idea of the whole chance to get one on one time in the classroom and the opportunities that it brings and it'll open up, scholarship opportunities for college.

AC: So are there any other opportunities you feel like you had other than the scholarship that you'd get at Fuqua that you wouldn't get at Buckingham, specifically Buckingham?

LH: That was the main thing I think. Football wasn't a big issue for me we just we knew I could play the game. It wasn't a big deal to me.

AC: So you entered in to Fuqua at 14?

LH: 14, 15

AC: 14, 15 okay! Alright so you ended up liking it, did you end up liking it at Fuqua?

LH: Yeah I did!

AC: Describe a typical school day at Fuqua?

LH: Well, we had a dress code it wasn't too demanding it was just Khakis and a polo shirt. I got tired of it at first then got used to it. We have 4 classes a day with a break in between each one maybe 10 minutes or so. We didn't have really a routine outside of class. I know we just had this thing where seniors can like we had like a pool area we had like tables and stuff seniors could like eat there. We had like a bell town sort of set up out in like the front yeah we had some stuff like that.

AC: A little more independence and a little more trust.

LH: Yeah!

AC: I've been there you guys have a nice pool, I've done some laps there. Okay so what was your course load like? Did you take AP classes?

LH: Yeah I took CPN, tenth grade is like CPN you have to like, junior and senior year is like AP History and English.

AC: Did you take AP classes before you went to Fuqua?

LH: No.

AC: Do you think that because you went to Fuqua that you had the ability?

LH: Yeah.

AC: Would you not have taken AP classes or did they even offer AP classes at Buckingham?

LH: They do. I probably would have.

AC: I know some schools do and some schools don't so it's good to ask. So when you transferred from Buckingham to Fuqua, did you lose any of your friends from Buckingham?

LH: No, not really not the close ones at least. I still like, my best friend he stayed at Fuqua and I mean we always kept like in close contact.

AC: Who's your best friend?

LH : His name is Caleb White, he actually a year two, he stayed another year after I left then he transferred to into Virginia Episcopal which is in Lynchburg and he plays basketball for East Carolina now. And but yeah him and few other friends that I was pretty close with we still we all talk every now and then. They go to different schools but we all keep in contact. I didn't really lose any friends based off of the move I just-.

AC: Were there any friends not happy about you moving other than the fact that they wouldn't see you every day but like-.

LH : They didn't yeah other than that they weren't mad they were just a little upset they wouldn't get to see me every day because I mean I've grown up with them since like kindergarten so we're used to seeing each other all the time then that kinda ended there's a few people I guess I would sorta not your closest closest friends but just friends you would see daily I just sorta like lost touch with them just from not seeing them yeah all the close friends I stayed I still talk to them.

AC: Did anyone, or I guess your high school in Buckingham did they have did Fuqua hold any reputation there any negative positive reputation? Was it called something derogatory or was it praised?

LH: It wasn't much derogatory stuff about it I know of one girl I won't say her name but I-.

AC: You don't have to.

LH: Know of one girl she left Fuqua and came to Buckingham because she didn't like it.

AC: What didn't she like about it? Did she say? Did she?

LH: She didn't like the people.

AC: She didn't like the people, what did she say about the people? You can-.

LH : Just they were like rude and just sorta uptight I guess but I mean I didn't really I mean you have some of those people in every crowd I guess but I didn't really get that as a general feel when I was there.

AC: Did she tell you that before or after you attended?

LH: She told me before once I told her I was going there.

AC: Did it how was that how did that conversation lay out did that did that make you feel a little nervous or were you afraid?

LH: Little bit. I was a little nervous.

AC: Were you afraid you'd be judged?

LH: Yeah I was it was like I was conscious of it I guess at first like the first maybe week or so football helped a lot because I mean that starts in the summer before school and so like I met pretty much like half the guys just through that before school even started and I got pretty close with them but yeah once I sort of met everyone else the whole body in general I didn't really get that vibe at all. Like I said few people in the crowd not really nothing personal we just have people in the crowd that are like rude like she said I mean I can see that-.

AC: That was enough for her to leave?

LH: Yeah.

AC: So it's probably a little more for her at least probably different.

LH: Yeah I mean I guess people see situations in a different way or they have a different situation completely maybe so.

AC: Yeah maybe because she wasn't a football star. Alright so okay describe your friend group at Fuqua, was it mixed or was there a mix or-.

LH : Well yeah most my main group was guys that played on the team one of my best friends now I met him like the first day his name is Carter met him the first day at Fuqua we've been tight ever since actually I had another friend his name is Jay he came to Fuqua from Buckingham the same year I did he's a year younger than me but we weren't really close at Buckingham but I guess sorta to move together made us closer since we sorta knew each other a little bit.

AC: Was he African American as well?

LH: Yeah! And well he's mixed but yeah but yeah that's why it made us closer having come from the same place and everything.

AC: So you did you find that as a trend that you feel a little bit safer going to Fuqua if you were with another African American or so?

LH: I knew it was a few guys there already.

AC: What was the ratio? You don't have to give me exactly but give me like for every

LH : It would be out of every out of a 100 there's maybe like 6 of us or a 130 probably like 6 of us like 6 or 7 it wasn't as bad as you would think.

AC: It wasn't too bad?

LH: Everybody just treated you as one of the guys.

AC : You had an overall good experience at least initially is what I was trying to get at obviously you talk highly of Fuqua so I assume you had a good last 3 years of high school?

LH: Yeah it was good.

AC: So let's get a little more in I'm gonna stay on the subject of Fuqua for right now, how did Prince Edward County talk about the school closings?

LH: You mean like-.

AC: School closings in Farmville.

LH: Older like community members or just in general.

AC: In general like did they teach it in classrooms as well as they talk outside of the classroom.

LH: We didn't really talk about it a lot in like History and Government class we'd sorta.

AC: What did they?

LH: Go into it a little more obviously because we were like a part of it but

AC : What did they say kind of just brief over review were they really in detail about what the implications were in your opinion, how did they go into that?

LH : I mean just talk about the unfortunate situation I guess obviously there were people during that period just sorta with the school closings didn't go back once they or didn't have the chance to go back once they opened up so there's a lot of people in this area specially like African Americans that is really undereducated just.

AC: How does that make you feel that an entire race specially a race that you come from that you're associated with your community?

LH : It's I feel pretty bad about it it's really an unfortunate situation because I mean it was not just here I'm sure many different areas which is why like private schools start to open because public schools close down and so-.

AC: Who told you that?

LH: I I was never really told that I guess it was just sort of like an assumption because Fuqua did like so that like shortly after that just like looking at some of the dates of some of the like private schools it sort of happened after that it just kind of unfortunate I guess because the African Americans at that time didn't have the ability to go to school financially I guess because private schools cost money unlike public school and at Fuqua the most expensive would still-.

AC: Except you don't have you're struggling to put food on the table it is hard to send your kids yeah definitely. I'm gonna switch kinda going between Fuqua and your parents or family in general, how did your family feel about the school closings?

LH: They my parents didn't really talk about it much just they say-.

AC: It didn't come up when you were about to go to Fuqua because Fuqua was one of the schools that opened.

LH: They my dad sort of kind of prepared me for-.

AC: How did he prepare?

LH : For people asking questions about me going to Fuqua he never told me who exactly but I know he had like friends and some other people like around the Buckingham area that just said like maybe that's not like a the best idea because-.

AC: Why? Why do you think-?

LH: Because they assume that from the ratio and from it having opened at that time that it wasn't the most welcome place.

AC: So is that older an older generation or younger generation.

LH: The older generation.

AC: So the older generation kind of had a negative out- what was some of the things that they said?

LH: Just basically that they wouldn't welcome me and like playing sports would be like the only really welcome I would get. I guess like on the off side like they kind of I guess they thought I wouldn't be considered like equally as intelligent I guess and classrooms and stuff like I mean I guess I never saw that at all I guess I was just-.

AC: How did that make you feel you were 14 at the time and an adult is telling you that. That must-.

LH: Yeah! It was strange time.

AC: Yeah! Definitely!

LH: I didn't really know what to think I mean I was still sort of I mean I had second thoughts obviously I was still kind of all for it and just said I would test it out and-.

AC: So no one sugar coated that for you?

LH: No

AC: At least in the Buckingham community.

LH: No

AC: No, so pretty hard.

LH: It was sort of I guess at first it was sort of like a test for me and we would just see how it worked out because it was something new and my parents wanted me to do it so we just said we'd test it out and if it worked out fine then we'll stick with it then if not then we'll always have Buckingham to fall back on.

Ashley Cake

Transcript Share

Larry Haskins:

Ashley Cake:

Starting at 47:07-10:12 minutes

Ashley Cake: How did that make you feel? You were 14 at the time, and an adult is telling you that, that must-

Larry Haskins: Yeah, yeah, it was...uh... some strange times.

Haskins:

A.C: Yeah

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: Yeah, defiantly.

L.H.: Yeah. I agree. I didn't really know what to think. Yeah I sort of... I mean I had some seconds, obviously, but I still kind of all for it, and I just said I would test it out and-

A.C: So no one sugarcoated that for you.

L.H.: No not really

A.C: Or at least in the Buckingham community

L.H.: No.

A.C: No? So that was pretty hard-

L.H.: It was sort of, I guess at first, it was sort of like a test run... and we'd just see how it worked out, because It was something that I wanted to do and something my parents wanted me to do, so we just said we test it out and if it worked out fine, then we stick with it, and if not, we always have Buckingham to fall back on.

A.C: Yeah, definitely. And it sounds like you have a pretty good support system too. How do you think Prince Edward Country talked about segregation, civil rights movement, you probably learned about in your history class, but did you feel like they [residents/public/private schools] sugar coated it, that they didn't really get into the full extent or the full impact that that had, or what that actually meant for those people to go through the civil rights movement, or what it meant to segregate, or the impacts of segregation, not just in Farmville but nationwide, did they sugarcoat it or were they real?

L.H.: They were pretty, they were pretty real. They didn't really sugarcoat it at all for us because I guess...uh- not our parents... but the generation [before]- I guess like our grandparents, were sort of the ones in that predicament, so, I mean they knew that from just from having been around this area that we all know about the situation anyways so they didn't really sugarcoated it for us. They just let us know that there the people around here that didn't get the same opportunity as you [speaking in second person] for unfortunate reason and to be like mindful and conscious of that and be just thankful that you [second person] were fortunate enough to be in this time and have the opportunity that we do have.

Yeah, definitely, definitely...

- A.C.: So when were you- because you said, you said that you all kind of knew [about racism], when was, when was your first realization- because that, as children we are not, we are not told, as kids we are not told that black, yellow, green is any different than anything else, other than just a color... when did the aspects or the reality of racism first, first was brought to light, maybe not in its entirety or maybe not to the extent that you know today, but the fact that some people treat people differently because of the color of their skin.
- L.H.: Hmm... uh I guess I would say, just from learning it I guess and...
- A.C.: In school?
- L.H.: In school... [in agreement] and I don't know if you know, but it like a TV, like an old TV series, its called "Roots" and like my parents showed me that, its like, its about slavery and stuff, and when like the slavers first arrived and all that, and they showed that movie when I was like really young, not even really intentionally, but they were, I guess, they were just kind of watching it and I sort of saw it and so that was the first time I really like notice the difference, seeing it on TV, and learning about it class.
- A.C.: Do you remember any kind of feeling you had?
- L.H.: Hmmmmm?
- A.C.: Or was it introduced so slowly that you really didn't see a difference?
- L.H.: Yeah, it was kind of slow and I guess when you get older you sort of like pick up on things, that you can kind of- I guess, you are like able to read people a little more and so its not its not, I guess its never blatantly usually, but you can sort of pick up on things when you are older, but like at the age I was like "uhh... well that's like bad that the happen" but I mean I have never really dealt with that personally, at that point so...
- A.C.: So how was race discussed in your family?
- L.H.: Uhh... I mean they made me aware that it was like different and not to care about difference and like treat everyone the same but just be aware that they are people that care about that stuff like that
- A.C.: Yeah, yeah, defiantly.
- L.H.: And to not like be afraid of it but just to be are that, that people, not all people think the same so
- A.C.: Did they tell you any- like how to cope with any of that?
- L.H.: Yeah, they just said, like if I ever got in a situation just like be smart about it.
- A.C.: Which I haven't like gotten in a conflict or anything in that matter, and to be like smart and just think through it and get away from it if I can
- L.H.: Mhmm. How did Prince Edward Academy Fuqua was meant to be said] talk about Racism? How did the teachers er..., um- I know I kind of went it to that, about this, segregation and um what it was like 50 years ago, but I am talking now, in our current day, do they talk about racism and if it is still, if it is still current throughout our community, as well again nation wide...
- A.C.: Yeah, we didn't- I guess they sort of assumed that everyone around isn't necessarily racist I guess and they kind of assumed that, I guess, everyone should know better by now I guess. I mean I know that is not the case with

everyone but we sort of had like our dark class room discussion and all that but it was never really like a big deal like

A.C: Yeah.

L.H.: Yeah “ you all need to know this” I guess they kind of felt like that everyone was fine in our school on like the topic

A.C: What about Buckingham?

Buckingham... was sort of the same. I mean you never really had like a public display of it at least, I mean like I don’t know of it, but it could have been the

L.H.: same at Fuqua, I mean maybe weren’t approvative like of us being there and stuff but no one made it public or made me feel uncomfortable about being there or anything

A.C: Okay... all right. Ok, that good, that good information. Overall do you feel like that you were treated equally at Fuqua?

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: Yeah, definitely ... or teachers, do you think you were graded fairly?

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: Yeah, definitely... was it hard making those good grades just in general?

L.H.: yeah

A.C: Yeah, but was there lot of help? A lot of support?

L.H.: Yeah, well you get a lot of support, but I mean they are not really going to hand it to you

A.C: You had to work for it?

L.H.: Yeah, you still had to work for it. Yeah, people did treat me pretty well, I was student body president, senior year, and so...

A.C: That’s awesome

L.H.: Just through that, I mean I can tell people obviously didn’t have a problem with me being there so, its like a personal thing, a vote so..

Awesome, awesome, did you, I am sorry I forgot the next question I was going to ask you... aright... ok... that’s awesome.. Oh... with your, with your parents, I know your mom went back to college which is which is awesome, but do you

A.C: feel like you were- if you needed help at home- were your parent... I know they structured you, and you said that they structure you and wanted you to get good grades, but if you had a question on your homework, do you feel like your parents could help you as much as you needed too

L.H.: Yeah yeah they helped me a lot, any time I came to them, they would give me answers, sort of ...

A.C: They knew the answers [communication clarification]

Yeah, they normally would, I am sort of like a hard head I guess, I tried to do as much of it as I could. My dad, like I said, he didn’t go to college but he is really intelligent, and he works with like numbers in his line of work, so I mean like

L.H.: math wise he is like really smart and so I could bring any of that stuff to him. Obviously I guess the stuff I am doing now, I barely understand it myself so [chuckles] I never really looked to them...

Yeah, Yeah, I know it was more of when you were growing up definitely.. um

A.C: okay. Alright... how, how could you say that your- Fuqua was different? Do you the quality of education was different, um we kind of went into that, but the

quality of education and overall experience do you think that it is- how do you think that they are different and how do you think they are similar?

L.H.: Compared to Buckingham?

A.C.: Buckingham compared to Fuqua on quality, as well as teacher support, um socially, actives...

L.H.: Uhhh.. I liked Fuqua better I would say the quality of education... I don't want to word it the wrong way but... I would say it is sort of even the education you get, I would Just say that the quality is probably better, just because of the smaller classroom size, and the one on ones you get

A.C.: Do you feel like the Fuqua students or or either the Fuqua students or either the Buckingham students, was was one class more eager to learn than the other...

L.H.: Uhhh... say that one more time

A.C.: So, when we are comparing two classes, would you that one class form like Fuqua or one class from Buckingham, overall average, would one them be more eager to learn, like not talk, not goof off

L.H.: Fuqua is definitely more eager, is more conversational [participating] in class than was Buckingham I mean you would have a few people sort of paying attention, being like proactive. But I mean I am kind of like one of the people too, well I wouldn't say a lot, but I mean I am zoned in and I will comment now and then, but its definitely more like eagerness to learn at Fuqua

A.C.: Yeah, cool, cool. So there is definitely no goofing at Fuqua?

L.H.: Some people...

A.C.: Some people are goofs? [chuckles] So overall, do you fell like African Americans are pretty welcomed at Fuqua?

L.H.: yeah

A.C.: Not just on the football team? They went just for-

L.H.: In general, yeah.

A.C.: Were the most of African Americans who attend Fuqua on the football team or were on other sports?

L.H.: Yeah, we all basically played in some sort of sport, whether it was football, basketball, baseball, if not all of them.

A.C.: Okat, Um how—they was this article posted in the Washington Post who actually interviewed one of the students from Fuqua, I think he was your graduating year, um and kind of a condition, he got a scholarship for saying, under the condition that he would talk highly of Fuqua among black residents in the black community, was that same term given to you?

L.H.: No.

A.C.: Okay, good. Just a question thrown out there... um your life at Hampton Sydney, do you think that there is any racial tension at Hampton Sydney?

L.H.: No. Not to me at least, I can't say in general, but I don't feel like that when I walk around campus—Uh, I feel like it is somewhat similar to Fuqua, its still really basically every where.

A.C.: Awesome, that's good, that good. I want to go back a little bit, because we kind of stayed on Fuqua for a little while... Lets talk about your grandmother that is still alive, the one that you are close with. She is a resident of Farmville, she has

been a long term resident in Farmville, I am assuming she is well in age... So, was she shut out?

L.H.: She, well she was in Buckingham County

A.C: Mhmm..

L.H.: So there was, that is actually a good question, I don't think she was, she wasn't shut out, as far as humans I guess

A.C: Yeah, was she told that she could not go to school?

L.H.: No, no... there, there it wasn't the same as here. They integrated there and everything was fi—well, actually let me retrace that again because I think she finished before integration even like started, so she was probably, yeah... I am sure she was done, by that point, actually.

A.C: Before integration... So she went to an all black school?

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: And your mother and father both went to school before... after after integration?

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: Ok, alright, alright... Is there any other of your family members, that you know, that have been shut out of school?

L.H.: No

A.C: No?

L.H.: No. My whole family, at least the immediate family was, and by that I mean like my uncles aunts and everything they all went to Buckingham County

A.C: Did your—Did your grandma—If your grandmother went, uh lived in Buckingham and she went to an all black school, she didn't go to Buckingham was there another part of Buckingham high that she went too, or another that they went to...

L.H.: It was called, um, Carter G. Woodson, back then...

A.C: Carter G. Woodson?

L.H.: Mhmm..

A.C: Ok. Did she describe her experience, going to that school?

L.H.: Not really, they did—she—yeah I haven't really talked to her about her experiences there

A.C: So she really hasn't told you stories?

L.H.: No, Not really... just

A.C: Yeah?

L.H.: Like school... She talked about school in general, you know, but not really like about her relationships with anybody there

A.C: Do you think that, overall, kind of, your grandmother, your parents, your sisters, Fuqua, Hampton Sydney... do you think that racism, especially in Farmville because of our past, Farmville and Buckingham county, and their surrounding counties, Prince Edward, that racism is talked about enough?

L.H.: Hmmm...

A.C: Or do you think that is talked about too much?

L.H.: It is definitely not talked about too much... but I feel like it is brought up enough, enough where people are aware of it

A.C: Yeah. Okay. Awesome, awesome. I am going to just take a second. Do you think that, do you think that your family member's educations or opportunities would be different if they were white...

L.H.: Hmm.

A.C: Living in the terms of Buckingham, Prince Edward County, Farmville area... and if not your family then, you could also state, African Americans in general.

L.H.: Maybe... back past my parents I would say, from my parent down, I feel like it was it was pretty normal... pretty equal, their family wasn't really, neither one of their families were well off so, as far as going off to college and paying for it, I am sure that had a stake: why my mom didn't go immediately after school, and I am sure that had something to with my dad not going

A.C: Yeah, do you think your parent, your grandparents, or even your sisters deserved a better education than the one that they received?

L.H.: [Sigh] I cant say for sure, because I don't know how...

A.C: You said that your dad was intelligent

L.H.: yeah

A.C: Do you think that your dad, being that intelligent man, that he has the capacity, he has the ability, he has the thought process, and the desire to learn... Do you think that, if... if... if he, not necessary in racial issue—... but do you think that... --or racial side, do you that he deserved a better education? Whether the reason why he went was finical or not

L.H.: Ah... yeah... I think that he should of, I think that he should of gotten something because he's—like I said, he is already pretty intelligent guy already, so with an actual grounded education I think he would... probably be a big... total different picture for us... yeah

A.C: Yeah Yeah... How so?

L.H.: [talking simultaneously] go head...

A.C: Do you think you [second tense] you know, have a different occupation, but as well do you think that you'd be living somewhere different?

L.H.: Probably, yeah, like you said he would have a different occupation for sure, he loves what he does, but I am sure if he went to school he would had a different occupation, he would probably would have gotten a job somewhere else... I am assuming...

A.C: Do you think that you mom and your dad have the career that they want, that they dreamt of when they were your age? Or do you think that it didn't work out that way for them?

L.H.: Uh, I don't think they do. I think the kind of took what they could get, and just looked forward to try and give the best future for me and my sisters

A.C: So they want...they want to give you what they didn't have

L.H.: I would think so. I see that a lot especially with my Dad, he uhh... I mean he doesn't really try.... He doesn't control anything that I do with my life from here on out, but I mean he just wants to give me the chance to peruse anything that I can, and just back me with whatever I do... I guess that is what both of them [his parents] would want just to have any opportunity I can in front of me...

A.C: Mmhmm. Do you think that the reason why—I am going to pick on your father just specifically, because you have been talking about how smart he is, and its

really admirable... what he is doing for you, what he has done for you. Did—do you believe that that his situation, and the career that he had, the career he was given or the career that he could get... ah, lost it again, ah give me a second.

L.H.: Its okay.

A.C: Um. Wow, that just totally left the building...

L.H.: That's fine

A.C: Okay, I was talking about your father... okay... lets move on then. I am so sorry, That was—I was trying to figure out where I was going with that one. Oh, oh nevermind, lets go. So Oh! I know where I was going with that: do you think that, the reason why he's in the career he was, and it was not the career he necessarily deserved or necessarily got or wanted. Do you think that was more on a financial situation, or do you think that it was a combination that was also racial, or just the fact of where he was... there just wasn't enough opportunity just in the "farm community"

L.H.: Yeah

A.C: What do you think... do you think it was combination of things or—

L.H.: I think it was both of those, It was financial, his financial situation wasn't the best and just the location, its really rural , so I mean I think he kind of picked up on what he knew and like I said his family were all masons and they did brick work and all that kind of stuff and he kind of grew up around that so he kind of hit the ground after he came back from the military and so he took what he knew

A.C: Okay alright, I know that racism hasn't been really talked about in your family, but we really want, I guess the purpose of this interview we really want to get into the generation after of the generation that was affected by the school closing. Not necessary, I know that you are, you kind of have a little gap and there was not someone in your family affect specifically mentioned but the affects linger in Farmville and they linger in Prince Edward County and some of the residents over the years have expressed that it's still there and sometimes even students can kind of see that, obviously not with in at least maybe not with in the classes but maybe you know outside the university... do you think that, because of that your town you grew up in and your towns history do you think that there were barrier that you had to overcome there were limitations and struggles your family had to overcome in the fact that they were African American, in the segregated school one of the last place the last community to segregate. What was that like? Did they talk about that?

L.H.: Not a lot. no. we didn't really talk on that a lot, I guess... I guess I lost my train of thought too

AC: Let's talk about social media, Facebook, Instagram. Sometimes you'll have some pretty heated conversations there. What are some stereotypes, I guess that you feel like are betrayed against African Americans on social media? Just in general that you feel like there are stereotypes of things that aren't really true. Can you describe that in your way?

LH: Just um, I would say that the main thing is like education and stuff, stuff like that. Umm I mean, I see it like all the time. I mean people says like you said it's not true.

AC: what exactly?

LH: Um, I guess through like , umm the main thing could be like probably literature or like through I guess, people like say that African American aren't like as literate I guess. Umm, let me see. Stereotypes? Umm.

AC: What were some stereotypes that you probably feel like you had to overcome? If, I mean, trying to give an example. I mean, just looking at someone who is different, people are automatically make that assumption on the way that you dress and the way that you look. Color of your skin, color of your hair. I mean, it is all over the place. People make jokes about it. I'm not saying, and have you get the impression that what I have stated that you believe those things. But things, but there are things that were brought up on different topics about things in our lives. I just want to see what sticks, thoughts stick to you. I know you said literacy, but was there anything else?

LH: Um like you said, dress or like appearance is a big thing I mean. I mean people sort of wear baggy clothes, chains, umm like the fitted stuff. All that kinds of stuff. Um like their shoes and everything. It is kind of sort of like uh I guess like what you wear is the different way of thinking too, but if it's like proper dress I guess. And people will assume and think that, that person is like umm in to like criminal activity or like-.

AC: Can you be more specific?

LH: Like drugs, sell drugs, rob people. Stuff like that.

AC: How does that make you feel? Knowing that, that you may be labeled like one of those people? By first look, first glance?

LH: Uh, it doesn't. I don't want to say it doesn't bother me at all, but, because I mean, I don't really do those things I guess.

AC: Yeah.

LH: But I know people that do. Like wear like certain clothes. Like I know those people personally. I know just from their outward appearance. I mean it doesn't like mean anything or anything about them. At all. So I kind of like feel like sympathetic for people like that just because you want to do certain things, be a certain way, be a certain person that you have to deal with by their judgements.

AC: How does judgement play a role in that way? Do you, or someone ever been to a party or umm a class. Or has anyone said anything to you that you thought “wow that was really stereotypical, like you just totally judged me and yeah?”

LH: Umm, not really.

AC: Not really?

LH: I never had that personal experience. I mean obviously I can use Hampden Sydney for example. Like the fraternity parties are I mean pretty much umm white guys. And um like no one will say anything to you. But if it is like a couple of black guys walk in, they’ll like look and if they don’t know you then yeah.

AC: That wouldn’t be the same way, if it was a random white guy walked in?

LH: Yeah. I feel like it would be the same way too as like party or a house that’s all black and see a white person or an Asian person walked in and everybody would kind of-.

AC: Yeah. Yeah Hampden Sydney, is your friend group pretty mixed? Um I know it’s pretty mixed but uh-.

LH: Uh yeah, I would say that got a pretty good mixture. Um, I live at the part of minority student union club. So that’s pretty much. There’s its, I mean it’s really not much African Americans.

AC: Do you talk about those things? Do you talk about racism?

LH: Yeah, yeah.

AC: What do you talk about? What are some things people say?

LH: We have our like, monthly meetings and it’s like, I don’t really keep up with it, but it’s like stuff that’s like yik yak. Yall know what yik yak is right?

AC: Yeah

Zoey Dunn: Yeah

Samantha Mazzan: Yeah

Mekdes Hailemichae: Yeah

LH: It’s like stuff that goes on there like and people like.

AC: What are some things that people said that’s been brought up?

LH: People say stuff about like our parties and all that and it attracts a lot of townies I guess. And I mean I seen like a lot of the comments of and I mean I heard they are pretty racist.

AC: Did you have anyone that struck out to you?

LH: One, I know the most recent one was like uh, yeah MSU better watch their parties with the people let in or something. Because they know who their neighbors are and so. I guess they are referring to one of the fraternities, I don't know.

AC: Yeah.

LH: Umm, I don't really.

ZD: Ashley, it's been um-.

AC: Yeah?

ZD: It's been uh, I think, like an hour and twenty minutes now.

AC: Okay, alright. Thanks

ZD: Just letting you know.

AC: Um, I am about to wrap up, um definitely. And everything has been great. Do you think that on these stereotypes effect African Americans who had opportunity?

LH: I think so.

AC: How?

LH: A little bit. I think people may be don't intentionally try to hold an African American back. But maybe, I don't know. As far as like, uh an African American person and a like a Caucasian go to the same job, I feel like an oh situation that they would feel more comfortable with like a Caucasian person working uh-.

AC: How do you feel about that?

LH: Just because in general, most like managers site see if there is anybody that really are up there in most cases that are Caucasians. I mean there are some black people but-.

Custodian: oops, excuse me.

LH: In general. It is a Caucasian person. So I feel like. Like you're more comfortable with what you know I guess. And so it isn't always a person just looks up at a black person and say like I don't want them to work for me, but I guess yeah.

AC: So you think that happens? So you think that across the country SO's see's these people more likely to hire whites than blacks? Whites if they go to apply. Let's bring up a situation. So if you were to go and apply to a job and you were sitting down in the interview of the office or the secretary's office, and you were the only African American sitting in that room and with about four other white guys. What would you, how would you think your or do you think that the applicants have a better chance than you because they are white?

LH: I think so, initially.

AC: yeah.

LH: But, I feel like-

AC: Even if you had just as competitive application?

LH: Yeah, I feel like that initially, but I feel like if you, if that person is the right candidate and you get a chance to sit down with them. I feel like a person who doesn't care about that stuff would look past it and they would just pick the actual person that is best for the job.

AC: Yeah, in an ideal world. Do you think that actually happens?

LH: Yeah. I like to think that it happens. I can't say for sure how in like a percentage wise. I guess.

AC: Would you feel more comfortable if half the people also applying for that job were also African Americans?

LH: It helps I guess.

AC: Would it make you feel better?

LH: Yeah.

AC: Would that change the whole dynamic for you on your presumptions of getting the job or not getting the job?

LH: Yeah. I feel like I would be feeling a little better going into it. But in particular, I don't really feel uncomfortable about going in to it. I feel like as long as I feel like my credentials would speak for me, then I would have a chance with it. Having a one on one, I feel like if I am the right person, they would make the right decision.

AC: While attending, and I may have asked this early, but I am going to go into a little more into the subject. Overall in Farmville, have you felt racial tension?

LH: Not to me, but I have heard of it going on. I haven't really been around it to see it for myself but I mean, I've heard of it.

AC: What have you heard?

LH: I've heard of people just I guess saying in a social setting, just like not being welcomed to a party or just like.

AC: Was it specifically because they would see that he was black? Or that person was black?

LH: Yeah, that's what I was told and just like, I don't know. Just to see if you were like out somewhere, I heard of people being out somewhere and like drive up, drive by and yell out stuff, like racist stuff.

AC: What do they say?

LH: Words. Like I mean I haven't had that happen to me but I don't doubt that it has happened.

AC: Yeah.

LH: Pretty often.

AC: How does that make you feel? Those comments? I know that you were taught to ignore them but you can't help but feel.

LH: Yeah I try to ignore it but it's you know kind of sticks with you even if it's not happening to you directly, you mean.

AC: You feel like?

LH: I feel like it could, like I just been fortunate that I haven't been in like that situation yet. But that's sort of I guess it means that it could happen to me too. People may could still feel that way.

AC: So you're talking about, I know, I know.

ZD: Yeah.

AC: We haven't.

LH: That's fine.

AC: So, we were talking about racial equality and found you talking about townies. You think that townies appear the way they do. How would you describe a townie in Farmville?

LH: Well, it's sort of, I guess, in general would be anyone from Farmville.

AC: Yeah.

LH: That grew up here, but I guess it takes a different tone on our campus because like our like social events are like the ones that attract them. Most of the people from Farmville that don't go to school there and it's just happens to be African American people. So that sort of, I would say on our campus at least that's what you think of for townies. I'm sure that's what most people think of at first. I'm sure some of white people that come to other parties, our parties, or even other fraternity parties that don't go to school there but most of the crowd comes to our house and it's usually black people.

AC: So do you think that the people or the townies, African Americans specifically think that racial equality. Do you think that they're treated equally? I guess, how would you describe the racial equality of Farmville with the people that live here?

LH: I feel like it's, I feel like that time has sort of over with. I feel like it's pretty equal now. I know that not all people come from the same sort of I guess equal situation financially and so.

AC: Do you feel like that's more sort of the blacks, African Americans and that they are more likely to receive lesser.

LH: Yeah sort of. It's like run down from the peoples families who were effected from the segregation and the school closings and all that. But-.

AC: How do you think? Oh sorry.

LH: I was just going to say, as far as like equality its self now, I don't think anyone is held back beyond their own families and personal situations.

AC: How do you feel like we could better promote racial unity in Farmville? What do you think that Longwood students or the community could do or even not just in Farmville, Buckingham County, near counties in general to get some of those people who might not be precscuating system that is going from generation to generation? That they are kind of falling into. How do you think that we could use and kind of come together and fix some of these problems?

LH: I'd just say like have more social events that make people aware of the situation. And I feel like a lot of people-.

AC: Should be talking about more?

LH: Yeah, a little bit. Like I said earlier, I don't think it's really, I think it's enough but I think people, if it's talked about enough, I don't think people really like sort of focus on enough I guess. It's sort of just like a local thing. Oh yeah that happened to you and it's kind of like goes in one ear and sort of out the other. But I just feel like it just should be I guess like promoted a little more. Maybe like, like I said it's like a few people and like African American community here that like don't have equal opportunities like financial aid is maybe more like scholarship or something to like Longwood or Hampden Sydney or something. That would give people a few more opportunities to like for higher education and I know they have some already I think. But just make it a little more.

AC: Okay, that's good that's good. Couple more questions and I promise we'll be done. If you could, I know Prince Edward County High, I know you didn't go there in losing accreditation, and I know kind of that sometimes here at Longwood, and I don't know the spot up at Hampden Sydney, but how do you think that we could help better the education for those communities help better their education so that this next generation can start have more opportunities for jobs where they are not falling into this cycle again?

LH: I know we have like a sort of like a, it's called the after school kids program at Hampden Sydney. It's like a big brother program where like a few guys would go over and just sort of hang out with them like younger kids and like middle school and down but it's not really so much related to the education. It's just sort of like you sit down and talk with them personally about like life and stuff and I guess it's the way it keeps them out of trouble. I feel like if they sort of related it to school more, maybe it like made it to where they, like a go to a tutor girls and guys here. Like maybe a tutor or something and talk more about like their thoughts on their careers and what they want to do with what their aspirations are. Just pass grade school. And so yeah, just make it make the focus more on education.

AC: Do you think there is a lot of hope for people who, the majority of people who graduate from these schools these public schools to go to college? Is that something there that I want to say like more than 50% of these people go and end up going to college, or is that not the case? And would, would what you were just saying about helping them, do you think that will definitely help raise the percentage if there was one?

LH: I think it would help raise it. I'm not exactly sure of what the percentage is, I feel like-.

AC: In your opinion?

LH: Maybe, I feel like it would be if it did.

AC: Yeah okay. And if you had the power, and this is kind of a hypothetical question, if you had the power to change Farmville, like completely reshape this like reshape buildings, take something away, add something. What would you do, what would Farmville look like if you could kind of paint me a picture of Farmville and also extend out to Prince Edward Country, Buckingham Country, and campuses here? What would it look like, what would things change, what would be added? To help kind of the subject we are on?

LH: I don't know if I would change a lot of things. I mean not like it, but I guess I sort of would make it to where Fuqua and Prince Edward would like the schools and things would interact a little more. I know a lot of the older generations don't think that Hampden Sydney in particular and I'm not sure about Longwood but Hampden Sydney doesn't like contribute to the community a lot just far, I mean like the community service or what. They be like contribute a lot and I mean we don't really a lot as much as we could at least, in my opinion we do like this thing called The Big Event in the spring and that's what we do with the Moton.

AC: Yeah.

LH: We just help sort of clean up and we do little things like that.

AC: How often would you say Hampden Sydney students helping the community if you could change it? LH: I would have like-.

AC: Every day, once a month

LH: I do at least once a month maybe. Maybe three or four times a semester. I mean it's hard to put that many events on a larger scale together that many times, but.

AC: Would there be events or daily routines? Would there be, I want it to be your opinion.

LH: Yeah, yeah.

AC: I just want to make sure that, and I know it's hard when you just asked the question and think of something.

LH: Yeah, I guess, I would say I'd make it a routine. I don't want to make it a routine so that people would say that "oh I got to do this, I mean.

AC: Yeah.

LH: They wouldn't understand, I want them to understand why the reasoning for it is. But yeah, I would like it.

AC: Why do you think it's important?

LH: I think it's important because, like I said earlier, I think it would bring some hope right now. Like I said as far as like younger generation, I feel like they think it's a 50/50 chance of them going places beyond Prince Edward County. So, I feel like if they think people were concerned about their future and they would have a little more support. I feel like that would give them a little drive as well and they would feel a little better and be more open about their success and future beyond this.

AC: So you think currently kids in Prince Edward County, do you think a lot of them do just kind of give up just trying or give up hope because they feel like they are not going to go anywhere?

LH: I think so. I think a lot of them think that people care that much about them, that what they would do, I feel like a lot of them just kind of fall off and just say I'd do whatever.

AC: Yeah. And you think that the community marks us more unity throughout the community would help.

LH: Yeah I think.

ZD: Ashley, it's almost nine o'clock just letting you know.

AC: Ten o'clock?

ZD: No, it's almost 9. It's like 8:50 right now.

AC: Okay. I think we're good. Thank you so much.

ZD: Thank you.

LH: No problem.