

ORAL HISTORY RELEASE FORM

DATE: April 9, 1998

I hereby give to Longwood College the tape recordings, transcriptions, and contents of this oral history interview. I understand this interview will be available in the Longwood College library for scholarly or educational purposes only.

Signature of Interviewee: Angeles W. Christian

Name: Angeles W. Christian

Address: PO Box 772 - Farmville, VA 23901-0772

Name of Interviewer: Kelley Gilbert and Amy Moyer

Special Restrictions:

ORAL HISTORY DATA SHEET (to be turned in with tapes & transcript) 98-12

INTERVIEWEE: Angeles Christian

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 772, Farmville, VA 23901-0772

DATE OF INTERVIEW: April 9, 1998

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Prince Edward Middle School

INTERVIEWER/S: Kelley Gilbert and Amy Moyer

TOPICS COVERED: Being sent to live in New Jersey. Separation of siblings. What it was like to return-reunited with family/schools here. P.E. County today

NUMBER OF TAPES: 1

Mrs. Angeles Christian

Amy: "So what was it like when you guys come back?"

Mrs. Christian: "I was real happy to be back with momma. Ah it was it was a terrible, terrible experience like I said in Jersey. I guess because I was born in the country and lived in the country so that, you know, you could go next door and play and it wouldn't be a problem. But by living in the city you had to adjust to the rules they had. Of course the kids didn't want to be bothered with you because you were a normal country girl. Uh, I think coming back home it it was, it was better. I didn't have to fight to to to get an education. Uh, I had to fight everyday in in New Jersey. Uh, cause the kids didn't want me in the school system cause I was country and uh, comin back here it was it was it was more better, you know. I didn't have to deal with the the racism here anymore. I guess because it was even if it was uh, undercover but I didn't have to deal with all that coming back here. But to fight everyday in the city to try to get along, to try to get an exucation, to try to learn something you know. Coming back home better I guess because I was glad to see momma and daddy."

Kelley: "How old where you when you came back?"

Mrs. Christian: "About 9, 10. Something like that."

Amy: "How was um, you lived in New Jersey right? Were the, the schools were segregated there too or were they?"

Mrs. Christian: "Uh uh, I think they were I really didn't uh- I really didn't uh didn't pay attention to the the color of the students I guess because I was so lonely. And I never paid attention to it but the school that I went to was right around the corner from where my aunt lived. The majority of them were black. Um, like I said, fighting all the time and I wasn't used to fighting to go to class, fight to get out of school, fight to eat your lunch you know, stuff like that I wasn't used to at all."

Amy: "That was, that was because you were an outsider?"

Mrs. Christian: "Outsider, I felt, I felt like it. But because I was an outsider um and then after, after schools reopened here during the summer, I would go back and it would be better, you know, to live but when I left here I guess because I didn't want to be there from the start. It was real hard. And and I don't think I really tried to make, to make too many friends of my own so I

just learned how to be by myself."