

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 10/24/21 Period: 2

Oral History Project Plan

DIRECTIONS: The following is a plan that should be followed each day in order to make sure your Oral History Project is completed by the deadline. If it is not completed by the deadline it may not get graded in time to be counted for your First Quarter Grade, resulting in possible failure of the quarter.

NOTE ABOUT EDITING THIS DOC: Anywhere you see the blue prompt “(Highlight and type your answer here),” please highlight that blue text and then replace it with your own typed answer. Please leave the text BLUE. This makes it easier for me to grade:)

ASSIGNED: Thursday, October 14th, 2021

DUE: Monday, October 18th, 2021

ORAL HISTORY RESEARCH PLAN

PLAN YOUR INTERVIEW

Think about the things we have learned about in this unit. We have learned about the civil liberties located in the Bill of Rights. We have also learned about the civil rights that protect groups of people from being denied their access to their civil liberties.

1) Creating Research Questions: (Criterion B Skill)

Choose three topics that interest you from our unit. Then create three possible research questions that you would like to answer by conducting their oral history.

- **Example Topic #1:** 4th amendment
- **Example Question #1:** How have the 4th Amendment rights of my community members been respected in the past and present?
- **Example Topic #2:** Title IX
- **Example Question #2:** How has equal access to athletics affected the lives of the women in my life?

Topic: Equal Rights Amendment

Question: How was your life affected based on the violation of your Equal Rights Amendmant

Topic: 14th amendment

Question: how did the violation of your rights in the 14th amendment

Topic: Same sex marriage laws

Question: How did your inability to get married because of the same sex marriage laws effect your life.'

2) Choosing a Source (Criterion B Skill)

Now think about someone in your life who may be able to answer one of these questions with some LIVED EXPERIENCE... Ask around. Tell people what you are working on and see if they have any great stories for you. If they do, ask them if they will be your interviewee.

Be careful who you choose! If the person doesn't have a lot to say, this may have been a poor source to choose. Make sure you choose someone who has LIVED experience in the topic you are researching. Choosing the wrong interviewee can make your Criterion B score go down.

Who are you going to interview? (they have to be able to go on tape BEFORE October 25th)

Tell your interviewee about what we have been studying. **Which research question does your interviewee think they can talk a lot about?**

I'm going to ask my interviewee about how laws and segregation against gay people not only affected his life but forced him to mold and change himself to live a "legal" love life.

ASSIGNED: Monday, October 18th, 2021

DUE: Wednesday, October 20th, 2021

CREATING INTERVIEW QUESTIONS (Criterion B Skill)

Now you need to create at least three questions that get your interviewee talking about their lived experience with the research question. Your ultimate goal is TO ANSWER YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION. So create smaller questions that get your interviewee to answer it for you with stories from their life.

- 1) How did same sex marriage being illegal effect your life
- 2) Were there times in your life where you had wished that you werent gay because of the constant discrimination and why or why not
- 3) How is your life nowadays affected by the past restrictions being in place for gay people

ORAL HISTORY UPLOAD

CONDUCT YOUR INTERVIEW: (Link to the recording assignment)

Remember to use our google classroom for the oral history project. You may use this on a chromebook, computer or phone. It should work on all, just make sure you have a working camera/mic on the device. Go to the assignment "Oral History Video" and click "Add or Create". You may have the option to record there. If you don't, you need to record a video using the software on your device.

NOTE ON AUDIO/VIDEO:

- 1) Make sure you are in a well lit place and that your subject is complete on screen.
- 2) Make sure you are in a QUIET place where you will not be interrupted.
- 3) Test your video once to check if you can see/hear well (delete the test when you are done and go for real).

Ask your interviewee your questions. Remember, you want some really great stretches of conversation (3-5 minutes) that you will be able to use to answer your research question as well as turn into a monologue for your English project. So, make sure to use follow up with questions like:

- What was that like?
- How did that feel?
- What did you think about that at the time?
- What do you think about that now?

And any other questions that come to mind.... Keep them talking:) Also remember to actively listen.

Etiquette and Active Listening

While they are speaking, stay off of electronics, maintain eye contact, nod and offer comments or questions when they pause. Remember to thank your interviewee when you are finished.

When you are finished, click done if you were able to record in google classroom. If you were not, go to google classroom and click "Add or Create" and upload your video. Remember: This should be done by October 25th!

TRANSCRIPT:

You have to transcribe your interview here. There is an easy way to do this.

- 1) Bring up your video on your phone or another device where you can play it.
- 2) Make sure the blue txt below in this section is highlighted.
- 3) On your computer, click on "Tools." Then, "Voice Typing."
- 4) Click on the red microphone and then press play on your other device with the volume turned up. The computer should transcribe what it hears.
- 5) Then, all you have to do is proofread to make sure the computer didn't lose anything or mishear anything.

E: Hello my name is [REDACTED] this is my interview [REDACTED] and I requested interview him based on his experience with discrimination against same-sex marriage solely I have three questions for you. My first question is, "how did same-sex marriage being illegal affect your life?"

L: So in 2002, when I was in a serious committed relationship, I was living in California and it was it was really kind of a roller coaster because we when our relationship was getting more serious and we were starting to think about you know making that longer-term commitment with each other it wasn't even an option at the time same-sex marriage was illegal at that time even in California right cuz the the federal law was what would make same-sex marriage legal across the country and so in 2003 we decided to do what most same-sex couples were doing which was kind of like you're like a second-class citizen where you can

register as a domestic partner in the state and I get you some rights and privileges like the state of California would recognize that and would you know extend some benefits of healthcare and you could file your taxes jointly but it was not beyond the state of California and it was really exciting in like 2004 this the city of San Francisco the mayor started giving out sex marriage certificates right and this was like this exciting time like everybody was rushing to City Hall in San Francisco to go get married but the state supreme court then ruled that. Was not legal that he didn't have the right to do that right so this is the roller coaster again we were like all excited it like that was happening but then the California Supreme Court like halted those and then it was several years later wasn't until 2008 that the California Supreme Court then ruled that same-sex marriage was legal in the state of California right but then the roller coaster again and then there was a vote an amendment passed in the state where it was then again determined that marriage was only between a man and a woman and so suddenly it wasn't possible again and I just remember so clearly during that whole campaign of this so-called Proposition 8 days there were protests happening out on the street right and I and I just remembered being with my partner Daniel in the car one day and we stopped at this stop light and there was a group of protesters there who were against same-sex marriage and in the crowd he saw some of his students he was a professor right and he could see in the crowd some of his students who were mormon who were protesting against same-sex marriage and that was just like this like knife you know in his heart right and so it wasn't for like another 4 5 years until 2015 when the US Supreme Court pass the law that made sense sex marriage legal across all 50 states right and so it was like for whatever 15 almost 15 years back and forth back and forth like one moment you're feeling like potential and the other like crushed and then you're excited again crushed but during that whole thing we we almost kind of forgot about it at a certain point where like it's just not even an option and we just registered as domestic partner and kind of just gave up on the idea of ever actually becoming married

E: Yeah, that's crazy. The thing about Daniel and it's really heartbreaking. Cuz I've, cus I've met Daniel, I can definitely see you like how I would have sucked him. So my second question is like where there are times in your life where you had like wish that you were gay because of the constant discrimination why or why not

L: I don't know I don't know if I would say that I ever wished I wasn't gay because of that I mean I think earlier when I was much younger there were times when I wished I wasn't gay it didn't have anything to do with like at that time not being able to get married but just more kind of being you know teased and taunted and lead and things like that but no I mean I was pretty confident in my identity at that point I think what was more the issue was you realize. You know it was it was just so you felt so vulnerable realizing that you didn't know you didn't have the same rights as you're heterosexual friends right and and I'm still like you you didn't have the same kind of benefits you didn't have the same Financial benefits of being all the file taxes and get to ductions and so like I think it was more like a combination of feeling vulnerable and a feeling angry and but I do remember at that time like before it became federally legal when it was only allowable at at the state level in California I realized then that my like I loved my state because I felt like it represented you know me and my values and my sexual orientation but I but I hated my country like I felt like you know my federal government was in wasn't representing who I was my identity and I and I did the really ironic thing about it was that you know at one point I thought I was there's this place called The Universal Life Church in in California. You cut out a place in California called The Universal Life Church was started after the Vietnam war is like a peace movement where they would ordain young man to prevent them from having to go to war right but in the later in the in the 70s and 80s when couples wanted to get married and not have a religious wedding you couldn't have one of your family members or friends or change to perform the marriage ceremony right so she didn't want to have a priest do it or whatever you could have one of your friends do that well this friend of mine who was straight asked me if I would perform his wedding ceremony and so he got me word games in the in the Universal Life Church and so I went to Vermont and I performed his wedding ceremony for he and his wife and I will remember so clearly standing at that wedding ceremony and and being like being given the power to marry a same like a heterosexual couple but knowing in that moment that like I myself can't even get married, so yeah, I can perform a wedding for this, but I can't myself get married so yeah it but I but I wouldn't say that it was you know a desire not to be gay

E: I think it was us so I will know so how is your life nowadays like in your current state like how is your like nowadays affected by the pass laws and restrictions like set in place

L: yeah I mean I in the end obviously we didn't get married and in fact now we're no longer together but but ironically the the boyfriend that I have now here in Maryland was one of the activists in you know 2013 and

around that time when there was a campaign to make same-sex marriage legal in the state of Maryland and he was leading the campaign he was the one who is lobbying and doing the advocacy work to get legislators to change the laws to make same-sex marriage legal in the state of Maryland to me it's ironic now that like I'm I'm together and in a relationship with somebody who is actually watch You know build a campaign in a public support for same-sex marriage in sight so so yeah but I would say that but I think I'm but I'm also a little more critical about like just the institution of marriage like what it represents a queen we work so hard to try to get that right and now I'm not even convinced that something that I want right right to decide whether or not based on that being my my right as a human being and as a citizen to do that it's no longer you know the case before we rows like not even an option on the table so so I feel like I'm not rushing to go get married but I figured he's now I feel like it's my choice now that determination it's not being determined to me via by discriminatory sister yeah I know I agree I definitely think that that like having a right taken from you like even if you don't it is you wouldn't want to get married right like having a right taken from you like such as you and makes you want to have that right to know and so yeah I know I think that the fact that it's like you had that right now even if you do want to get married is powerful in that Lake that's a good thing for you

E: this is a question that I prepared but I just have one last question like so over all the youth like obviously I obviously the same sex like laws like the same sex marriage laws for big thing in your life but do you think that like individually it impacted you like like really significantly like in like throughout all the things you've experienced right would you say that it's like one of the higher-ups things like to do like past and present and future

L: I mean I think like obviously being gay is only one part of my identity right now but it's an important one because when you physically but there's so many other parts of my identity but I but I think like yeah like especially as a younger kid I feel like those are that really 4 more years right when like if the message they were sending to our kids. You know you're you're different and you don't you don't deserve the same rights as your other friends who just happens to be straight you know I know who I am I have you know a real love for my identity I have service surrounded by family and friends who who love me and love me for who I am and I don't feel like I need to be validated anymore by any system for anyone so I think yeah I'm on I'm also just in a different place the laws of all change right but it's and I've also changed like I'm I'm a different person now and I would say probably a much stronger person as a result of that like when you go through experiencing that kind of discrimination it it also you know it's strengthens you in the long run it strengthens you and also makes me feel much more committed to like in my work in my my personal life to also stand up and be a voice against other forms of discrimination related to at all other kinds of sort of racial and social inequities in Injustice has that exist in and you feel sort of a sense of unity with others who are also experiencing other right that's cool thank you for talking with me yeah I really appreciate it thanks for inviting me cool alright

COMPLETE REFLECTION: The last part of this process on the social studies side of things. **You cannot do this without having done your interview.**

First paragraph

Introduce your topic, research question and your source (your interviewee). Discuss why you were initially interested in this particular topic.

My topic for the interview was the effect of the same-sex marriage laws. My research question was "How was your life affected by the laws and restrictions of same-sex marriage. My interviewee's name is [REDACTED]. He is a close friend/Uncle of mine. I was interested in this topic because I have a passion and will to help people who are experiencing discrimination in any way. I choose to narrow down my topic to specifically gay marriage rights because Lee is a close friend of mine and I know that he has experienced that discrimination and I thought it would be cool to learn more about his experience.

Second Paragraph

What was your initial reaction to the interview? Did anything surprise you? Did any of the things you learned about the topic end up being proven true? What was difficult/easy about the interview process?

This interview, originally, shocked me because I didn't fully realize that I was capable of communicating and understanding someone in the manner that I did in the interview. I knew that Lee had gone through a lot because he and I are good friends. However, I hadn't fully grasped just how vast and interesting his experiences were. The interview overall was pretty easy. There were never any moments where the conversation got awkward because I and Lee have known each other for so long and can talk like that. I think that the hardest thing in the interview was not busting out laughing when my dad came down (really sorry about that FYI).

Third Paragraph

What did you learn about the research question? Write about your interview questions and discuss how your interviewee's answers them. Explain how these answers helped you learn more about your research question.

My questions were based on how the same-sex marriage laws and discrimination affected my interviewee's life. He answered them very well for the information I was trying to collect. He provided stories and personal details while also sticking to the point and answering my question solidly. His answers cleared up a few things that I thought about the protests and lash back. Additionally, I had no idea that the mayor had tried to give out certificates for same-sex marriage. This helped me understand how amendments like the 14th amendment can make a difference in people's lives.