

LUKER FAMILY TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH FOOD STAMPS

FEBRUARY 25th

001 You said it's on 2:30, on March 8th.

010 I just had to write it down. All I've got is a color crayon is all.

017 Do you want my address?

022 Ummmmmm. We could come in, well you could send it. It doesn't matter. But we filled one out this last month. Oh, ok; then I'll ... It would be better to have them filled out beforetime so I'll give you my address. So you can mail it out. It's 574 East Main, Hillsboro. 042

051 Okay. Thank you. Bye.

END OF CONVERSATION

052 Mrs. Luker Continuing. I tell you that if I can run an office better than those people. And I'm stupid. I can't read or spell that good. But I'll tell you I don't need to be chomping on a piece of candy or gum while I'm talking on the phone.

JOHN 059 Well you know, they're entitled to their little extra piece of stew aren't they? 060

061 Yeah. But jimminy when you're talking to the public you don't put them on hold for half an hour. While you go an ...

JOHN 064 Twenty minutes is sufficient. It shouldn't be half an hour. That's ridiculous

066 Well, let me write these down.

JOHN Well you see they're a bureaucracy. They don't show much consideration for the individual person. 068

068½ Well my time is just as important as theirs.

070 JOHN time or anything. Well that's the way they operate hon. You know

072 I know it. That's why ...

073 Brace yourself. JOHN

074 Every time I call I go through the same thing. I get mad at them.

076 I'll write this down and I'll run to the bathroom and then we can go.

Off to the grade school to play basketball. Earlier photographs at unemployment and Good year looking at refridgerators and microwave ovens.

LUKER 574 East Main

FEB. 14, 1974

003 I think the price of food is too high. It's ridiculous. You have to knock yourself out knock your brains out trying to figure out how to get enough and stretch your dollar. You know you jump from one supermarket to another. You run around and get specials here and specials there and stock up on it. That's the only way you can make ends meet. 017

024 Well, food stamps is the only way we can do it. And I buy in big quantities plus I've got this market where I go and pay a membership of fifty cents and it's a couple of cents cheaper. Some things are higher there than on the other grocery stores. But, I keep, I check the ads and different stores where I know things are cheaper. And then I get them where I know they are cheaper. I try to remember where things are cheaper. 044

057 Safeway, ah, I don't know they kind of a con job on the public you know. When you go in there to shop not only do they ah if we had the experience of being treated like we're less than a, like the cash customer is preferred. You know what I mean. Rather than food stamps. Like we had the experience when we were in the Safeway market one day getting a few items that ah the minute the box boy saw our food stamps he took off to some other thing. And left me to box my own stuff. So, rather than be treated like this we go to the Prairie market where we know we're going to box our own stuff there. Get a saving on it too. Fifty cent membership which grants you the privilege of ^{30 days of} shopping in their store and one trip there if you ^{buy} in large quantities can many times ^{over} pay that cost of fifty cents back. There's lots of large quantities that you can buy. Like, ah, gallon containers, and you mark your own prices so this saves them a lot of labor you know. Pricing all of these items and stacking them on the shelves they leave them all in cases. You just cut the cases open. It's a help yourself market. It's the difference between going into a restaurant and going into a cafeteria. You serve yourself and you save money. It's a good concept. I'd like to see more stores like this. Because as more people are unemployed they have more leisure time to shop. This is beautiful. People will be able to take their time and maybe take six or eight hours to shop. Of course, you know, that's exaggeration in the other direction. It really is for the little bit extra that you do you, I'd rather have the money in my pocket than the supermarket's pocket. 114

116 Your corner grocery store. They might have one item cheaper than the other places but overall they're higher, and you cannot stretch your foodstamps for a month if you shop at the corner grocery store all the time.

130 One week I'll pay my gas bill, another week I'll pay my electric. My telephone bill. And then the week after I pay the other ones. The last two weeks of the month I'll have to start figuring how to pay the rent for the next month. And I pay it in installments plan sort of. Like I pay eighty dollars around the sixth. Another eighty dollars the week and a half after. 145

201 I was seeking the good life, but you can't get away from it all really. You really can't get away from it all unless you rough it. If people want to live in the mountains in a cabin that would be great you know, but we're a little spoiled you know. We like these luxuries as well as a little tranquility.

210 Too. We can't get to far away either because of our older boy. He has to have an artificial leg every once in a while so we can't go where they ^{don't} have cripple children to help us take care of it. Cause we couldn't afford it to do it on our own. 214

224 When the kids want spending money you can't let them go to the show or skating or bowling or something like that.

229 My boy needs three dollars for his boyscout or he can't race his pine work derby. And they see their friends going to the show and bowling and things like that. And a lot of times my husband and I would like to go to the show because there is not enough money to do it.

242 And the selection of entertainment you get on the television is extremely superficial limited for the potential. Their's times, for me it's just a blank period. You look into what is offered and to me it's pretty dismal sometimes. So, I just shut the TV off and go get a book or a newspaper. Anything to keep the old mind occupied. We've had a lot of things we wanted to get sometimes, knocking around these second hand stores and things.

Sometimes it's a pretty painful experience when you look at some of the atrocious prices they want. These St. Vincet De Paul and this Salvation Army Thrift store. We went into Portland. I wanted to get a little cheap typewriter. And I never could fi... the only place I ever could find anything that looked a little promising they were just beat to pieces. You know. The only ones that were cheap. And that was at a Salvation Army store.

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181 The only bargain I saw in their store.

I needed a stove because the one I have quit working on me. And they wanted \$47.50. Well, if I was still on welfare they would have ~~still-beu-~~ bought it for me, but right now I don't have the \$47.50 to even get it. The one we got now ^{that the oven went out in} it was a real good stove when we bought it, but I didn't get it through one of those thrift stores. The only way I was able to find it as cheap as it was, I think we paid \$35.00 for it. And it was just a look it the want ads. You know, go through the want-ads everyday in the newspaper and when you spot something

you better get it because it's not going to last forever.

300 That's how we got our freezer too, was through the want ads in the paper.

303 But if I had never been working I'd have never had gotten that freezer. That's a luxury that people you know that are on welfare couldn't afford. They'd have to get it some other way. It's too bad they don't have some kind of a fund set up where people could get, but I suppose that some people would let it set with a couple loaves of bread in it. There's a lot of well to do middle class people you know who will buy a freezer, and they'll fill that thing with food. And they'll gradually work it down, and there it sets month after month because the wife is in the habit of going down to the supermarket and maybe she might put a few TV dinners in it. Two or three days you know. That's what they stalk up on. 318

324 I have a fry skillet that my mom sent me for Christmas that I can bake bisquits in, and you can bake a pie in it. One of these frozen pies? It takes about a half an hour.

329 One of the reasons we would like an oven real bad is because I love, if I'm not working or anything to make bread and stuff like that.

331 I buy these frozen breads that you can get pretty reasonable. They sell for \$1.09 I think. I've seen em for five loaves. Where I shop over there at Prairie, you can get them for \$.88 for four loaves. So, you have to bake them yourself. But, I don't mind baking them myself if it's a better buy. But, I did find a bakery in Portland that's real reasonable. It's only twenty three cents a loaf. And, they have handbarger buns for twenty-nine, and hot dog buns for twenty-nine, and all different kinds of breads and meats that are real reasonable. (horse meat)

249 One of the problems of the fuel thing is how can people even afford

HAVE A PICTURE

to go look for work when they can't even afford gas for their car. I got a car, yeah, an old junky gas hog V-8. In fact, the one that brought me up here. An old Pontiac, the one that brought me up here, when times were good. Because, you know, I just don't do much driving here anymore. Well, like from here to town is only two blocks. And anywhere in town I walk. The only time I drive very much is when I drive over to - to a, to the market in Beaverton. And I try to make as many things in one trip as possible. Logically, that's what everybody does. In these times. 368

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276 ~~I think politically the state of Oregon is a good deal. ...~~

570 I've worked on and off since the kids got older. Never steady though.

575 We're living on our un-employment. My husband's and mine. And I get \$30.00 a week and he gets \$52.00. But pretty soon my unemployment, in another week or so, that's all I'll be able to get.

581 ~~You know I can think of a silly way we wasted some money once.~~

ROSA'S MOTHER (80 - Can handle it - 83 and 10, 90)

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734 You couldn't give me all of the wealth in China, if it's gonna make me like some of the wealthy people are. So greedy. And if they saw somebody out in the street, ^{starving to death} they would leave them there because it might take something out of their pocket.

727 I think that everybody ought to have a little wealth, even the poorest people. Spread it around. Share it. Wealth is a great thing if it's not overdone.

ROSA'S MOTHER JOINS THE LUKERS

ON THRIFT STORES

FEB. 14, 1974

Rosa's Mother

654 What I think about these places where they sell used clothes, you know, I know it's for the handicapped. Like St. Vincet DePaul and Goodwill, and the Salvation Army. They say it's for the handicapped. Well, there are other people that are in need too. Like the poor people, and some of them are on welfare. They have a big family. And they cannot afford to buy them clothes. Things are so high. They can't even afford to buy them there. Because the price is so high for a pair of shoes: three or four dollars. That's too much. I don't think that only them are in need but also the poor people that cannot afford to buy clothes for their kids. Because these kids. They got to go to school. If it's raining or cold or whatever they need sweaters. There are a lot of people- they buy them just one little sweater each. And they have to go the whole week with that sweater. Some of them don't have washing machines. They don't have money to go to the laundromat and do washing every week. Or, inbetween the week. To have enough clothes for these kids. And I think if they could get a fair price they could afford to get two or three sweaters for each little kid so they could have enough to clean clothes to wear. The same as shoes. I've seen a lot of kids with tennies when it's raining. It's so wet because they don't have any shoes. They cannot afford to buy shoes. This place is where they sell those clothes. They should lower their prices so the rest of the poor people can afford to dress their children. Because I know everybody wants the best for their kids. And this is the only thing I got against it, that prices are too high. And they should think about these poor people too. Because if they're helping them they should help the rest too. (10)

695 Well I heard that St. Vincet DePaul they do help people but you have to be real bad off. For them to help you. But other people that do need help that can pay a little for their things just can't afford it because its just too high.

LUKER 700 That's why I don't give the stuff to em anymore. I keep it until I find somebody that needs it. I just give it away to somebody that needs it,

RCSA 804 A lot of people give them good clothes, good furniture, give em a lot of things ^{because} this organization is helping the poor. Is it really helping?

708 They have to be taking in an awful lot of money. All those sales that I've seen in the store when I've been in there; Goodwill was just jammed with people. They were standing in line there checking them out. Practically every time I've been in the Goodwill stores they've been like that. At least I know that in the Goodwill they put handicapped people to work.

713 But how much do they pay the handicapped? Probably peanuts.

715 Well, I went one time there looking for a vaccuum cleaner. They wanted fifteen dollars. It was pretty old. I imagine that htis vaccuum cleaner was given to them, but just look at the price that they were selling it. How can poor people go and buy a thing like that.

719 Like the stove I went to the places. And they must know the welfare You know, the welfare allows forty nine dollars. Because they had them all for forty seven fifty and forty eight fifty. But still. Who can afford to pay that price for the stuff.

LUKER

FEB. 21st

001 I was going to take my money, you know, when I got my income tax return and get another economy car. That's what I had planned on doing. But we needed an oven too bad. You know, there's always wanting to bake something. You save a little bit of money when you can bake in an oven. The point is that I took my money that I was going to get my car with, and get rid of my gas hog, and instead I bought a stove. Another one. For seventy-nine dollars. Then I give them my old stove and they knock ten dollars off. Which worked out real good. Because if I would have tried to get rid of the old stove I would have had to put an ad in the paper. And rent a trailer. To haul it with. And rent a dolly to move it with you know; just to move it around. But fortunately they delivered the stove for me and everything. And hauled the other one away. 29

Well we had a stove, but just the oven was not operating. It went out. I had it fixed once; it cost me seventeen dollars. And the guy wired it up with a coathanger. So we had our holiday dinners on it you know. So anyway. Now we can bake bread and stuff again. Which is a savings. I had that frozen bread in the freezer ever since December. And it's February now. It really worked out pretty good.

047 It went out on Christmas day. (Joan)

048 But I didn't get my car. But I'm not worried about that because there's not enough gas to drive another car if I had it. I don't do that much driving anyway...

CRAIG 058 I think they should make something for the teenagers like the YMCA or something. That's all.

391 I haven't done nothing yet but maybe later on I'll bake a cake. Or something. Tomorrow I'll probably bake a turkey or duck. Or something. I'll be baking all the things I've been wanting to bake.

398 Just like a baby with a toy.

LUKER 2

442 If one of the kids gets sick or something I have to put them in the car and drive them into Portland. 447 It's a long ride for somebody that's sick.

That's the only thing we can do. We can't afford to go to a local doctor. I don't have that kind of money or anything else. 450

539 I had an appointment for the kids for the public health to get a physical and the welfare was going to pay for that but then when we got discontinued because I couldn't get an appointment till this month, I had to cancel it because we wasn't on assistance.

546 It's a new program I guess they started so make sure that the kids that's on public assistance that you know are in fairly good health. If there's anything wrong like a they would see that they go to a doctor and maybe get it taken care of.

557 Well we had it scheduled, but you see I got my unemployment which made my income enough so that I was disqualified for the month of February for welfare assistance. unemployment insurance

568 I'm getting \$52.00 a week from the state of California, but its just so sporadic indefinite. You can't count on getting it on a certain day. Or a certain time. It's been almost three weeks. And I was told the other day down at the unemployment office it has to be at least three weeks before they can run a tracer on it. And see what happened to it. Why my check didn't come. So, we're kind of hurting. 575 On that score.

577 Yeah, she gets \$30.00 a week, but her's hasn't arrived either this week. And she's usually been getting it by when?

JOAN By Tuesday. Tuesday or Wednesday I usually get it. Probably the end of this month will be the last of it. I've got two more checks coming at \$30.00 and then one at five dollars.

585 Unless the State of California gives an extension like some states are doing you know. I think they awarded a, congress has awarded so many million more for an extension of unemployment insurance in certain instances. 590 You see, when you use up. You got X number of dollars you can draw for so many weeks and then when you use up that amount

either you're completely out and your unemployment discontinues or if the federal government gets generous they'll give another grant and you can draw the same amount all over again. It's what they call an extension or a similar amount of money. It might be less. 598 600 When you deplete your unemployment insurance. If California doesn't give an extension. When she runs out, and when I run out we have nothing but welfare to fall back on. 602

603 JOAN You get called back to work, and we're hoping maybe by April that he'll be called back to work.

606 It's possible, but who can say for sure. You know. It's a possibility that they might not hire any new people this year. If sales stay down you know. Because where I was working is convenience foods and when times get rough people don't buy convenience foods. They don't buy ready made potatoe salad, and ready made macaroni salad, sausages that are ready- you just warm them up and serve em. That kind of food. Pre-packaged and ready to go. So I hope things improve financially. Economically, I mean, for the whole country. 619

627 Beginning with an energy shortage you have a shortage of everything that energy produces. It's a kind of a chain reaction. You knock one domino down and the whole row falls. One guy gets layed off and so he can't buy a certain thing so somebody else gets layed off, because they don't manufacture anymore of them. Because .. and on and on and on. 632

LUKER 4

FEBRUARY 21ST

223 I was watching a news report one night. This guy was talking about putting up a petition to put this financial disclosure for candidates for public office on the ballot and let the people vote on it. Because the legislature passed it and the governor refused, he vetoed the thing after the legislature passed it. So, the Common Cause people decided the only way we could do it then was just for the public to put it on a ballot and vote on it. So, we need 40,000 signatures to put it on the ballot so they'll want to get a 100,000 signatures so that they'll have plenty left over for the ones that are invalidated. And what I want to do is to go around and talk to people and get them to help circulate petitions or to sign one or something if they care to. That's their privilege. But, we've got all the arguments here. Now all we got to do is get their signatures. 247

259 I'm gonna run for Precinct man for my district, for my district here. Precinct 102, in Hillsboro.

265 They held this meeting. It was for the Oregonian's for a Code of Ethics Committee. It was held at the community room at the Far West Savings and Loan at the corner of Cedar Hills Blvd. and Jenkins Rd. It was for Washington County for the organizing meeting. The whole thing was about circulating this petition you know. To put it on the ballot. For the public to vote on as to whether they want a strong financial disclosure law here. A Code of Ethics initiative they call it. Because there are a lot of things that people don't realize that are going on, and this would tend to keep your candidates more honest. Not your candidates. But, once they're elected. Your elected officials and it covers appointed officials too. And several other categories of public officials. And these people ~~actually~~ have to tell if they have any financial dealings that are actually in conflict in their public position and their private position. You know, their private dealings I guess you would call it. And I really think we need laws of this nature. This is probably not as stringent as the one in Washington State. But I'd like to see them adopt this kind of a thing all over the country. To prevent some of this,

LUKER 5

You'd never prevent all of it. A lot of the corruption in public office. It's enough to blow your mind when you find out what's really been going on. If the public really found out who was taking what from whom and for what, this whole country would blow apart. So rather than expose it all at once and cause such a grievous thing like Watergate only a thousand times over or something like that happen. If we could institute laws like this and clean it up gradually before the public found out what was going on and become so outraged that the whole thing would collapse. This is what worries me. I'm for responsible government and in many instances you don't have responsible government. You know, you can't point your finger and say this guy and that guy or this guy's all right. The safest course is to pass a law. And clean up gradually. 326

LUKER 574 East Main

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ROSA'S MOTHER (880 - On Goodwill - St. Vincent De Paul)

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FEB. 14, 1974

Rosa's Mother

654 What I think about these places where they sell used clothes, you know, I know it's for the handicapped. Like St. Vincet DeFaul and Goodwill, and the Salvation Army. They say it's for the handicapped. Well, there are other people that are in need too. Like the poor people, and some of them are on welfare. They have a big family. And they cannot afford to buy them clothes. Things are so high. They can't even afford to buy them there. Because the price is so high for a pair of shoes: three or four dollars. That's too much. I don't think that only them are in need but also the poor people that cannot afford to buy clothes for their kids. Because these kids. They got to go to school. If it's raining or cold or whatever they need sweaters. There are a lot of people- they buy them just one little sweater each. And they have to go the whole week with that sweater. Some of them don't have washing machines. They don't have money to go to the laundromat and do washing every week. Or, inbetween the week. To have enough clothes for these kids. And I think if they could get a fair price they could afford to get two or three sweaters for each little kid so they could have enough to clean clothes to wear. The same as shoes. I've seen a lot of kids with tennies when it's raining. It's so wet because they don't have any shoes. They cannot afford to buy shoes. This place is where they sell those clothes. They should lower their prices so the rest of the poor people can afford to dress their children. Because I know everybody wants the best for their kids. And this is the only thing I got against it, that prices are too high. And they should think about these poor people too. Because if they're helping them they should help the rest too. (68)

695 Well I heard that St. Vincet DePaul they do help people but you have to be real bad off. For them to help you. But other people that do need help that can pay a little for their things just can't afford it because its just too high.

LUKER 700 That's why I don't give the stuff to em anymore. I keep it until I find somebody that needs it. I just give it away to somebody that needs it,

ROSA 604 A lot of people give them good clothes, good furniture, give em a lot of things ^{because} this organization is helping the poor. Is it really helping?

708 They have to be taking in an awful lot of money. All those sales that I've seen in the store when I've been in there; Goodwill was just jammed with people. They were standing in line there checking them out. Practically every time I've been in the Goodwill stores they've been like that. At least I know that in the Goodwill they put handicapped people to work.

713 But how much do they pay the handicapped? Probably peanuts.

715 Well, I went one time there looking for a vaccuum cleaner. They wanted fifteen dollars. It was pretty old. I imagine that this vaccuum cleaner was given to them, but just look at the price that they were selling it. How can poor people go and buy a thing like that.

719 Like the stove I went to the places. And they must know the welfare You know, the welfare allows forty nine dollars. Because they had them all for forty seven fifty and forty eight fifty. But still. Who can afford to pay that price for the stuff.

LUKER

FEB. 21st

001 I was going to take my money, you know, when I got my income tax return and get another economy car. That's what I had planned on doing. But we needed an oven too bad. You know, there's always wanting to bake something. You save a little bit of money when you can bake in an oven. The point is that I took my money that I was going to get my car with, and get rid of my gas hog, and instead I bought a stove. Another one. For seventy-nine dollars. Then I give them my old stove and they knock ten dollars off. Which worked out real good. Because if I would have tried to get rid of the old stove I would have had to put an ad in the paper. And rent a railer. To haul it with. And rent a dolly to move it with you know; just to move it around. But fortunately they delivered the stove for me and everything. And hauled the other one away. 29

Well we had a stove, but just the oven was not operating. It went out. I had it fixed once; it cost me seventeen dollars. And the guy wired it up with a coathanger. So we had our holiday dinners on it you know. So anyway. Now we can bake bread and stuff again. Which is a savings. I had that frozen bread in the freezer ever since December. And it's February now. It really worked out pretty good.

047 It went out on Christmas day. (Joan)

048 But I didn't get my car. But I'm not worried about that because there's not enough gas to drive another car if I had it. I don't do that much driving anyway...

CRAIG 058 I think they should make something for the teenagers like the YMCA or something. That's all.)AL

391 I haven't done nothing yet but maybe later on I'll bake a cake. Or something. Tomorrow I'll probably bake a turkey or duck. Or something. I'll be baking all the things I've been wanting to bake.

398 Just like a baby with a toy.

LUKER 2

442 If one of the kids gets sick or something I have to put them in the car and drive them into Portland. 447 It's a long ride for somebody that's sick.

That's the only thing we can do. We can't afford to go to a local doctor. I don't have that kind of money or anything else. 450

539 I had an appointment for the kids for the public health to get a physical and the welfare was going to pay for that but then when we got discontinued because I couldn't get an appointment till this month, I had to cancel it because we wasn't on assistance.

546 It's a new program I guess they started so make sure that the kids that's on public assistance that you know are in fairly good health. If there's anything wrong like a they would see that they go to a doctor and maybe get it taken care of.

557 Well we had it scheduled, but you see I got my unemployment which made my income enough so that I was disqualified for the month of February for welfare assistance.

568 I'm getting \$52.00 a week^{unemployment insurance} from the state of California, but it's just so sporadic indefinite. You can't count on getting it on a certain day. Or a certain time. It's been almost three weeks. And I was told the other day down at the unemployment office it has to be at least three weeks before they can run a tracer on it. And see what happened to it. Why my check didn't come. So, we're kind of hurting. 575 On that score.

577 Yeah, she gets \$30.00 a week, but her's hasn't arrived either this week. And she's usually been getting it by when?

JOAN By Tuesday. Tuesday or Wednesday I usually get it. Probably the end of this month will be the last of it. I've got two more checks coming at \$30.00 and then one at five dollars.

585 Unless the State of California gives an extension like some states are doing you know. I think they awarded a, congress has awarded so many million more for an extension of unemployment insurance in certain instances. 590 You see, when you use up. You got X number of dollars you can draw for so many weeks and then when you use up that amount

LUKER 3

either you're completely out and your unemployment discontinues or if the federal government gets generous they'll give another grant and you can draw the same amount all over again. It's what they call an extension or a similar amount of money. It might be less. 598 600 When you deplete your unemployment insurance. If California doesn't give an extension. When she runs out, and when I run out we have nothing but welfare to fall back on. 602

603 JOAN You get called back to work, and we're hoping maybe by April that he'll be called back to work.

606 It's possible, but who can say for sure. You know. It's a possibility that they might not hire any new people this year. If sales stay down you know. Because where I was working is convenience foods and when times get rough people don't buy convenience foods. They don't buy ready made potatoe salad, and ready made macaroni salad, sausages that are ready- you just warm them up and serve em. That kind of food. Pre-packaged and ready to go. So I hope things improve financially. Economically, I mean, for the whole country. 619

627 Beginning with an energy shortage you have a shortage of everything that energy produces. It's a kind of a chain reaction. You knock one domino down and the whole row falls. One guy gets layed off and so he can't buy a certain thing so somebody else gets layed off, because they don't manufacture anymore of them. Because .. and on and on and on. 632

LUKER 4

FEBRUARY 21ST

223 I was watching a news report one night. This guy was talking about putting up a petition to put this financial disclosure for candidates for public office on the ballot and let the people vote on it. Because the legislature passed it and the governor refused, he vetoed the thing after the legislature passed it. So, the Common Cause people decided the only way we could do it then was just for the public to put it on a ballot and vote on it. So, we need 40,000 signatures to put it on the ballot so they'll want to get a 100,000 signatures so that they'll have plenty left over for the ones that are invalidated. And what I want to do is to go around and talk to people and get them to help circulate petitions or to sign one or something if they care to. That's their privilege. But, we've got all the arguments here. Now all we got to do is get their signatures. 247

259 I'm gonna run for Precinct man for my district, for my district here. Precinct 102, in Hillsboro.

265 They held this meeting. It was for the Oregonian's for a Code of Ethics Committee. It was held at the community room at the Far West Savings and Loan at the corner of Cedar Hills Blvd. and Jenkins Rd. It was for Washington County for the organizing meeting. The whole thing was about circulating this petition you know. To put it on the ballot. For the public to vote on as to whether they want a strong financial disclosure law here. A Code of Ethics initiative they call it. Because there are a lot of things that people don't realize that are going on, and this would tend to keep your candidates more honest. Not your candidates. But, once they're elected. Your elected officials and it covers appointed officials too. And several other categories of public officials. And these people ~~actually~~ have to tell if they have any financial dealings that are actually in conflict in their public position and their private position. You know, their private dealings I guess you would call it. And I really think we need laws of this nature. This is probably not as stringent as the one in Washington State. But I'd like to see them adopt this kind of a thing all over the country. To prevent some of this,

You'd never prevent all of it. A lot of the corruption in public office. It's enough to blow your mind when you find out what's really been going on. If the public really found out who was taking what from whom and for what, this whole country would blow apart. So rather than expose it all at once and cause such a grievous thing like Watergate only a thousand times over or something like that happen. If we could institute laws like this and clean it up gradually before the public found out what was going on and become so outraged that the whole thing would collapse. This is what worries me. I'm for responsible government and in many instances you don't have responsible government. You know, you can't point your finger and say this guy and that guy or this guy's all right. The safest course is to pass a law. And clean up gradually. 326

EDUCATION

LUKER FAMILY

400 Craig, you know you're going to have to learn.

401 CRAIG I already know enough.

401 JOAN No you don't. You never know enough.

402 JOHN Ah, now that's just idiotic to say that you know enough.

President Nixon doesn't even know enough.

404 OLYDE Do you think an education is really important?

404 JOAN Yes I do.

405 CLYDE And you're concerned about him getting an education.

406 JOAN Yes I am.

412 And you're going to need that education because your going to need.

You can't go out and did a ditch like your dad or I can or something.

414 I can go out and dig a ditch. CRAIG

414 JOAN Yes, you could do it. But, don't you want a little better paying job. And a better education. That's the only way you can get a better

paying job. You want to be in a position where you're always taking orders from somebody else? Or do you want to be in a position where youge give orders.

419 CRAIG I want to be in a position where I can give orders.

420 JOAN Well, you've got to get your education.

422 JOHN You can't be a leader unless you learn how to be a leader you know,

EDUCATION

MELODYE SMITH

309 Well, there were a few problems at home. I guess I'm the kind of person that can only have one big problem at a time. And I either had to have school or my parents.

315 follows I didn't like school...

EDUCATION

MELODYE

503 I used to think that school was a bunch of garbage. That's the main reason I quit. A lot of friends that graduated. Their parents made them graduate. 545 Because they were rich.

158 I see now that I should have finished. I don't like regular highschool. I know I'm going to get my GED and I'm going to go on to school.

589 I want to go to school. And, I've always wanted to be a counsler or psychologist or something like that. Always. I feel like someday I'll be there. It's a long time but it's never to late.

315 I didn't like school and if it happened to be a bad day I'd be bothered all day at school, you know () and when I got home my parents might have had a bad day. Then they would get on to me. So, I didn't want to be bothered like that all the time.

309 I guess I'm the kind of person that can only have one big problem at a time. And, I either had to have school or my parents.

ESTELLA MONTANEZ

624 My mother in Texas she couldn't speak a word of English. I'd have to translate for her and I just didn't like that. I'd have to translate for her and I'd just run away. I could just never do it I'd get so embarrassed. I just couldn't do it. You know, and so she would let my dad do it. He speaks it alright. He understands everything they are saying and he can communicate. But, my mother she couldn't. She though she couldn't either. So, here she got sick and went to the hospital, and this family through the church that we've gotten to know. She had to talk to them, and they had to take care of her for awhile. 638@

MARIA My dad might get a real good job you know when he learns English real well. 074

346 Everybody speakes English except my ma. And my dad is going to that winter day school right now. And he's really learning. He really is. You know they only have it till next month. He is really learning English. 353

354 All twelve kids are ~~learneing~~ English, going to school.

356 We started going to school over here my two brothers and me. I went to Forest Grove highschool. And the first day we went there it was really disappointing for us. Why? We just had a feeling that we were just being left out. And my brother, God you know, he said I'm going to quit the same day. We thought about it, you know, our education comes first. Because you know we're going to really have to start down at t

EDUCATION

MARIA cont.

the bottom first. If there's no education you know you just can't go anywhere.

~~534~~

CLEO RODGERS

275 I found out that going to college full time is not a thing I wanted to do. It was not a thing that I need to do. Which is something that I always thought. Gee, you have to go to college to really ever get anywhere. Or really be anyone so people can respect you. For what you know or what they think you know. And, that's not true. You have to feel it out for yourself and decide what kinds of things are really important. What kinds of things do I want to be involved in. () The kind of work I do I found I needed to take some math classes. () It was a challenge and it was hard work. It was something that I could do that I thought, no, I never could do that.

MARY GRESS

420 I decided that I would go back to school and do what I missed when I was in grade school. 400 I'm not exactly going to high school. I'm taking a tutor course through Portland Community College. And I'm trying to get my GED. 425 I never had the opportunity before. 384 We worked hard all our lives. Working in the woods and at home. That's where school came in. We missed so much of it helping dad cut in the woods. And then helping my stepmother at home. 391
430 And then, with the kids here I'm wanting them to miss the hardships I had to go through when I was a kid. 433

EDUCATION

CLEO RODGERS

605 This is one of the reasons why the Peace Corp groups and the Vista groups were good things because you take the practice things to people. Like I say. You take the sewing machine and the actual material and thread and sit down with people and show them what to do. It just doesn't work for people that are rich; it will work for you. You can learn like everybody else. It's very difficult to change people when they are set in their ways. They need to see that in black and white. You just can't take theories in and say well if you do this and you do that. They want to see what really happens. 619

664 This is another thing that when you live without money you don't find out things. And you can't have somebody tell you that. You have to experience that for yourself.

SCHOOLS

MARY GRESS COMMUNE 2

MARY GRESS

420 I decided that I would go back to school and do what I missed when I was in grade school. 400 I'm not exactly going to high school. I'm taking a tutor course through Portland Community College. And I'm trying to get my GED. 425 I never had the opportunity before, 384 We worked hard all our lives. Working in the woods and at home. That's where school came in. We missed so much of it helping dad cut in the woods. And then helping my stepmother at home. 391

430 And then, with the kids here I'm want ing them to go to school every day. Because I want them to miss the hardships I had to go through when I was a kid. 433

INA FRETTIM

240 There's nothing to be ashamed of being poor. The good lord must have loved poor people he made so many of us. (Use this with pictures of families other than Gress.)

Photographs of family in front of house, individually and group.

EDUCATION

DISCRIMINATION

YBANEZ

770 Down there you make a lot of friends when you go, but down here the first day we started school they just picked a fight with us and everything.

770 They hit you with paddles; down here they don't. They just send you home or put you in detention. Clean up the cafeteria, or sweep- or whatever they have.

774 There was a lot of Spanish people on the bus, and because we were the only Spanish people on the bus they the Anglo people would pick a fight on us. They'd take tomatoes on the bus and throw them on us and anything. Pickles or anything they could find to throw at us. When we would come up to school on the bus they would pick a fight with us. When we would come up to school on the bus they would pick a fight with us.

ESTELLA MONTANEZ

537 Our only hassle with her is don't drop out of school. Because they never had education; they never did. They tell you do it for your own good. You see us the way we are right now. We have to suffer a lot. Because we didn't have any education. I mean, it's just going to be bad for you if you don't go to school. For us being poor we have a lot of hardships but we stay together. And I think that's the way a Mexican family should be.

356 When we started going to school over here my two brothers and me. I went to the Forest Grove highschool. And the first day it was really disappointing for us. Why? We just had s feeling that we were just being left out. And my brother, God, you know, he said I'm going to quit the same day. / We thought about; you know, our education comes first. Because you know we're going to really have to start down at the bottom first. If there's no education, you know, you just can't go anywhere. MARIA 370@