

**Oral History
Capturing Quarantine
Spring 2020
Final Reflection**

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Section I:

1. Thinking back to the start of the semester, what were your initial thoughts about participating in an oral history project documenting your experience during the ongoing global pandemic?

I didn't know exactly how much effort was going to be put into this project. I also didn't know how emotional I was going to be discussing what happened or listening to what happened to other throughout this pandemic.

2. How did your feelings about the project change?

I started to appreciate what this project offers to both interviewers and narrators. I was able to feel like my voice was being heard by other people as a narrator, yet was able to truly listen to someone else as an interviewer.

Section II:

3. As an interviewer:
 - a. How did you prepare for the interview?

I had a couple of zoom calls outside of class with my narrator to get to know him on a personal level and possibly befriend. I spent extra time creating questions for the interview.

- b. What was it like to interview a classmate?

It felt more natural to interview a classmate than how it is like to interview a stranger for a job opportunity or interviewing a mentor for more information in a field you're studying in, because you don't feel superior or inferior to a classmate.

- c. How did you feel after the interview?

I felt like I accomplished something beautiful with the interview. I was able to learn a lot more than I expected to about my narrator. It was a great experience!

- d. What is the most important thing you learned as an interviewer?

The most important thing I learned as an interviewer was the power of listening and not directing the attention of a conversation onto me.

- e. What advice would you give to future interviewers?

Just nod your head and listen. Wait for you narrator to finish before speaking so you don't interrupt them.

4. As a **narrator**:

- a. How did you prepare to be interviewed?

I didn't do anything to prepare because I didn't want to come off as a robot with my responses. I wanted it to be as natural as possible as it could be over zoom.

- b. Describe your experience being interviewed.

I felt great to be able to speak freely without feeling judged. I cried, I laughed, and I was distanced, and open all at the same time. It was a joyful experience.

- c. How did you feel after the interview ended?

I felt relieved to get all of my emotions out of my system. I took a nap from being exhausted from showing so many emotions.

- d. What would you tell someone who is hesitant to be interviewed?

It's okay to be scared, just don't try to change your expressions or answers because of your fear to be yourself around someone you're unfamiliar with. You won't be judged here.

Section III:

5. What information is missing? What else do you think those trying to understand the pandemic should know?

I don't think anything else is missing because we're all struggling in our own ways. Just learn to accept others for who they are and let them know that they're not alone during this pandemic.