

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Bernice Hutcherson

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hutcherson, Bernice, 1925-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson,
Dates:	August 28, 2002
Bulk Dates:	2002
Physical Description:	6 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:41:50).
Abstract:	Social work professor and social worker Bernice Hutcherson (1925 - 2012) is a former social worker with Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, where she served in various supervisory roles before becoming a professor of social work at Wichita State University in 1970. There, she served on numerous university committees and completed a three-year term as gerontology faculty chair before retiring in 1996. Hutcherson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 28, 2002, in Wichita, Kansas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2002_170
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Social worker and educator, Bernice Hutcherson, was born on April 4, 1925, in Newton, Kansas, to Henrietta and Albert Ray, Sr. Hutcherson was educated in public schools, and eventually received her B.A. degree from Langston University in 1950; she was further trained at the Chicago Teacher's College and received an M.S.W. from the University of Kansas in 1969.

Throughout her nearly five-decade-long career, Hutcherson worked as an educator, beginning as a remedial reading teacher in the Chicago Public Schools system, and later as a social worker in her native Kansas. Hutcherson spent nearly twenty years with Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services in various supervisory and training positions before taking a position as a professor of Social Work at Wichita State University in 1970. Hutcherson served on numerous university committees, including a three-year-long term as gerontology faculty chair before her retirement in 1996.

Retirement did not impede Hutcherson's commitment to the social service field; an active lecturer, she was regularly asked to run workshops and participate in academic forums. Hutcherson's numerous professional affiliations and memberships represented years of commitment to service and leadership; she remained active in the National Association of Social Workers, and the Kansas Conference on Social Welfare, and was the founding president of the Kansas Multicultural Association of Substance Abuse.

Hutcherson continued to be involved in the field of social work by volunteering through committee and board structures dedicated to substance abuse research and program development. The recipient of numerous community, professional, and academic accolades, the Wichita city council named an elder housing facility, the Bernice Hutcherson Complex, in Hutcherson's honor in 1980. In addition to her professional activities, Hutcherson and her

late husband of forty years, Hubert Hutcherson, raised two daughters.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Bernice Hutcherson was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 28, 2002, in Wichita, Kansas, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. Social work professor and social worker Bernice Hutcherson (1925 - 2012) is a former social worker with Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, where she served in various supervisory roles before becoming a professor of social work at Wichita State University in 1970. There, she served on numerous university committees and completed a three-year term as gerontology faculty chair before retiring in 1996.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Hutcherson, Bernice, 1925-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Hutcherson, Bernice, 1925---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Wichita State University

Occupations:

Social Work Professor

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, August 28, 2002. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_001, TRT: 0:28:43 ?

Educator and activist Bernice Hutcherson details her background and childhood in Newton, Kansas. She describes her parents and grandparents backgrounds. hutcherson details her grandmother's life in slavery. She also speaks of her rough and tumble tomboy childhood as the only girl in a family of brothers.

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_002, TRT: 0:31:06 ?

Educator Bernice Ray Hutcherson details her life in Newton Kansas as a certified tomboy and a girl of many hopes and dreams. She details her father's work on the railroad and how his fair-skinned appearance influenced and affected the family. She describes her life growing up as one girl in a family of boys. Hutcherson also discusses her decision to attend Langston College over the all-white University of Kansas and the evolution of her worldview from childhood to young adulthood.

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_003, TRT: 0:30:09 ?

Educator Bernice Hutcherson shares anecdotes about her college life at Langston University and her fun courtship with her future husband, Hubert Hutcherson. She also discusses her efforts in the educational and social work fields to bring a sense of equity and fairness to the profession and clients.

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_004, TRT: 0:29:21 ?

Educator and advocate, Bernice Hutcherson details her community activism and efforts to stem the tide of substance abuse in the black community. Hutcherson discusses her efforts in social work to teach skills to empower those in the social work system as the first black woman president of the Wichita Area Community Action Program.

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_005, TRT: 0:31:16 ?

Educator and activist, Bernice Hutcherson sums up the greatest issue she's had to deal with in her career, racism. She also discusses her hopes and concerns for the black community and the legacy she hopes to leave behind.

Video Oral History Interview with Bernice Hutcherson, Section A2002_170_001_006, TRT: 0:11:15 ?

Bernice Hutcherson narrates her photographs.