Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joyce Ladner

Ladner, Joyce A.

Alternative Names: Joyce Ladner; Joyce Ann Ladner

Life Dates: October 12, 1943-

Place of Birth: Battles, Mississippi, USA

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Occupations: Sociologist; Academic Administrator

Biographical Note

Sociologist Joyce Ladner was born in Battles, Mississippi, on October 12, 1943. She attended Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Mississippi, where she earned her B.A. in sociology in 1964 and went on to Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, to earn a Ph.D. in 1968.

At school, she also became involved in the civil rights movement. After earning her Ph.D., Ladner went on to teach at colleges in Illinois; Washington, D.C.;

Leaving Hunter College for Howard University in Washington, D.C., Ladner served as vice president for academic affairs from 1990 to 1994 and as interim president of Howard University from 1994 to 1995. In 1995, President Bill Clinton appointed her to the District of Columbia Financial Control Board, where she oversees the finances and budgetary restructuring of the public school system. She is also a senior fellow in the Governmental Studies Program at the Brookings Institution, a Washington, D.C. think tank and research organization. She has spoken nationwide about the importance of improving education for public school students. She has appeared on nationally syndicated radio and television programs as well.

Ladner is active in a number of civic and professional organizations. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, The American Sociological Association, the Washington Urban League, the Washington Women's Forum and the Coalition of 100 Black Women. In 1997, she was named Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian for her work in education.

Related Entries

**Washington University in St Louis** [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

**PhD**

**Earl Travillion High School** [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

**Jackson State University** [STUDENTOF]
Tougaloo College [STUDENT Of]  
[from ? to ?]

Brookings Institution [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from ? to ?]  

Senior Fellow  

Experiment in Higher Education [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1970 to 1969]  

Curriculum Coordinator  

Institute of the Black World [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1970 to 1971]

Howard University [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1971 to 1973]  

Professor of Sociology  

Hunter College [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1981 to 1994]  

Instructor  

Howard University [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1981 to 1990]  

Professor  

Howard University [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 1990 to 1994]  

Vice President for Academic Affairs  

Howard University [EMPLOYEE Of]  
[from 199607 to 200107]  

Interim President  

District of Columbia Financial Control Board [EMPLOYEE Of]
[from 2013 to ?]