Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Nathan Hare

Overview of the Collection

Repository: The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616
info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Hare, Nathan

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare,

Dates: April 5, 2004

Bulk Dates: 2004

Physical Description: 9 Betacam SP videocassettes (.).

Abstract: African American studies professor and psychologist Nathan Hare (1933 - ) became the coordinator of the nation’s first Black Studies Program at San Francisco State College, worked as a clinical psychologist in community health programs, hospitals, and private practice, and established The Black Think Tank, which focuses on issues affecting the black family. He is the author of many books and articles and is the recipient of numerous awards. Hare was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 5, 2004, in San Francisco, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

Identification: A2004_039

Language: The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

African American studies professor and psychologist Nathan Hare was born on April 9, 1933 in Slick, Oklahoma. As a young age he experienced segregation and tense race relations in Oklahoma. Hare planned on becoming a professional boxer until one of his high school teachers suggested he attend college, where he took sociology classes and switched his major from English to sociology. In 1954, he received his A.B. degree from Langston University in Langston, Oklahoma. In 1957, he earned his M.A. degree from University of Chicago. In that same year, he married his wife, Julia Hare, also a noted psychologist and sociologist. Five years later, in 1962, he earned the first of two Ph.D. degrees. The first Ph.D. degree in sociology was from the University of Chicago and the second Ph.D. degree, awarded from the California School of Professional Psychology in 1975, was in clinical psychology.

In 1961, he became an instructor and assistant professor in sociology at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Some of his students included Stokely Carmichael and Claude Brown. Later, in September 1966, he wrote a letter to the editor of the "The Hilltop," Howard University’s student newspaper speaking out against then Howard University president James Nabrit’s plan to turn the university’s student body sixty percent white by 1970. As a result Hare was fired in 1967. In 1968, Hare joined the faculty of San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State University) and became the program coordinator of the school's Black Studies program, the first in the United States. This has earned him the title "father of Black Studies" by scholars. As the program coordinator, Hare created the term "ethnic studies" to replace the more pejorative "minority studies." Hare battled with the college administration and left the college just a year later, in 1969. Needing a way to express his thoughts and
the ideas of others, he founded the scholarly periodical, "The Black Scholar: A Journal of Black Studies and Research" in 1969. He left the journal in 1975 to work as a clinical psychologist in community health programs, hospitals, and in private practice. In 1979, he co-founded the Black Think Tank with his wife, Julia Hare. The Black Think Tank addresses the problems and concerns that plague the African American community.

Throughout his career, Hare has served as a consultant and given numerous lectures and presentations. Furthermore, he has written several books and articles including "The Black Anglo Saxons," "The Endangered Black Family," "Bringing the Black Boy to Manhood: The Passage," "Crisis in Black Sexual Politics," and "The Miseducation of the Black Child." He has been the recipient of many awards such as the Joseph Hines Award for Distinguished Scholarship from the National Association of Black Sociologists, Scholar of the Year Award from the Association of African Historians, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame. Hare was also awarded the National Council for Black Studies National Award for his distinguished scholarly contributions to Black Studies. Throughout his life, his love of boxing and learning has helped him to fight for social justice.

Nathan Hare was interviewed by the The HistoryMakers on April 5, 2004.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Nathan Hare was conducted by Loretta Henry on April 5, 2004, in San Francisco, California, and was recorded on 9 Betacam SP videocassettes. African american studies professor and psychologist Nathan Hare (1933 - ) became the coordinator of the nation’s first Black Studies Program at San Francisco State College, worked as a clinical psychologist in community health programs, hospitals, and private practice, and established The Black Think Tank, which focuses on issues affecting the black family. He is the author of many books and articles and is the recipient of numerous awards.

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:**

Hare, Nathan

Henry, Loretta (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

**Subjects:**

- African Americans--Interviews
- Hare, Nathan--Interviews
- African American psychologists--Interviews
- African American college teachers--Interviews
- African American authors--Interviews

**Organizations:**

- HistoryMakers (Video oral history collection)
- The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection
- The Black Think Tank

**HistoryMakers® Category:**

- EducationMakers
- CivicMakers

**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 Nathan Hare, April 5, 2004. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.
Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Nathan Hare

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 8/15/2011 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, April 5, 2004

Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare, Section A2004_039_001_001, TRT: 2004/04/05

Nathan Hare slates the interview and shares his favorites. Hare was born in Slick, Oklahoma, on April 9, 1933. He describes his parents, Seddie Hare and Tishia Lee Davis as well as his childhood in Oklahoma. His parents separated when Hare was nine years old and his contact with his father was inconsistent. He describes his family history and notes that his grandparents were former slaves. Hare grew up on a farm in Oklahoma. His mother then moved the family to San Diego, California, during World War II to work in the Naval yards.

African American families--Oklahoma.
Single-parent families--Oklahoma.
African American fathers--Oklahoma.
African American mothers--Oklahoma.

Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare, Section A2004_039_001_002, TRT: 2004/04/05

Nathan Hare describes the sights, smells, and sounds of his childhood growing up on a farm in Slick, Oklahoma. As Hare grew older, he lost interest in school. This became worse in seventh grade when his mother moved the family to San Diego, California. Hare was the only African American student in his class and was routinely ignored by the teacher. Hare and his family moved back to Slick, a predominantly white town where race relations were very tense. As a teenager, Hare had aspirations of becoming a boxer but his high school principal, Mr. Garrett, encouraged him to enroll in college. After graduating high school, Hare attended Langston University in Langston, Oklahoma, in 1950 and studied sociology.

African American children--Education, Primary--Oklahoma.
African American families--Oklahoma.
Race Relations--Oklahoma--20th century.
African American children--Education (Secondary).
Sociology--Study and teaching--Oklahoma--Langston.
Langston University--Students.
Mentoring in education.

Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare, Section A2004_039_001_003, TRT: 2004/04/05
Nathan Hare describes his church, Landmark Baptist Church. After high school he attended Langston University and in 1954 received his A.B. degree in sociology. After Langston University, Hare enrolled at University of Chicago and received his M.A. degree in 1957 and his Ph.D. degree in 1962. Hare then recalls his teaching career at Howard University in Washington, D.C and his leaving after speaking out against comments that Howard University president James Nabrit had made. He was then invited to San Francisco State College to become the first program director of their Black Studies program, the first in the United States.

African Americans--Church.
African Americans--Education--Studying and teaching (Higher).
Howard University--Faculty.
Black Studies.
Sociology--Study and teaching--Oklahoma--Langston.
African American college teachers--Resignation.

Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare, Section A2004_039_001_004, TRT: 2004/04/05
Nathan Hare recounts his long and prolific career. While working as a professor and administrator Hare became involved with the Black Power Movement. After feeling limited by the San Francisco State College administration, he went on strike and ultimately left his position as program director of the Black Studies program. Hare then describes the founding in 1969 of "The Black Scholar: Journal of Black Studies and Research," a scholarly periodical. He left the journal to return to school and received his Ph.D. degree in psychology from the California School of Professional Psychologists in San Francisco, California. Hare wanted to bring sociology and psychology together to understand the unique difficulties that African American children face.

Black Power--Social movements--Universities and colleges.
Black Studies.
African Americans--Race identity--Periodicals.
African Americans--Studying and teaching--California--San Francisco.
African Americans--Psychology.

Video Oral History Interview with Nathan Hare, Section A2004_039_001_005, TRT: 2004/04/05
Nathan Hare recounts his career and his hopes for the African American community. He describes his interest in the African American family as well as interpersonal relationships between African American men and women. He has regrets over how his tenure as the program director of the Black Studies program at San Francisco State College ended. He wants the African American community to continue to keep lifting itself higher. Hare wants to be remembered as someone who did the best that he could.

African Americans--periodicals.
San Francisco State University. Black Studies Dept.
African American college teachers--Dismissal of.