

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Joycelyn Elders

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Elders, Joycelyn, 1933-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders,
<b>Dates:</b>	September 20, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	13 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:42:15).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Medical doctor and professor Dr. Joycelyn Elders (1933- ) served as the 15th Surgeon General of the United States, nominated by President William J. Clinton, and was professor at University of Arkansas for over thirty years. Elders was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 20, 2017, in Little Rock, Arkansas. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2017_161
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Medical doctor and professor Dr. Joycelyn Elders was born on August 14, 1933 in Schaal, Arkansas to Curtis Jones and Haller Reed Jones. Elders attended Howard County Training School in Tollette, Arkansas in 1942. She earned a four-year scholarship to attend Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas where she received her B.S. degree in biology in 1952. In 1960, Elders earned her M.D. degree and her M.S. degree in biochemistry in 1967 from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1978, Elders earned her certification as a pediatric endocrinologist. After she earned her M.D. degree, Elders began a pediatric internship at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, Minnesota. She became the chief resident at the University of Arkansas Medical School in 1963. Elders was hired as an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas in 1971 and was promoted to the position of professor in 1976. In 1987, Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton appointed Elders as director of the Arkansas Department of Health. She then became the 15th Surgeon General of the United States under President Clinton in 1993. As Surgeon General, Elders focused on women's reproductive health care and promoted sex, alcohol, drug, and tobacco education in public schools. She resigned from that position in 1994 and returned to the University of Arkansas, where she worked as a professor of pediatric endocrinology. In 2002, Elders retired from the University of Arkansas Medical Center. In 2016, the Jocelyn Elders Clinic was established in Kisinga, Uganda. The clinic served students at Garama Humanist Secondary School, and promoted sex education and treated students that suffered from diseases such as malaria.

During her career, Elders published over one hundred academic papers that related to insulin resistance and other endocrine disorders. In 1997, she published her memoir, *From Sharecroppers' Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States of America*.

Elders was the recipient of the Woman of Distinction Award from Worthen Bank in 1987, the Arkansas Democrat Woman of the Year from *Statewide Newspaper* in 1998, and the Candace Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women in 1991. She was inducted into the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame in 2016. Elders also

received the Career Development Award from the National Institute of Health. In 2009, The Joycelyn Elders Chair in Sexual Health Education was established at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

In 1992, Elders was elected president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers. She was also a board member for the National Center for Healthy Housing.

Dr. Joycelyn Elders was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on September 20, 2017.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders was conducted by Randall Pinkston on September 20, 2017, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was recorded on 13 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Medical doctor and professor Dr. Joycelyn Elders (1933- ) served as the 15th Surgeon General of the United States, nominated by President William J. Clinton, and was professor at University of Arkansas for over thirty years.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Elders, Joycelyn, 1933-

Pinkston, Randall (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Elders, Joycelyn, 1933- --Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Medical Doctor

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Professor

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

MedicalMakers

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## 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 Dr. Joycelyn Elders, September 20, 2017. 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

## Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:35 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:02 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:37 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_004, TRT: 4:28:50 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_005, TRT: 5:30:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:06 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_007, TRT: 7:29:30 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_008, TRT: 8:27:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_009, TRT: 9:29:29 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_010, TRT: 10:28:13 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_011, TRT: 11:20:11 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_012, TRT: 12:03:14 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Section A2017\_161\_001\_013, TRT: 13:30:00 ?