

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford

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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>	Sinkford, Jeanne Craig, 1933-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford,
<b>Dates:</b>	September 26, 2019
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2019
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:27:16).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Academic administrator and educator Jeanne Craig Sinkford (1933 - ) was the country's first woman prosthodontist with a Ph.D. and first woman to head a major department at a dental school before becoming the country's first woman dean of a dental school in 1975. Sinkford was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 26, 2019, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2019_105
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Academic administrator and educator Jeanne Craig Sinkford was born on January 30, 1933 in Washington, D.C. to Richard and Geneva Craig. She graduated from Dunbar High School in 1949, and earned her B.S. degree in psychology and chemistry from Howard University in 1953. In 1958, Sinkford graduated at the top of her class with a D.D.S. degree in dental surgery from the Howard University College of Dentistry. She then taught prosthodontics at Howard's College of Dentistry before graduating from Northwestern University School of Dentistry with her M.S. degree in 1962, and her Ph.D. in physiology in 1963, making her the first female prosthodontist with a Ph.D.

Sinkford remained at the Northwestern University School of Dentistry to teach for a year before returning to the Howard University College of Dentistry in 1964 to chair the prosthodontics department, which was the largest department at the college. She was the first woman head of such a department in the nation. Sinkford was made associate dean of the College of Dentistry in 1967. In 1972, she was appointed to a nine-member ad hoc advisory panel examining the ethics of the 1932 Tuskegee Syphilis Study. Sinkford became the first female dean of any dental school in the nation in 1975 upon being appointed dean of Howard University's College of Dentistry. In 1979, she coauthored *Profile of the Negro in American Dentistry* with Foster Kidd, D.D.S. Sinkford retired as dean in 1991 after sixteen years. That same year, she became professor and dean emeritus, and was appointed director of the Office of Women and Minority Affairs at the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) in Washington, D.C. In 2015, Sinkford became a senior scholar-in-residence with ADEA, her work focusing on recruitment and promoting growth of minority and women students and faculty. She also founded international women's leadership programming for women's health and oral health of the world population.

Sinkford holds memberships in the American Prosthodontic Society, the International Association of Dental Research, the National Dental Association, the Institute of Medicine, the National Academy of Sciences, Phi Beta

Kappa, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She also serves as an American College of Dentists and International College of Dentists fellow.

Sinkford's numerous awards include Alumni Achievement Awards from Northwestern University and Howard University in 1970 and 1976, one of the first Candace Awards from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women in 1982, the 1984 Award of Merit from the American Fund for Dental Health, the 2007 Trailblazer Award from the National Dental Association, and the 2010 Fauchard Gold Medal. She also earned honorary doctorate degrees from Georgetown University School of Dentistry in 1978, the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey in 1992, Meharry Medical College in 2008, the University of Michigan in 2018, and Howard University in 2019.

Sinkford resides in Maryland and has three children with her late husband, Dr. Stanley M. Sinkford, Jr.: Dianne Sylvia, Janet Lynn, and Stanley M. Sinkford, III.

Jeanne Craig Sinkford was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on September 26, 2019.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 26, 2019, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Academic administrator and educator Jeanne Craig Sinkford (1933 - ) was the country's first woman prosthodontist with a Ph.D. and first woman to head a major department at a dental school before becoming the country's first woman dean of a dental school in 1975.

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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:

Sinkford, Jeanne Craig, 1933-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### **Subjects:**

African Americans--Interviews  
Sinkford, Jeanne Craig, 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:**

Dentist

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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. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, September 26, 2019. 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. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:40 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:19 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_003, TRT: 3:32:22 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:52 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_005, TRT: 5:32:25 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:05 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford, Section A2019\_105\_001\_007, TRT: 7:23:33 ?