

<u>Subject:</u> High School Drop Outs	<u>Data Source:</u> Interview Summary	<u>Date:</u> 02-28-2005
<u>Subject ID:</u> BC	<u>Researcher:</u> [REDACTED]	

Summary: BC Former Student

000 Talked about going to [REDACTED] elementary in Hawaii. I ask about what his school was like and what he learned. He said he remembered learning about Hawaiian history and culture. I asked him if school was fun. He said yes, but then said he didn't know better. He was a kid. He got to run around and have fun. He didn't remember learning that much. He remembered counting to a hundred and learning reading. He didn't remember too many assignments but he remembered the elders coming in and telling Hawaiian legends. He said they went on a lot of field trips to the pineapple or sugarcane plantations, but doesn't remember the work. He did remember reading though.

2:17 I asked what his favorite subjects were and he said probably reading. It wasn't a struggle. He liked the content of what he read. He said he liked all subjects and didn't remember struggling. I asked if he liked his teachers. He said yes and he explained that they treated him like family.

3:38 I asked if the students were like that too, like family. He said that all kids are the same and they didn't really feel more so like family. He explained that there were cultural differences between him and the other students but he didn't really notice those differences.

4:56 I asked about parent involvement. He said his dad didn't but his mom was a volunteer tutor and the treasurer of the school. She even worked at the school for a little while. She would tutor the other kids in his class and tutored him at home. His mom would help him at home with homework. She would help with reading, math and spelling. She would check his homework and read it over with him.

6:54 I asked where he went to school after second grade. He said his family moved from Hawaii to LA then. He expressed he didn't like LA. It was cold and it wasn't as laid back as school in Hawaii. It was more rigid. Kids in Hawaii got to play anywhere at recess. In LA they had areas. He couldn't walk to school, he had to take the bus. He had to always line up. There were just a lot of rules and regulations.

8:56 I asked what it was like in the classroom. He said that was the same. The books were the same as those in Hawaii. I asked when he stopped liking certain subjects in school. He said that happened in around junior high.

10:01 What changed during junior high to make you not like school as much? He said he didn't know that anything changed except him. He expressed that he didn't know what happened. Things got so difficult that he didn't care to do them anymore. But he said math was the only subject that started to get difficult.

11:26 What changed in junior high? Did you just get interested in different things? Were your parents still involved? He said he didn't know. No his parents both had to work so they weren't up at the school. She helped with his homework all the way through junior high. He would ask most questions in class rather than at home. He would do his homework right when he came home.

13:40 Did your parents ever just ask about school? He said they did but then they stopped. They got really involved in work.

14:18 Did your friends like school? Or did they change too? He said they all liked school even if they didn't do well. He was an exception. He couldn't figure out why he didn't like school very much.

15:09 Something happened in junior high so I didn't like school. He always had the same interests. He always liked reading. His outlook on school just changed.

16:14 My kindergarten was fun but it was kindergarten. All kids like kindergarten. You don't do too much anyway. It

could be that I never liked school and it was just that I liked kindergarten. It's hard to gage it. I spent more time disliking school than liking it. I liked kindergarten and I didn't hate school up until junior high. In junior high I started to hate school.

17:54- How were your teachers in junior high? Teachers treated kids like adults. I asked if he ever liked a teacher. He said yes and talked about Ms. C in English. She really cared about the students. Because she cared it made me try harder. She knew what was going on with all the students. I participated more because she was so understanding.

20:45 Were there any teacher you didn't like. He expressed we'd be her for hours. He didn't like his English teacher Mr. M because he didn't listen to the students. If a student didn't understand and there wasn't a critical mass of students with problems, he wouldn't help. He didn't realize kids learn at different paces. Each teacher had something different that he didn't like. One teacher just talked awfully to the kids. He was sarcastic and if you asked a question he would make you feel stupid. There were a lot of bad teachers.

23:44 Did having all of those bad teachers around make you not like school? Of course it didn't make me like school. We didn't get encouragement. I didn't really want to do the work but I wanted to please my teachers. But a lot of my teachers I didn't care for. And I just didn't want to be there. But it's not all the teacher's fault. A lot of kids don't feel like going to school at some point but it's when you don't feel like being there and the teachers knows so the teacher doesn't try to help anymore. At that point I could have gone either path with more support and more people around me. If the teacher encouraged me and made me thought that I could would change things. I wanted to do well. But I didn't really want to be there and the teachers just gave up on me. Teachers would say they got their education so they didn't care if the students got theirs. It wasn't encouraging.

27:20 Did you parents know that you didn't like school? Yeah they tried everything. They would come to the school and talk to counselors. We came up with plans to get the work done. They worked a lot though and they couldn't do everything. You can't make someone do work. By high