

Interviewers: Caroline Arnold and Kaitlyn Murphy
Interviewee: Vanessa Bumpus
Date of Interview: December 3, 2015
Location of Interview: Worcester, Mass.



Overseen by Profs. Dona Kercher and Prof. Leslie Choquette, Assumption College

Abstract: Vanessa Bumpus is an exhibition coordinator at the Worcester Historical Museum. She was born in 1975 in New York City. She attended Marymount Manhattan College for her undergraduate degree and the University of Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for graduate school. After getting married to her husband, Joseph, she had two children. Vanessa tells of life growing up in New York and her move to Massachusetts as a teenager. She also discusses how her family pushed her to succeed in life, which led her to many career opportunities including interning for David Letterman and getting into a selective graduate school program. Vanessa stressed the importance of taking care of her family and how Worcester has always been a great city for women.

KM: Ok, alright, so what is your full name including both maiden name and married name if applicable?

VB: Ok, my full name is Vanessa Jennifer Hofstetter which is my maiden name, and Bumpus which is my married name. Do you want me to spell Hofstetter?
[laughs] It's H-O-F-S-T-E-T-T-ER.

KM: Ok.

VB: Yeah. That's my maiden name.

KM: When were you born?

VB: I was born September 7th, 1975

KM: Have you ever been married?

VB: Yes, I am currently married, I have been married for nine years.

KM: What is the name of your husband?

VB: Joseph.

KM: Do you have children?

VB: Yes, I have two children, Liliana, who is eight, and Alexander or Alex, as he prefers to be called who is five.

KM: Awww. [Laughs]

KM: What cultures, ethnicities do you identify with?

VB: My father is German, and my mother is Puerto Rican so both of those. [Laughs]

KM: Cool. Tell me more about your parents.

VB: My parents. I am originally from New York, as my parents are. They now live in Florida. My father was a business man, owned his own business in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, we moved here when I was sixteen, and my mother worked for UPS in customer service, and they were great parents. My mom still works, even though she says she has retired. She got bored so she went and found a job for a cruise line. So she still works and my dad just kind of enjoys Florida, fishing and the weather, that's it.

KM: That's cool.

VB: Just me and my sister.

KM: Where have you lived during your life?

VB: Oh, I've lived a lot of places. [Laughs] I grew up in New York, and then we moved to Massachusetts, and then I went to college for a while in New Hampshire, and then I went to college in New York, and then I went to graduate school in Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, and then I've moved back to Massachusetts where I've been ever since.

KM: Awesome.

VB: Yup.

KM: What part of New York are you from?

VB: I'm originally—I grew up in Queens, but when I went there for college I was right in Manhattan.

KM: Cool.

VB: Yeah.

CA: Are you in Worcester now?

VB: I live in Holden.

CA: Oh, in Holden.

VB: Yeah, Holden.

KM: What was the neighborhood like generally?

VB: Growing up?

KM: Uh huh.

VB: My New York neighborhood was very different from my Massachusetts neighborhood. My New York neighborhood was houses right on top of one and other, and you see your friends across the street, and kind of just scream across the street.

CA: [Laughs]

VB: While in Massachusetts it was this big yard, so you had to walk to people's houses, and you know in New York you could walk up the street to the store. In Massachusetts you had to get in your car and drive and stuff.

KM: Yeah.

VB: You know, two very different ways of growing up. Which was fine but it was a bit of an adjustment.

KM: How old were you when you moved to Massachusetts?

VB: I was thirteen- sorry thirteen [Laughs]

VB: I haven't gotten any calls all day now the phone will ring nonstop. Um I was thirteen when we moved to Massachusetts.

KM: Cool. If you are not born in Worcester how did you, oh you just said that.

VB: [Laughter].

KM: How did you come to live in Worcester?

VB: How did I come to live in Worcester? Well, we moved from New York because the neighborhood we lived in was not very good, it was kind of taking a wrong turn, so my parents moved us up to Massachusetts, where we had some aunts and uncles that lived. And I went to—we lived in Hopkinton, I went to school there for a year, then in high school I went to Notre Dame Academy in Worcester and, excuse me [coughs], I went to college and then I came back to Massachusetts because after graduate school I didn't have a job yet, so I went back to live with my parents who were still in Hopkinton at the time, and then I found my job here, and then lived in Shrewsbury for a while in an apartment then got married and moved to Holden.

CA: Was it hard transitioning when you came from New York to Massachusetts when you were thirteen?

VB: When I was thirteen? Yeah a little bit even when I was twenty something coming from there to here. Yeah it was it was a bit of an adjustment, thirteen is a tough age.

CA: Exactly to move away from all your friends.

VB: I mean eighth grade. Who wants to start at a new school in eighth grade?

KM: Yeah.

VB: I literally wouldn't wish that on anyone, so I was at one school for a year, then when I went to Notre Dame I kind of met...

CA: Easier.

VB: It was easier because I met girls—there were all girls all starting new at a new school.

KM: Yeah.

VB: So it made it a little bit easier of a transition.

CA: Yeah I went to Bishop Feehan in Attleboro.

VB: Mhm.

CA: So that's the same I went there for high school and it was all new people meeting.

VB: Yeah, I mean some people knew each other, but it really was new people all at the same time.

CA: Yeah.

VB: So it worked out, you know for the best.

CA: Yeah

KM: So you probably have already said this, but you live in Holden now but what other areas have you lived in?

VB: Um, I've lived in New York City, Queens, Hopkinton, Massachusetts, Philadelphia, which is a great city.

KM: Oooh.

VB: And now I'm in Holden.

KM: Awesome. Do other family members live in the same area?

VB: Yes, I live with my husband and my two children and then I have a sister who lives in Florida, and my parents are in Florida.

KM: Cool.

VB: Yeah

KM: If you don't currently live in Worcester what is your Worcester connection?

VB: Well, working [laughs] and I went to high school here too so, and my husband works in Worcester and I work here.

KM: Yeah. What challenges do you think this city still faces and what would you change about the city?

VB: The city of Worcester?

KM: Yes.

VB: I think Worcester is actually a great city, I think it's definitely—I've been at the [Worcester Historical] Museum—how long have I worked here? Twelve, thirteen years and I've seen some big changes; a lot more culture has been coming out with the Hanover Theatre.

KM: Yeah.

VB: And then there's like the ice rink behind like city hall, that wasn't here when I was in high school much less thirteen years ago when I started working here so I think this city is definitely moving in the right direction. I love that there's a lot of female business owners in Worcester, I think that is a great thing.

KM: Yeah.

VB: Places like Crompton Collective, and C.C. Lowell, and Worcester (?), those are all businesses owned by women which I think is great for girls like you who are going to school here. I think Worcester's colleges are great.

KM: Yeah.

VB: The fact that we have so many schools, study so many different things. I get to work with a lot of them here at the museum and I mean I'm always meeting people from all over the world that come here just to go to school which I think is fascinating, and I think Worcester has a lot of opportunity. The fact that Worcester now is very involved in medicine and science I think that is really important, and really great for this city because it can only go up from there.

KM: Yeah.

VB: Yup.

KM: What distinct characteristics make Worcester the place that it is?

VB: I think hmm, I'm gonna use my history knowledge for this. Worcester has always been a place of ideas and I think it still is. There's always been an innovator here and it's a good city to start small.

KM: Yeah.

VB: You start in Worcester, you can move to Boston, and then New York, and then go bigger and bigger and bigger. It's a think tank it's a good place to start.

KM: Yeah.

VB: And then if you want to go bigger you can, but you can be in Worcester and be just as successful as you would be in New York for probably a quarter of the price.

KM: Yeah definitely.

KM: What do you think women's experiences in Worcester have been generally?

VB: Throughout time?

KM: Yeah or maybe your time here?

VB: I think they've been good. Like I said there's now a lot of female business owners in Worcester. Historically, Worcester has always been good for women.

KM: Yeah.

VB: At one point, there was a company in the early, in the nineteenth century, I'm sorry early twentieth century where they were the biggest employer of women in the country.

KM: Really?

VB: Making corsets here in Worcester.

KM: Oh wow that's awesome.

VB: So I think Worcester is a great city for women, I think it's a great city for men and women, for children. I think there's lots of opportunities for everyone.

KM: Yeah.

VB: There's no door really closed around here. Which is good.

KM: Yeah that is good.

VB: Yup.

KM: Ok, education where did you attend school?

VB: I went to high school at Notre Dame Academy, and then my undergraduate degree is from Marymount Manhattan College in New York City, and my graduate degree is from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

KM: Name the programs if applicable.

VB: Programs?

KM: Like your degree.

VB: Oh yeah my degree. So I have a bachelor's of fine arts is my undergrad and then a master of fine arts is my master's degree.

KM: Did you attend graduate school from college?

VB: I did. I took a year off and then went to graduate school in Philadelphia.

KM: Oh cool.

VB: I went to a program where the only accepted eight people a year.

KM: Wow.

CA: That's awesome

KM: That's awesome.

VB: So it was a bit of—they accepted people from all over the world. So I took a year off which I recommend people do, and then went to graduate school.

KM: What was the name of your graduate school?

VB: It was the University of Arts. It was in museum planning, exhibits, and design program there.

KM: Oh cool.

KM: What were challenges in your education?

VB: Challenges in my education? Well, cost is always a challenge [laughs] in education. Not so much for undergraduate but for graduate school, I'm still paying off student loans and will be until like 2024 [laughs]. You know that comes with the territory. I didn't have too many challenges in education, I was very lucky. I transferred colleges after two years from New Hampshire to a school in New York because I was studying communications, so I thought New York was a better place to be, I got great experience there. I worked for David Letterman for a while.

KM: Oh wow.

VB: And I got to work at the Metropolitan Museum of Art because I was fascinated with museums, which led me here. So there weren't too many challenges I've been pretty lucky with my education.

KM: That's awesome.

VB: Yeah.

KM: So what was working with David Letterman and at the museum like.

VB: It was really cool, I was a communications major, this was my first major, well it was actually the bachelor's degree I graduated with. So I worked there part time, actually no it was full time.

KM: Oh wow.

VB: For a full semester, I would go to class from 9-1 and then jet across the city to Letterman and work there from 2-10 at night.

KM: Wow.

VB: I worked as an assistant in the executive producer's office. It was the best.

KM: That's awesome.

VB: I was right down the hall from Dave, and actually when I applied to grad school he wrote my letter of recommendation.

KM: Awww.

CA: That's awesome.

VB: It was really cool and I still have it framed in my office at home so that was really cool.

KM: Wow.

VB: It was a tough time, on weekends at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

KM: Really?

VB: Yeah not much of a social life that year [laughs] because New York is an expensive city.

KM: It is.

VB: Very expensive.

KM: That's a great experience, that's so cool.

VB: Yeah.

KM: Upon finishing your formal education what did you see as your options?

VB: Get a job [laughs]. It really was, I was excited to find work after I finished my graduate degree. I definitely had an easier time in college than I did in high school because you know in college you get to study what you want, what you're interested in, and then when you go for your master's degree you really get to study just two years of what you want to do. You know in college you still take math.

CA: Core requirements.

VB: You know graduate school it's whatever you want. If you want to take a dance class on top of this you can. So I was just excited to take all those things I've learned and use them once I'd graduated from graduate school.

KM: Yeah.

VB: And then started paying off my loans, which was helpful [laughs].

KM: What support networks and mentoring have been important to you?

VB: I'm sorry could you repeat that one more time?

KM: Support networks and mentoring?

VB: My parents have been very supportive. My parents have always pushed good education for me and, my sister. Family, I come from a big family, a lot of women in my family, female cousins, my mom had five sisters, all well educated, doctors, nurses, you know, high ups in business, and social services.

KM: Yeah.

VB: So education was always pushed very big.

KM: That's awesome.

VB: And it's something I push on my children too

KM: Yeah.

VB: You know like twenty minutes of reading every night, the math, and all that stuff. So I'd say family has been the biggest support.

KM: Sounds like you had a lot of fantastic female role models.

VB: I did.

KM: So now I'm going to turn it over to Caroline.

CA: So now we're going to talk about your work

VB: Ugh, gross..I'm just kidding [laughs]

CA: What was your first job?

VB: My first. What was my very first job? Like high school very first job?

CA: Sure let's do that!

VB: Okay. I'm sure I had like a lemonade stand when I was a kid in New York; I used to make money doing that. My very first job I worked at the grocery store in Westborough. It was Julio's Star Market, which is now gone, which is now a Marshals or something. [laughs] I bagged groceries. I would ask people and that was before reusable grocery bags were big.

CA: So like paper bags? [laughs]

BA: I had to ask people paper or plastic and this is horrible I'll say this I don't care it's being recorded [laughs] when people would say paper and plastic I would make the bags really heavy [laughs]

CA: [Laughs]

KM: [Laughs]

VB: Because it was so much work to put the paper bag so I would make it really heavy. [laughs] So that was my very first like paying job with a regular paycheck.

CA: Yeah, okay! And then so what other jobs have you had and what do you do now?

VB: Oh let's see, I've had so many jobs. [laughs] Alright well I did babysitting obviously when I was in high school, I worked at Julio's, I worked at Strawberry's Record Store which is out of business and which is also in Westborough. I worked in a lot of retail clothing stores because I wanted to get a discount to buy clothes, which was fun. That was when I was in New Hampshire. Then when I went to New York I worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in their bookstore. Oh my gosh, I must have been there like five or six years. And I worked for—after graduation from college in that year off I worked for David Letterman actually as a paid employee for a while on a project. Then I worked at another retail store selling handbags which was another good discount for like a year. And then I went to Philadelphia and I didn't work while I was in graduate school I really just focused on school and then I came here.

CA: So you've been here ever since graduate school?

VB: I've been here since 2002 I'm sorry 2000—oh yeah, 2002. Yup!

CA: So how did you come to this work here?

VB: I actually was fresh out of graduate school, I want to say I graduated in June—May. May or June of 2002—and I started here in September. We went on like a family trip to Disney and I worked for my Dad's business and then I was just online and I was like, "Oh my gosh, Worcester." I didn't even know Worcester had a historical museum even though I had gone here to high school for four years I had no idea. And I was like, "Oh it wouldn't be a big commute, let me just apply." And I got an interview like the next day.

KM: Oh wow!

VB: So yeah, I was very lucky.

CA: Uhm so what has this work meant to you here?

VB: It's been really good. It's really rare I find for people to be able to use the degree they graduated with. [laughs] It's very hard. I have a lot of friends that studied like Russian Literature. Where are you going to work? [laughs] Unless you're going to teach or something like that. You know, I think it's a great degree to have, but I am very lucky to use...

CA: What you learned.

VB: ...what I learned and what I am still paying for in student loans. [laughs] I hate to keep bringing that up but it's true. But I get to use my degree and that's really important to me. That's the most important thing.

CA: What, where...what or where are your primary responsibilities in terms of housework and child care?

VB: Oh wow, okay so were back to housework, okay so housework and childcare. I have two children and my husband leaves for work at seven in the morning and school obviously is not open at seven in the morning. [laughs] So let's see, I wake up around—kind of what my day is like?

CA: Yeah.

VB: Okay I wake up around 6:30 to two kids who are like extremely happy in the morning. They're morning people up way to early. [laughs] So I get them dressed, ready for school, breakfast, lunches made, hair brushed which is the biggest battle of the morning if it's not telling my son to put pants on because he doesn't like to wear pants lately for some reason [laughs] He's a five year old boy. My daughter I drop her off at the before school program, my son off at nursery school, and then I'm here by 8:45 till 4:45. Usually on my lunch hour I go grocery shopping or I go to Target to get things for the house like my cleaning products. This one needs underwear, this one needs tights for this or like a dress or something do that. At, let's see leave here at 4:45, pick up my son pick up my daughter, go home start dinner and help with their homework. While they are doing that my husband comes home and get dinner on the table. Maybe throw in a load of laundry if I'm lucky [laughs] and organized that night. And then it is sitting and reading with the kids or watching a TV show, get them to bed, teeth brushed, pajamas to bed. Hopeful they don't call me like 30 times [laughs] and then maybe by 8:30/9 o'clock I can sit down and watch a television show, read a book, or finally use my computer or something. It's a pretty long day. And weekends are just, my kids aren't in a lot of activities, so weekends we really do like family things, like family things just the four of us. Even if it's just like playing in the yard or like going for a walk that's our big thing. And then Sunday's football, so we can't do anything because my husband loves football.

CA: [Laughs]

KM: [Laughs]

CA: So you do all the house chores basically?

VB: Well yeah, my husband does house chores too; I'm not saying I do all the work. He takes care of the outside stuff. Like I don't want to mow the lawn or use the snow blower. [laughs] But like laundry. My house isn't like pristine clean. If someone came over, I'm not the queen of England, but if someone came I think it would be okay. So yeah. [laughs]

CA: Uhm how has this changed you over time?

VB: Like all the housework or just...?

CA: Yeah. Like the housework of going from nothing I guess to all of this?

VB: I've definitely become better at time management. I know what works for me and my kids and my husband and my family like I know if I'm going to—for example, everyone wants meatloaf for dinner I've got to have that meatloaf ready before I even go to work in the morning so when I get home I can just throw it in the oven. So it's really just time management and knowing and keeping a really good calendar. I have a huge calendar on my fridge and everyone has a color and I write this one has girl scouts this one has doctor's appointment that's the only way I can really keep organized. By writing it down.

CA: Awesome. How have you balanced different priorities, responsibilities, roles, and interests in your life?

VB: [Sighs] Let's see, I'm sorry repeat it one more time.

CA: So how have you balanced different priorities, responsibilities, roles, and interests in your life?

VB: Well priorities always come first so the kids are always first. Kids, husband, family, are always first. And then work comes second. I've gotten much better at that. I used to when my kids were small I was like I have to work. But work comes second, for example I had to come in late because my son had a doctor's appointment so then I have to come in late and lose the vacation time because it's my son and I'm not going to change that. And then interests I have like a little side business, so like sometimes I'll work on that like once the kids go to bed or on the weekends if they have play dates or something. You know they're pretty good at keeping busy on their own so I do other little things if I can.

KM: What's your side business?

VB: I do like personalized t-shirts and mugs and stuff and I sell them online. So just like a little pocket money and stuff.

KM: Oh that's cool!

CA: That's cool! What do you think are the pros and cons of the path you have chosen?

VB: I don't think there are any cons because I am very happy with the path I have chosen I wouldn't trade my kids, my husband, or where I live, or where I work for anything. So I would say none I don't really have any complaints I'm pretty laid back. [laughs]

CA: [Laughs] How do you feel about the choices you've made in life? Do you have any regrets?

VB: No, no I don't. No, I've made good choices.

KM: That's good!

CA: Then were going to go to politics and community involvement.

VB: Uh oh!

CA: Do you consider yourself active politically?

VB: No.

CA: [Laughs]

VB: I don't.

CA: Okay. And then have you been involved in volunteer or community work?

VB: Yes.

CA: What groups do you work with?

VB: Well, when I was in high school Notre Dame has this program called Love and Action your junior and senior year you're required to do volunteer work. So I worked with Girls Inc. a couple of times and did some after school programs for them and then in college I would volunteer at soup kitchens and then when I was in New York I would do that too. Now I am very involved with my kid's school. I actually just gave my daughters school's library a complete makeover we redesigned it.

CA: Oh that's cool!

KM: Oh wow!

VB: It was like beige and boring for like twenty years and I said to the principal, "Can I redo it?" and she said "Do what you want." So we repainted it and made it more fun for the kids we got bean bag chairs. So now it's probably more involvement in my kids' school and stuff like that.

CA: What role has religion played in your life?

VB: It doesn't play a role much anymore. I was raised Catholic and I went to Catholic school for elementary school and Notre Dame is obviously a catholic school and I went to a Catholic college, actually both my colleges were Catholic my graduate school wasn't. But it doesn't play a role much anymore. I mean both my children were baptized, but I've kind of moved away from that. I didn't grow up in a home where it was—we would go to church on Sunday if we didn't have plans you know. My mother wasn't like, "Get up were going to church." We went to church, but I haven't pushed that on my children in Sunday school. I don't—this is just my opinion—I don't feel that you need a building to have faith that you have to go every week. I teach my children good values and treat people kind and treat people with respect which I personally think is just be how humans act I don't think you necessarily need religion to teach you that. I think that's just learned from family and society and just being a good person in general. So I'm not really big on organized religion, but I believe obviously in the core values that hopefully all humans, most humans believe in I should say. [laughs]

CA: Yeah. [Laughs] Alright so then now some health. How have health issues impacted your life or those of your family?

VB: Health issues have impacted my life pretty greatly. Both of my children suffer from food allergies. My daughter's allergic to peanuts and nuts and my sons allergic to egg.

KM: Aw.

VB: So were constantly reading labels, we can't really go to restaurants or anything like that. [Laughs] My son has some learning issues, which we have worked with. My mother is a diabetic so that something we've worked with. My husband actually just had surgery on his hand the other day, he's home with a big cast on his hand. [Laughs] So basically I have three children this week. [Laughs] But personally health issues not too much I'm a fairly healthy person I've never had too much happen

CA: Yeah.

KM: Yeah.

VB: Yeah.

CA: What are your experiences in assessing quality affordable health care?

VB: My experiences, well I've been very lucky because I've been usually employed I've always had insurance. So I wish more people did have access to better health care. I've seen how hard it can be for people when they don't have access to health care. And I'm someone who is very lucky, who had two children in a well-known hospital in

Massachusetts with clean conditions where they took care of me, and I wish everyone did have access to that. I don't know how to solve that problem, but I think it is a problem that has to be solved.

KM: Yeah definitely.

VB: Yeah.

CA: And whose health are you responsible for besides your own?

VB: My children, my husband, he's an adult but I'm still responsible for making sure he's healthy, and I also I worry about my parents and family in general even my in-laws. Everyone. Yeah, yeah.

KM: Yeah.

CA: Yeah definitely. So how do you get through tough times and what kind of thoughts keep you going?

VB: What kind of thoughts keep me going, just being able to provide for my children is the biggest thing. As much as I'm sure many people would be like, "I don't want to work anymore," or "I just want to quit my job," or "I would love to be a stay at home mom." I know it wasn't good, it wasn't good financially for my family, but also I think it's good for my daughter especially to have a role model of a mother who does work because I think it's important. I grew up with a mom who worked and I think having that role model is good, so I always so instill that.

CA: Definitely. How do you define success in your life and has this definition changed over time?

VB: It has changed over time. Success used to be, probably when I was younger, being acknowledged for what I did and now it's not really about that anymore. It's just if I'm happy with it, that's all that matters. I don't need other people's approval, if I'm satisfied with the end results, then that's it. Probably when I was younger I needed praise and needed to hear from people, but now I'm like, "Well I'm happy with it so that's all that really matters."

CA: Based on your life experience what advice would you give to the women of today and future generations?

VB: I would say don't try to do everything. Do what you know you can do well and do it to the best of your ability. You don't need to be the woman who has a job, and raises children, and plays sports on the weekends, and cooks gourmet meals, can fix her own

car, and you know fixes the toilet when its clogged [laughs] and do all these things. You don't need to have to do everything. If you can do one thing well and find out how you can use that skill to help others, to help your family, to help people who don't have access to that, then I think you're successful. It's all about how you feel about it and how you can use that skill to help others feel just as proud as you are. That's how I raise my kids and think of success.

CA: Now that we are working to tell a fuller story of the history of women that has been recorded in the past what should we be sure to include?

VB: Read it, read it one more time.

CA: Uhm now that we are working to tell a fuller story of the history of women that has been recorded in the past what should we be sure to include?

VB: About women?

CA: Yeah, women in the work world and their experiences I guess.

VB: Again I think it really is just do what you do and do it well. You can't—I know there are people who are very ambitious and want to do everything, and have it all, and be the next Martha Stewart [laughs], which I think is great, but I think if you do one thing well and do it to the best of your ability you're guaranteed to succeed.

CA: Uhm okay, there are just like a few other questions. What was considered fashionable when you were a young woman?

VB: Oh my gosh, young like high school or college?

CA: Uhm high school, yeah we'll do high school. [laughs]

VB: [Laughs] High school was very big hair I recall that. Lots of jewelry, big baggy sweaters I remember that and acid washed jeans. [laughs] All the things that are like coming back into style seem to be what I wore when I was young.

CA: And what were your most significant extra-curricular involvements?

VB: Oh most significant extra-curricular involvement, I'd say the internships I did while I was in college. Working for Letterman was important, my job at the Metropolitan Museum of Art really geared me towards museums, and now it's the things I do for my children's school and helping them out. Not that that's extra-curricular but that's what I would say.

CA: What did your parent's education consist of?

VB: My father went to college my mother did not. But still you know pushed education on us.

CA: And then when you were not at home where did you usually spend your time when you were in high school?

VB: When I was not at home I was at school or a friend's house. That was really it. Or when I had a job I was at work.

CA: Did you go anywhere specific in Worcester in high school?

VB: No not really. Hopkinton seemed so far away when I was in high school and I didn't have many friends from high school that lived there. So if we did go around in Worcester we would go to like Bagel Time on Park Ave, I love Bagel Time I still go there every morning.

CA: Oh I love it there!

VB: We had this thing when I was in high school called free period, so it was like basically your lunch hour. And when you were a junior and senior you could leave campus, it was super exciting, so we would go to like thrift stores and go shopping like Greendale Mall when it had good stores in it. Now there's nothing it used to be packed. [laughs] Stuff like that.

CA: Oh that's fun! Alright I think that's all do you have any other questions you would like to ask?

KM: Uhm no that all I can think of.

VB: Good.

KM: Alright thank you for talking with us.

VB: No problem! So this will be online?

KM: Yes.

CA: Yes.

VB: Did it record? I hope it did! [laughs]

Worcester Women's Oral History Project
30 Elm Street – Worcester, MA 01609 – 508-767-1852 – info@wwhp.org
www.wwhp.org