

Kathy Kosse, by Julie M. Luker

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Minnesota

CS: Cole Steinberg
KK: Kathleen Kosse

CS: This is an interview conducted as part of a larger faculty and student research project initiated by Dr. Julie Luker of Concordia University St. Paul. Today is August 8th, 2023. I'm here with Kathy Kosse. My name is Cole Steinberg and I'm an undergraduate student at Concordia University St. Paul.

Today I'll be talking to Kathy about what life was like growing up in the Twin Cities. During this interview, I'm going to ask you to reflect on your childhood life experiences as they relate to a variety of social topics from that time period. For the purposes of this interview, we have defined childhood as birth through 17 years of age. To begin, please state and spell your full name, including your maiden name if applicable.

KK: My full name is Kathleen, K-A-T-H-L-E-E-N, maiden name, Stocker, S-T-O-C-K-E-R. Last name Kosse, K-O-S-S-E.

CS: Please identify your race and gender.

KK: I'm Caucasian. Female.

CS: Please state your date of birth.

KK: January 27th, 1952.

CS: Finally, please share where you grew up, such as the name of the neighborhood or a nearby street intersection. Include any major moves you made during this time period.

KK: Dale and Selby was the majority of my growing up, first grade through graduation. Previous to that I lived near Rice in Arlington and before that, Rice and Thomas for a shorter period of time.

CS: Okay, thank you. I would like to learn more about your family life. Let's begin with the memories you have for immediate and extended family. Please share some memories that you have about these relationships.

KK: Okay. It was my father and my mother, an older sister, an older brother, and then a big gap between myself and two younger sisters. My father was a construction worker. He started out as a welder in welding shops, and then he branched off to construction trades welding and was a pile driver. That was a union-driven job. My father became very active in the union. We were made sure to understand that not to cross picket lines or anything like that because it was in the early days of unions. We were reminded quite often that it was that union work that put the bread and butter on our table.

My mother was a stay-at-home wife. The typical wife and mother. Monday was laundry, Tuesday was ironing, *et cetera*. You could pretty much guess what day of the week it was, just by what we were having for supper. Everything was very routine. Sometimes I think that—my mom was very private. She didn't do coffee with the neighbors, things like that.

She did talk across the fence to a couple of neighbors, but otherwise she just was always busy taking care of the house, taking care of the kids. We were pretty much free to run. We had to tell her where we were going. We had to say when we would be home, and we were at the strictest of orders not to get in trouble because if she ever got a call from the police, we were on our own [*laughter*]. It was an exciting time to be a kid.

CS: Which family members did you engage with the most growing up?

KK: Oh, boy. Probably my brother. We were all very close. The three of us, the oldest, were close in age. My sister was only two and a half years older than me, and we had a brother in between. He was 13 months younger than her, and he was 17 months older than me. My mom had three little ones under two and a half years old. Then when I was in my teen years I had a baby—well, I had to babysit my two younger sisters when they came along.

I had to take them every place with me. I was stuck with them [*laughter*]. We did end up with good relationships, but my brother, I'm gonna guess the most. I was more of a tomboy. I liked climbing trees. I liked playing hide and seek. I liked all that stuff.

CS: Did you have any family pets?

KK: Yes. We had a dog when I was really young. Then we had another dog when I was probably about four, and we had her until she was almost 16 years old. She was a super good pet. We had a second dog that was—came into the house as a stray. My parents put an ad in the paper looking for the owner. It was Christmas time and my youngest sister convinced them that the dog needed a home and he became a member of the family.

No cats. My dad said cats belonged in the barn. [*Laughter*]. My mother was a cat lover, but my dad, he ruled what we did.

CS: Can you share a memory to help describe what mealtime was like in your family?

KK: Oh, it's a pretty much a busy time. I had to help. I didn't have a choice. It seemed like my older sister was gone a lot. She didn't participate in the kitchen that much. My brother being the only boy, he really didn't have a whole lot of chores to do. I helped with all the preparation. It was a busy time. It was a time when my mother was very insistent on good manners. I mean, "No elbows on the table. Chew with your mouth closed."

My mom was very much about manners. That you had to learn to not—and you couldn't say—if you didn't like peas, you couldn't say "ish" when they came by. You were supposed to just be quiet and pass them on. There was no forcing or, "You have to try it". My mother and dad didn't do that.

We used to joke, we always had two vegetables, and one was because we said my mother was corn, peas, carrots, beans, and my dad was spinach, cauliflower, broccoli, brussel sprouts. We always had two vegetables and that was always a subject of conversation when people would come and eat. "Why do you guys have two vegetables?" My husband asked me that when we got married because I still served two vegetables.

My mother was the type that even if somebody didn't like something, she still made it and she would always make an alternate thing. A lot of conversation. Asking about school, during the school year was a lot about the school year. Then we did get it drilled into us who we weren't supposed to hang around with, things like that.

That all happened around the supper table and we always ate together. When there were seven of us, we had a very small kitchen and we ate in the kitchen. We just took it for granted. Then dishes, my sister always got to wash because she was the oldest, and I had to clear the table, put away the leftovers, rinse the dishes, dry the dishes, and put them away. I always felt like I was being put upon [*laughter*]. I felt like Cinderella sometimes, I guess, at mealtime.

CS: Thank you. Next, please describe the ways in which your family's economic status influenced your childhood.

KK: Well, we didn't do a lot of vacations. We didn't dine out. We didn't shop. We shopped a fair amount at Goodwill at times. That was all because my dad was in construction wintertime. I mean, they had to hang on to money. Summertime was much more free and easy 'cause he had all the work he could have, and he made good wages. Wintertime became slim pickings at times. We did a lot of fishing around local lakes.

We would go to Lake Gervais, Bald Eagle. As far as family vacations, we'd go out of town. My grandparents lived on a farm in northern Minnesota, and so did my aunt and uncle. We would go for weekends and spend time with cousins and grandparents. We didn't do anything spectacular. We did have a couple of years where they rented a cabin at a lake in northern Minnesota.

Then that was, for a whole week, it was all those relatives that lived on farms who came and spent a lot of time with us at the lake. It was our way of paying them back, I think, for their

hospitality at their homes. Then all of a sudden it was on us. It was a good childhood. My dad was super. My dad loved it to, he loved to fish and he loved to have us—He'd come home on a hot summer night and ask my mother, "Can that supper be portable?" If it could, then he'd say, "Let's go."

We would go up to Lake Gervais, have our supper as a picnic and fish right from the shore. It was just on a weeknight.

CS: In what way has your family's financial circumstances shaped your spending habits today?

KK: I've always known you have to put away just in case that you can't—just because you have a dollar doesn't mean you can go spend that dollar. You need to take a certain amount of it and set it aside. The other thing is the one thing in regard to money was, and whether you have money or not, if somebody needs help, you do what you can whether—do what you can that doesn't cost anything because money was a struggle at times, I think.

Then especially feeding five kids. My mother went to work when I turned—I was 16 when she went to work, and that really eased up. There was much more freedom spending at that once there was a second income coming in.

CS: Okay. Great. Now, I would like to know about your experiences with religion such as Catholicism, Lutheranism, *et cetera*. Describe what you can recall about your family's religious practices when you were growing up.

KK: I was raised Lutheran. My mother was Lutheran. Church every single Sunday. The church we went to wasn't the local closest one to our home. We went to one that was down in the University Dale area. My father did not go except for some holidays and baptisms, weddings, stuff like that. He would go to church, but he wasn't exposed that much as a child. My mother insisted we go, and we always had to go to eight o'clock service.

We couldn't go to 10:30 because my mom thought the minister talked too much at 10:30, and we never got home early enough [*Laughter*]. My grandparents were very religious when my aunt and uncle would come from the farm. My uncle enjoyed our minister's sermon so much that they would never leave to go back home until after he had gone to church at our church.

I think as far as in our household, the commandments and religion stuff didn't weigh in as much as just the golden rule. I think that hit our home much harder, influenced us much more than our actual religion did.

CS: How important or relevant is religion to you now as an adult?

KK: Well, when I married my husband, he was Catholic, so I switched over to being—to the Catholic religion. I had a little bit of trouble. No, a *lot* of lot of trouble, when there was so much going on with the church impacting children. I stepped away. I still have religious beliefs and everything. I just don't—I'm not interested in following the Catholic church. It is my own personal opinion on it. I still am a Christian. I don't identify myself as Catholic like I used to.

CS: Okay. Now I'd like to learn more about the neighborhood in which you grew up. If you move during childhood, you may wish to reflect on more than one neighborhood. This is fine to do, but please indicate as you do it. Please describe what comes to mind when thinking about the neighborhood in which you grew up.

KK: Well, the one I actually grew up in that I identify with would be the Dale Selby area, with the exception that the other two places we lived, even though for fairly short times all the neighborhoods I've lived in have had a lot of kids and a lot of friendly parents. We still have friends from all those neighborhoods.

Even as an adult, I still have a lot of the friends that I did in my childhood from all three locations. The Dale and Selby area, to me, was just about as ideal as it could be. We just got to go. We got to run. We got to have a good time. It was a busy intersection. There were so many kids that when I reached a certain point, there was just a lot of money to be made as a babysitter.

All the parents, you didn't do anything wrong, because if—I didn't have to just worry about my mom seeing anything, I had to worry about my friend Mary's mom, because if I did something wrong and Mary's mom saw it, she'd be sure to tell my mom. I did get in trouble a few times being where I wasn't supposed to be.

The thing I think when I've been thinking about that question it wasn't like all the six-year-olds hung around together and all the eight-year-olds and all the 14-year-olds, we all played together. We played hide and seek at night. It might be the kid across the street that was 14 and somebody else that was 8 we just all—everybody looked out for each other.

There wasn't bullying. There wasn't any teasing. I got hit by a car when I was eight. I was playing across the street with the neighbor, and it started to rain. I heard my mother calling for me, and I said, "I've got to go." My friend's mother said, "No, no, no, you can't go. It's raining too hard." I said, "No, I gotta go. My mom's calling me." I took off out that door and I hit the street, and I got hit by a car.

I was thrown about 40 feet. I ended up with a fractured skull and some broken bones. The girl across the street was on—they had a second-floor porch. I still remember her calling and saying, "Mom, mom, call the police. Kathy Stocker is dead." [*Laughter*]. The police came. I kept trying to get up and I would keep in and out of consciousness, but the whole thing was, is that there were so many umbrellas above me.

It was still raining, and the whole neighborhood came out with umbrellas to put over me and my mother and the man who had hit me. It was that kind of a neighborhood. Everybody stepped up no matter what. It was a great place to grow up.

CS: How well did the residents in your neighborhood know each other? What were some of those relationships like?

KK: I think they knew each other pretty well. I think the bonding with my friend Mary was that her dad had been in the Navy in World War II. My dad was in the Navy in World War II. When Mary's family moved in, of course the whole neighborhood went to see who's moving in. We saw some Navy stuff and found out right away.

We ran home and told our dad that the new family was in the Navy too. I mean, that immediately was a bonding thing. The one thing that I was thinking about that is so different than it is today it was about 10 years—my earliest memory is about 10 years after World War II and how much you talked—people's nationalities were a big part of identification. If I go down the block, there were two buildings that were like six plexes.

To this day, I have no idea what the ladies' names were. It was two sisters. They each owned a building and there was a spare lot between with apple trees and all I ever knew them as was the Italian ladies. I'd go to the store for my mom or something, and I'd come back and I'd say, "Mom, can I go and pick up apples at the Italian ladies? They said if I pick them all up off the ground, they'll give me 10 cents."

That's how you knew everybody. Then you knew the dad's occupations say, because the other guy that was Navy, he was also a welder [*laughter*]. It was funny how you knew—Mr. Anderson was an insurance man. I mean, the other guy sold candy. He was a candy distributor. You knew people's occupations and their nationalities.

It was definitely a melting pot of people. We had a Jewish couple, Simon and Pearl. They had no children, and they had a porch, and she had boxes with clothes and jewelry and shoes. She'd have us come and we could just play on the porch while she sat and watched. We would dress up in her hats and her clothes and I mean, just play like we were movie stars. We just thought that was wonderful. Simon, her husband, was lovely.

It was just super—you learned how to get along with everybody because everybody was represented in our neighborhood.

CS: Okay. Next, I would like to learn about the values shared by your family and your neighbors. Values or principles or standards that help guide behavior. What memories come to mind that demonstrate what these values were for your family and your neighbors?

KK: [*Unintelligible 20:20*]. I guess the main thing was that the values were that you do treat people the way you wanted to be treated. You helped when people needed help. If you saw someone carrying a bag of groceries and like one of our elderly neighbors, you were supposed to just go and help and you weren't supposed to expect anything in return.

They all looked out for each other. The parents did too. If somebody had a baby in the neighborhood everybody—they didn't just take a casserole over, they took the entire meal over and put it in the oven for them and held the baby, and changed the diaper while the mom was relaxing. Offer to do other people's laundry. Do you need the ironing done? I guess the values we learned was that you always step up and everybody stepped up. I hope that answers it.

CS: Yeah. In what way were your values similar to or different from others who lived in your neighborhood at that time?

KK: I don't think they were. I think everybody was pretty much the same. We heard there was a single mom at the end of our block. I have no idea what her circumstances were, but there was an elderly lady who had a bakery on the corner and an elderly lady lived in an apartment above there, and everybody went home for lunch. You didn't eat lunch at school in elementary school. That mom had to work because she was a single mom.

Mrs. [Newhouse?], the elderly widow that lived above the bakery, just automatically offered that Susan should come to her house every day for lunch and then every day after school. To this day, I don't know if she got paid for it, but I don't think she did. I think she was just a kind person who was lonely herself. It was like she gained a daughter and a granddaughter by doing that.

CS: Now I'm going to ask you all about leisure time. Describe some of the ways in which you, your family and your neighbors engaged in leisure time when you were growing up.

KK: I thought a lot about this one, because our parents as neighbors, there wasn't a lot of leisure that they did together. There just wasn't. There was going out to swim at Lake McCarren's piling a car and everybody go out to McCarren's. Nobody barbecued that I remember. No barbecues. The guys, the fathers, a lot of time spent like on a Saturday with a beer in one hand, fixing the car. They would go back and forth amongst themselves, the men.

I would think part of that, that was really early in my childhood because I think they had to work all day Saturday on the car to get it to run all week to go to a job. My mom really didn't—I know my friend Mary's mom, they did a lot of board games and playing cards and things like that. In our house, my dad played cards with us, and my mom just always seemed to be doing something other than—she just wasn't a leisure.

Then the neighbors, I'm trying to think they really—nobody picnicked that I know of. As far as kids, we played out a lot. I remember if a family decided they're in—this is funny, they decided they were gonna clean their garage out. The whole neighborhood would go to help clean out the garage [*laughter*], just because you wanted to see what everybody had in their garage [*Laughter*].

We had a good time without—I don't think we really designated. It's just somebody was doing something and all of a sudden everybody was there.

CS: Mm-hmm. Describe some of the activities engaged in when you were with your friends.

KK: Well, that we played a lot of ball in the summertime. In the wintertime, we went ice skating. We played broom ball. We played Rover, Rover, Send Somebody Right Over. Got a little older and we did Spin the Bottle, Kiss or Kill. A lot of Hide and Seek. That could turn into a quite a thing, especially if you're doing it after supper time, because we would use the entire block.

It wouldn't just use, like, somebody's yard. It'd be the entire block. There was an apartment building. Sometimes we'd go hide in the hallway. I mean, it was quite an elaborate game. It wasn't hard to hide, but it was pretty tough to find everybody. Then we would do the thing where it was, we'd play Hide and Seek, but then once the person seeking would go past you, then you would try to work your way back to a light post so you could tag it and you were home free.

It was pretty elaborate and we did definitely live by the saying, "When the streetlights came on, you got home, you gotta go home."

CS: What television shows did you watch growing up?

KK: We didn't watch very much TV. Let's see. Saturday night, I think it was, my parents always had Lawrence Welk on the TV. Then my dad liked to watch wrestling on TV on Saturdays. Trying to think. Saturday morning, we could watch cartoons. Laurel and Hardy. What was that other one? Spanky in Our Gang.

Those were Saturday morning things we could do. We didn't watch TV on school nights at all. My parents would watch the news. I can remember watching the weather. That was pretty much it. Television really wasn't a big part of our, no, it wasn't, it really wasn't. Gun Smoke I think, that was one my dad liked. Then as we got older, we watched the Ponderosa Show. I can't remember what that was.

My dad pretty much picked if we watched television and he was home. He picked what was going to be on the TV. I think that was a pattern more than anything. My mother did watch soap operas occasionally. I remember that. She'd be doing laundry and then she'd run in and look at a soap opera. That wasn't much either in the summertime, I think she got to do that more when we were at school.

CS: Okay. Can you recall if your family ever took vacations and if so, to where?

KK: The only vacations that I really recall would be like to Lake Miltona up by Miltona, Minnesota. We did go, when I was older, my parents had bought a trailer house that they pulled behind the car, and we would go to lakes in Wisconsin. A lot of the times it was just weekends. We did take a couple of vacations to Montana, Yellowstone Park, but I don't—we never went to Florida or anything like that.

It was always either a lake vacation or the two vacations that we took out west. Otherwise, no vacations.

CS: Okay. Next, let's discuss your experience with schooling. Please describe what it was like going to school as a child.

KK: Elementary school was super, it was Webster. It was only like three blocks away. I had really good teachers, really kind teachers. There was a dress code. You didn't wear tennis shoes to school. Tennis shoes were for the gymnasium. The boys were—it was all shirts tucked in and

a belt. Girls, we wore skirts. You didn't wear pants. You didn't wear pants underneath your dress or your skirt to get to school, but you couldn't leave them on.

That went right through high school. I graduated from a high school that you couldn't wear pants. Girls couldn't wear pants. You still had to wear dresses or skirts. Junior high I really loved junior high. I had some of the best—some of just super, super teachers. Really enjoyed my classmates. It was fun because we got to—you just got to get a sample of what it was gonna be like to be a grownup, I think.

I wanted desperately to be in the choir, but you could hear my voice. I couldn't sing. I still remember the junior high music teacher, Mr. [Zachary?] had me try out twice hoping he could—because I wanted so desperately to be in choir. He just looked at me and said, "I'm sorry, but you just can't carry a tune in a bucket." He said, "Just forget it."

Then he handed me a camera and he said, "But you can come with a choir and you could document our stuff." I did. I got to go with them when they had a choir performance, like in a local church or something, I got to go along with the camera. I had very kind teachers and really got to feel included in a lot of things. High school was a little tougher. We were going through civil rights. There was a lot of agitation. There was a lot of anger.

I went to St. Paul Central. We had lockdowns. It was very volatile. There was a riot that happened before I got to the high school. We couldn't have night games 'cause so many cars got destroyed one night at a football game. There was a lot of anger. It was tough—high school was tough. I still enjoyed it. I loved a lot of the subjects I had.

I enjoyed a lot of the teachers and stuff, but it was so volatile at times that all I wanted to do was hurry up and graduate and get outta there. I really did. It was a sad time because we had—I still remember thinking that if the adults would just shut up and leave people alone, everything would be okay. 'Cause we all had gotten along. Everybody got along beautifully. Elementary school and junior high we were doing just great.

Then all of a sudden everything was just in an uproar. Vietnam was going on when I was in high school. I had classmates that were quitting school to go in the military when they hit 17. It was really tough, that time period was a really rough, rough time. "Stay safe," is basically what we were always told.

"Stay outta people's way. If you see something's going on, walk around as far as you can. Don't get involved." Yet, I was one of the people that went down and marched on the state capitol for women's rights [*laughter*] back then. High school, that was a tougher period, 15 through 18 were really tough years just with what was going on.

CS: Okay. That brings us to our final topic. I'm going to ask you to reflect on local and global issues such as war, poverty, discrimination, social unrest, *et cetera*. In your opinion, what were some of the biggest local or global issues affecting the people in your neighborhood when you were growing up?

KK: Well, I know the war was huge because of all the boys at that age. I remember as they were leaving to go into the military and how many families were really concerned, and I mean, desperate. Some of the mothers were just beside themselves, so afraid that their sons wouldn't come home. Poverty, even though our neighborhood had become rather distressed by them, we didn't see a lot of poverty.

There were just a couple families that really could use some help I think. It was mostly in our neighborhood, our immediate area. People were selling their homes and moving out because they basically, they were saying that the neighborhood was going to heck, and a lot of people were moving out and renting their homes. Everything was pretty volatile in the 60s.

It was probably a really good time to go by the thing, not to get into big conversations about politics or religion because you couldn't put your hand out without touching somebody that did not agree with you and was more than happy to let you know that they didn't agree with you [*laughter*]. I would say the war was the biggest issue. One of the biggest—the war and the racial difficulties were probably more so than poverty.

We didn't see homelessness. I don't recall ever seeing homelessness. You'd see a hobo or something once in a while that had popped off a train or whatever. It was really a tough time because at my age, you would be watching the news and they would be giving a body count for Vietnam. They always would say like, hill 54X number of casualties.

Then I can remember how conflicted I felt because it always seemed like they would report that the Americans lost 30 guys but of the Vietcong, they wiped out 100. I always felt like it was like a game almost. That's how I felt. The politics of the time were making it. We were meant to feel we were winning even though 30 men died, that we were winning because we killed 100. That really shaped a lot of my thinking.

Then as far as the civil rights, I was so desperate to just want that not to be because so many friendships were lost. I remember thinking that I couldn't imagine people hating each other because of skin color, things like that. I also realized too with, with their religion barrier back then too people that one was Catholic and one was Lutheran and they were dating and the parents wouldn't let them continue to date because they were of different religions.

I had a cousin that got engaged to a guy that was Catholic. She was Lutheran, and her mother was devastated [*Laughter*]. It was that kind of a time. It was what you'd look at now, and think it was such a silly thing to be upset about. Yet it was a big deal then. I guess it was a tough, tough time. I think the realization that the adults were doing a crappy job of things too.

There was so much—It was very similar to what it is now with the atmosphere now that family members are against family members because of their opinions and that's all they are is opinions. Back then it was too. I guess it did help for critical thinking is probably the best that came out of that. As disappointing as it felt, you learn to think for yourself and to be able to separate and realize that that doesn't make any sense when somebody, you know what I mean?

The police were looked at in a rough way like they are today again, too. I remember police officer James Sackett was killed. It was the year I graduated high school and he was killed on the doorstep of one of my classmates. The phone call that was made to the police station that brought him to that home was made by another one of my classmates. He was murdered by two other of my classmates.

It was a tough, tough, tough thing to realize that somebody you had been in gym class with and played volleyball with and stuff, is making a phone call to have a policeman murdered. I mean, there were some rough lessons at a young age. I think that what I learned from that too with my kids, I told my kids, "Just be a kid. Because once you become an adult, it's gonna be—that's it. You don't get to go back." Just have fun being a kid, because we had to grow up pretty fast.

I did once I hit my sophomore year of high school. There were things that no kid should have to even give a thought to. We did. I'm guessing other generations with war, it's been the same. There was a lot to be learned, I think. I think a lot of people had blinders on before that, that it's like when the Twin Towers fell down.

I was shocked at how many countries didn't like us. *[Laughter]*. I've traveled all over, I've traveled in several different areas of the world and I treated them very well. They treated me very well. I had no idea as a country, we were so disliked by some places. I mean, that realization. For that, the plus of that time period when I was growing up it served me well as an adult.

We learned that it was on each of us to make it what it needs to be rather than don't join in just because. Be a self-thinker. My dad was real strong on that with us. More than once we heard, if so-and-so was gonna jump off a bridge, would you jump off too? I mean, it was basically that simple and yet that serious of a commentary from my dad.

Growing up, there were a lot of issues, but I would say poverty was on the bottom level of it. Homelessness was the least. It was the war, and civil rights were the two huge issues at the time.

CS: Okay. How safe or unsafe did you feel in light of these issues?

KK: I felt unsafe for my sophomore through my senior year. I think that the adults didn't know. I felt just like your parents, you always look at them to be your protector. I just felt like the adults that were the head of the school and everything, they were having a worse time than we were even. They didn't know how to deal with, because we had volatile things happen in our classrooms, it wasn't out on the street, it was within a classroom.

We'd have teachers that just didn't deal with it. You were basically just sitting in a class. They weren't even instructing because they were so busy just trying to keep a full out something happening within the classroom. I mean, even if somebody looked at another person, they'd be like, "What are you looking at?" The next thing it was a big issue happening in the classroom. There was a lot of fear and I was given permission by my dad.

If you ever are that fearful, you just get out of there and come home. Or if you hear that something's gonna happen, you make sure somebody knows that can do something and gets a

head up and then you stay home. 'Cause we had some rough goes at school. Yet there were some times that were just absolutely fantastic. For the most part, it was fear I think for high school, the high school years.

Before that, it was absolutely wonderful. I didn't have fears. You couldn't go anyplace—my dad know—a lot of people knew him 'cause there was a lot of—in our neighborhood, you couldn't go anywhere where somebody didn't know you were John's daughter *[laughter]*. You not only had to stay in line, but you also knew somebody was there in case you needed them too. 'Cause the neighborhood had us pretty well covered.

If somebody didn't get home on time, you could pretty much go down the line and somebody could say, "Well, I saw her, she was here, here and here, and she's probably there." It would've been nice if it hadn't been that way, but that's the way it was. I wouldn't want anybody else to have to go through that time period in that way, and I know some people do yet today.

That's the heartbreak of it *[laughter]*, 50 some years later, I'm disappointed *[laughter]* that some of those things haven't changed.

CS: Right. Well, is there anything else you would like to touch up on, or maybe something you forgot before we end the interview?

KK: No. I think that's pretty much it.

CS: Okay.

KK: I guess it was a horribly wonderful time to grow up in and our neighborhood was—I take offense when somebody talks bad about my old neighborhood. No matter where I would've landed in life living, I've always felt like I was not just from St. Paul, but from Dale Selby. Because, "Oh, that was a rough neighborhood." I said, "Yeah, well, it wasn't always. It was a good place to grow up." It really was. It was a good place.

CS: Okay. This is the end of our interview. Your responses are invaluable and we really appreciate that you took the time to do this today. Thank you so much for participating.

[End of Audio]