

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Nelvia M. Brady

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Brady, Nelvia M.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady,
Dates:	August 26, 2003
Bulk Dates:	2003
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:07:49).
Abstract:	Academic administrator and education administrator Nelvia M. Brady (1948 -) She is the former senior vice president of Carrington & Carrington executive recruiters, and now teaches at Trinity Christian College. Brady-Hampton was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 26, 2003, in Palos Heights, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2003_205
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Born in Fairfield, Alabama, on February 11, 1948, Nelvia Brady spent most of her life in Chicago, Illinois. Upon graduating from high school in Chicago, Brady went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she earned her B.A. degree in sociology in 1970. In 1973, Brady graduated from the University of Wisconsin with her M.S. degree in guidance and counseling, and in 1980 she earned her Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University.

After earning her master's degree, Brady went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she spent the next five years working as the lead counselor for two local high schools and an elementary school. While working on her Ph.D. degree, Brady also worked as a research associate at Michigan State. After completing her doctorate, Brady took a job with the Educational Testing Service, working on the Chicago Public Schools for Student Desegregation Project. In 1981, Brady went to work directly for the Chicago Public Schools, first as an assistant to the associate superintendent, eventually rising to hold that position herself. In 1985, Brady went to work at the Chicago Community Trust, where she launched a \$5 million education initiative, and served as the executive director of the Coleman Fund for Children and Youth. In 1988, Brady became chancellor of the City Colleges of Chicago, where she was the first African American and only female to have held the post at the time.

Brady became involved in consulting in 1992, while maintaining visiting professorships at Chicago State and the Art Institute of Chicago. In 1994, Brady became senior vice president of Carrington & Carrington, an executive recruiting firm that specialized in helping Fortune 500 companies in the recruitment and placement of African Americans, Hispanics, women, and other diverse individuals, in executive positions. In 2002, Brady returned to academia part time, and left consulting behind completely in 2003, taking a post at Trinity Christian College as a professor in the business department and as director of ethnic diversity.

Brady was named by *Executive Educator* as one of the Top 100 School Managers in North America; she received the Alumni Achievement Award from the University of Wisconsin's School of Education, and was named by

Today's Chicago Woman as one of 100 Women Making a Difference. Brady also authored two books, *This Mother's Daughter* and *300+ Pearls of Wisdom*. Brady served on a number of boards of directors, including the Chicago State University Foundation and the Pullman Educational Foundation.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Nelvia M. Brady was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 26, 2003, in Palos Heights, Illinois, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Academic administrator and education administrator Nelvia M. Brady (1948 -) She is the former senior vice president of Carrington & Carrington executive recruiters, and now teaches at Trinity Christian College.

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®.

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.

Controlled Access Terms

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

Persons:

Brady, Nelvia M.

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Brady, Nelvia M.--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Academic Administrator

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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 Nelvia M. Brady, August 26, 2003. 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).

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.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady, Section A2003_205_001_001, TRT: 0:28:17 ?
Nelvia Brady discusses her family's background, especially her parents's personalities and how they met in a seemingly arranged marriage. Brady gets quite in depth about her father's Naval experience and heroism. A major

childhood memory of Brady's was her experiences growing up in a couple of different public housing projects. She explains how these experiences and environments shaped her childhood and made her realize who she really was. When asked how living so close to the Chicago Stadium affected her childhood, she shrugs it off and describes what did affect her: school, reading and church programs.

Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady, Section A2003_205_001_002, TRT: 0:30:32 ?

Nelvia Brady expounds upon how she loved school at a young age even though she was moved around to multiple schools and, at times, faced violent situations. Her love of learning was nurtured along the way by favorite teachers and mentors that she talks about from the elementary level through higher education. After listing her many awards acquired in high school, Brady confidently reveals that she wanted to teach as a career. Her decision on a college to attend, however, isn't such an easy choice. Brady's educational career takes her around the country and down many roads that teach her life lessons and allow her to meet many people she considers important in her life.

Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady, Section A2003_205_001_003, TRT: 0:29:47 ?

Nelvia Brady explains her roles with the Chicago Public School District. She goes into great detail on the desegregation plan of the early 1980s by describing what the plan consisted of and set out to do and why it did not reach the end result she had hoped for. Then, for various reasons, Brady leaves her position for a new job with City Colleges of Chicago as she is taken under the wing of Mayor Harold Washington. Having a position with such authority gratified Brady. Although the job was intense and highly stressful, Brady made huge strides in making the City Colleges of Chicago a reputable institution. Then again, Brady switches career roles and moves into an independent consulting career, a welcomed change in environment.

Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady, Section A2003_205_001_004, TRT: 0:30:43 ?

Nelvia Brady's career leads her to a privately-owned consulting company called Carrington & Carrington, Ltd. She enjoys her time (and the money) there but describes how she eventually gets burned out from the hectic schedule. As a change of pace, Brady then decides to go back to her true passion: teaching. Her book 'This Mother's Daughter' is spoken of in great detail. Brady explains her spiritual journey while compiling stories for the book and her need to take time off from her regular life in order to experience writing. She mentions that her future plans could involve more writing, although probably on a more academic subject. As Brady gazes into the future, she admits that she is unsure where the next generation of African Americans is coming from and makes other interesting observations. She finishes off the interview by giving herself well-deserved credit in all of her life accomplishments. Photos are then shown and narrated by Nelvia Brady. Photos range from childhood to her adult life. Photos also include Robert Green, Julian Bond and Louis Farrakhan

Video Oral History Interview with Nelvia M. Brady, Section A2003_205_001_005, TRT: 0:08:30 ?