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Behind the Apron Project: Ruth Smith Interview, 1997, Part 2

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WEBVTT

00:02:24.000 --> 00:02:30.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: I believe I can't.

00:02:30.000 --> 00:02:51.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What about, um-- What activities, then, did your family do? What was the kitchen used for besides eating? Was it a gathering place for folks to come to talk, or families to just get together and meet? What are some of the things you would do as a child in the kitchen?

00:02:51.000 --> 00:03:08.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Well, like every so often, I mean, we didn't have companies to come in. My dad would sit around and joke around with us and play around with us. That's basically it.

00:03:08.000 --> 00:03:14.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What were some of your favorite things that you would like to do, that you uh, activities that you did with your mother and father?

00:03:14.000 --> 00:03:17.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Uh, growing up with?

00:03:17.000 --> 00:03:19.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Some of the things that you would do.

00:03:19.000 --> 00:03:21.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Nothing.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Nothing?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Um-hmm.

00:03:21.000 --> 00:03:32.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: No? Okay, what to you, growing up, was one of your favorite dinners, maybe the meals you mom would prepare for the family?

00:03:32.000 --> 00:03:34.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Sunday, Sundays. [[laughter]]

00:03:34.000 --> 00:03:37.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: So on Sundays, what you have?

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<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Oh, we would have the, back then I'd call it the basic dinner. We would have like jerky min, you know, homegrown vegetables and stuff like that.

00:03:53.000 --> 00:04:02.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Who were some of your friends growing up in the neighborhood or school or--?

00:04:02.000 --> 00:04:14.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: We actually didn't have any because we basically stuck together. And I wasn't going to, like, on Sundays to our cousins' house to play. That was the life we had.

00:04:14.000 --> 00:04:26.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay, are there any family traditions that you carry out today that you mom did when you were growing up?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: No. [[chuckles]]

00:04:26.000 --> 00:04:39.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: No? Okay, do you have any treasured memories of your family, things that particularly stand out with you, and growing up with your mom and dad and sisters and brothers?

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<i>Ruth Smith</i>: No, not really. I can't recall any.

00:04:43.000 --> 00:04:49.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Any family activities?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: We didn't have any activities, no absolutely special.

00:04:49.000 --> 00:04:56.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What about bedtime rituals, where you told stories at that time or--?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: No.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Any family medical remedies that you would remember? I mean, if you got sick or colds, was there special remedies that your mom would, uh, do when growing up, or would she take you to the doctor?

00:05:13.000 --> 00:05:23.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: I'm going to tell you the truth. We actually didn't have no sickness.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Really?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: It was the strangest thing.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Wow.

00:05:23.000 --> 00:05:32.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Like if we got just a little cold, I don't know what she would fix. Mom would fix up something that we'd do next morning. That was it.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay. Tell me a little bit about your mother and father. What type of work did they do?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: They was farmers.

00:05:41.000 --> 00:05:47.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Farmers? Did they have their own farm, or did they farm for someone else?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Farmed for someone else.

00:05:47.000 --> 00:05:51.532

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Who did they farm for?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Oh, dear.



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