

Timed Summary

Interview with Tung Ngo

OH 951/6

Interviewer: Catherine Manning

Date: 21.12.2010

Note: Key words shown in bold.

START TIME	SUMMARY
Disc 1	
00.00	Tung Ngo arrived in Australia from Vietnam aged 9 years. He was born in Da Nang and lived in Saigon until after the war. The family escaped in a boat and lived in a refugee camp Palawan in the Philippines for 18 months. He came to Australia in July 1982 aged 11.
2.20	He describes himself as Australian with Vietnamese heritage; he is very community minded. Tung comes from a family of 12 children, and the members were separated by the Vietnam War. The rest of the family, including his parents, now lives in America. He came to Australia with his elder sister Phuong Ngo and her husband. He is the ninth of 12 children.
6.27	Tung talks about life after the war. It was unstable and young boys were often made to join the army and fight. His parents wanted a better life for their children and got them out of the country. He decided to stay in Australia with his two sisters.
10.20	Unlike his brothers and sisters he is very involved with community work and they are very proud of his involvement. He has become the family negotiator or go-between. He has grown more confident with age.
13.04	Tung explains that Vietnamese culture is still very important to him especially in the way he thinks and in relation to food. He feels that he is between two cultures. He has respect for older people and people in authority and is not aggressive towards them. He was brought up as a Catholic and still practises his faith and he also celebrates Vietnamese traditions like New Year and eats traditional foods.
18.38	He attends St Margaret Mary's Church at Croydon Park which is a very multi-cultural parish. He has learned to respect other people's cultures and heritages.
19.59	As an Australian, Tung explains he is very laid back and tries to contribute to community activities and to the environment. When he went to school he boarded with an Australian family and learned not to be so shy Asian. He was born in 1972.
23.56	Tung explains he is part of the young first generation of Vietnamese – the older first generation had to work very hard to make a living and to better themselves. The older generation faced many problems at work but his generation faced many problems at school, and as teenagers it was harder to learn and they experienced a language barrier. They had to study harder.
30.06	He is an elected member of the Port Adelaide Enfield Council and is involved with a lot of ethnic groups as he is able to relate to them. He is a follower of Port Power – he got involved with football through his school friends.
34.56	Tung talks about his social life. He says he does not go to pubs very much but they are convenient places to meet friends or he may go a café or meet in a local park. Most of his socialising is with friends from work.

START TIME

SUMMARY

37.15

He believes that there is a class system in every society, including Australia and this can be seen in the way the poor and the rich live different lives. Tung is **President** of the local **St Vincent de Paul Society** and has first hand experience of people who are only managing day to day. He considers himself to be a bit below middle class. He went to **Adelaide High School** where there were a lot of **Greek** students and a growing number of **Asian** students. Through fellow students he got involved in cricket and football. When asked to select an object that would represent him he said it would be a photo with a group of people from different backgrounds as this would represent who he is today.

Finish