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ee less and less of that. N: Do you know much about high school that JMU uses the building? M: Yes, I graduated from Harriso ou went to high school in ninth grade. While the city was growing, of course, we had to build a new school and they changed that ave high schools and things of this nature, it just seems strange. It's not the same I don't know what you're going to call it, but if	building and appearance, made some small changes and made it just a high schol go to high school, I don't feel like Harrisonburg High. I just hoped that the city we	ool. So, I wasn't thrilled with the thought of JMU taking over this building, but I would ouldn't rent it out to JMU and that they would find some use for it holding it as fifth gi	n't be excited about someone taking over this building. If we rade or sixth grade or whatever they were on a plan to do. I
now there were a few different options, but I was hoping JMU wouldn't get high school. N: What do you think can be done to impr nat's a long name. It's just an African-American festival we had; This will be our thirteenth year. We've had this festival here and the ve have all these people. We have Zeb Davenport from JMU, you know we have Melody Panel of EMU, and I was like, Wait a min	en JMU had Madison Days or other different activities on campus. This year the oute. It's a community event. After I got home and thought about it, it was like we'd	committee changed a little bit and when I went to the first meeting I was a bit shocke I moved to another level. We no longer plan all these individual events. Now we gath	ed because I think, for a moment, it's a community event, and ner on the same boards to plan events for the community.
larrisonburg began to be seen as a large community, except that we had EMU, then YUMU, then the people who lived in the city, ommittee, they are residents of this country. They work here, they plan to stay here, they have children who are in public schools, hurch here in Harrisonburg? M: Yes. N: Can you tell me a little bit about your religious environment? M: I was raised in a Baptist of that I was looking for: more than what I was looking for, the missions of work, more activities of the children, in which I can be more	I don't think the locals have embraced them as if they were permanent fixtures. Y hurch. I was in New Hope at the Baptist Church in McGeaysville forever. This wa	es, we know each other, but you're visitors, so step aside a little. But I can see we'r our family church. It was a small church and I uprooted the church a little bit, so I v	e moving beyond that. N: You mentioned that you went to vas looking for a new home, something that was better than
oved very much, charity and joyful ministries. We met at the Shakespeare Theatre in Court Square. We couldn't keep meeting in the hurch groups They're both laughing. So if I say let's do this, there are always ten reasons why this is not possible. But he was rece, have you always lived in that same area of Harrisonburg? M: I actually moved out. I live in the ne area of the city, which is trace.	nis building, so we're all going to be visiting now. I'm going back to New Hope a lit aised in the church and went every Sunday and attended, how they always say th	ttle bit until we find out where we can afford and use for the things we want. N: All rig at your parents drag you to every ridiculous meeting and this meeting, and this fund	ght, clear. Is your son also included in church groups? M: Not in raiser and this To. He was raised in the church. Okay, let's
efore we fell apart. When we moved here, we moved a street that is Kelly Street, which is the main street now. I've always lived in ought a house there eight years ago. So the NE section is definitely like the area where I feel most secure in my loneliness and I ou know the people who live there? M: I knew my neighbors, my neighbors knew me, we were watching over each other. What is	hink it's because I knew so many people who were there. It was a big problem for so strange is that many times Kelly Street has been portrayed in the media as a h	r me to be a single parent, if I buy a house, it has all these characteristics, but where high crime. A lot of people, when I tell them I live on Kelly Street, they say, Aren't yo	e I feel safest and feel safest in this area of the city. N: Because u afraid to live on Kelly Street? And I'm very funny, because
when I went to buy a house, which was the only area where I felt really safe. It's just a home for me. N: Do you know why the medine police and various things that are happening in this city, it is kind of an object where most of the things happen. Many times the treet, but the amount of coverage we get is unreal. My mother lives on two streets or three streets, and, you know, the same area from Kelly. N: You mentioned earlier that Johnson Street used to be the main street, and now it's Kelly Street, why the transition?	media does not talk to the residents who live there, who have been there for a lo, still considered a NE zone in the city and is alone, my father died years ago, and	ing time, and perhaps what they hear from different people that they are interviewing a she feels truly safe there as well as there. Johnson's? M: No, actually, it's on Wolf	is inaccurate. I'm not saying that nothing happens on the Street, which is a few streets away, about three or four streets
noved many African-Americans to another part of the city, while they changed and dissipated with lots of housing and got away with the city in the cit	th a lot of federal streets, a few streets, and they got away with a lot of the black on not that oldThey're both laughing. N: Was your mother here? M: My mother wa	community. What they did was bring them back to Kelly Street, which is now owned as here for this. And what's so good is that they tell all these stories. I want to know a	and operated by Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing a lot about what it used to be and tell stories about the areas of
t, but it's at the heart of this area like rose and klein? M: That's exactly what happened through what my aunt and mother did. As econdhand and we see a few pictures and different pictures of what it looks like. N: From what you've heard, what's the purpose their housing was adequate. They had nice houses, homes they owned, they were forced to sell, or the city just moved them. And	of the project, supposedly? M: I'm not sure what the purpose of the project is? I thi then they moved them to a rental property. Many people who owned homes in this	ink they were trying to put people in what they thought was suitable housing, but fro s area who had moved in rent, so they lost their property. I don't know what the poin	m what I hear from the people who lived there is that at the time t is. The goal was to make the neighborhood better, but I don't
now if anyone would agree with that, but I wasn't there at the time? N: Do you know who's behind the whole project? M: Not really the project and said what the purpose of the project is. The city actually divided blacks because the area of land they lived in pronen what was in the rest of the city. So, one of the things that Cheryl Talley, who is a professor at JMU, is working on trying to get nem forward, which may have been the original plan, somehow took us back. Since then, it's been hard to get people out. N: How	bably went to a fourth or a half of the size and when they did that they moved all this property valued at the same rate that it is valued in other areas of the city. So	the black people to the neighborhood here. And if I understand correctly the value of the whole project, I think, has made a terrible number on the subject of black peop	f the property in this neighborhood and the valuation is lower, e who have lived in this area, and I think instead of moving
ouse where Washington lived. They had several prevailing families that I heard my mother and siblings talk about. There was an ommunity you don't enter. You hang out there like you had a joint, or whatever they call it, and stuff like that. He said it was like an e years as big changes that you've seen? M: I remember when we were in high school, when we were first born in Valley Mall. S	Ephragen [?] Street which is a smaller school where Lucy F. Simms taught in before ordinary community. N: Were there many African-Americans in this area? M: I the some of the big things I remember are Valley Mall and all the land behind the m	ore moving to Lucy F. Simms. So I think it's smaller scale houses, but still they said in ink there was. To. I'd like to know more about it because I haven't even thought about I have just farmland. All this has been developed now. We had to lose more proper	t was nice. But they still say there's a certain part, just like any out it. N: So, besides, how has the city as a whole changed over ty by building the Accommodation Centre and all the student
ousing that are in different areas of the city. We have a lot more shopping squares going up and one of the bad things, in my oping that's changed a lot. We have the new school. Many, many student housing and many subdivisions have been built single-famity oolworth's counter, five and 1,000 stores. We had a lot of activities that centered in the center, which we don't have now. I know where is always a grocery store nearby that can walk around to get bread or milk. But now every place you have to go, you have to	ly. Downtown got a lot lost, you know, in the whole Harrisonburg shift, because ye ve have organizations in the center that are trying to revitally revitally revitally and	ears ago we went downtown to shop at Christmas and the streets were stocked. You I get people to do more in this area and rent a place in the area. But I think it's just lo	u're going to Jesse's lunch to eat something. We had ost because it's all healed. You can't go to places anymore.
larrisonburg. A lot has changed? N: What do you think this kind of stretching and commercialization has in this kind of community ave to know who your neighbors are and when people will move into the community, you've made an effort to know who those peon't want to know them. We don't try to be friendly. It's all so fast. Everyone is trying to develop more and get more. It's all about t	? Do you think that's? M: I think it has a terrible impact on the community. Peoplople are. You wanted to make them feel welcome. You wanted them to know that	le ask this question time and I'm always having um um mind well [Nicole laughs]. The tif they needed anything, if they had to get out of town, you could take care of them	at's bad. I think the close feeling of knit communities, that you. We don't have that anymore. People are jumping in and we
Innymore. It's like where I can go and take it for the cheapest is where I go. It doesn't matter that he's got business here anyway and here. I don't know he did the city number. N: How do you see the city changing in the future? What do you think it'il be when you hink we're going to see more traffic jams in the city, more empty buildings, more office space that can't be rented because they're	our son is your age? M: I think with the growth rate we'll start to see, unfortunately constantly building something new and better - in a better place. I think we're goin	y, more than overpasses, because it takes forever to get to the post office. I think we ng to have to expand to another high school. It's going to take away from the commu	're going to start seeing easier ways to get here and there. I nity, because when you're in high school here in Harrisonburg,
ou know everyone in town because you can go to different elementary schools, but at school we're all together. We have four or finen we'll have that rivalry within the city, which is good in sports competitions [Nicole] but you still won't know who your neighbors darrisonburg is very, very diverse, they have and please don't know if it's the right number, but they probably have almost twenty looks like me. If I'm new to the area and there's only a few people who look like you, it's not quite the same. You go to the school a	are; you won't know the city. These are some of the things I see coming in the ne anguages. They have all kinds of students that you can think of from any past, wh	ear future. You mentioned that when you moved here, you were just a few African-Alich is good because I know that for me and a lot of people don't like to say that, but	mericans in the class? What is Like now in high school? M: when I go to an area or school it's nice to see someone who
iverse. When I compare my students' views of the world and people with the views of my son who attend Harrisonburg High Scho ge that there are different people here and they speak all the different languages, but we are here for the same purpose to get an ut for me I think gradually over the years I have seen the number of Kurdish people increase, more Latinos, more Africans who co	ol, his views on the world and people are one world. It's like driving through time education. So Harrisonburg is definitely better with the diversity they have in the same here and decide to stay in EMU. For me, it's a gradual change, but lately with	every day. They weren't exposed to anything different, they were afraid of it. And the school system. N: Was it a slow change, the level of diversity or something that hap hin five years, I think these populations have increased dramatically. I don't know wh	ey don't accept that. While in Harrisonburg you learn at a young pened recently? M: I think there has been an explosion recently, at's pulling them into the valley. Many people say they are all
lants: birds, Dupont, the distribution center. People are flocking here because Coorce is nearby and they have a better chance of een arrested? M: No, no arrests have been made What I'm involved in is basically ne working for a group called Officer Streep. nake sure that what you do at all times is about of the law. You don't want to compromise your position with the group because yo he didn't create a big chasm between me and the cops. And you have to stop. N: Was there any incident Did you participate in a	A cop in Trapp is a group that started about a year and a half ago here. We started u don't want to be there to promote certain things, but to be in trouble with the law	ed with this in response to police harassment and profiling in targeted areas. Most of v. So, I've had a few negative interactions with them because I'm very vocal in what	f my relationships with the police are positive. You need to I think is right and what I think should or shouldn't be done. But
Advancement of Colored People. I was president for two years. We met when they came and presented information from the Tedin nings for people. We started talking and decided to meet. We looked at The Kop Strait and felt that it was something we needed to eedback from community members. Peter and Megan said that? M: Peter and Patrick N: Okay, are they grown up in Harrisonburg	us Ltd. Group, in which they participate. They were looking for different ways we con have in the community and that it was something that was possible for us and a	could work together in the community on other social issues. We had general conditi desire to take some time to do that and get it off the ground. We've been together for	ons where we could work to improve and do some different or about a year and a half and we've had some excellent
nat. They work together to help, you know, feed the hungry and fight the war and some other things they felt they needed to talk and the winter months, when it's colder outside, we usually have more information planning strategic meetings. We do some things one out, we actually go out on the street and start watching. Activity. N: Okay, and how are you going to do it? M: When we first start	on the street, but most of the things we've done in the winter just get to know the reted, it changed a lot, we actually started walking the streets. We chose the NE se	esidents of the community and try to figure out what they want from the organization of the city because it was the current target area of Weed and Seed. Are you f	and then as the weather gets better and more people start to amiliar with Wid and Saeed? N: No. M: Weed and Seed is a
ederally funded program that the Department of Justice combined. He has an approach for two swirling actions: he enters the neignforcement. Sowing has a lot to do with the different social groups in the area. They did a lot of what they call a public police stationed in the city. So we felt it would be better for us to start there because we knew the neighborhood, we knew people, we had roow plan to do is stay in an area, train people, get them to document some of the harassment that is happening, where they are able	on and this was an area where we had the highest number of complaints. Becaus ts there, and we can really organize a good organization and train people before v	se some of the members, like me, who live in the northeast of the city, and then we have move to another area. We decided that the area of Weid and Seeds is in five sm	and a few members who were part of our group, they lived in this aller areas, with the area of Kelly Street being the largest. What
vould not leave them alone, but have this group working in their own community and move on to another area in the target area of a this area. Then, when I broke it on the map and actually outlined the streets, I saw that the area we chose was three times large very week, and they give me other cops. What we planned was to meet with the chief of police and the sheriff, probably once a m	Weed and Seed and start forming another group in another part of the city. N: So than the other areas. I guess we were just stupid, ready to go, so But it works onth, and give them some of that hard evidence of what's going on on the streets	o that's your plan right now, and you're just working on the core group? M: Oh, yes! I very well. Now we have people coming forward. Last night, a young man called me b. We're really moving right where we need to be. It's all back. N: Who's involved Cop	t's a really big area. We thought we were spending a lot of time and recorded our police logs. They give me this information to Watch, is it mostly people who live in the area that is aiming?
It's a nice mixture. There are some people who live in the ne area of the city, the majority of the people involved in it are not Afri yoo, who are whoo, who are very committed, who are very committed. We all work together. We congratulated each other. We ca appening in groups. What we are basically doing is uniting, drawing up an agenda for the meeting, we are all trying to take an equ omeone else will talk. We congratulated each other. We're all so engaged in other activities. People are very quick to talk and say	n tell them to calm down a little bit and they can tell us to speed up a little bit. It wo ual role in the meeting. We're trying to give everyone a chance to talk. We're very	orks really well. N: How to organize the group? I mean, do you have as leaders or' diplomatic about the way we do things. We always divide tasks evenly. If we see the	? M: No, we don't have any of these hierarchies that you see at someone is swamped or has done most of the tasks, then
works really well. N: What tasks do people have? M: Some of the things we have are after every meeting that will write the notes a here, it crashes a little bit more because when we go out, we have a driver. We get into the car instead of on foot because we hav joing to take pictures, someone stays in the car and listens to the scanner. We do break it down, but all these obligations are set by	nd publish them, and email them to everyone. We had to have different people when a scanner. It helps us because before we walk three blocks to get to what was h	ho would be willing to post flyers, print flyers, make flyers, distribute flyers door-to-do happening and it will be over when we get there. So when we go out, we split up. So	oor, go out on the streets and talk to people who are more out meone to record the names of the witnesses. Someone who's
aking turns printing. We're changing duties, so if someone leaves the group, we're not at a loss. Someone knows how to collect the Yes, it really works well. N: Where do you get money, such as fundraising, a scanner or a newsletter? M: For the scanner, which e Wiresent if they were going to make a donation to several organisations. That's how we made some money. We get a lot of copies of brary, Massanutten Regional Library. We handed out about a hundred, one hundred and fifty newsletters and took these specifications.	veryone donated ten dollars and continued to search on Ebay until we found some lonated by different organizations. We talk events and different things in college.	ething that met our needs and we can afford. We have donations for us. Many peop That's how we generate our money. N: Okay, and you mentioned the newsletter, is t	le who are members would rather than receive a Christmas here a place you can get? M: We usually have it in the public
an find all this in the library or library JMU in the field of reference. N: What is the research you did? M: What we've done is do respresented a report that I presented to the Harrisonburg Police Chief and the Sheriff. Then too, the NAACP and Latino organization how the police and say: This is happening. There's definitely a pattern in this part of town. We didn't go through door-sharing tryin	earch. We started in September, six months ago, in 2005. We've divided the strees in the city. I just don't know what to do. I was going to go down the street, some	ets in the Lyle and Kelly Street area. We went out and collected 121 surveys, then c body cut me up and say the cops were here last night and they violated my rights. Ir	ompiled the survey and responses, made graphs and a fact, we wanted to have some concrete evidence that we could
ne problems that citizens in this area have said exist. It's a level of interaction with the police. This is the type of interaction they have part of the city say. Now, what we want to do is see what we can do together to alleviate the problem. We're there, we're monitone and so on. We want to be able to support what we tolerate. We don't just want to smoke. We want to be able to say that this is	oring this activity and we're collecting reports, but we want to see that there's a parhappening. We've got three reports, these are the police numbers, that's the time	attern before we go to an officer and say so, and so he said they were on the corner e that happened, and these are the locations. Well? Now a pattern is formed, and we	and a police car did one and he did one or a police officer did e prove to you that a pattern exists. Now we want you to tell us
what you're going to do to stop this behavior. That was the purpose of our investigation and we had some excellent feedback from lone all this, I see that you are serious about what you are doing, How can we help? N: How was it, did you present that to the polnet with the chief of police, the sheriff and the chief of the state of Virginia, and he was here at the Massanuten Regional Library. I alked about statistics about who was in jail, reasons for stopping people, the right way to file complaints with the police and in pris-	ce officers? M: Yes, we did. We met with the Virginia Organization Project, the Nativas in a very neutral shape, a round table. We went around and introduced each	AACP, some people from the Kurdish community, from the Latin American commun h other, and I'd met them before. We discussed the results of the study; we talked a	ity, and cop Watch, there were several other groups there. We bout the type of diversity training that was taking place; We
emain open, that if something happens on the street that he does not know about because it can not be in any patrol car. He does ther. M: We didn't introduce him about a month ago. N: Well M: And I actually have to go ahead and create our first date because nere every day, we have work, we have families. I wanted to bring him the police records when we met. And I think it's going to be now All right, let's see Can you give me an idea of how many people are involved in Cop Watch? M: We probably have about	we have other documentation that we want to present to him. Since the meeting a good meeting because he seems like a very nice person, and he seems to be	we decided to make was to find someone on every block or every two blocks in the very open to trying to solve any problems or negativity that exists between officers a	area to keep what we call a police log, because we can't be and residents. So I think it's going to be good. So I'il let you
when we need to do something, when you call us, then the number jumps to about 20. So hopefully if we can get that amount of periont - my son urged me to come out the front. What was happening was that they had police officers who were on bike patrols and ffice, and because they were there representing Weed and Seed., we felt according to certain guidelines and restrictions that did	eople into every target area within that weed and Seed competence, we'll do really I they were telling the children, and under children, I mean teenagers, sixteen, sevent apply to other citizens in the city of Harrisonburg – which we later realized was	y well. N. Well, will you give me examples of what's happening, that you feel like you venteen years old, that they had to search them and they had to agree to be searches not true. So when I went out and started asking them about Weed and Seed, they	n need tand tao. M: Oh, definitely. Last summer I came out the ed because they were there representing the Weed and Seed couldn't answer the questions I was asking them, so I knew
ght away that maybe they were just this word, you know, We are here for Weed and Seed, therefore we can search you. You know thich was very worrying. We had kids, a block away, where I live and live in the 400 neighborhoods of Kelly Street, who jumped oney couldn't go outside and do the things they usually do because the cops kept stopping them and asking them: You know about where you can have a conversation with them and it's just easy to get to the point where people felt like they were being harassed	n a trampoline and were filmed by the cops. When they asked the cops why they it? Do you know who they sell drugs to? You know that? And then we have comp	filmed them, they were told: We have half an hour before we go down and we're bor plaints where normal police officers came across this area where it was, not very ple	ed, so we have to do something. So the kids started to feel like asant in the aggressive zone. It's just normal daily interactions
oing to stop on the street for 20 seconds? What were you doing? You know, just a lot of things they said just didn't rub them right vas a fight, about four or five blocks down the street. And everyone knew I was fight or something. When the police were called, the arassed because they live on this street. Many of the activities in this area, is carried there by people who do not live there, who are	So it was that kind of thing. A lot of cops are watching, that was one of the things ey were on the street where I live and questioned as younger children. Oh, you were not residents. And we feel like if they had cops who were in enough, who knew	I really had a problem with. You can stay outside at night, look and see the police I vere in the fight? What do you know about the battle? No, get down to where the cor v who the residents were - they would know who to target, but that relationship wasr	pooking at night. And once there was an accident when there inplaint was and deal with it. So the residents who live there feel it built. So when they come in, they treat us like we're drug
ealers or criminals, or they're not good because they don't know who the locals are and they don't know who the people who show that this person lives here, and if they saw anything suspicious, they would know that it wasn't me because I live here. I've parked ounger and had nothing to do with curfews, we went to Sim's school. Sim's school was run like a recreation department, so it was nymore. They've been in Sim's way recently, but it's not It's not the same as it used to be. A lot of kids are turning corners, some	nere because I'm unloading groceries or whatever - so I hope we'll see that. What like a place to go in the evening, kids who had nothing to do with it - they didn't h	t are the people who come from this area doing this M: A lot of them were just han ave to go out on the street. You can hang out with your friends and do whatever you	ging. N: All right, all right Yes, yes. Years ago, when we were I want, but you had a place to work. We don't have that
Ve don't want to do them like anything there - we know there's probably some kind of drug trap, but we want the police to target it fternoon. We were thinking about book clubs, different things, they might come there for home help, salt lessons just to get them lace for them, it's going to be kind of like, well, you know what you've stayed here - the rest of the people, you live here, no So,	and not target the kids who have nothing to do because they're bored and just ha off the street Basketball leagues, anyway. Care. Just give them some space so	nging out. Hopefully Sim will get to the point where we were at home. And this is go they're not on the street, maybe even watching activity they shouldn't be watching a	ing to be avenue, we might have some different things this nd taking ideas that we want to get off the streets. We have a
nother reason that they said they were patrolling a little more. They say they have a lot of gangs coming from Stutton who come the ve're going to patrol this part of town ten times more than here when there's more drugs here than here. It's our dedication, you know the ve're not saying we don't want them in the neighborhood. We're not saying there's nothing in the neighborhood that doesn't happen.	ow, we just can't justify why we should be the subject of such cases of police scruen. We're just saying that when you're there, you have to stay within the law, that y	utiny when obviously six streets are over, you're supposed to be here on Friday nigh you have to treat people fairly, not to harass, not to profile people. And the same thi	t. So, we just want to make sure that they treat people fairly. ngs that happened in this area of the city, I would like you to do it
n a predominantly white part of the city. N: Have you seen evidence or heard of a lot of gang activity in Harrisonburg recently? M: nings and hear things. I know there's a rise in the number of Latinos in the area. I've heard that many minority black students, as wave a problem in California, but I think with what they've done so far to deter the gang's work and the work of the gang they've do ee that because the kids are going to be kids. I hope it doesn't reach the level it's been in other states. N: What do you think it's like	vell as white students, are involved with gangs. There are more graffiti than in Har ne, it's not going to get any bigger than that. It's not going to get any bigger than v	rrisonburg, a lot of labels in Krogers, on different walls and buildings and other thing what the kids say oh yes, we're going to form a gang. I don't want to get to where we	s. So I can see where we're growing in this area. I I think we have things like that. I think they're at a good time. We'll still
eally cool, so I want to be a part of what they're doing. And a lot of kids don't have the family structure we had growing up. Things n all these violent activities, but also this fraternity that continues. A lot of kids who don't have that, a lot of troubled kids are going were younger, and I know it can't happen forever, but when we were younger, if you saw me, or if my neighbor saw me do someth	have changed, you have parents who work two jobs, work opposite shifts. They do to gravitate toward something like that. So I just hope we can pull them out. N: Do ng while my mom was at work, she would call me. She'd be like you don't have to	don't have that sense of family, with a gang that has a sense of family. It's something o you think this has anything to do with the loss of the community we talked about e o do this. You have to stop this then and say okay. They were fighting with us right a	that can't be because it seems that gangs are concentrating arlier? M: Definitely, another thing I noticed is that when we way, but we were still going to get it from our parents because
e was going to tell them we weren't doing what we were supposed to do. But now it's like seeing a kid doing something and you to re, and I don't know if you have my child's best interest. So we lost that when a community grows. We don't know each other. We noving in that direction? Did you see anything? M: I really feel like now that we're on the street and they know we're on the street, ure they don't violate people's rights. They are very careful about how they approach a situation, and they do it by the rules, beca	don't feel safe that you have to stop, or I'il call your mother at work. All right, let's and we're really talking and communicating, I feel like I'm going to see less of that	see, I think we're ready So the current relationship between the police and in the t. And when they're in the neighborhood, and we're in the neighborhood, they're rea	e NE area, has improved since Cop Watch? Or do you think he's ly conscious that we're watching what they're doing to make
nen there's a problem and I see in the future that it's going where we want it to be. N: You mentioned earlier that there are a few cone cops are going to back off. And I have the right to be here, and I'm going to tell them they don't have to agree to the search. You mendment protects you and what they are and they're not allowed to do. When they know you know what the law is, they make s	ases that because you're very vocal [Monica laughs] that you've had a negative e u know, I have a few words with the cops, nothing I'm in jail for. I don't think peop ure they don't go beyond it. Sometimes it gets a little wild, but I don't back down, I	xperience, can you talk a little bit about one of them? M: You know, I'm a very voice le talk, talk and know what they're talking about. It's different than saying, I don't have just keep going and let them get it. I'm not disrespectful. I told them it was something	, and when I see something going on, it's wrong, I tell them. And we to be searched, get off my property. I tell them which my we wouldn't tolerate. N: And part of your grieve at Cop Watch
s talking to people about their rights? M: Yes. N: How often do you have these sessions? M: We try to have training in know your is ews and all the opportunities you can get for free to let people know we have a training session. We're trying to have it in a neutrance times a card that tells you what your rights are, briefly discusses them, with legal contacts and our contact information on the hoose. N: It's significant in a small town. M: That's right. N: What effect does Cop Watch have on your personal life? Do you feel I	I place, a church that people can walk to. We go in and play a lot of roles. We fee back, a number to call in case they need us. N: And you have a good result? M: `	ed them until There. We'il make a round table. We're making a contact list. We try to Yes, we have a very good position. We want to see 150 people at every meeting, bu	distribute materials, including a Cop Watch pocket card. This is it we have about 25-30 people, people. It's a good place to
orm we will return you. I have some things that attract me, but when I start working with the group, I want to make sure that not on evel of participation in the organization can be. Most groups will work with you. Well, if that's what you can do, just put stamps on c ids feel very good trusting me and telling me things. I feel comfortable telling them exactly what I feel about what they told me and	ly is this group suitable for me, but that I am suitable for this group. If I'm over-abuenvelopes, we'll take it. So I don't feel like it's over-the-control. I'm a very, very fried what they need to do to get out of a situation or a better situation or where to go	used or can't meet the group's obligations, or I can't go on a date or whatever, I'm vendly person and I know a lot of people in the community. And actually, this group refor help. Cops opened a lot of doors for me. I really appreciate being in the band. N	ery quick to say it's one step too much. Or I'il tell them what my ally helped me connect with a lot of kids in the neighborhood. : Well, and what reaction do you get from people when you first
ell them what it's about? M: What's the funny thing about when we say Cops, they're like cops? I don't know they think we're going eople in the neighborhood. So we really feared that they wouldn't accept some of the people in our group. When we first started eidn't want them to think they were detectives or anything. We've worked very that. What's so good that two months ago I came hour it took them a while to get to know them. Now that they understand what Kat Trapp is, and they want to know more, but once the	verywhere, we went as a group. And I said to the community: These are [cop wat me on a Sunday and my son's going to meet me tonight? And I said no why? And	tch members' names]. They are members of cop watch, so if you see them in patroll d he said I saw the cops walking around. People in the neighborhood know who they	ing the streets or watching, you know that's what they do. I are and respect them for what they do and really appreciate it.
see a big difference. I think it's important for people to see that just because we live in the northeast, which is overwhelmingly min vasn't bullied. I don't know what it's like to be profiled because of skin color or where you live, but I know the problem exists and I o mes we're like bullying and no one understands, but when you see other people coming, Jaime's students who say N: And you ha	ority, that other people see that it's a problem. It's not just black people who can had bon't think it's right, so I'm here to offer my support. Put an end to this. A lot of people, I guess, student housing is being moved out of JMU, more and more, I mean	nelp black people, and only Hispanics can help Hispanics. It's nice to see how we're ople are becoming open to the different kinds of people who are in the community ar , I'm going to live on Elizabeth Street next year M: Yes, it's Grass and Saeed, you'	all going to get together and say yes, that's a problem. No, I and I really appreciate that other people see what it is. A lot of II be there with me, honey. N: Yes, I won't be too far from you.
What impact does students moving there have? M: I don't think it's a bad thing, but what I have a problem with is that a lot of the heavy crazy parties as you think. People say they have wild parties. Very respected, many are students, they are very respectful, to ust say that I think your project is great, it sounds very interesting, it's nice that people are still doing oral history projects. N: I'm expected what impact does that have on something? M: No. I mean, we don't want to read them like this.	complete the training. It's a nice mixture in the community. I don't want to see all cited about it. M: When I read that on your email I was like, 0h wow, because oral	the houses occupied by college kids. You guys just be careful. [Both dare]. N: Do y l history is everything. N: Yes, and just being able to do something in the community	ou have anything to say that you meant you weren't? M: I would y, I got sick of just reading textbooks, and just writing
ocuments, it's like what impact does that have on something? M: No, I mean, we don't want to read them like this Yes, yes. M: bout what you want to do with this project? M: And you're going to get a lot more interviews, right? No, no, no, no, no, no, no, an do with it. But I'll be open to anything as long as it's something that helps the community or makes people understand more able great. We already have a Copa Strait investigation on the file. And when I was at JMU doing some history research I used this I	no M: I don't know. I think it would be nice to have it, as you said in your jmu list, a out our community or want to be part of our community. I think everything you've	and if people make Harrisonburg's story, they can get away with it. Like you said, if y chosen to do with him will be fine. N: That occurred to me today. But do you think yo	you want to make documentaries. There seems to be a lot you ou're putting it here in the Masanuten archive? M: That would
ery much. M: You're right. Welcome.			,

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