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Name of Person Interviewed: Thanh Nguyen

Name **Transcript**

0:01

Katelyn: So, I guess to start with...what was life like when you were a child in Vietnam?

Thanh: The time in Vietnam? I was in Vietnam. You want to know the time I was up the re-education...

[Nancy Bui makes and unintelligible remark]

Thanh: From the very young until go to the United States?

Katelyn: I want to know from the time that you were very young up until the time that you witnessed the war, then I want to talk about your journey coming to America? And then I would actually like to talk about the POW work that you are doing right now and just where you think the future of that will go and also the future of the second generation of Vietnamese Americans, third generations that are now being born in America. So we'll start out from the beginning. Do you remember what it was like growing up before there was the threat of communism?

Thanh: I was grow up in the village of the South Vietnam, so at that times I am an [only child] but I was living with my family and very happy. That times, although the French army still in South Vietnam, but a little bit in peace and very happy for us to live in the South Vietnam. Beginning nineteen fifty-seven and looked like the war beginning start in South Vietnam so I need to go to Saigon because the Communists told me that go with them and fight in back to the South Vietnam government so that reason I go to Saigon and go to school in Saigon. And then time after that, in the past we have the experience in the past in my homeland, and so I know what going on and if the Communists come there. That reason, we volunteer go the South Vietnam army to protecture South Vietnam, to protecture our family and protecture for South Vietnam people. After that, 1975, South Vietnam fell so I was in the reeducation camp about nine year and seven months.

Katelyn: Wow, nine years.

[Nancy Bui talks indistinctly in the background]

Thanh: Yes, the reeducation camp from South Vietnam and go to North Vietnam. We move from [Vietnamese] that's very close with the border of China and come to [Vietnamese] mountain and no people living in there and the climate very severe. That reason my friends die in there and right now we come back to recover the body.

Katelyn: Did your family move with you? Did you move reeducation camps ever in the ten years or did your family come along and try to stay near you? Or, did you let your family stay in the South?

Thanh: You know, my families, although the government told me that you send letter to your wife, your children come to North Vietnam to live with you in the jungle, but I cannot do that. I can be [dead] in the jungle, but I cannot let my family die with me in the jungle, therefore, I refuse to send letter to them and tell them come to. But after that, China prepare to attack North Vietnam, that reason they moved us to very close with Hanoi. Although I was in reeducation camp, my family is very, very bad situation when my family live with in the social.

Katelyn: So your family left before you?

4:42

Thanh: When I was in reeducation camp, my property was seized by the government. Everything was gone. And then my wife only has the clothes with her and she doesn't have the blanket in winter. My mother in law [unintelligible] very old and my children very young and they do not have the blanket to cover for the spring. It was very cold at that time. All the money, all the property was seized by the government. My wife live very, very bad situation. It's miserable. After I was out of the reeducation camp, my wife talked to me the story what happened in the past. And she said, "You know, you are in the reeducation camp, you have fought it, but outside we have nothing. We do not have the money and we cannot go to work and we were discriminate and we live outside the social."

Katelyn: Were they sent to any of the new economic zones or anything like that? Were they even given a chance to have...

Thanh: Yes, all of them must go to the new economic zone, but my wife do not want to go and she said no. Until my husband was released, I will go with him anywhere if you want, but right now I cannot go to new economic zone. And that reason, they returned for my wife. And my wife has support from my mother-in-law, and the money and the food, and living until I was out of reeducation camp, 1984.

Katelyn: Do you have any experiences from the war that you're willing to talk about? Maybe a day or event? Something that was remarkable to you that you remember.

Thanh: This is very work war. It's very bad. You know killing, killing, and killing. Sometimes, you know, before go to the battle, I look back at my wife, I look back at my children and thinking about I never come back anymore because the war is

severe. Very, very bad. One thing I remember is, one time, the rocket 122 explode and destroy the school and a lot of childrens dying and their body and half-body, like the hand, everywhere with blood. It's very, very bad end for the war. I never forgot for that picture.

Katelyn: And that was just a neighborhood school? One that was in the village?

Thanh: The enemy fight but they don't know where the rocket come to. One of the rocket destroy the school and kill at least twenty children. The baby children, they are very young, about eight to ten year old. And this is the first time I saw it and I never for got it.

Katelyn: They would just randomly shoot rockets anywhere at any time. There was really no warning?

Thanh: No warning and you know they fight but they don't know where the rocket will come in.

Katelyn: Can you tell me a little bit about your experiences getting out of the reeducation camps and coming over to America?

Thanh: If you ask me about the reeducation camp only one-two sentence I describe for you where doesn't have the people to love, doesn't have the humanity, and only the revenge for people, revenge for the enemy and no humanity. That reason many people dying and come back to recover the bodies of my friend. I do not have another word to explain for you what went on in the reeducation camp. So only one thing I explain to you that where it doesn't have the humanity, doesn't have the people to love. That's it.

10:23

Katelyn: So you were never treated in an even humane way by anybody who was ever in the reeducation camp? None of them ever felt any kind of, I guess, sympathy for your situation?

Thanh: We need to talk that through not only, some people don't do like that...it had a little people that has humanity. It's the one people, the one reeducation camp it has something to help us about the food. You know they say, "No, you cannot cook in this camp" but after that we have something look like vegetable from the jungle bring back to the camp and we cook. And they saw we cook but they thinking about we are hungry, therefore, they don't look at and they forget it. Look like they support us how to cook and to recover the help. And after that, one year later, we moved to police. This is from [Nam Ha] the reeducation camp. That time the police control us, not the army anymore.

[Nancy Bui: {Nam Ha} in North Vietnam]

Thanh: [Nam Ha] North Vietnam.

Katelyn: It was in North Vietnam.

Thanh: [Nam Ha] North Vietnam. This is only the civil and we leave it in North Vietnam.

Katelyn: Did you move reeducation camps?

Thanh: Oh, we moved many.

Katelyn: Many times?

Thanh: First of all we were in the [Shu La] this very North Vietnam, its very close with the China border. And we live there about two months and then after that we move to [Wa Ling Shun] we walk, no car, we need to take a walk about two three days, go to the second location. The second location is [Wa Ling Shun] is the big mountain in there. That time is a very, very bad situation. Many people die that period of time. I think this year is 1976-1977. The government thinking about this is very serious for us and they move us to another camp. This is [Ing Bai] is very close with [Wa Ling Shun] this was the third camp I was there. In that camp, you know, some community office support us to get back to the health like I told you before they say, "You, you cannot cook in this camp" but after that we cook and he don't so anything. Don't hit me and don't beat me, nothing. And that time we recover a little bit. And in about one year, two year, they move us to [Nam Ha] this time the police control for the camp. 1980 they make us go to South Vietnam. South Vietnam, this is [Sung Lao] in that time my families, the communists agree for the families support us every month. My family bring the food, bring the sugar with something to support us to recover the health. The next, we move to another camp, and another camp is [Sung Lao]B looks like a small camp [Sung Lao]A. A is bigger than B. And then that times, I was prepared to be released out of the reeducation camp. And when 1984 I was released in reeducation camp after my wife took corrupt to give money the officer to help me out of the reeducation camp.

15:21

[Nancy Bui: They had to bribe.]

Katelyn: I can't believe they actually let you out.

Thanh: You understand at that time the money talk. No law, money talk. And you have the money everything you have. If you don't have the money you don't have anything.

[Nancy Bui talks indistinctly.]

Katelyn: How much money was it, do you know? The bail?

Thanh: My wife keep it secret, don't let me know, because she thinking about I will get mad about that. I would ask her, "Why did you do that? Do not give any money, keep in my reeducation camp, no problem, until they thinking about the sympathy for them and I will be released." But in the front of me, the office go to my house to talk to my wife and to talk to my sister-in-law and after that he come to talk to me, "Oh yesterday I did come to your home." And I said, "Why?" And he said, "To visit your family." But I'm thinking about he got the money but I don't remember how much. But, you know, before I was out of the reeducation camp, one police he come to my home to deal with my sister-in-law that, "Okay can you give me

two the gold." Looks like its about two thousand dollars. [Nancy Bui: Ounces, two ounces gold.] "Yeah, yeah two ounce of the gold for Mr. Nguyen will be able to be released out of jail." And my sister-in-law said, "I am sorry we do not have the money and we do not have the gold." He said, "Okay, if you do not have two ounce of gold, one ounce." And my sister say, "No we don't have." And he said, "If you don't have, a half an ounce." And my sister say, "No we don't have, too." At that time he say, "Okay, one quarter of one ounce." And my sister-in-law say, "No we don't have too." After that, two day later I come back, I go come out. These men, they knew I had the order to be released out of the reeducation camp and they come to my house to get more money.

Katelyn: When you got out you were released and you went to live with your family for a little or did you try to get out of Vietnam pretty quickly?

17:55

Thanh: When I was released out of reeducation camp I still live with my sister-in-law in Saigon in city. But they come back to [Chao Lao] this is province is small city it has a very, very bad situation in there. But because of that location where was I working in there. The people love me, but the officials don't love me. Because that location is very close with the Cambodian they thinking I will escape, I will go to Cambodia and escape and go to the United States. So, I live in Saigon about one year and after that they say, no you have to come back to [Chao Lao] where your wife living in there. You know I make mistake when I talk to my wife that you need to live in [Chao Lao] to live in there and maybe I will be released early then and then you have a good chance for the business in [Chao Lao], but this is terrible, terrible for her to living in there and this is my mistake and I am very regret until now. So I come back to [Chao Lao] to live with my family and do you know everyday, everyday the politic [sic], the intelligence, of the Communists come to my home. Everyday. And he says, "You are the high rank, you are major, you can do anything and you can do anything against us so I need to come to see you what are you doing everyday." I said, "no I am a citizen now, you cannot do that. If you want you can put me in jail because the government says I am good people so you cannot control me anymore." And he said, "Okay now I come to visit you, to say hello with you." I say, "No, I don't need you say hello. I don't need the intelligent police come to my home to say hello. Let me free for working to support my wife and children." And you know they don't care. And they come to my house every day. But that fine, he can control me but I can do anything, I can do it for my business. And do, I do not again the government. But its very hard for me and my wife is very, very sad and she worry about I will be arrested by the Communists one more again. And I tried to buy the boat to overseas to go to the United States or to go Thailand, but I fail and until 1990. Suddenly, when I was in Saigon, I don't know why I understand that it has the H.O. program and the agents of the Communists in Saigon they say they can help, I have an application to go to the United States. Quickly, I come back to my home, my sister-in-law I say, "Please can I borrow one million." And she said, "What?" I say, "I need one million". My sister-in-law don't ask me why you need but she try to go somewhere to borrow, to borrow somewhere to get me one million. And one million I go to the police agent and I pay them one million. They help me. They apply application for refugee go to United States. They get me about nine hundred eighty thousand for my family. They say we go to United States quickly. And when I come back to [Chao Lao] I talk to my wife and my wife

"What, what?" I say, "Honey, I need to do that because I have no other way to try. This is the best way I try, if we succeeded it's lucky, if I not succeeded it means I owe the money from your sister, I tried to do you'll repay for her late." And lucky for me, three months later I received a letter from the government inviting me to come to be interviewed. At that time I recognized that we had the right to apply application about four months ago, but they keep it, they don't tell me until I pay for them one million and then that time they issue and give me the paper. But that's okay because I buy the only one million, but for free for my freedom. And I was interviewed by the Communists and everything okay. And they checked am I healthy and my wife need to come back because they thinking about she's sick about the lungs. But no, they said that's not because it has small, black look like, they thinking about she's sick.

24:07

Katelyn: Oh, gallstones? Or kidney stones?

Thanh: Yes it looked like something like that. But after that said nothing. You know, I come to interviewed by the American. This is very important. If I fail for the interview, otherwise they [unintelligible] me. The interviewer do not ask me anything. Only he asked me one question. He didn't ask me any question from me. He asked me about do your wife still have the one sister in Vietnam. "That's correct." I said, "Yeah." He said "Okay, so your mother-in-law..." My mother-in-law support me and living with me since 1975 until 1990. She has all the right to go to the United States and is registered with me because whole family, but he's thinking my mother-in-law has my sister and she can support my mother-in-law and, therefore, my mother-in-law do not have the permit to go to United States with me.

Katelyn: Your mother-in-law wasn't able to go because she was with your sister-in-law?

Thanh: They say because my sister-in-law can support my mother-in-law in Vietnam do not need to go to the United States.

Katelyn: So you weren't able to bring her over when you came?

Thanh: Later, when I was in United States my wife sponsor my mother-in-law come to United States about the seven year late.

Katelyn: So she came in about '97?

Thanh: Yes she came to United States '97. After that she sick and she worry about would be like and she want to come back to Vietnam to visit my sister-in-law and when she come back to Vietnam she cannot go back to United States anymore because of her healthy. And until now she's still alive and she's ninety-nine year old now.

Katelyn: And she's living with your sister-in-law?

Thanh: Yes.

Katelyn: What was it like for you when you first got to the United States? You came over and you were with your wife and your children. Is that who you were allowed to bring in with you when you came?

Thanh: Katelyn, say again?

Katelyn: You brought your wife and your children when you came to America, you were allowed to sponsor them?

Thanh: Right.

Katelyn: What was it like for your family? Where did you settle? Did you find any Vietnamese communities there when you arrived?

Thanh: When they arrived and what they are doing?

Katelyn: What cities did you go to initially to settle and were there Vietnamese communities there and what was it like for you integrating?

Thanh: When we apply application and the American interview and after that I go to United States by Catholic sponsor. When I was there they helped me to go to school, they give me the blanket. Everything if we need we request from them, they will bring this to me. And the government gives us about welfare and the cash, we have the foodstamp cash to pay for the food and rent the house, something like that. In New York they are very nice. The people in New York very, very nice. When I was interviewed and they say you crazy go to school, don't go to work early. We support you to have a good chance to have a good job, but it's very cold, and so I move to Texas because as you know my friend live in Texas. They say, "Hey, Texas very happy and very good state and the welfare anywhere. And you come here because the weather better than in New York." The reason I come to Texas not only for the weather, but I am thinking the Vietnamese community will help me because, as you know, the English is limit for me. When I was in Vietnam I have not good chance to go to school for learning English. That time, French only. After that, I go to the Army, I was the office[r], and we don't have the time to go to school. And after in the reeducation camp we need to go to work for the food and for the, you know, everything so we don't have the time to go to school. And learning English is, you know [unintelligible]. And then when go to United States I want to support my children go to school and I do not go to school very long time the ladies advise me do not go to work early. So, I go to Texas and then go to work very soon.

30:12

Katelyn: So you didn't really have time to go to school – I mean you went and you learned English through school?

Thanh: No, no ma'am.

Katelyn: You didn't have any school at all?

Thanh: Mmm-hmm

Katelyn: So is it important for you then now to see your children go through school and to see them learn English or would you like them to, in a way, hold on to their Vietnamese roots, you know, and make sure they know Vietnamese?

Thanh: I think you know, I make a decision it's the wrong decision. Because the key for me to live in the United State is English. If I don't speak English well, I cannot do anything. The jobs are very hard for me to find which job. And the Vietnamese, they pay cash, sometimes they pay by check, but very low. And for that reason they have many problem late. When I go to work, I try to work for myself. It's very hard for me to find out a job. Because if I go to interview. Speak English. Not good. I am sorry, we don't need you or when we go to work I can not work everything the owner wants to do. That is very, very big problem and my wife, too. So now it's over. And my children go through school and they are success now.

Katelyn: Where did you start working and did you change jobs a lot or did you find one and kind of take off with it?

Thanh: When I have a job where I teach some people on how to drive, though I don't have a permit. (laughs) Nothing to try, nothing to try. I do not have a permit, but I can teach them, my friend, Vietnamese people only. Some people after they are learning and after that they don't pay money and they go to DPS to take driver's license for themselves. I lost the money. And after that I working for the grocery. Look like the 7-11, but in Texas this is a grocery. Vietnamese grocery but not American grocery. Speak English a little bit, a little bit when I was in Army. I have advisor. American advisor. I can speak English, too, a little bit. Then 1964, I go to school to prepare to go to United States for the army school, but late, I cannot go and that reason I have a little bit English to talk.

Nancy Bui: What was your ranking?

33:36

Thanh: My rank is the last rank is a major. It's lucky for me when I try to speak English with the customer and the customer come in, I try to talk to keep the customer to stay there to talk to me and I practice English and after that better then. And if we have another way to try, we try to do that. When I was a unemployed I did talk to the government in Houston that I wanted to go to the class of the paralegal assistant class and they said "Really you want?" I said "Yeah." And after that they interview me, and I success they send me to the school and learning. This a two-year but the class in the summer, therefore, a lot of lesson for me. Is a very funny when I was there. This is a story for you when I was in this class and the teacher a very, very nice teacher. In the beginning, go to the class, the teacher talked to me and teach me I only understand about thirty to forty percent. So she gave me the lesson, but I don't know what I'm doing, what will we do. So when we come to class, the team, we are working in a team about four people and greet lady and say, "Hey, Mr. Nguyen, you have complete your lesson?" I say "what?" "Your lesson, your lesson complete?" I say, "No." She said, "If you don't have your lesson, you can not come to class. So, now where your lesson?" "I have here." and she say "Ok, then I help you to do." And three other people come in and help me to do. After that she go for the teacher. One day later, the teacher call me "Mr. Nguyen, I want to talk to you. Please come to office." When I

was in office she say, "I'm sorry, I don't want you go to school here anymore. This is the last day for you, because you copy. Your lesson is a copy." I get mad I say, "No, why? Why you say that?" She said, "Here this lesson, you copy from another one." I say, "I honor people. I never do that. I never do that, please, don't say that. I never copy anyone." She said, "Why your answer look like the answer to another one?" I said, "Because they do it for me. I didn't copy and they do it for me." And she said "What?" I say, "They volunteered to work for me and I do not (regret) them anymore. Nothing." And she said, "Why you say that?" "Because you teach me I don't understand one hundred percent only 60-40 percent those, so I don't know how to do. And when I asked you, I so scared, I don't ask you." She said (sighs) and after that "Ok, thank you, Mr. Nguyen. Go back to your class." And you know when she explained on the lesson she repeated three times, four times, and she looked at me. I said why she talk many times like that one, two, three times and maybe I understand. And after that she asked me "Do you understand why I repeat that way four times?" I say "No, ma'am." She said, "Because I want you understand my lesson." (laughs) And after that, I pass the test. That's ok, I do for myself. And after that I success, I have diploma. And then at least three American firm. Then they say "Mr Nguyen has a diploma, but why am I fail." I say "I don't know. You ask the teacher, but I know very well my test." And that time until now I'm working for the law office for part-time. And you know, this a very, very good teacher. I love her and I respect her. Right now, I try to come back to school to find out where she is and say thank you, because she saved my life.

39:13

Katelyn: Wow. That was very good. So, you're working for a law office right now. You're a paralegal. Do you encounter any difficulties with being able to do the work with the language barrier sometimes, because they use their own language in the legal world, too?

Thanh: Right, because it's very hard for me for working. If you saw a problem, It's your mind. Mind is smart. We need to look into learning the book and know the people. How to do for my job. That reason I can working for the lawyer until now.

Katelyn: Can we talk about your work in Vietnam with the POW because that was very interesting stuff.

Thanh: Thinking about government, easy to support me, easy to help me but this was very, very surprised. In the beginning, I talked to the state department, and someone told me to talk to the former Prime Minister. This is the Mr. Kip [in Vietnamese] And after that, I did talk to the state department [unintelligible] and when I explained of my idea they say "I think this is humanity. I think the government will accept, but that I submit to them a new idea and after that I will answer you." And later about two months, Ambassador in Washington D.C. sent the people come to see me and board director of HO. This, the POW association. And they say, "we will like to answer your question and we reply your association request and the government agreed for you and your friend come back to Vietnam to look and find out [unintelligible] recall the remains back to their family. And later, I come to Vietnam to talk to the former Minister, Kip [Vietnamese]. And Mr. Kip [Vietnamese] very happy to support me and to lobby with the government and after that, "Mr Nguyen, this is why I think this is the Vice President of the

State Department of the Vietnamese government.” And we have meeting with him and he say, “Ok, this is humanity and we are happy to support you. To give you the permit to do that.” And he talk to the police. And then after that, the fourth time I was in Vietnam to go to the one nation to find out the crew and recall the remains on January of 2008. And we get back and we meet up with my friend [Vietnamese] is a three people. And luck for us we find 157 crew in [Vietnamese]. But this is on a small location and this morning, I receive a list of the [Vietnamese]. One people living around there. So, total is 260-270 crew in North Vietnam. But in middle Vietnam, we have another list of 150, so total about 500 crew now. On April, I will go to Vietnam to recall eight men back to their family and maintain another crew [Unintelligible].

Katelyn: When you're in Vietnam, do you ever encounter any difficulties with the government there now when you're doing your work?

44:51

Thanh: I think it is very hard for me to talk to the local office and them say [external noise] we can not talk to another office higher [Vietnamese] so no way, no way. And right now, when I'm in the United State and they come back to Vietnam with my association and then they happy, I think right now, they changed their mind. They want to support and they changed their mind and their happy to do that. But if ten year go, we cannot. But, now they help me. They support me to do that I think is very good now.

Katelyn: Do you work with anybody in Vietnam when you go over to help you or is it mainly people coming from America and other countries and going back to Vietnam?

Thanh: No, we need to go to Vietnam to deal with them, to talk with them, to meet them, and discover them. And before I come to Vietnam, I need to e-mail and phone call with them. They say, “Ok, next week, next month. I will go to Vietnam.” “Can I have an appointment with you, come to talk to you?” And they say, “Hey, no problem. I give you anytime, either one, let me know.” And they say ok next month from 1 to 10, I will be in Hanoi. Can I come to see you?” They say, “Ok, I will have schedule for you. I will reply to you very soon.” And they say, “Ok, anytime. You go to North Vietnam. Come to my office. I will talk with you.” In the beginning, I don't believe they have support me like that, but now they support very well.

46:55

Katelyn: Is your work that you do with the P.O.W.s something that you hope will continue in future generations with Vietnamese Americans? Or do you feel that maybe the younger generation doesn't have has much of a connection to that history?

Thanh: Can you explain clearly your question?

Katelyn: [laughs] Do you hope that future generations of Vietnamese Americans will want to continue the work that you're doing recovering P.O.W.s and bringing them back to their families or do you think they don't have as much of a connection to that?

Thanh: Okay, I hope I will recover all of the remains in the future about one or two year, no longer. Because if longer, you cannot find out anymore. And then, I want the next generation in the future to continue my way because I don't want to have the war in Vietnam anymore and I don't want to see any people die in the jungle or anywhere. But, we need to have the communication. We need to talk together [unintelligible] and how to service for the people. Better than bring the war and the killing and the blood. We don't want to do that anymore. We want in the future the next generation will continue our job and they will talk to future generation in Vietnam. The same generation with them, both of them talk together and to service for their country. And not only protection for Vietnam but protection for the United States, too because this country is, you know, very, very nice country and this country save our life. We need to protection too, [looks like] our country, not different.

Katelyn: How do you feel looking back on Vietnam after being out of the country for a few years now? Do you miss it or do you still have hard feelings? Are you angry?

Thanh: In the beginning, the first time I was in Vietnam it has some shock for me. When I live in United States the customer very nice and the freedom, everything very nice. When I come back to Vietnam the old generation and the law and everything very, very different. And the police never [unintelligible], and the police never have smile on his mouth. And, you know, there was some time they want to make money, too. But, later they changed, they changed. And feeling they changed, I saw and I understand they change. Although I don't want to live in Vietnam because it has some things very hard for me now. [Unintelligible] the politic [sic] although they thinking about we are friendly but always they suspect because I am the enemy, I was enemy before. And they thinking about that but they say no we forgot it, who believe? Who know? But I want to support my country, support for Vietnamese people. I think come back to Vietnam to do something support for Vietnam, we need to do that.

Katelyn: How do you feel about the Vietnamese community? You live in Houston, which has a very large Vietnamese community, probably, I think it's the second largest in America? How do you feel as part of that community? Do you feel like it's growing and are you excited about the future of the Vietnamese community?

Thanh: The Vietnamese community in Houston is very big and very important and it grow up, but we need to, the Vietnamese people, need to thinking about how to live, how to correct the lives. The Vietnamese people need to follow the American custom and to change the view. They cannot say, hey this is a freedom country, I can do anything or I can talk anything or I can [unintelligible] that is incorrect, that is illegal. So every people need to, you know, I think the Vietnamese people need to learn about the American custom and need to teach them about the law and something else and then the Vietnamese community will support the American communities very good.

52:27

Katelyn: Is there anything else that you want to say or anything that's important that you get on record?

Thanh: Okay one thing we want to contribute with the American social. Need to review how to teach the children and the law. The law says you cannot beat your children, that fine, but how to beat the children? And one thing like that [external noise] you put them in jail, no you cannot do that because sometimes, the children, they do not understand this correct, uncorrect look like they are very young. The second is when the government wants to support one country in other country. Thinking about the soldier. Do not use all the way the politic [sic] and the killing their soldier in another country it's not good.

Katelyn: Well, I think that's all the questions that I have. I just want to say thank you very much. This is just really important stuff and I'm glad that Nancy's doing this work to get this stuff together. These are stories I mean, in America, they never tell us. You know, we don't know the other side of it. I think that it's very important to learn about this stuff because there was another side.

Thanh: Because, as you know, some soldier from U.S. Army the soldiers come to Vietnam. They are very good people, but the language barrier. You know, the climate different in the United States. Everything different with the American people. So, sometimes they get mad, sometimes they ignore, and sometimes they doing something incorrect they don't want to do but sometimes they don't know. That reason, some people thinking about very bad for the American soldier, although they are very good. In the past, in my experience, I saw some people they get mad, you know, nothing for them to get mad but they don't understand and they get mad and it has something very bad happen. So this is my experience want to share with you about if the government send the troop go to in other country. It's very hard. Be careful. Sometime, you know, its happened very better for the people of that country and for our troop.

Katelyn: Thank you.

[Nancy Bui: Katelyn]