

Date: August 6, 1979
Occupation: College student

INTERVIEWER: When did you first hear about the Three Mile Island incident and from whom?

NARRATOR: On Wednesday morning of the day that it occurred at 7:30 I happened to be awake. There was a news flash on the TV screen which said that something had occurred at Three Mile Island in Harrisburg. And I didn't really think that much of it until about 10:00 that morning when I heard another bulletin about it. I still really wasn't that scared until about Friday when I started to see people leaving. And I've been following it more and more as the week went on.

INT: Did you know there was a reactor there before the incident?

NAR: No.

INT: What did you think at that point, I mean when you first heard about it, what did you think?

NAR: When I first heard about it at 7:30 in the morning, I thought that's awfully close, whatever it is is very close to where I am. Even though we are 20 some miles from Harrisburg, it still freaks you out when you're watching national news program, Good Morning America, and then during the TV break you suddenly see stuff flash on the screen that's really close to you.

INT: Did you feel that it was a serious situation?

NAR: I didn't start to feel it was serious or as serious as eventually I came believe that it is until I started to think about the consequences of radioactivity.

INT: Did you seek out further information and from whom?

NAR: Well, by seeking further information, I watched the news a little bit more frequently and I think I glanced at newspaper reports to see the different way they were covering it. I spoke to my parents. My mother really freaked me out – my mother is a nurse and my mother said, "Whatever you do, don't drink the water and I don't want you to drink any milk for about six weeks."

INT: Don't drink the water? She thought the water was going to be contaminated?

NAR: Yeah, my mother assumed that if the reactors went then the water supply would go and we shouldn't drink water or drink milk.

INT: I've never heard anyone say anything about the water.

NAR: She told me to drink the bottled water that I had in my refrigerator and make powered milk with it, so that was rather interesting.

INT: Did you talk about it with friends, family?

NAR: I talked about it with friends. I think probably before I really talked to my family. Basically my conversations with my family were centered around the fact that on Sunday night of that week my father wanted to drive from Yonkers through Harrisburg to pick me up. I told him he could come down if he wanted to, but I wasn't going to be there. I said I've already exposed myself. We drove down to Harrisburg Friday of that week. Saturday we were in Gettysburg right after their phosphorous fire. So, I figure by Sunday I'd be prepared for just about anything. And I didn't want my father to expose himself, so I said "You can come, but I'm not going to be here. So, you might as well not make the trip." So he didn't and I'm safe. In regard to my friends, well you were in Philly or something? (speaking to the interviewer)

INT: Yeah.

NAR: And you told us that we should all meet in DC and we were all going to drive to your house and that was going to be great, but Ellen and I just chickened out.

INT: Things didn't work out.

NAR: Remember when Mari left, it was getting kind of scary on my floor because one by one out of 18 people, eventually they all left. And I had my entire floor – two phones, three bathrooms...

INT: Did your attitude change then? In regards to the incident?

NAR: I can remember when it was initially going on for the first two days, being in awe and not really understanding it. But by Friday afternoon when we went to leave for Harrisburg, two girls from my floor came rushing at me and said, "Don't go to Harrisburg, this is closed and that is closed and if you do have to go, if it's really an emergency, make sure you take a shower when you come back."

INT: Wash off all the radiation. Some people.

NAR: They were completely serious, there was a little bit on the amusing side. You want to read me that question I really think I've answered all that much...

INT: Did your attitude change?

NAR: It got to a point where I was fairly upset. I realized that even though nothing was happening, whenever I turned on the TV set, the well they say, "Well there's a 50% chance that this bubble bursting," and "There's a question of how it's going to meltdown,

is it going to melt down, what's going to be going on?" And I found myself in a bit of a frenzy. I couldn't calm down. I was trying to crochet, I was trying to read, I was trying to do this, but all I was accomplishing was really nothing... until I started to listen to Jackson Browne which mellowed me out for some bizarre reason – I didn't realize at the time that he was involved in as much anti-nuke activity as he has been. And so it was even more ironic when I would go down to the radio station or call and ask if we could hear that. So, I don't think I got upset to point where I cried. I know I did write my parents a letter at one point when there was a question of us maybe being in a position of being evacuating when they issued the five mile and then the ten mile and then the 20 and then the 25. Well, when they wrote the 24 and they said they might even be a possibility of 25 – I wrote my parents a letter which they still have. And I named that, I told them not to be upset, that I was going off the wall but they shouldn't be upset.

INT: How did you feel about others' reactions?

NAR: Well, the ladies that told me I should take a shower after being exposed to radiation, I found that to be somewhat amusing. Although I realize though that a lot of people that shared that attitude were very serious and they were extremely scared and they probably did not stick around. I know I got even more disconcerted when the danger, or whatever it was, ... when people started coming back to school and all these T-shirts came out. Almost 80% of the people that I knew that had T-shirts weren't even there that week! And they didn't have to worry about kissing you're a** goodbye. They were in D.C.... they were... like Philly, all over the place. One student whose parents both teach at Dickinson – Sue Garrett – she said, she came into my room on Saturday morning and she goes, "We're leaving, my mother says that D.C. isn't far enough so we're going to go to Chicago and visit other relatives." (Laughing) I was like, okay...

INT: We interviewed Peggy Garrett, Steve Kassovic did, I think.

NAR: That was interesting.

INT: Did you follow newspapers or radio TV reports, and can you remember any particular sources, channels...?

NAR: Particular sources – channel 21, the CBS, WHP, I think it is, was great. Saturday for some reason I couldn't get to sleep and I was staying in my own room in KW which might have been a mistake, I suppose because I was the only person on my floor, but the third floor only had one girl on her floor, too. So, I knew that it wasn't a question of me actually alone, it was Luke and her and I that occupied an entire wing of KW. That was a little scary. But channel 21 had all these great old movies on. And it was on all night and being nocturnal like I am, I was going to be up all night anyway and in this particular situation they had for one hour they had a discussion of particular terms and if you had a question or anything you could them up and you could ask them. And the person that they had to lead this particular discussion has the most monotone voice that I had ever heard. So, you couldn't possibly stay awake long enough to worry about whatever his answers to any of those questions were. (Laughing) I did watch Meet the Press that

week which was Sunday and the guy that they were interviewing I think at that point had been in charge of the inspections as far as the federal government was concerned for these particular reactors. And I found it very interesting that it had suddenly gathered all the momentous... it became the subject to talk about. It made the news... I remember one of my French teachers when she was a French Assistant and I saw her on Saturday. And she had just had it up to... over her head with hysteria and all the rest of it. She was crying and carrying on – she was the most hysterical person and I saw throughout the entire incident. She went home to Paris and two days later...

INT: Who was that?

NAR: Martene. Two days later they had an even worse accident than we experienced at Three Mile Island right outside of Paris.

INT: Well, that's what I hear that they had a really bad one outside of Paris and how come that one's never been...? I mean, it's all Three Mile Island, Three Mile Island was supposed to be the worst nuclear disaster in history.

NAR: As far as... I was also into some PBS stuff and they had one of their exchange discussions where the audience would vote on what you would believe and what you didn't believe. And they had a bunch of speakers and this one guy got up on Sunday and he said, "We've had six incidents that have been worse than Three Mile Island in the last 10 years." So, he said... the thing is, why this one was picked out, we're not exactly sure. But it's happened six times before. (Interviewer and informant talking together for several sentences – all unintelligible) it doesn't reassure you, as much as...

INT: It scares you even more.

NAR: Yeah, it's like...

INT: What are they telling you?

NAR: Right. Exactly. How much are you going to believe, you know. I heard at one point in rumor in one day that week there was twice as much radiation as had been previously recorded on any other day. Now even though there were really sunny days for a while, like Wednesday and Thursday and even Friday were really sunny. I didn't want to lay out in the sun, which is unusual for me because I love to lay out in the sun. It's one of my three favorite activities. But... I didn't want to lay out in those few days. I just didn't want to expose myself to more radiation. And how much more radiation could you get? But what really started to scare me was the period of rainy weather that we had after that. Because when we had rainy weather for a long time and I kept wondering if it had anything to do with the reactor or if it was just Carlisle weather or what.

INT: How do you feel the media handled the situation?

NAR: In general, I think there was exaggeration. I don't really think you can have too much exaggeration in that particular situation because people's lives are involved and whatever if any damage has been done to human beings outside of initially, you know sending pregnant mothers away is cool perhaps, and heard at one point there were supposedly more women that reported they were pregnant during that particular time than at any other time during the year, which is also pretty bizarre. But I think the ramifications are such yes, you know, two can sleep as comfortably as one and it's a little less scary. But, I really think that we won't know the real ramification for another 10 or 20 years yet – exactly how many people are affected. And in that situation I think it's a very difficult job for the press to handle. How much are you going to tell the public – how much do they know? I mean if they waited three hours before they even reported it to the officials they were supposed to first report it to... how do we know whether we what we're being told is the truth; who is to decide what is truth and how much you tell and how much you don't tell. I am a little skeptical that we actually know the whole truth. Because I don't think we do and I'm not really sure that we ever will. But what's even more scary is that I'm not sure we really want to.

INT: How do you feel that government handled the situation – the government officials?

NAR: I think Dick Thornburgh was pretty cool about the whole thing. I can imagine it much have been very hard for him, being a new governor to decide to cope with that particular situation. I heard where... Ann read an interview with the mayor from Middletown. And he said it's just destroying the real estate market, that no one will want to live there that all these people are going to move away and stuff like that.

INT: Oh, the industry – whose going to want to buy anything from Middletown? I mean that small town is really pretty infamous.

NAR: But, that's what pretty weird because if you notice, remember when they had those Three Mile Island plates advertised on TV, those are made in Middletown. I mean they're really chasing in on it.

INT: Somebody is, think about it, think of the T-shirts. Think about the money that people are making. Any crisis, you know.

NAR: With the first bunch of T-shirts, I don't know if it happened with the ones that I bought, but the first batch of T-shirts where you bring in your own T-shirt and they would screen it for you. That money supposedly went as a relief fund to the people that had been evacuated. Now, I don't know if that's actually where it went.

INT: But, they said that's where...

NAR: They said that's where it was supposed to be going.

INT: Ok, then how do you think...

NAR: Thornburgh handled to the social services.

INT: What about Carter?

NAR: Carter was interesting in and of the fact that when I heard his selection of the committee that was going to overview it, there are a bunch of professionals and people that had studied physics and really had a background to know what was going on. But, then I also noticed that they chose a woman who is a housewife and has five kids or six kids or something like that. And...

INT: She'd be the one that would be affected the most.

NAR: I think just the fact that they chose of that caliber. Someone who isn't in the necessary academic background that everybody else was. I thought that as a good sign. I know they had a lot of town meetings about what was going to be done and who was going to be this and who was going to do that and I know a lot of people got involved suddenly thinking about helping civil defense. I didn't get involved in any of that stuff. I just sat back and listened and I worked like a lot of food service or somebody called me up and said they wanted company or something like that I would be there. So, I worked on a different level. But it was hard for the President of the United States to handle something like that, and I think Carter, although he fumbled around for a while and he probably knows less about it than he is going to tell us. I think he handled the situation probably as calmly as he could, not perhaps as well.

INT: How do you feel about Metropolitan Edison? How do you think they handled the incident?

NAR: Metropolitan Edison, I think, should be forced to pay for it. I really do. I don't think it should be something that their particular clientele should be forced to pay for. I think part of, most of it should be born by the people who actually set up the reactor and they have found that six other reactors that were built by the same company have the same flaws that they have at Three Mile Island. Now if the Three Mile Island incident results in a crackdown, not only in terms of how these things are inspected – because they found that whoever had done the initial inspecting had really f***ed up. And so from that standpoint I think it is not exactly entirely Metropolitan Edison's problem. I certainly don't think that the consumer should be forced to pay for that kind of mechanical f**k up. I think first the company that built the things initially should be fined for it or forced to pay for it.

INT: Met Ed owns it, they should like...

NAR: Well, I think they should because they knew, or whoever it was that was running the show down there, knew that there were flaws in it. The inspectors refused to admit they were there, and if the machinery, I would like to believe if the machinery was in proper working order to begin with, and if the inspectors had inspected it properly or picked up on the flaws, which they could have done. Then I think in that situation both

Metropolitan Edison and the inspectors and the other company that initially built them should be forced to pay the damages. Because we are going to be paying for the damages that we don't even know about. I mean, how do you put a price on your own life? One woman, the first case of a woman actually getting away – well not even getting away – four years after she died, her family were finally awarded something like \$13.5 million or a couple of million dollars.

INT: Soakland, right? Soakland?

NAR: Yeah, yeah.

INT: Was there anyone that you found particularly reliable or anyone that you trusted more than others?

NAR: By that do you mean a news source or something of that nature?

INT: A news source, even a friend. Anyone that you sort of listened to any believed?

NAR: That I felt comfortable with? Well, that is unusual because normally I don't trust Sam Banks. Normally I think Sam is someone that I would rather just not listen to if I don't have to. But Sam, under that particular situation absolutely amazed me and I couldn't have been more proud of the way he handled the situation. He took a bunch of people who were supposedly left on campus – professors and whoever and had huge meetings where we could ask any questions that we wanted to ask. I was even more pleased when he closed school for a week and left the dorms open. Because that was if you couldn't get home, you could stay. I saw, I guess in that sense I trusted Sam because for the first time that I have known him in four years he was finally doing something and he was doing it right and he was trying to help people that were there, and he wasn't just sounding off and being Mr. Big Shot. And I also trusted Ellen, from the standpoint that I felt very comfortable being with her. I think the most comfort that I got was just simply listening to Jackson Brown.

INT: Was there anyone you particularly mistrusted?

NAR: Ah yes. The people, and there were quite a few of them that decided that, well it's radiation and we just can't stay and suddenly when they came back a couple days later, like Sunday night after having one week of school, spring break, one week of school and then the Three Mile Island thing. And said how really hard it was and how they were really affected by it. They hadn't even stayed. Those were the people that went out and bought T-shirts for it, and they were the people that weren't even there. I don't...I mean I can understand them being afraid to stay, but I don't think that those particular people know what it was about any, and so from that standpoint I don't really trust anything that they would say.

INT: So, you think... do you think because you stayed... You stayed, right? You never left?

NAR: No. Well, I went to Gettysburg.

INT: Because you stayed do you think you were more...? Well, how long were you in Gettysburg?

NAR: Just for the day. We came back that night.

INT: Do you feel just because you stayed and you were here when the whole thing was happening, that makes you a better source? Do you think that you are, more, you know more about it because you lived through it here or...?

NAR: I like to think that being, that I was in essence here that I was not just an observer, even though I wasn't participating in any of the major decisions to be made.

INT: Were you scared because you stayed here? What made you, why did you decide to stay?

NAR: Why did I decide to stay? That is a very interesting question. Part of it started out because I was such a procrastinator and I couldn't really decide what to do or where to go. And I finally decided that I was going to stay as long as Ellen was going to stay. Because first of all I didn't really want to go home. Second of all I thought, well I've, maybe there is a reason for me to stay. Maybe there's something that I can do on my own individual level. And I wasn't exactly sure what that was going to be. It took very strange forms of what I actually wound up doing. And maybe it wasn't as impressive as making a major policy decision or deciding that these are the available facts, this is how you sort them out. I tried to deal on a one to one basis with people that I saw who were more upset than I was, and tried to make them feel a little less upset. And I found that by doing that, I had to maintain a certain calm and tranquility about myself.

INT: Did the people that stayed, weren't the people that stayed sort of calm about it? I mean, if they were so upset, why didn't they leave?

NAR: Well, that's. The people that stayed weren't upset in essence about the fact that this was going on or we probably would have left. But sometimes you'd realize how alone you were and you'd start to think about possible ramifications about what would happen if you did have to evacuate. What would you take with you? If you were told you had one hour to leave, what would you bring with you? And that starts to scare you a little bit. So...

INT: What would you have taken with you?

NAR: Ohh... I was trying to think about that, and I was trying to decide whether I should pack a suitcase or a knapsack. And I decided it would be a lot easier for me to pack my knapsack. I think I probably would have taken a couple of my favorite books, which at that point meant that I would have. And I would have also taken the crocheting

I was working on. I was working on a scarf for Ellen. So, I probably would have taken my Bible. I didn't find myself becoming overly spiritual. I know that I did pray during that particular experience. I definitely would have taken my Jackson Brown tapes, probably my Sherlock Holmes book. Because I love Sherlock Holmes. And a couple of my favorite records. Maybe a clean change of clothes, too. That would have been a good idea. And some make up so I could paint myself. If I was going to go radioactive, at least I would have gone in style.

INT: Glowing.

NAR: Yes, right and mutant drinks.

INT: Alright, let's go back a little bit. Did you feel that those in charge were in control of the situation?

NAR: By those in charge do you mean the President on down? Do you mean particularly at the college or?

INT: Not the college. Let's stick with the people who are in charge of the reactor?

NAR: Alright the people I think who were in charge of the reactor f***ed up because I know there was a three hour delay between the time that the initial whatever it was that occurred happened.

INT: What mad you so uneasy?

NAR: When I heard on the news that there was a three hour delay between the time they noticed this particular malfunction and the time that it was reported to the next step. So that the company knew about it for three hours in essence and did not report it. And I can't help but ask myself why three hours? What did they do with those three hours? Could they have done anything in those three hours that would have stopped all that panic, all that worry, and all that destruction? And I think they could of. And for that reason I am somewhat skeptical.

INT: Okay, well then, do you feel now that those in charge were in control?

NAR: No.

INT: Are they in control now?

NAR: Unfortunately, I think the same people are in charge. I know that maybe one or two heads of major agencies, maybe their heads rolled, perhaps. But I still don't trust whoever it is that is running that particular organization.

INT: Well, you worried you about the situation, what worried you the most?

NAR: I think I was worried about the situation. I think the thing that worried me the most is basically the only time that I have really been exposed to radiation is when my grandmother was undergoing chemotherapy and I saw what measured dosages did to her. I saw her go from a very vivacious woman to someone who was very lethargic and waiting to die. So, having seen a controlled aspect of radiation in that sense. The idea of having uncontrolled radiation really scared me. I didn't know what.

INT: Chemotherapy is a little different than radiation therapy, I think.

NAR: Oh, I am sure the two of them are but from the standpoint.

INT: There are similarities.

NAR: Of you lose your appetite, hair falls out and things like that.

INT: Nausea.

NAR: Nausea.

INT: Vomiting.

NAR: And not only that but your emotional state. I mean, you get very upset, very worried.

INT: Well, your emotional is so tied to your physical that during something like that...

NAR: But the thing that I would be afraid of most would be, I was worried about those symptoms yes, but I can also remember thinking well if I ever do get out of this thing, you know, if we aren't evacuated and everything does go back to normal, alright that is cool for now. But what is it going to be like in ten years? What happens when I want to sit down and have children and I find out that there is something wrong with me? I mean, we already have cancer in my family. Everyone with the exception of my mother and I has at one point suffered from some form of cancer. So, is the Three Mile Island incident or my being exposed, albeit from a distance, to certain molecular state that I might not have otherwise been exposed to. Is that going to "expedientiate" or suddenly increase my chances of having cancer that much more quickly. I don't know, and I don't really want to know. But that is something that definitely bothers, worries me the most. It definitely does worry me the most.

INT: Did you make any plans different from what you would have ordinarily have made, and what kind?

NAR: The plans that I made differently were for one thing I had to read the Wasteland by T.S. Elliot for English class – my next English class. And I sat down, and I read it when I was in ninth grade, no I was in twelfth grade. And I read it once, but trying to read the Wasteland during the Three Mile Island incident was definitely a trip in and of

itself. Being that it does describe a place where literally nothing grows and everything is withered. And I couldn't help but wonder if that would happen in this particular incident. I knew when Ellen and I drove you from Carlisle to Harrisburg I only saw nine farm animals. And that was on the way back.

INT: I didn't see any.

NAR: Both ways, yeah but normally you see so many of them. Normally they are all over the place. But when they had started to issue warnings that animals should be kept inside they were. And then I was reading the Wasteland where nothing grows and there is no life and none of this. I started to think is it possible that we will have a Wasteland here? And I don't know. Once I saw the animals come back but I knew that things had become a little bit more calm and it wasn't quite as bad.

INT: So, did you make any plans?

NAR: Basically I decided that I was going to do whatever homework I could do, but more importantly I was going to try and keep myself as calm as possible and do, or be with those people that I had always wanted to be with, or people that wanted me to be with them, and I wanted to be with, or someone that I could help. Those were in essence my priorities. And that led to some very interesting occurrences. Suddenly people that I didn't even think knew I was alive not only knew that I was alive but wanted to be with me. And that is a real ego trip. It didn't...I think my academics definitely suffered because I didn't do all that much academically. When you think there is a possibility you might have to kiss you're a** goodbye or your proverbial a** goodbye you suddenly become a lot more hedonistic and you live much more for the moment than you do for anything else. So basically I guess if I changed anything it would be that I did a lot more partying and I spent a lot more time with a lot of people that I really didn't know all that well. People that I had originally just said hello to. And that was it. And suddenly I found myself talking to them or being with them.

INT: Then did you change any of your ordinary routines? You said you partied more and studied less? Was that a change from your ordinary routine?

NAR: I don't like the way you are laughing but believe it or not I honestly did party more than any other week in school, that particular week. Even more than senior week. It was pretty outrageous. I know at one point I was so f***ed up on cocaine that I kept begging the people I was with not to give me anymore because I just didn't want to do anymore. I didn't think I could handle anymore. And they were like, "You are going to have to kiss your a** goodbye so you might as well be all coked up to do it!" And I was like, "I'm already coked up. I have done cocaine with four different people now. Leave me alone, I have done enough!"

INT: Oh, it must be rough, Dawn, it must be rough!

NAR: Oh, it was really rough, I mean it really was! But, in other words, a change in my major routine. I didn't worry about doing the laundry. I figured...

INT: Oh God.

NAR: I figured if I was going to have to leave anyway someone could come back in two thousand and some odd years and find all my dirty laundry.

INT: I know that is quite a change, you want to do laundry everyday.

NAR: I just, major changes I think... I think I tried to get as much sleep as I could.

INT: On so much cocaine you tried to get that much sleep?!?! Come on.

NAR: Well, I didn't sleep immediately after the cocaine.

INT: I am sure you wouldn't.

NAR: I passed out, I made sure I had, on sometimes I had ten hours of sleep which is a lot for me because I would sleep during the day or in the afternoon. I'd take a nap or stuff like that. I got more sleep.

INT: What did you think about leaving the area? You seemed pretty down on it, listening to you. Now you are talking to a person who did leave. Through circumstances beyond my control.

NAR: I think that you can't, even though I get down on them and I say it wasn't cool and they don't know what it was because they weren't there. I think in that particular situation you have to leave if that is what you decide is right for you, you have to do it. So all kidding aside, I really think that the people who left, some of them left because they just wanted to go and party on the Pocono's. I know that for a fact because I got invited to go and I just wasn't into going to the Pocono's. I thought I would be hardcore and stay. Some people did leave.

INT: Who went to the Pocono's?

NAR: Oh, a couple of my SAE friends and some freshman girls. I'm sure they really worried a lot about Three Mile Island when they were up in the Pocono's. But, some people couldn't go because either A, home was too far away, home was nearer to Harrisburg than what they were, or they just didn't have the money to go. Now in that particular situation Sam decided we were going to get paid a day early. So anybody who needed money – whether you were on work study or what – could borrow money from the school. And I think that made a big difference for people who suddenly found themselves with a desire to leave but previously hadn't been able to afford it. And that made it a lot easier to bear. I know I found myself going out and doing a lot more

shopping. Why I decided to do my summer shopping in that particular moment of time I will never know.

INT: You are compulsive.

NAR: I guess so. That must be it.

INT: Okay, what brought you to stay? Just the fact that you wanted to be in the middle of it or you wanted to help or...?

NAR: I didn't want to be in the middle of it. I don't think anybody ever wants to be in the middle of a supposed nuclear disaster. I think, I didn't do it for sensational reasons. I did it basically because first of all I didn't want to go home and that was a major decision so where was I going to go?

INT: Well you had an offer open to you.

NAR: I know, I had an offer open to me of going down to your house, but at the same point I thought well if I am going to be evacuated I am going to be evacuated. But, maybe I can do something here since I am here. I didn't know exactly what turn that would take, but I thought even if I could just help one person or calm one person down so they weren't as scared then maybe it is not a monumental thing, but I'll feel as though I have accomplished something. I mean I have made some little change and that's why I stayed. I even got to do that more than once and that made me feel really good.

INT: Is there someone in your life that you were watching in order to decide what to do? You mentioned Ellen, was she the one that you watched?

NAR: Well, Ellen and I. I guess I watched Ellen basically because throughout the time that I have known her, I have always known her to be someone that I trust implicitly. A lot more than I trust myself actually, sometimes. And I decided that if she was going to stay, then I was going to stay. Then if I had to leave, I knew that I could leave with her. I also knew that if I was going to stay there would be someone there that I would know. Which is not to say when you are in that particular situation people are very unfriendly. As a matter of fact it would be the exact opposite. I mean there are people that I talked to them that wouldn't talk to me afterwards. I don't know if that was just me or just the fact that in a crisis people act in a very unusual manner.

INT: They band together?

NAR: They do band together, and they band together for what have got to be the most horrible reasons of all. We all might go in a minute, we might as well party it up while we are here.

INT: Did you have any mental pictures of what was happening at Three Mile Island, or what might happen?

NAR: Well, I love to picture this huge bubble. Trying to figure out exactly what was going on with it and as hard as I tried to listen to Priscilla Laws and everybody else explain all that, if I couldn't be bothered with physics when I was taking it and I certainly wasn't too interested in trying to figure out what was going on when I wasn't taking physics. So, I had a mental picture of it, having seen the reactor which then became a tourist attraction every time we drove to Harrisburg.

(Interview interrupted)

INT: Back on the air. Alright, now. Did you think that anything that happened at Three Mile Island might have affected your health? In the future or now. You sort of mentioned...

NAR: It's possible. I really won't know to what extent it'll affect my health. I don't think for a while. It is very hard with my particular health to tell at any one particular time what is affecting it and what isn't. I mean given the family case history that I have come from – my father, my uncle, my grandmother, even my brother who was only 18 at the time of it all; either experienced hypertension or in my brother's case has manifested signs of hypertension. And they weren't there, but I already have that likelihood within me. I don't have any signs of hypertension or I don't think I could bend. But who is to say in five years with an incidence.

INT: What is hypertension? High blood pressure?

NAR: High blood pressure. With my mother and the cancer thing, I mean that could be coming anyway. And the fact that I smoke cigarettes is only going to aggravate it more, I realize that. But, once again, who is to say? That the Three Mile Island thing won't affect it. In terms of what I felt at that particular time, my physical condition I think was pretty good considering how run down it could have been. But I don't think a lot of people. I think later on people started to get colds and felt nauseous or whatever.

INT: Do you think people did get sick because of it?

NAR: I don't think that people get sick because of it. I think it is just interesting to note that when the weather started to get worse, in terms of raining and stuff. People suddenly got colds, they just felt blah and stuff like that.

INT: I got a real bad cold but I don't think that was. I wasn't around. So, I don't know whether.

NAR: I don't think the Three Mile Island thing at that particular time really changed my health at all because I was in good health but what is going to happen later, I don't know.

INT: What other aspects of your life might have been affected? Socially, you seem to have answered that but...

NAR: Socially my life was affected in and of the fact that there were people that I had known before that I was closer, that I couldn't deal with because they weren't here. And with the exception of Ellen, I was close with her before and if anything she and I got closer then because we would go over her house and cook and what have you, and then come back and do radio shows and stuff like that. And she would get pissed at me for requesting Jackson Brown, but now she likes Jackson Brown. So, that's okay. But at the time she was ready to kill him, kill me for requesting it. There were a couple of people, like Chris Barone for instance who I knew to say hello to. We worked in the dish room and what have you, but I got to know her a lot better during the Three Mile Island thing than probably I would have got to know her at all. So socially it definitely did change. I know a lot of people that previously I hadn't bothered with or they hadn't bothered with me that suddenly did. And academically I explained too about postponing that as long as possible.

INT: What aspects of your community might have been affected?

NAR: I know girls on my floor were working with Civil Defense in case there was some kind of an emergency. I didn't get involved with that because I figured, for one thing I was just too lazy to find out how to do it. For another thing I knew that if it really did come to it all I had to do was go to student services and say look, what can I do, and then get involved in the community. But basically I think other than actually walking around town and talking to people that were in town, I didn't really have that much more community involvement.

INT: Well, what do you think aspects of your community, how did your community change because of the incident?

NAR: Oh. It was interesting because some... Initially Wednesday and Thursday I didn't notice any real change in the number of people that I saw walking on the streets or shopping or what have you. But, Saturday and that Monday there was a definite, from what I could tell just walking around town there were definitely fewer people out. I know Fay's was closed on Saturday and we all wanted to go to Fay's and eat breakfast. We drove there in Debbie's MG and we were going, and we finally went out to the truck stop, Flemming's where even though, granted it was like 12:00 in the afternoon by the time we got there. But, there weren't even that many people there. There was maybe three waitresses and maybe like the three of us and maybe four other people in the place. And I can't really picture Flemming's as having a particular off hour, that might have been their off hour now. There just didn't seem to be as many people around as there normally were.

INT: If the worst had occurred what do you think might have happened?

NAR: I think if the worst had occurred, the bubble would have exploded and it would have released xenon and some other gas that are not conducive to humans and I think there might have been an evacuation. I don't know what the ramifications of...

INT: How do you think if the worst occurred, how do you think that would have affected health? Like instant death or...?

NAR: The worst that could have occurred I think that we would have been, ideally I suppose if the worst had occurred I don't think we would have been close enough to have been killed instantaneously or as quickly as though people who were in the immediate area would have been. We might have been lucky enough. I don't know. We might have been lucky enough to get away without having met much more than maybe, a burn or two here or there, or maybe nothing at all. I don't know. I didn't really even think about that.

INT: Did you have any concern about the food or milk from the area? You mentioned your mother?

NAR: My mother is a trip. Mom is really into health, being that she has been a nurse for all these years. And for a couple days I tried. I really tried to go without drinking milk and I guess (End of tape). Concerned for like two days that was about as long as I could go out without milk or anything. I really didn't listen to what my mother said. Indeed I did lie to her and I told her that I drank the same bottle of water that had been in my refrigerator before the TMI thing I had bought powdered milk and I was drinking that. When in fact I was really drinking regular milk and chocolate milk. I drank a lot of chocolate milk that week. I figured if I was going to go that it really wouldn't matter because I wanted that chocolate milk.

INT: Did you picture in your mind any effects of radiation on life around you?

NAR: Well, there were a couple of mutant discos and there was a mutant party where...

INT: Well, no no, I am talking about life around you. Like animal life. Did you think of what the radiation would have, like with the plants and animals?

NAR: That scared me. I think that probably scared me as much as thinking about what people were going to be like. You talk or you laugh about three-legged or three-eyed people. I think the animals, it's much more of a concern to me from the standpoint that they didn't really cause it and they are going to be suffering from it. It's kind of like kids. The ones, the unborn babies that had to be saved, or the newly born, or even the aged. I knew someone who had been taking care of a woman who has been an invalid for like two years and she had to be evacuated because had there been a mass scale evacuation they didn't think that she would be able to get out in time. So, then she was evacuated for a couple of days. Those people I worried about but I didn't really think about this creature feature stuff about really strange man eating plants and glow in the dark stuff or things like that.

INT: Did you think of your own death?

NAR: Well, I accepted my death a long time ago. I realize that is one of the first realities of life. That in essence that from the moment you breathe it is also an eventuality that you are going to die. So, I don't really think that. It just seems for the first time in my life that it was possible. A little bit more possible than at any other time. But I practically made peace with as many people that I had to make peace with, and I made peace with myself which I think was most important.

INT: Did you think about the death of others?

NAR: No. Not really. In essence of other people do you mean did I think that other people could die as a result of this? Yes, I did. But, I didn't think people that I directly knew would be killed as a result of this or would die as a result of it. I didn't think that that was going to happen right away.

INT: So, you thought you would survive? Did you think that you would survive?

NAR: Initially I think probably by Sunday, by Sunday night the panic that I myself was experiencing had decreased a lot and so I guess, Sunday afternoon I thought that was a possibility. Especially when I was listening to that talk show on PBS where they said there were six other incidences and I thought well this time it's possible. But, I didn't really get overly concerned with it. And I didn't write out a will or anything.

INT: Did you think of God during the time of the incident?

NAR: Yeah, I have that tendency in crisis. Having lived next to the Son of Sam for, whatever time he lived in Yonkers, I lived two blocks from him. It wasn't until after he had been caught that I knew that he lived so close to me. But I thought about it from the standpoint that I had tried literally everything that I could do to calm myself down and I figured it was about time that I prayed. So, I did do that.

INT: Okay, what did you pray about?

NAR: Basically, I prayed for the people that I knew and I prayed that if there was a way that I could help that I would be able to do that and that. I think I might have even prayed that everything would work out so that no one would really be hurt. In an essence it would be a type of accident where mechanical malfunctions would not in some way harm life, be it human or animal life or whatever. That it would be something that would not occur again.

INT: Did any Biblical stories or events or sayings cross your mind?

NAR: With the exception of perhaps, "If ye have faith even as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say unto this mountain move from here to there and it will move." Which is, it is Matthew 17, verse 1 and 2. It is probably one of the more powerful little sayings you can find in the Bible. But other than that I think the only other saying that really came to my mind was that since I was there that there probably was a reason and there probably

was something that I could do, so I should do that whatever form it would take of help. And most of all probably just do be as much of a, as comfortable with myself as I could possibly could be because there were enough people that were really upset and they didn't really need one more person to be upset. You needed to be at peace with yourself.

INT: Did the idea of Satan and The Last Judgment or the end of the world enter your thinking or feeling?

NAR: No.

INT: Do you or did you consider the incident at Three Mile Island as related in any way to God and His instructing or disciplining mankind?

NAR: No.

INT: Did you feel you had certain responsibilities during the incident? You mentioned a lot that you sort of felt it was your job to lighten other peoples' loads or...?

NAR: Well, I think part of that is a little less altruistic than it seems. I think if you see someone that is more upset than you are, regardless of whatever particular condition of emotional stress you are under, you can't help but desire to somehow ease your own burden by trying to get someone to relieve theirs. So, I don't think it was completely altruistic.

INT: Okay, did any of these responsibilities conflict? Did you find yourself, well you mentioned that.... You sort of, you wanted to leave but you thought that maybe you should stay or...

NAR: Initially, I thought maybe I should go. And then when I decided that there really wasn't any place that I could escape to since I had already exposed myself by being in Harrisburg twice.

INT: Oh, for that matter I was exposed plenty, too. Even though I didn't stay around.

NAR: And then going to Gettysburg right after the phosphorous fire and I pretty much decided that if I had exposed myself to anything I had already done a really excellent job of it so I didn't really. I think that the other thing that I should have probably thought of more at the time was that had I exposed myself to something by being in contact with as many other people as I was. Because I was still working food service. Because I could have exposed more people to whatever it was I had exposed myself to.

INT: So, did you think that anything conflicted? Any responsibilities that you felt?

NAR: With the exception probably of letting my academics go cause I just found myself getting to a point where I just couldn't study and I couldn't read the Wasteland or I couldn't read it a second time. I just, you know it is a really strange. I suppose some

things conflicted, like my academics that didn't get done and stuff like that but no real confliction.

INT: Did you have things to do which you otherwise would not have had to do?

NAR: Well, I worked more and I went down to the radio station more I think than I probably would have done at any other time. I even found myself listening to the news broadcasts more than I did otherwise, or picking up papers more than I normally did, and stuff like that. But other than that I really didn't change my routine that much.

INT: You have ideas about how it would be best to behave in such a situation?

NAR: I think in that particular situation that there is a best way to behave that is to realize that we are all going to go sometime and it may or it may not be a result of that particular incident so that the best thing that you can do is to find out as much as you can from the people or sources that you do find to be reliable to realize that maybe you aren't being told everything and maybe what you are being told isn't really the truth. But that you shouldn't panic and that if you can possibly do something in terms of getting yourself prepared then you have to take that a step further and try and help other people if you can.

INT: Did anything like this happen to you before or in history? You mentioned that there had been six others?

NAR: Yeah, one news show that I listened to was PBS discussion thing. It was one of these hearing where they had a bunch of people come up and give testimony, and this one guy said that. I guess since the early 1960's or mid 1960's they'd had six other incidences which were worse than what happened with Three Mile Island, which received very little documentation or information or anything like that. So, I think in history in this country. I really can't understand if there have been six other occurrences why suddenly Three Mile Island got chosen to be the, nailed as being the worst disaster in history.

INT: Did you see this incident as being similar to anything else in your life?

NAR: I suppose living in New York you come across the day to day situation of am I going to get raped today, am I going to get mugged, who's going to stab me in the dark, am I going to have time to get away or whatever. And so in essence you learn to adjust to that when you live in New York and you learn to deal with the fear, and having already experienced rape and what have you upon other periods of my life, I think that the closest thing that I could relate to with the Three Mile Island thing was in essence you didn't know what was happening, you didn't know when it would happen, you didn't know where you would be or if you could recover from it if anything did happen so the element of the unknown as in living with that particular fear of the city I believe is to be somewhat of the same. But nonetheless, in order to live your life in either situation, you have got to decide to go on so that is the only real similarity I can see between my life.

INT: Was this incident more or less frightening than a flood, a hurricane, a war – anything like that?

NAR: I think I have been really lucky with war because I haven't had to go. I have talked about it and what have you. And I think even with the war you don't know who the enemy is and even its groups of people fighting each other with guns and stuff and bombs and things like that, and a lot of people are destroyed and land and animals and what have you. In the Three Mile Island thing the enemy was of such an abstract nature it was really hard to comprehend first of all what could happen, what was happening, what the signs of radiation poisoning or radiation burns were.

INT: So you think it is more frightening because it is invisible?

NAR: I think it is more frightening because it is much more abstract and you know so much less about it. We are post-war babies. Not immediate post-war babies, but we have in an essence been seeing the country in essence become wrapped in a war that everybody wants to go out and fight. The closest thing we have been related to with that is Vietnam.

INT: And that sure wasn't a real patriotic war, that's for sure.

NAR: No, it was a very thankless war for those who came back so. I don't really think that I have lived through an experience that I could really relate with the Three Mile Island thing in terms of it is more scary than a war perhaps that's the only kind of qualifications that I could.

INT: Did any TV shows or movies come to mind?

NAR: Oh, there were a lot of great old movies that were on that, that particular week.

INT: Well, was there one that came into mind because of the Three Mile Island incident?

NAR: No, not initially but a couple of months later. Remember when you and a law school friend, Jack...?

INT: Yeah.

NAR: We were watching, what was it? Red Scare?

INT: Red Alert.

NAR: Red Alert, and that was made before the Three Mile Island thing, like 1976 I think it was dated. And the China Syndrome, well it was interesting that they talked about the town of Harrisburg or something the size of.

INT: The area.

NAR: The area of Harrisburg.

INT: The size of Pennsylvania.

NAR: Right. And then there was Saturday Night Live's little thing where Jimmy Carter and the cleaning lady suddenly got radioactive and Rosalynn is face-to-face with 40 foot Jimmy Carter and his new Mrs. Carter. Those were funny. You need something to laugh at in that particular experience.

INT: What made you think of it? Just because they were TMI, they were?

NAR: Well, because they were Three Mile Island.

INT: Dealt with radiation.

NAR: And because they dealt with radiation and because they dealt with Harrisburg. But I think more importantly because when you are experiencing the kind of stress that we are under and there was a great deal of it and there was a lot of tension because no one really knew. I mean regardless of what kind of background they had or what they had read or what they had measured, the thing with a radioactive scare is that no one really knows. And so when you go to people that you think know you find out from them "I don't know." And you freak out so....

INT: Did any books or stories, you mentioned, or poems. You mentioned the fact that Wasteland by T.S. Elliot.

NAR: Well, I had to read that for Trumilli's English course and I didn't exactly. I wasn't exactly enthralled with the prospect of reading that when the potential, when I could imagine that that could quite possibly come to be right where I had been for four years. Or at least near where I had been. I couldn't read it. I read it through once but I didn't. I couldn't sit down and take it apart and deal with it in the manner that I should have been reading. I was also reading Dr. Zhivago or something like that. It just got to a point where I just didn't want to hear anymore war. I was reading something by Shellof, any way it was involving war and destruction, emptiness and sterility and really pleasant subjects. But I just didn't bother with any of that stuff after a while.

INT: Did you find yourself singing any songs? You mentioned Jackson Brown earlier.

NAR: I wasn't myself singing songs without the music behind them. I would listen to hours and hours of Jackson Brown.

INT: Any particular song?

NAR: I really can't remember. I think.

INT: Before the Deluge is a good one.

NAR: That was probably on the tapes.

INT: Isn't that about the end of the world?

NAR: See, the interesting thing with my Jackson Brown tapes is I listen to hours and hours of Jackson Brown, but if I was to try and sing you the words without him, I couldn't remember them. It was just an amazing (unintelligible phrase). So it wasn't even a question of me listening to the words and saying hey this is Jackson Brown. This means this, this means that. Because I didn't. I was just listening to it just to hear that voice, just calmed me down.

INT: His voice calms you down than rather than what he was singing.

NAR: Right.

INT: At the time did you have any day dreams that you can remember?

NAR: I suppose I flashed on like packing a little bag and grabbing Ellen and running off into the sunset, but it never really came about. I don't think I spent that much time worrying about it. I was too busy trying to live whatever particular moment I had without really thinking about anything else.

INT: Did you have any sleeping dreams at the time? Any nightmares or whatever?

NAR: I don't think I had any nightmares. Usually I was probably pretty f***ed up by the time I went to sleep and I just probably passed out.

INT: So you're sleeping wasn't disturbed?

NAR: My sleeping was not disturbed. I always left the light on and the TV on when I fell asleep because that way I figured the TV would be enough to keep me enough awake so that if anything really important did happen that I could notice it. Because when I sleep with the TV on I am like quasi sleep and quasi awake, and I left the light on.

INT: You are sensitive to emergencies?

NAR: Right.

INT: What changes happened to the people around you during the incident?

NAR: Some people that I knew had become, well from what my standpoint is and if you think about it, you know to wash off the radioactivity take a shower, I found that to be rather amusing. But when I realized the degree of seriousness that they really believed

that, I felt sorry for them. I can't really think of any other way to put it, that they had so little an understanding of it and so even though I would laugh at it later I don't think I would have done them the injustice of laughing at them while they were there. Other changes that I noticed in people were people were under a lot more stress but at the same point a lot of people that would like to normally give the impression that they know everything admitted that they didn't, and I had a good deal of respect.

INT: Do you think it changed them in any lasting way, or was it a permanent kind of?

NAR: On the whole probably the science teachers and professors, I would say that it made a lasting. I don't think it changed Dr. Banks at all.

INT: Did the incident change you in any lasting way?

NAR: Well, it made me appreciate Jackson Brown. It made me realize that it is possible. It's possible for something of that nature to occur. It's possible to survive it, and the thing I guess that is really impossible is to really know exactly what is going on, what the ramifications of it are and how it is going to come out.

INT: What joke did you hear about radiation and Three Mile Island?

NAR: Oh, I wish I could remember them now.

INT: When did you first hear it, who first told you?

NAR: Well, let me think. There was the, "I have been to Harrisburg. I plan to have 2.6 children." There was, "Hell no we won't glow." Those were things that were printed on the first T-shirts that they silk screened. The ones that they were going to use the money for relief fund for the people that had been. Those were so cute. So was the "Hi, I'm Radiant, How are you?" or something strange like that. The later ones, the second edition. This is from the shirt that I had which says "And you were warned about the bomb." And on the back of it has "Nuclear Break" and then the dates of that. So the humor was a wee bit twisted. It was really morbid if you thought about it. They were advertising glow in the dark drinks, mutant discos. The humor took a very perverse nature. But...I think most of that was because at the same time you were making light of the seriousness it was only because you could make light of it that you could release some of the tension and some of the stress that you were under.

INT: You don't remember like who?

NAR: The first time I saw that was on the T-shirt, that stuff.

INT: You see any posters or graffiti?

NAR: There is some very interesting graffiti in regards to the nuclear stuff in the bathroom of the G-man, in the girls bathroom and it says No Nukes, it is dated 3-31-79,

it says we should all cut down on our use of energy so we wont need places like Three Mile Island to generate it. And I don't know who wrote the stuff but it is all dated around that particular week. There is also we should ban cars with more than six cylinders. Whoever it was that was in there was really off on it. And it was just, it was interesting. The G-man did not card that week. I mean anybody and everybody was in there partying. Normally they do have to card you because (unintelligible) but that particular week. I don't know who it was that got in and wrote it but it is still there, so somewhere they have gone down in posterity history, or at least until they take the doors off the bathroom in the girls room.

INT: If it was meant to be funny, did you laugh?

NAR: At that particular point I think I would have laughed at a lot of things. I'm sure I did laugh.

INT: JUST ABOUT ANYTHING WAS FUNNY AT THAT TIME.

INT: Did others laugh?

NAR: I didn't on the whole, you know people would laugh and then go well that's really stupid.

INT: That's really sick. Laugh.

NAR: That's really sick, but you would still laugh because it released a lot of tension and you wanted to laugh. I think a lot of times you wanted to find something that you wouldn't have to take so seriously because the whole time you were watching TV there was like little...

INT: Flashes

NAR: Blurbs about what was going on and there was fifty per cent chance of this and there is such and such chance of that or the pregnant women have still been asked to leave the five mile radius and then they are going to be brought back and you were getting little new flashes the whole time. Which was annoying if you really wanted to see the program.

INT: Did you tell these jokes to anyone else?

NAR: Oh, I'm sure I wrote one or two of them to my parents. I think my parents were probably more frightened in essence to what was happening to me than I was. I didn't have time to be as scared as I'm sure they wanted me to be.

INT: It's easier to be frightened if you are not in the situation because...

NAR: It is because you have no control over it, but the thing I was trying to get across to them was that I had less control over what was going on than they did. Because I had

either two options. I could either stay or I could go. I hadn't opted to take go, so I stayed. And that was just the way that I had looked at it. My parents just couldn't understand why I had done that. So they seemed to be more afraid and they didn't appreciate the humor quite as much as I did.

INT: Why do you think there was so much joking going on? You mentioned as a tension reliever?

NAR: Basically it is a tension reliever, but also I think when you are in a situation when you are scared its, it also brings out. Or at least it brings out in me the desire to laugh because I don't like being scared and I don't like not knowing, but I like laughing, so laughing makes me feel comfortable. I'll seek out whatever it is that will make me laugh more than I will something that will scare me.

INT: What jokes do you remember from other crisis, like Guyanna or Jonestown, Pearl Harbor, Kennedy Assassination?

NAR: Well, from like the Jonestown one, the only real piece of humor. Like they had the Guyanna night, they also had Gary Gilmore night. People were being executed, or in the case of Guyanna people were forced to commit suicide. Some voluntarily did it and there were fraternity parties to celebrate it. I thought that was pretty sick. Maybe for them that was their way of releasing tension or grief or whatever but I don't think by picking James Jones as Time Magazine or what was it, Rev. James, John James,

INT: John Jones.

NAR: Time Magazine picked him as one of the men of the year, one of the four runners up.

INT: What!!!!

NAR: They did. He was one of the most important influences of our time, and I was really repelled by that. He was the man who was responsible for the lives of four hundred people and he hits Time Magazine as one of the most influential men? On par with Deng and the Pope. That was pretty disgusting I thought. I mean granted it was a shocking thing. But I don't think he deserves that kind of acknowledgement, especially by a publication that I used to trust, like Time Magazine.

INT: I think it was Jim Jones.

NAR: Yeah, it was Jim Jones? The, that guy. That is really not in line with humor. Pearl Harbor jokes. One particular. I wasn't around for Pearl Harbor so its kind of hard for me to think of that.

INT: Did you hear your parents or?

NAR: Well, my parents, my father wasn't old enough in World War II to get any. My uncle, my uncle went but I didn't really grow up with any of that particular thing.

INT: Alrighty. Have you developed an opinion about nuclear energy?

NAR: Yeah, unfortunately I have. I say unfortunately because I say at the same time we need more energy right now than we currently possess as a country, I really think that nuclear energy isn't necessarily the way to go. My parents were going to build a solar energy house a couple of years ago until they got they got the federal financing for it the price of the house had tripled and the interest rates have dramatically increased as well so they had to bag that idea. Especially my father suddenly became unemployed, but anyway, I think solar energy... perhaps something that isn't a source of energy where there is the potential for what I went through to happen again. I realize that nuclear energy is relatively expensive, but most forms of energy are and I think you really have to measure your energy costs in terms of what kind of dangers you are placing on the populations around. The idea of having a nuclear reactor when you got so many people so close to it or their water supply could be affected or anything could be affected. It doesn't really in essence matter how far away you put the reactor because there are still going to be people close enough to it that they are going to be affected in one form or another.

INT: They build them around water.

NAR: I know.

INT: To cool the... so that they...

NAR: When I was little my mother used to tell me I couldn't eat snow because all the bombs of Hiroshima, that was in the early sixties and Hiroshima was like twenty years before.

INT: Really? Oh, I have never heard that.

NAR: My mother is compulsive. She loves to worry, but I think that particular situation with nuclear energy. You should really talk to Rich about nuclear energy. He is the one that has joined the No Nukes in Colorado. But I think nuclear energy is a very dangerous thing and I think there are other alternatives and I think it is about time we closed the nuclear plants. I realize it is going to put a lot of people out of work, but hopefully it will save a lot of lives.

INT: Is there anything else you would like to say?

NAR: I don't really know how to close except to say that it is an experience that I lived through and I hope it will be of the nature that those people that did live through Three Mile Island and the other nuclear disasters which have occurred in this country could somehow persuade people that it is not a question of how many people die at one incident

right away, because the danger of that happening is possible. It is also a question of the people that could be somehow or the animals life or the land, could be harmed for future generations and what form that would take. I think that should be the...

INT: Yeah, we are pretty selfish. We just think of the immediate and not of the long term and this is such a long range thing that we may never, ever be affected but our children or grandchildren.

NAR: Not even that, the half lives of some of the stuff that was involved was 286 thousand years. Alright for now. What happens in 286 thousand years. Who is to say? We are not going to be around to worry about it. The question is is anybody else going to be around to worry about it. I think that is all I have to say.