

Date: July 11, 1979

Occupation: Student at Dickinson (sophomore)

[Background music playing throughout interview.]

INTERVIEWER: When did you first hear about the incident?

NARRATOR: Thursday night... well, Thursday my mom called and said, uh – *[laughing]* “Guess what? There’s something happening in Harrisburg.” And she told me about it and she said, “Have you heard anything about it?” and I said, “No”, and she said, “Don’t you think you should be coming home?” and I said, “No. I haven’t really felt the need to.” *[laughing]* But that was the first time I had heard about it was, my mom calling.

INT: What did you think when you first heard about it, when your mother told you?

NAR: Ah, I just thought, you know, it’s my mother overreacting, and I sort of laughed it off and said ah, there’s nothing going on. So, I just thought it was, you know – another one of those things.

INT: Okay, did you listen to any news about it?

NAR: Well, yeah, that Friday, then, I listened to DCV. And then I listened to Priscilla Laws when she gave the talk. So I was listening, and I was watching TV that evening, and the more I watched the more I realized that there was a definite threat, and it wasn’t just my mother going off.

INT: Okay, did you pay attention to these things more than what you usually would have?

NAR: Well, whenever anything comes up that’s, you know, a special, or report that’s definitely something in the news like that, I will pay attention to, more so than the regular news, yeah.

INT: Okay, so you listened to DCV and you watched the TV. Were there – *[Break in tape.]* Okay, was there anything else that you listened to, like did you read the newspapers or... ?

NAR: No, I don’t make a habit of reading the newspaper, I’m too lazy. I just listened, you know, I just listened to the, the audio end of the deal. That’s all I listened to.

INT: What did you think about how the media handled it?

NAR: Well, I think anything the media tries to do is usually overdone. And I think the media... First they alarmed everyone to the point where there’s mass evacuation, like at

this school, when there was really no reason, I feel there was no reason to leave. Um... I think, and then finally they started playing it down, it was still a major issue in the news, but it wasn't – you know, as frightening when you heard about it, but I thought, to begin with they should not have blown everything out – They just do that, that's just the media for you, but I think they should have kept it low and said "stay in tune, we'll keep you informed." But they just, I think they just went hog wild. It was ridiculous.

INT: You listened to DCV? Do you think they handled that better, or...?

NAR: I – Well...

INT: Like, did you listen or watch a certain news source because you thought they handled it better, or just because it was the only source there?

NAR: No, I was just watching – Yeah, I was just, at the time I was watching the television, and the only reason I watched that is because I was watching a movie, and reports came on every once in a while, but I listened to WDCV because Priscilla Laws was explaining what could happen, you know, and what *was* happening. And I was just, I wanted to know for my own information what was going on, because it was something that could possibly affect me, being so close to Harrisburg, being in Carlisle.

INT: Now you're talking about Priscilla Laws, is she a person that you specifically trusted more than others, or looked to more than others?

NAR: Well, she's a professor here, in physics and I felt, you know, with her credentials and the fact that she had been in contact with Luetzelschwab, who was doing a lot of work in Harrisburg, and like I said they were in contact, I felt that she would know what was going on, and she could explain the – the other end, not the – you know, like the cheap-thrill end was what the media was giving, she was giving us the facts more than I felt the media was. They were just, you know, the media was like, "Woo-hoo-hoo!" *[mocking high-pitched "cheap thrill" sound]* Write that down! *[Both laugh.]* Where she was just stating out what was going on, exactly. What the immediate danger was, she was more precise. I just trusted her more than I did the media.

INT: What about the school? How do you think the school handled it? Do you think it handled it well or not?

NAR: No, yes and no. They didn't make a big thing about it, which is good, but then they didn't keep people informed as to what was going on and a lot of people just picked up and left, because they were scared, and they really didn't make any statements until it was a little later than – Like a lot of people left Thursday and a lot of people left Friday and the statement came out, you know, what, Friday evening, Friday or Sunday, whatever it was, that school was going to be cancelled for the week.

INT: It was Sunday.

NAR: Okay, it came out I guess Sunday. I think they waited too long, they should've, 'cause there was so many frantic parents who were like, what are you doing, they're like, "Oh, well, you know, I haven't really heard about it, and, ahhh, no concern", you know. I mean, they should've known more than they did from the beginning. The administrators should have. They didn't seem to show too much concern.

INT: Okay, what about, say the people in charge of the plant, how do you think they handled it?

NAR: To be honest with you, I couldn't really tell you. I mean –

INT: Do you think they were in control of it?

NAR: I – I don't really know, um... They, you know, things worked out okay, so obviously they must have known what was going on. I...

INT: Do you think they're in control of it now?

NAR: Any kind of nuclear power, any kind of power whatsoever that's man-made, is not infallible. I mean, anything that man makes is able to break down... you know, can cause harm or do anything, so nothing, I don't think anything's fullproof, except for – um, this is going to sound corny, except for, you know, the natural processes, you know, nature and, that thing, so I think anything can break down, I don't care what it is. Everything's an immediate danger if not handled properly.

INT: What about the government officials? How do you think they handled it?

NAR: Um... oh I don't know, the governor of Pennsylvania was okay, he seemed to be really cool and calm and everything, and... he, you know, handled it in a good manner as far as I think. But, as far as Carter goes, I think he's an asshole anyway, so no matter what he does I think is wrong.

INT: What do you think about the President's visit there to the plant? Do you think it did anything?

NAR: I wasn't impressed. I'm sorry, I'm not impressed by anything Carter does, he can – he can go to China and back again and, you know, world peace and all this bull, but I – I just think he's – *[laughing]* I don't like Carter, that's it! I don't care what he does. It does not impress me.

INT: So you think Thornburg was okay?

NAR: Yeah. *[Break in tape.]* ...say that again. Thornburg, yeah he did a good job, I thought, you know, watching him on TV, he did an excellent job. But... anyone else, I, you know... I'm biased, I don't like Carter. I don't think anything he does is right,

but... that's pretty closed-minded, and I know it is, but I just think he's an ass off the track, too, *[laughing]* and I think he's done a shoddy job. So.

INT: Okay, what did you feel about other people's reactions to it here at school?

NAR: At school I think a lot of people took it – I mean, they just went bananas. And I don't think they'd had to. They, their impulses told them to just get out, to, you know, think terrible things are going to happen *[?]*. I think it was far-fetched. There were a lot of people that took it like, "look, you know, we're far enough away," and were logical about it but a lot of people let their emotions carry them away.

INT: Did you go home?

NAR: I went home on Saturday and returned on Monday. Just, not for my peace of mind, for my mother's, 'cause if I didn't go home... They said, "I am picking you up. You're *not* staying here," and I said, "Well, I am," and they said, "No, you're not." And by Monday I was back, I said, "I'm not sticking around."

INT: Tell me about what you talked about with your family about this incident, and what they said.

NAR: Um... *[laughing]* My father thought my mother was crazy for having me come home. *[To someone in background:]* Um – *ciao* *[?]*. And, um... my mother was really upset about the whole thing, my father said, "Hey look, they know what's going on, and there's nothing to worry about, if they tell you can stay, you can stay." And, but it was my mom that went nuts. And I just said there's nothing to worry about just, you know – take it easy, type thing. My mother's a little...

INT: So what did your mother think would happen?

NAR: She thought, you know, that I would be – the radioactivity would damage me in some way, my – internals *[laughs]*. But that's what she was worried about.

INT: So what did you talk about here at school, with the kids here?

NAR: We just had a good time, we joked about it the whole time. We started playing, instead of playing "Thumper", a drinking game, we changed the name to "Flipper", saying, What's the name of the game? "Flipper" – for flipper babies, who plays it? "Mutants" What are we? "Sterile." *[NAR laughs.]* And that's what we started playing, you know, that was just like comic relief, we made jokes about it the whole time.

INT: Tell me about some jokes.

NAR: You know I can't even remember. That's the *only* thing I can remember anymore is that. I really can't remember.

INT: Okay, well if you can remember any jokes as we're talking, just say something.

NAR: You know I told Kavolis [?], I think he was up here. Yeah, I told him. And he got them from me, 'cause Pam Gallagher and I were up here, and he just quizzed us on jokes we had and went through it, you know. But – it was just, you know...

INT: Why do you think people joked about it?

NAR: You know, just relief, comic relief type thing where you're so tense be type thing where you're so tense because you're really not sure what's gonna happen and you're up here, and – And, when you joke about things, it sort of makes you feel better about it, you know, it takes your mind off of the immediate danger. So, I think that's why a lot of people joked about it because they were scared, and they didn't know how to handle it. So they made jokes about it.

INT: Did you repeat the jokes you heard?

NAR: Yeah. *[laughing]* I thought they were funny.

INT: So you laughed at them and other people laughed at them?

NAR: Oh we all laughed at 'em. Yeah. We all thought it was just a big joke.

INT: Were there any posters or other things you saw, graffiti, during that time? That you can remember?

NAR: Mmm. Oh, well, you know, I remember the T-shirts the administration helped us make, you know, like – “I survived Three Mile Island, I think” and “Come visit Harrisburg PA, have 2.6 children”... just, you know, there was a lot of that going around and the administration helped to put that – get that for kids to do, to, you know – just as a form of comic relief, you know, again. Um... Lemme see. Yeah they had a lot of seminars here, too, that were sort of joking and laughing at the whole incident, so they had – There were things going on at the College that the College initiated, just to keep people from really getting upset about it, and laughing at it instead of going, “oh gosh”.

INT: Do you think it was a good thing for them to do?

NAR: Oh definitely. Because there was no – there was only two hundred people here! And we had nothing to do. So, it kept people's mind off, if there was any immediate danger at all, it kept their minds off it. It kept their minds, you know – thinking about it, but not as – in serious manner. You knew there was a possibility of danger but – you didn't take it so hard as a lot of people did, you know, like the ones that went home.

INT: So do you think you had any sort of responsibility while you were here? To act a certain way, like ethically or morally?

NAR: Well...

INT: Not only while you were here, but you know, at home too.

NAR: I don't know. Define what you mean by moral and ethically.

INT: Well, use your own definitions, I mean, some people felt that they had to stay calm even though inside they were felling very upset, just so they wouldn't upset other people. That kind of thing.

NAR: You know – Yeah. Well, you just have to be, I feel like you have to be yourself. And if you're not, you're just fooling yourself and everyone else. So you have to be yourself, and, as far as I was concerned, I was just gonna, I wanted to keep in touch with things, what was going on, and I didn't get panicky about it because I didn't feel there was any need to. There were times that I would think, my gosh, you know, why am I being so calm when there's such an immediate danger, you know, to *me*? And then I would just sit down and I would talk to like the professors and stuff, and they're like – but this, then, and it would reinforce what I had heard from Priscilla Laws. You know, that there is no danger, and if there was danger, I would be the first to know. So, it didn't... but I just, you know, I had good time when I was here. I know, we had parties every night, we always went out, you know, played, had drinking games and stuff, to give us something to do, and we all got together and we would just joke about the situation and – basically that's all we did.

INT: What kind of changes did you see in the people around you?

NAR: For the first time, the fraternity guys that were here, since there were so few, acted like *human beings*. They didn't have their images to uphold because they were in such a small group they could be themselves. And I think that was the best thing that I learned from the whole experience, was that these guys are – *normal*, they're not the, the assholes that they're cracked up to be. You know. I'm just, well, that's just my – *[makes kissing noises; both laugh. Break in tape.]*

INT: *[laughing]* Want that on tape?

NAR: Yeah, I do, I want to hear that, that *[unintelligible]* too. But, um... That's just... Come on, record, play. *[Music starts.]*

INT: So you saw those kind of changes in the guys in the frats. Anything else?

NAR: I met girls and guys, like, that I never knew in my life. *[Break in tape.]*

INT: You were saying that you met girls that you never knew before?

NAR: You know, when you're in such a small school like this, you're just apt to run around with the same girls all the time, or the same guys, or whatever. And I met a lot of

people I would've never had the opportunity to sit down and talk to, and I'm really, you know, that was another positive effect of staying here, number one... and, you know, just... being myself, because a lot of times you're pressured into being someone that you're not, 'cause you're in such a small school, you're expected to act one way, and when you act differently, people look at you and say, "what's the *matter?*", you know. So that was really good.

INT: Besides meeting these other people and seeing the changes in these other people, do you think there was a change in the community feeling?

NAR: As in town, or the school community?

INT: Either way.

NAR: The town, I'm so – I don't bother with town that much, but as for the school, yeah, it became very close. Not a gossip close, but a close because everyone seemed to care about each other, you know, and wanted to be with each other, wanted your company, and it was – It was nice. Definite change, it was a very good change, and it's a shame that it couldn't go on, because I'll tell you, when people started coming back, everyone's like, "You sis, go home. We don't want you to come back", you know, really resented people coming back, it was – we were having such a good time, you know. With people that we met. And it hasn't been the same, it hasn't been like that since, and we're hoping for another TMI. *[INT laughs.]* We want another radiation vacation.

INT: If the worst would have occurred, in your imagination, what would you consider that to be?

NAR: Meltdown. And, you know, having the immediate danger... *[Break in tape.]* Um... *[clears throat]*. Like I said, a meltdown, anyhow, having something physically happen to me, or anyone else. That would be the worst, I mean, you know – *[unintelligible]* of God.

INT: Like – like what?

NAR: Rate of, of, you know – Something like Hiroshima, you know, where the big cloud, I mean I don't expect, I didn't expect that to happen but, where there would be immediate effects seen, not long-term effects, which could happening to me right now since I stayed, I don't know. Because they seem to be finding out there's more radiation leaked than they had thought. But you know like hair falling out, that immediate physical effects, happening to you, right away.

INT: So is that what you thought of?

NAR: That's the worst I felt could happen. And that's – you know, physical harm to yourself is the worst 'cause you're all you've got.

INT: Okay so in your mind what kind of pictures did you see about this kind of thing, did you really picture Hiroshima?

NAR: You know, I saw a movie on Hiroshima, and I saw these – I didn't see this, you know, the buildings all, I didn't expect that to happen, just I saw the people in like, just, totally, their bodies just – *ruined*, you know, it's just like, they had been... rearranged, you know, like the molecules had just formed new humans, and really grotesque things. That's, that's the worst, yeah.

INT: So you thought about that?

NAR: I didn't think about that, no, but if you're saying, what would *I* picture as the worst, *that's* what I would picture as the worst now. Back then I really didn't have any feelings about what if the worst had happened. I wasn't too concerned. I was very – “Yeesh.” [*unconcerned noise*] You know...

INT: So that's what you see now. *Then*, even if you didn't think about the worst, did you have any pictures in your mind about what TMI looked like, or what the people inside were doing?

NAR: Oh I'd seen it before. I had seen it before, from, you know, from a distance, like at the airport and stuff like that, from that distance, and I knew what it looked like, and I – I pictured that, and I just thought, saw, you know, thought, the guys in their lead outfits so they didn't get “*radioactive*”, you know, and... That was about, that's about all I pictured, them running around trying to straighten things out, and all these businessmen in board meetings thinking, “What can we do?” [*Laughs.*] You know, that's about it.

INT: Did you have any associations with this, with any books or movies or plays, or anything like that?

NAR: No. Nothing. I was supposed to see *China Syndrome* in Harrisburg during that work and I said, “Nah. I don't feel like it.” [*INT laughs.*] I don't have a date, so I'm like, “I'm not going.” Hold on. [*Break in tape.*] What were we talking about?

INT: Um, let's see. Danger, images... your images of seeing the businessmen trying to figure out what was going on.

NAR: Yeah. Um... that's about all I can say about that [*laughing*].

INT: How do you think the scientists handled this whole thing?

NAR: Um... well, like I say, everything seems all right now, and – obviously they must've known what was going on, you know, and... They did it in a good way, but I think they – I think what, their information goes to the media, and I think they might have presented it in the wrong way. And that's why we've had the fears that we had.

INT: Did you associate this incident with anything else in your life?

NAR: No. Nothing. Negatory.

INT: Okay, how do you think this compares with national disasters, like floods and hurricanes and things like that?

NAR: Well....

INT: Or can you compare them at all, even?

No, 'cause anything man-made is *so*, so different from anything that's natural, that's made by, what I call God, you know, and not everyone will use that, but... Anything man-made doesn't have to happen, because they don't have to be produced, but I don't think there's any correlation because – man-made things can be prevented [?], natural can't. Man-made things, you know, they can be stopped to some extent, the natural ones, but man-made are our own doings, and whatever happens is our fault because we've produced it. It's like in the monster movies where Frankenstein goes crazy or the Blob goes out into the world and they can't stop it, well that's *our* fault. The natural things that happen, it's not our fault. It's just what's meant to be. But in the economic situations of today, we can't do without nuclear energy because this country wants to keep going the way it wants to, well we're going to have to produce some other forms of energy. And a lot of people are like, well shut down these plants. Well – you know, you can't! This nation is in such a technological boom right now that, you stop anything right now, we're just not gonna get anywhere and the economy's gonna fall, and la-di-da, you know...

INT: Yeah I was just gonna ask you about, um...

NAR: We've just created a big monster, with all the technological advances we've made. I think they might have happened *too* quickly, or they just haven't been looked in close enough before we went ahead and did something, that these things happen.

INT: I was going to ask you about your opinion on nuclear power and if it had changed at all from what it was before TMI?

NAR: You, know, I really didn't know anything about nuclear power that much, I mean I knew that they were around, the generators and everything like that, but – you know, I'm sorry I'm not pro, I'm not con- or pro-nuclear energy. I'm in the middle, because I realize we have to have it to keep growing. I'm not saying I agree with it, I'm not saying I disagree with it. But it's just the way it's got to be. It's gotta be. You know, I don't think it's the best way, maybe there's other ways, but I don't know of other ways. But, it's... it's gotta be that way because the greedy nation that we are has to have all this energy to continue our, what we consider normal lifestyles, you know - Well, all right, suffer the consequences, is my opinion. You know, you made it – you made your bed, you have to sleep in it. And I'm a victim of that, not because I want to be but because I

am. Because I was brought up in this technological boom. But I have to live with it; I can't get out of it. You know, I'd love to do what Henry David Thoreau did and go up and live in the mountains – well heck, try to find some mountains! *[Laugh.]* You know, I mean you'll find them but you gotta buy the land, and that's, you know, ridiculous, you don't have the same liberties that you had before. *[Break in tape.]*

INT: What about your health, do you think your health was affected?

NAR: Oh, it coulda been. I don't know. I mean, I haven't had any changes. Like I say they're probably, if there's anything that happened it's probably long-term, you know, I'll find out...

INT: What kinds of things like long-term are you referring to?

NAR: Ummm... like if I would become pregnant and have some kids that were defective, they could say that's due to radiation... Cancer...

INT: If you had a child that was deformed somehow, or defective, would you think it was from TMI?

NAR: Not necessarily, no, because we're surrounded by so much that you can't pinpoint to one certain thing. There's radioactive waves floating around this earth constantly, you know. I mean, it could be from smoking, it could be from – you know, anything, it could be, you know, the – maybe a hereditary gene that I carry, who knows? You can't really pinpoint it down. I don't think I would blame it on that right away, I think that's ridiculous. You can't.

INT: What other long-term health effects would you?

NAR: Cancer. That's just different things of that nature, what I would think. Type like that. *[?]*

INT: Did you think of God at all?

NAR: Hold on. *[Tape cuts off.]*

INT: Did you think about God?

NAR: No, not really. I mean it's not like a kind of thing that's – *[laughing]* My religious beliefs, well, anyway, that's sort of – I'll have to explain this. Umm... You know, as far as I'm concerned if you have faith, that's what's gonna get you through, and that's the main thing is to have faith. And I have faith, and I feel that in times of emergency or something, you know, or if you want something you pray to God and say, "oh, please help me now", when all the time you've been very hypocritical to the whole situation and you're just very, "neah, you know, God, who's He", you know, and you don't – you don't give thanks, basically, and I think, you know, I think that whatever's

happened is gonna happen and, it's sorta like a predestination. My life's been almost planned out, what happens is gonna happen and I can't stop it. I mean, what am I supposed to do? "Hey God, could you fix this nuclear reactor?" I mean, there's nothing that – It's a problem that we created, and it's a problem we have to deal with. It's not a problem God has created. I mean, He might have given us the minds to grow and things, but we're the ones that create our own monsters. He should not be held responsible for what we do. And I don't think He could've done – He could've, I don't know. I don't know God personally! *[Both laugh.]* He could've done something. Who knows? Maybe He even... wanted this to set off. You know, it's all a matter of opinion I guess, the whole thing is that I'm talking about now is my opinion, but....

INT: At the time of the incident did you think about God, during that week?

NAR: Yeah.

INT: Did you pray at all?

NAR: I pray all the time. But not for that.

INT: So you prayed but it didn't have anything to do with TMI?

NAR: No. No.

INT: What about biblical images at all, did you have any thoughts about that?

NAR: None. No. I don't like to associate God, or anything – well, you can, but I just don't, because I, like I say it's our problem. It's our monster, it's no one else's. Nothing else is gonna help us out of what we're into now except for ourselves. And it's gotta be, maybe this is a slap in our face to say, "hey, look what you're doing – you know, that could've been." I don't know. But that's all a matter of interpretation, what you believe and everything, and... That's just sort of... what I think, you know.

INT: Do you think it was a good idea that people left that area?

NAR: I think it was stupid. If someone's frantic sure, yeah, then they should go 'cause they're not gonna get anything accomplished here, but you when they closed down classes, that screwed things up. And... I don't think it was necessary, but for peace of mind, yes it was. But for those that didn't need to leave, they left anyway because they wanted to get out of school *[?]*, "let's go to Florida, you know, might as well have another spring break". But I thought it was sort of ridiculous.

INT: When you left – what that Friday, you said you left? Did you expect to come back soon or did you expect to be away for a while?

NAR: Oh, I *knew* I was just gonna go home for a couple days to calm my mother down and come right back 'cause I had nothing to do at home, I had work to do here, and that's when I came back.

INT: Did you see a difference in the media that you saw at home than what you heard or saw here?

NAR: No, basically the same. Basically the same, yeah.

INT: How were people reacting in your town?

NAR: Well, I can't really tell you. [*Laughs.*] There was some concern, but not as much as there was up here because they're closer up here. But I'm not in contact with people in the town that much. I did go to University of Maryland, though, that Sunday, and they couldn't believe that I didn't have school. They were like, I don't believe it. And they were even talking about, you know, they were a little...those girls down there at the University of Maryland were a little concerned about the situation there. And they were further away than I was, that's near D.C. That's two and a half hours away, you know, here I'm what, half hour away from the whole incident? And they were more concerned than I was.

INT: What were people up here concerned about, if they were concerned about anything at all?

NAR: Themselves.

INT: How so?

NAR: Their physical and mental well beings. That's all anyone's concerned with. You know, like I said, you're all you've got. So who else are you going to be concerned about, yourself.

INT: Do you mean like their health?

NAR: Yeah. [*Laughing*] Whether they're gonna live or die, how this is going to affect them. That's all people are concerned about and that's why they left, because they were concerned about themselves. Man is a selfish being.

INT: Did you ever think about leaving for a long period of time?

NAR: I did for a little while, but then I realized if there is any danger, they'll get us out of here.

INT: If you did leave for a long period of time, was there anything special you would have wanted to take with you; did you think about that at all?

NAR: Just some personal material objects, you know, letters and things of that nature, nothing really... Nothing really big, 'cause I can live without it. I don't really need anything except for food and something to keep me warm. And shelter. *[Laughing.]* You know, the basic essentials.

INT: When you said you were thinking about leaving, just for that short period of time, when you were thinking about leaving for a long time, did you picture that in any way at all?

NAR: What do you mean?

INT: Did you think that you would be leaving yourself just to go home, or did you think you would be leaving with a lot of other people? Say if there was some official that said, "Leave"?

NAR: Okay, when I was in the lunchroom, yeah, I thought a lot of people would – yeah.

INT: You thought a lot of people would be leaving?

NAR: Yeah, if they would have said "Evacuate", when I was here, you know, when I came back, I figured we'd all get together and they'd have us – shuttled out, and take us...

INT: How did you imagine that at all? Did you have any pictures in your mind that you can tell me about?

NAR: Yeah, we'd all hop in the little vans, *[laughing]*, you know, hop in the school vans and truck to Pittsburgh and hop a plane or a bus and go home! Just take what you needed.

INT: Was that kind of thing crowded, that you thought it would be or pretty much easy-going, or what?

NAR: It would be, there would be some panic, oh definitely, you know, anything happens, people panic, that's just human nature. And there would be a little bit of confusion but it would be up to the administration to calm people down and get things organized, to have it organized and planned out ahead of time so that things would run smoothly.

INT: Do you think it would run smoothly if something like that happened?

NAR: In this administration, are you kidding? No! *[Both laughing.]* I think there would've been some... there'd have been panic; it would have been interesting to see how they woulda handled it, 'cause I don't think they've ever been, no one's been ever faced with a problem like this before. It woulda been interesting to see.

INT: Some people I had heard, rather than thinking about leaving, if there was an evacuation from around Harrisburg, they would have stayed and helped. Did you think about that at all or not?

NAR: Yes and no, I thought about it, but – I’m selfish. I’m just, I’m human. I woulda left if I knew it would’ve hurt me in any way. But if they were gonna bring people here and evacuate them to Dickinson itself, I would have stayed and helped, yeah. It’s the only – It’s, you know, just – it’s a responsibility that I think all humans have, to help each other out. In times of trouble, you know, everyone’s gonna help me out when I was in trouble, so I have to do the same for others.

INT: Did you think of any songs, or did any lyrics run through your mind during this time?

NAR: No, *[laughing]* nothing. At all. You know, I was thinking about the Federal Energy Administration. *[Both laugh.]*

INT: Okay, let’s see... did this incident change your life at all?

NAR: No. Well yeah...

INT: In the long run and in the short run.

NAR: Yeah, for that time being, you know, I wasn’t afraid of the people that I was so-called afraid of, that I didn’t want to talk to because they wouldn’t accept me, and I learned that that wasn’t true, you know, around here. Long-term... Yeah, because of those people I met, I met other people, and it’s caused me to be a little more, you know, relaxed and at ease with other people that I don’t know. So, yeah.

INT: Do you think that the community here was changed at all, in a lasting way?

NAR: Those people that stayed... Yeah. No, not in a lasting way, it was changed for that time being, but it went back to the way it used to be. When everyone got back that was away, ‘cause they only knew it the way it was. “The way we were”, you know, *[singing]* “memories...” *[INT laughs.]* Little Barbra there.

INT: I can’t think of any other questions, can you think of anything you want to add?

NAR: No.

INT: Do you have any questions?

NAR: No, not really.

