



# Alvin & Lorraine Sims

*Great Basin Indian Archive*

GBIA 023



**Oral History Interview by**

**Norm Cavanaugh  
November 30, 2009  
Owyhee, NV**



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Interviewee: Alvin and Lorraine Sims

Interviewer: Norm Cavanaugh

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C: Today we have Alvin and Lorraine Sims. And Alvin, can you give us your full name and tell us about where your family came from?

AS: Yeah. My family came from in Paradise Valley. Came this way from there. And then, my dad and my mom, they all came—no, my mom came in from Ruby Valley. And then, my dad came from Paradise. My grandfather came this way, *saikkih* [1:16] Owyhee. And then they stayed in Owyhee, and that's where I grow up. *Pu'unkh'a* [1:21] But I grow over here. That's where I'm living right now. *Hok'patanke* [1:26]. Right there, on this side of my house, in the sagebrush, that's where I was born. I was born the Indian way, not in the hospital, huh? *Sokkuh nemmen tsoo'pa naha nap'an* [1:40]. Yeah. [Shoshone from 1:44-1:48] Yeah. [Shoshone from 1:50-1:51] my parents. Yeah.

C: Who was your parents? *Hagan nanihande*?

AS: Edna Charles and Jack Sims. They're my parents, my dad and my mom.

C: Uh-huh. What tribe were they from?

AS: My mother's from Shoshone. From Te-Moak side. And then, my dad came in from Paradise. Paiute. Yeah. *Soteweh newene* [2:25], I'm kind of half and half. Put me half and half. [Shoshone at 2:31] *Sikkih mia \_\_\_\_\_ kimmake*. They came this way. And then, found a place where to build their home. And that's where I was raised from.

C: So what kind of house did they—did they build a house, or did they live in a tent, or...?

AS: Well, they live in a tent from the beginning. Tent *huup'a*. Then, later on, they build a house. And then, that's when my dad was working with the CC. CC crew, they call them that. I'd come and I'd put up the boundary fence. All the way around the reservation. That's who we worked with. **Down from us**. That's our place. And then we stayed in

Owyhee. Yeah. [**Shoshone at 3:20**] Yeah. All my grandparents [\_\_inaudible at 3:26\_\_].  
And then on Te-Moak side, [**Shoshone at 3:30**], they came in from that side.

C: So, are you related to Frank Temoke?

AS: No, not really. I'm related to Captain Sam. The main guy. That was my great-great-great-grandfather, *tsoo*. He was there with ones [**Shoshone at 3:55**]. Came down here, and checked this over [**Shoshone at 3:59**]. Checked this land to see which one you like. You want this one? Or you want Wild Horse? [**Shoshone at 4:07**]. My old man didn't go for that! So, he don't like that. They're too small. So, [**Shoshone at 4:18**] *sopai wahatte, taibo na sembe niikwen*, "Go ahead and check this one out. [**Shoshone? at 4:22**] Owyhee. See how you like it." So he checked everything. Went up in the mountain, up there. They got deer up there. They got groundhog up there. Then he checked all the river. And then, it's got squirrels, it's got fish, it's got everything here. So that old man, he's choose this one, so that's why the people came in. Later on, a bunch of them came in. The first five families that came down was, that Captain Sam, and then Captain George, Big Dick family, and then Washington. That's the only four I know. But there was five, they said. I don't know who was the other one. So they came down and they stayed over here. And that, on the place they chose is right there by Sam **Curtis's** place. Down here? There's a rock building that was sitting there, that was sitting down toward the west. It's all fallen down now. That's where Washington used to live. And then that Big Dick, he used to go way down, down below. [**Shoshone at 5:46**]. First one that came down. Yeah. That's how the old man checked it. He said, it's got everything here. And that's the reservation he had. [**Shoshone at 6:05**]. And put him over here. Yeah. That's how it went.

C: So are there any relatives of Washington left on the reservation?

S: Uh, no, I don't really know them. But that's what my grandfather—and he used to tell me about that. But I don't really know. The only one I really know was that Big Dick.

**Taskey**. That's only one I know. But the rest... I know where they live, he showed me the places where they live. But... That's just about all I know on that.

C: So, was there like a Indian agent that lived here with them, or...?

S: Huh?

C: [**Shoshone at 6:54**]?

AS: I think so. I think that something like that way. [**Shoshone at 7:00**]. Because that—he was the superintendant, we had that long time ago. He goes around in through here. Visit them places on horseback. And then, that's when them—I guess, he went down, he was looking for **Dick Caskey**. So he went down out [**Shoshone at 7:23**], and he went down to my grandmother's place over there. Asked her—he asked her, “Where does Mr. Big Dick live?” And then the old lady, right, she can't hardly talk English too good. So, she said, “*Way* down there,” her pointing that way. And he lives *way* down there. [Laughter] So you can understand [**Shoshone at 7:55**] *semme yekwite*. Yeah, that's only thing. That's the only thing she said! She says, “He lives *way* down there.” [Laughter] Yeah.

[**Shoshone at 8:07**]

C: So, did the other Shoshones move up here later, then?

AS: Yeah, lately. [**Shoshone at 8:18**] Then them coming in, keep coming in. That's when the Captain Sam was here already. So he invited them in. And then, later on, Captain Sam, well, he said that—he was talking about Paddy Cap. He's fighting, fighting the soldiers all the time. That's Paddy Cap bunch. And then, Captain Sam, well, he told them two

runners of his, he said, "I want to really talk with that Captain Paddy." So, he sent a couple guys down that way. I don't know where they got ahold of that moonshine, long time ago, but I guess they had all kind of liquor long time ago, it sound like. So, he gave them some. "Take this along. And then, give him two drinks. And when you get done, you bring him this way." So, they went down, looking for him. They finally found him, where he's at. They talked with him, and then they keep pouring him the drink. And the old man, he liked that drink, boy! [Laughter] Keep on drinking and drinking, and then pretty soon he got so drunk where he can't hardly stand up there. Really, he about ready to pass out. So, he really got drunk, and then them guys said, "Let's go for a ride." They put him on horse some way, and brought him up. And then they had brought him right to Captain Sam, over to his house. So—and then Captain, in next morning, I guess Captain talk with him, with Paddy Cap. And then told him that he better quit this fighting. "I don't want you be doing that" [Shoshone? at 10:29] "I don't want you to fight no more. Your people going to be gone pretty soon, you keep on fighting." I guess he understood what he meant. "I want you to bring—go down back home, and bring the whole tribe, your tribe. Bring 'em up. And then we'll give you a place over here to stay." [Shoshone at 10:58]. Right up here by Meadow Creek. You know, from Eleanor's house. That fence line that goes west. He'll give you that piece right there. Six mile this way, and then 22 mile this way. "You could raise your people, your kids, right there on [\_\_inaudible at 11:23\_\_]." So, he settled down. He settled down right there, raised his families. There used to be lot of people right there in Meadow Creek. There was families clear from—you know where Lena Black used to live? Yeah, from on all over this way, clear up in

here, and then, on the side hill, on this side. And then down here, there's some more.

There's, I don't know how many families. There were quite a few families there.

LS: Yakama-*ne*.

AS: Yeah, Yakamas...

LS: Damons.

AS: Damon, Littles. Yeah, there was bunch of them. Yeah, finally, they all went. They're all gone.

LS: [**Shoshone at 12:11**]

AS: Huh?

LS: Oh, shoot, now I can't remember.

C: So where did Paddy Cap's, where was he before? Where did he roam?

AS: Well, he was right in Umatilla there someplace. That way.

LS: Thataway.

AS: Yeah, Oregon. Oregon. Yeah. So anyway, that's where he was raising problems. So, they finally got him over here. They had a picture of him over there at the tribal office.

Captain Paddy Cap. He had a big war bonnet on. He was sitting this way. Yeah, this way.

Picture up on the wall of him facing this way. That's where he was from. He just want to

fight all the time. Yeah, that's the story about that one, there.

C: So, how did—was the Boneys, was there a family here named Boneys at one time?

LS: Yeah, Boney.

AS: Yeah.

C: Were they Paddy Cap's band, or were they Shoshone, or...?

AS: No, they Shoshone. Bonny, Boney, Barney... They call themselves “**Barney**” now. They used to call him “Boney.”

LS: [**Shoshone at 13:36**]

AS: Yeah, right there, you know, where that bridge—

LS: Boney Bridge.

AS: —by this side of the Rock Gym, the house over there? Right there. Right in that corner there. This side the bridge right there. They used to live right there. The only one that’s left out of them, the Barney—no, not—what’s his name? Kenneth. Kenneth Boney. He’s only one that’s around. That’s left, probably. The only one. I don’t know if there’s any girls or anything. That’s only one I know.

C: How about the **Priddy**? Was there a family named—

AS: Priddy?

LS: Priddy, yeah.

AS: Yeah, they used to live way down there by Pleasant Valley. Up that way.

C: Where did his family come from?

AS: From the Paddy Cap side.

C: Oh, he was a Paddy Cap.

AS: Yeah. Must have moved to them up there in Pleasant Valley, that came in from Paddy Cap side.

LS: The Dodges, too. The Thomas.

AS: Yeah, Dodge, Thomas.

LS: Roy Thomas. And then... What was **Tupa** and them’s name?

AS: Adam.

LS: Adam. Tom Adams.

AS: Tom Adams.

LS: And his wife.

AS: Yeah, all them people that used to live down there. Pleasant Valley.

LS: But I don't know that lady's *taibo* name. Just *Tupa*. [Shoshone? at 15:05]

C: [Shoshone at 15:07]? What ever happened to them?

AS: They all died.

LS: They all passed on, yeah.

AS: They all passed away.

LS: Had a lot of people here, *no'himpaishen* [15:16].

AS: Mmhm. Lot of people over there. There's not very much left. Nobody in Pleasant Valley now.

LS: Not good, but, you know, if it wasn't for the liquors, there'd be lot of people. Lot of elders would be still here.

AS: Yeah, that Priddy—

LS: Alcohol got them all.

AS: That, what's his name, that... Priddy, what their dad's name?

LS: Willie? Willie Priddy?

AS: Yeah, Willie. He used to be a big family, that one. Lot of boys. No girls, innit?

LS: No, mm-mm. No.

AS: Nothing but boys. They used to get drunk, get sick, and then most of them got died with alcohol.

LS: Everyone.



AS: Drinking too much.

LS: We'd have lots of elders. Now, right today, but...

AS: Yeah.

C: How about tuberculosis? Was tuberculosis, did people die from that, too?

AS: Well, long time ago, people don't know about the disease. They don't know what they have.

LS: Because they never go to hospital, never.

AS: Never have no hospital.

LS: [**Shoshone at 16:24**]. I don't know how they treats theirself. They cured with herbs.

AS: Yeah, tuberculosis—well, all this sickness that they, they don't know what they have.

LS: [**Shoshone at 16:40**]

AS: Yeah, the *taibo* forgot.

C: So what did they use for medicine? [**Shoshone at 16:48**] *Hawaki newe nattahsua 'na?*

AS: I don't know what kind. I don't know what kind of Indian medicine—they used nothing but Indian medicine then. The only one I know is sagebrush. I don't know what's that others.

LS: *Uteweh daha newe* tea, Indian tea, that *antapittseh kwana*. You probably—

C: Yeah.

AS: Yeah, I don't know, I don't know what the name of that one. [**Shoshone at 17:15**]

LS: And then they used to have a lot of—

C: [**Shoshone at 17:17**] Yeah. *Osen kwa'i sembanai newe nanihan*. Yeah.

LS: Lot of cabbage, and then wild carrots they eat. [**Shoshone at 17:24**] Not really that much, though, huh?

AS: No, unh-uh.

LS: No. Not like today.

C: So, when did the Native American Church—[**Shoshone at 17:39**] sick?

AS: In the [19]50s, I think.

LS: No. Then, they just [**Shoshone at 17:48**] *ondat newe nanishundahai. Himpaishe.*

AS: I know. That's when Raymond Warren came down. He's the one that brought them down this way.

LS: Long time ago, though. Not in the [19]50s. Before. [**Shoshone at 18:02**]

C: So who was Raymond Warren? Was he—

AS: He's from Fort Hall. Yeah, he came down there, and then they started with that. Start healing people with that. That's one thing, only thing I know about that, Indian American Church.

LS: And then the sagebrush, I *still* sagebrush for cough.

AS: I don't know—I know *antapittseh kwana*, but I don't know the name of it.

LS: The *taibo* name.

AS: Yeah. That's a white name for it, someplace. [Laughter] Because I don't know.

LS: *Totsa.*

AS: Yeah. [**Shoshone at 18:57**] *Sekke nanihante*, I don't know how you would pronounce it.  
[Laughter]

LS: [**Shoshone at 19:00**] *taibo nanihade*. But there is lots—herbs. Mmhm.

C: So, when did the—when was the old hospital built? Or, do you guys remember when that was built?

AS: [Shoshone at 19:17]. When I was going to school, it was already up. See, when I was in school. I was, I don't know, about seventeen?

LS: Before.

AS: Yeah. And it was up already. So, it must be around about, when I was around about thirteen, fourteen? That's when the hospital—this old hospital down here.

C: Yeah.

LS: [Shoshone at 19:48]

AS: Yeah, long time ago.

C: So was this the first hospital that was built, or was there one before?

AS: Yeah, that was the first one.

C: First one.

AS: Yeah. And then this one here, not too long ago.

LS: There was a, [Shoshone at 20:09], a church over here on this side.

AS: Yeah.

LS: No, [Shoshone at 20:16]. I know there was a—the **Pursleys** used to live over here, too. *Himbaishe*.

C: Uh-huh. So, when you guys were growing up, [Shoshone at 20:29], your grandparents, [Shoshone at 20:32] *hakainuhi teniwaa*? What did they teach you, or what did they say to—what were some of their teachings?

AS: Yeah. [Shoshone 20:38] She'd been taught a lot, about Indian ways and what.

C: Can you share some of that with us today?

LS: [Shoshone(?) at 20:49]

C: Yeah.

- LS: Okay. [**Shoshone at 20:52**] *Himbaishen \_\_\_\_\_ newe napuiten ne. Tsoon newe teniwate*, you know? [**Shoshone at 20:58**]. You know, the bad things, all the bad things. *Itsappe* [**Shoshone at 21:08**]. The scary! Mmhm.
- C: So they taught you to watch out for things, and not to do certain things. Did they give you a reason as to why not to do those things?
- LS: But, you know, when you [**Shoshone at 21:30**] *Itsanai*, like, you go to jail for that. And then, [**Shoshone at 21:34**]. That's some ones, there's lot of things. Good things, but I can't remember them. *Tsaante newe teniwaken*.
- C: So, it was the facts of life.
- LS: Mmhm. [**Shoshone at 21:54**] Don't be laughing at people. Don't be laughing when you—they might put a curse on you with this. [**Shoshone at 22:05**] Mmhm. There's lot of things, lot of—go the good way. That's how come I don't really care about this booze business. This liquor? I don't really care for it. [**Shoshone at 22:20**].
- C: Oh, you had a house above the hospital up there?
- LS: Mmhm. Yeah.
- C: What kind of house did you have?
- LS: I think there was a log cabin.
- C: Oh, log cabin house?
- LS: Yeah, and then [**Shoshone at 22:32**]. It's a building. That's how I, you know, [**Shoshone at 22:36**]. We used to eat in cans of whatever, you know? No spoons, we have to use our fingers. Mmhm. Then, in the springtime, when they **real itto**—you know this little ditch right here? The water [**Shoshone at 22:55**]. Then we carry water, run over there, and rinse our, you know, whatever we eat in. Yeah. It's a hard, hard life, yeah, what I came

through. [**Shoshone at 23:11**], you know, the people drink *tease* [more]. And then you see a lot of it, and you don't want to do that. *Himpaishe*.

C: *Osen suwain hakate hinna hipi* [**23:21**], what did they drink?

LS: I don't know! That's what I used to think, you know? Where did they get their liquor to get—because I know I used to hear them say that, you know, somebody gets it for them. Then I used to hear them—

AS: Bootlegger *ko'i*.

LS: Bootleggers like **Boocher Jess**, *hagan tease*? And **Tiptoe George**.

AS: Tiptoe George. [Laughter]

LS: Charlie the Barber. [**Shoshone at 23:48**]. But anyhow, a long time ago, [**Shoshone 23:50**].

AS: Yeah. [Laughter] They're the Mountain City bootleggers.

LS: I guess so, I don't know.

AS: That's where they get their drinks.

LS: That's what I always wonder about: where did they get their liquor—like, them folk? [**Shoshone at 23:59**]. Yeah. [**Shoshone at 24:05**]

C: So, when did Mountain City—do you guys remember how Mountain City came to be?

AS: That's long time ago. That was before my day. It was built before my day. It was long time ago.

LS: Did they used to have carnival, huh, way up there?

AS: Yeah.

LS: Or whatever. Rodeos.

AS: I must been around about, maybe 14, 15 years old? But it was already up, Mountain City.  
So, I...

LS: We never go anywhere, you know. We don't go anyplace. In 1971 was the first time I  
was ever been on the highway.

AS: And that's when, your, the grandparents—Old man Cavanaugh? That's when they were  
kids, were riding them ponies up there to Mountain City, for that carnival. [Laughter] Old  
man was drunk, he got on one of them ponies and riding around with them kids, ride!  
[Laughter]

LS: They were silly, though, them old people.

AS: So many people laughing! [Laughter] Only big guy in a bunch of them little kids!

LS: They were funny, though. Silly guys, *himbaishe*, older people. They make you laugh. It  
wasn't like this, you know. They don't fight or anything. Not that I know of, you know?  
But now when, there's just, when they drink, there's fighting. Long time ago, I never see  
those things. Yeah.

C: So, what did everybody do? Were they all ranchers then, or how did they survive?  
*Hakane* [**Shoshone at 26:07**] or what kind of work did they do?

AS: Well, they used to work with the CC. They call them "CC." They built this whole  
reservation. The fence line, up through north, east, south, west. That's their job to do.  
Took them quite a while to do that, finish that fencing. This, real big. Go a long ways. I  
don't know how many miles, it go from **big** dam on over, clear back there. And from  
there, across. This way, and this way. That's how they—they used to work for only a  
dollar and a half a day. Yeah, that's how my dad used to work, for the CC. Dollar and a  
half a day.

LS: And some people have a wheat farm. Yeah, *himpaishe*. They trade with the—well, we had to **couple** trade over here at **Williams'** store. William [**Shoshone at 27:18**].

Maybe—who had it first time?

AS: Sherman's.

LS: Sherman.

AS: That old lady.

LS: They trade with her wheat—you know, their flour. They had flour mill here, too. Yeah. I know my grandpa and my grandma used to bring their flour here and trade for food. Mmhm. [**Shoshone at 27:36**]. Yeah. And they kept garden. Now, we don't even have gardens. Because we have canned food. [Laughter] Yeah, that's how I remember. They get along real good, too. They help one another. Now come they don't. It's real strange. Yeah. Sometimes, when I wake up in the nighttime, I always say, "I wonder why people don't get along," you know? They should all get along. Then we used to have horse—you know, wagon, [**Shoshone at 28:14**]. Then we'll, somebody's walking, and we'll pick them up. [**Shoshone at 28:22**] Some people have cattle. Not real lots, though, huh?

AS: Mm-mm.

LS: They used to have returned heifers, *tsu ha*. Remember?

AS: Mmhm.

LS: [**Shoshone at 28:34**] They sell their thing, and then they pay that back. [**Shoshone? at 28:40**]. And then they used to have a sheep in here, long time ago. [**Shoshone at 28:47**], they use that money for something, I don't know what. Mmhm, yeah. [**Shoshone at 28:54**] I don't know. Everything's really changed. And then I always think that, you know, our elders, when they were in the council, [**Shoshone at 29:07**]. And then they,

[**Shoshone at 29:12**]. They all get along. And so, pass it on. [**Shoshone at 29:18**]. They ask the tribe. And then they used to gather over here at the resource center. *Sukkuna* gather, and then they tell the people what they went for—to Washington, D.C., or whatever. Wherever they go. And they tell the people. [**Shoshone at 29:34**]

AS: Well, they had them—they had maybe two, maybe three guys go for them outside. And then, when they come back, that one guy will get up and tell the people what they went for. [**Shoshone at 29:49**]. “That’s what we went for.” And then he’ll talk English, *taibo taikwanna*. Tell them in English. Pretty soon, he’ll want to tell you in Shoshone.

[**Shoshone at 30:05**] Tell them in Shoshone. “I’m going to tell you guys in Paiute [**Paiute? at 30:11**].” So, and then he’d tell them where they’d been to in Paiute, there. And explain everything to them—to the people, to the tribe. They used to do that, long time ago. But now, you can’t hear nothing about that. [Laughter] They won’t tell, no matter where they’ve been to, they wouldn’t tell you. Nobody want tell you.

LS: [**Shoshone at 30:40**]

AS: Yeah, they tell you.

LS: [**Shoshone at 30:44**]

C: So, that’s when they had their moon houses?

LS: Yeah. [**Shoshone at 31:15**].

C: The women stayed away from the family when they were—during their period?

AS: Yeah.

LS: Mmhm. Then, they have to take a bath in a tub before they come to the house. That’s—had to starve. [Laughter] They wash you. Then you feel clean when you come in the house. But I never get to do that, but when I had my baby, [**Shoshone 31:39**]. I had to



stay out. For whole month. Mmhm. That's what they're supposed to do. [**Shoshone at 31:50**] They live in the houses. That's a good way, though, you know? To keep that up. Then you don't [**Shoshone at 32:01**].

AS: [**Shoshone at 32:09**], like people, they [**Shoshone at 32:12**]. Some of them are strong. They can take what's coming, and they can take it. But some others don't. They get sick with it, [**Shoshone at 32:23**].

LS: [**Shoshone at 32:25**]

AS: Yeah. [**Shoshone at 32:26**]. Yeah, and hurt them so bad that—

LS: [**Shoshone at 32:32**]

C: So, who were the spiritual healers? [**Shoshone 32:51**]?

AS: There was, that [**Shoshone at 32:56**]. John Damon.

LS: John Damon.

AS: John Damon... What's the other guy?

LS: Willie Dorsey.

AS: Willie Dorsey. Yeah, Willie Dorsey.

LS: Hugh Thomas.

AS: Hugh Thomas.

LS: And Alex Cleveland.

AS: Alex Cleveland. And then that, Nat Paddy.

LS: Yeah, Nat. [**Shoshone at 33:18**]

AS: Yeah, and those were five of them. There used to be five Indian healers here.

LS: Mmhm. Spiritual healers.

AS: Yeah.

LS: Not going, there's nobody.

AS: Nobody. Nobody here.

LS: Mmhm.

AS: Well, there—

LS: We went to [**Shoshone at 33:34**].

AS: Yeah.

LS: [**Shoshone at 33:43**], nothing.

AS: Yeah, no place. I don't think there's any Indian doctors. Something, maybe in the Navajo tribes, there might be some there. But not over here. That guy from, there's one over there in Fort Hall that I know. But he comes down through here. And then, every time he comes down through here, he says—it don't look too good up this way, he said. One time, he came around this way, he said. He came through Elko—to Wells, Elko, down this other way. Soon as he came up here by Wild Horse, he said, been getting darker and darker this way. The way he looked at it. Coming along **by the** canyon, got over here. This whole thing was dark, he said. This whole valley. Real dark. “Don't look too good to me,” he said. He's a faith healer, sort of. He's called Indian doctor. But he try to get rid of it some way, he said. Also, he doctored a lot of people over here [**Shoshone at 34:54**]. Comes around. He's a Shoshone. Talks Shoshone with you. [Laughter] Yeah. Talk real good.

C: *Hagan nanihante?* What's his name?

AS: [**Shoshone at 35:08**] that guy that came down on the pickup?

LS: I don't know. Can't remember.

AS: *Hii no naniha*—I used to know his name. Can't remember now.

LS: Some kind of Sweeney.

AS: Sweeney. Yeah, Sweeney something. Yeah, he comes down. He's got his own truck when he comes down this way. Said, "Every time I come here, everything don't look to good up this way."

LS: [**Shoshone at 35:36**]?

AS: Yeah.

C: Did he say why it didn't look good, or how—

LS: Black clouds going on.

AS: Yeah, black clouds, he said, covering this valley.

C: What's it from? Did he ever say?

AS: No. I don't know, I don't know.

LS: He just didn't say. He should have at least cleared it up for us. [**Shoshone at 35:56**]

AS: That other one, too, that other Indian doctor that was here before, before him. They used to—stays over there with us guys here. [**Shoshone at 36:16**], you know, the one that runs that—that [**Shoshone at 36:21**].

LS: Eagleheart, huh?

AS: Eagleheart! Yeah. He said, he was telling me the same thing. He said it's, don't look right.

LS: I always wondered why they couldn't do anything about it.

AS: "I don't know why it's like that," he said, "but it don't look right to me."

LS: [**Shoshone at 36:40**]

AS: Yeah, everything dark. He said everything's not running right, he was telling me.

LS: [**Shoshone at 36:49**]

AS: He could see a person.

C: **[Shoshone at 36:53]**

AS: He had a black handkerchief about, like that. Just like a x-ray machine. He'll just hold it loosely, like that. Look at you, and he'll tell you. See what's wrong with you. [Laughter] That's how good he was! His handkerchief was x-ray! [Laughter] Yep. And then after, when he get done there, he'll run a sweat bath. 'Course, he gets it *real hot*. I was in there with him, once, in that sweat bath? He put too much water on that rock. I can't hardly breathe! [Laughter] I let him a holler, "I can't stand this heat, so I'm going to stick my head out!" He let me out then. Then them other guys, they took it. "Yeah. I don't know how you guys could stand that heat," I said. It's real tough in there! [Laughter]

LS: **[Shoshone at 37:57]**

AS: Yeah.

LS: But now, go in and they're mixed, I think. **[Shoshone at 38:05]**.

AS: Yeah, you're not supposed to mix it with ladies. Just nothing but men. And if the ladies want to do it, they can do it on their own, they said. Nothing but ladies.

LS: But everything's changed. **Those'll change it, yeah.** It's hard nowadays.

AS: They're still doing it with ladies, now. These young generation, they're still doing it with them girls and that. But they're not supposed to do. But... I guess never been taught or something.

C: So when they did the sweats long time ago, it was just one for women and one for men, huh?

AS: Yeah.

C: And was there a leader? Somebody that was in charge?

AS: Yeah. This one person in there prays for you in there. He's a main man. And the ladies do the same thing. They get one lady to be praying, do the praying for them in there. But no man is in there with them, just ladies.

C: So they don't—now, they do them both together, huh?

AS: Yeah. Yeah, it's this young generation. They—no matter what you tell them, they won't believe you. [Laughter] That's the way we view the young kids, now.

LS: [**Shoshone at 39:37**] No matter how you tell, you know, them not to be doing this and that? They won't listen to you. This long time ago, [**Shoshone at 39:48**]. I said, "It isn't. You're supposed to carry it on to your kids" [**Shoshone? at 39:55**]. But, they don't listen. So I tell them, don't be, don't go out drinking, you know/ There's a bad disease out there nowadays, I told them. Better watch out. Be careful. Take care of your life. Mmhm. I said, "I'm trying my best to take care of my life. I'm an older person now. I'm still talking!" But they don't listen to me. Mmhm. I don't know about my grandson, I don't know if he's listening to me or what. And I will tell him, "Don't abuse girls. That's not nice." Don't abuse one another. [**Shoshone 40:41**] It's hard, nowadays. Very hard. The kids don't listen to you. It's upsetting.

AS: Now, if you *do* tell them something, they said, "This is 1909!" That's what—

LS: [19]90?

AS: Yeah.

LS: [**Shoshone at 41:04**]

AS: Yeah, that's what they going to say. When you talking about it, it's past already.

[Laughter]

LS: They will say, "This isn't the [19]50s, or"—

AS: This is [20]09, they say! Not in the [19]50s, they going to say. I heard three, a few, kids say that to me. Try to tell them something, yeah. “Well, you know, it’s [20]09, now. The one you talking about is way past,” he said. [Laughter]

LS: You know, if the parents, they have to stand together to raise kids. If one says no, the other one let them have the cars. And if I say no, he’ll let them use the car. And that’s not right at all. I told them, “You got to be together to raise kids nowadays.” Right? Mmhm. That’s what I been saying, but they don’t listen to me at all. Of course, some of these days, they’ll—they’ll learn I hope. Because I told my boy before he passed on, I said, “You’re the leader. And the kids are going to follow your footsteps someday.” See, now, doing—they’re drinking now.

C: Okay, in summary, Alvin and Lorraine, if you were to give your words of wisdom—I guess is, that’s what we could call it—to the young people of today, what would you like to say to them?

AS: [**Shoshone at 42:40**] like I was saying, about that drinking. First thing I would say, about drinking. Them kids, don’t want them—I want them kids not to be doing that. And then mixing it up with that dope. Smoking. Want them kids to stay away from that. I mean, there’s lot of it going on around here now. Main thing—that’s the main thing I would say. Stay away from it. Try to stay away from it. Because they might not live long doing that, too. But they got to think about their life—ahead. If they don’t think about their life, they might just pass on. That’s what I would say, is quit that stuff. They could quit, in their own willpower, they’ll quit. That’s what I would say. Just like in smoking. See, if you want to quit, you could quit. Like I did, I just quit. Been lot of offers, lot of drinks offered to me, but I just, I told them no. I quit this stuff already. That’s passed on. Smoking, too. I

don't smoke. That's what them kids got to learn. Yeah, they got to quit that on their own. Lot of that stuff. I don't know what kind of pills they take, too. That's another thing. They mix it some way. Smoke that, and they they still gets into drugs. So that's what I would say to the kids. They'll be all right. If they quit, they'll be okay. The best thing is to quit. Might be, some of it might be going in the school, too, I don't know. Lot of them kids there.

C: Is there anything you'd like to add to that, Lorraine?

LS: [**Shoshone at 44:55**] *Aishen kwa'i, himpa'ha* \_\_\_\_\_ some of these days, they might be sitting in the leader place. That's the way I look at it. [**Shoshone at 45:07**].

C: So they should learn to work together as a team.

LS: Yeah, mmhm. [**Shoshone at 45:13**] and don't abuse one another. [**Shoshone at 45:19**]. But there's more. [**Shoshone at 45:26**].

C: And then how about education?

LS: Yeah, [**Shoshone at 45:32**]. They need to [**Shoshone at 45:34**], I had to quit for my younger ones, when I [**Shoshone at 45:40**]. And then I, in seventh grade, I went to school in seventh grade, because I had to quit school for my younger kid, younger sisters. [**Shoshone at 45:56**]. Yeah, Leah Manning used to tell me to come back to school. [**Shoshone at 46:03**] Because, you know, [**Shoshone at 46:10**]. That's the way I grew up. Drinking. And I sure don't care for that. [**Shoshone at 46:17**] You know? Come home, and [**Shoshone at 46:24**]. I lived in fear the rest of my years. Yeah. [**Shoshone at 46:34**]. And then Ray Allen and **Dawena** over there were small, [**Shoshone at 46:41**]. I was just afraid, [**Shoshone at 46:46**], for him to come in. You know, "Come in!" [**46:51**] And I was real happy. [**Shoshone at 47:15**]

C: So cedar is used for, a medicine, and praying, huh?

LS: Mmhm.

AS: Yeah.

LS: [**Shoshone at 47:28**] That's what I did, on my own. Yeah. [**Shoshone at 47:33**]. You know? When life is, when you have no kids, it's real lonesome. [**Shoshone at 47:53**]. That's the way I got my girl. Cutting school [**Shoshone at 47:59**].

C: So you guys adopted a girl, huh?

LS: Yeah. We adopted a girl. [**Shoshone at 48:24**] Just kept on working and working. [**Shoshone at 48:28**]. You know, go hay. Cut hay and whatever with him. [**Shoshone at 48:40**]. It's just, you know—[**Shoshone at 48:44**] so you have to be careful. [**Shoshone at 48:49**]. You got to be careful, take care of your life. Their lives. [**Shoshone at 48:55**] You got to trust one another, when you're married. You trust your woman, right? Mmhm. [**Shoshone at 49:08**]. You supposed to trust one another. Don't say you want to go see this one, [**Shoshone at 49:15**]. Life was tough for us, *himpaishe*. [**Shoshone at 49:36**] ration clothes *hannikai*. Ration shoes, ration, everything's rationed. Your sugar, whatever. You know? When it comes here, it got the [**Shoshone at 49:47**]. Long time ago. Yeah.

AS: Now, over here at Sherman's store, there. [\_\_inaudible at 49:57\_\_]

LS: You know where the courthouse is? [**Shoshone at 50:01**]

C: So who was, who gave up the rations?

LS: I don't know. [**Shoshone at 50:14**] from somewhere.

AS: Yeah, brought them in [**Shoshone(?) at 50:18**]. They brought it in a truck sometime. They give us so much sugar, coffee, all of that stuff.



- LS: You get stamps for sugar, and you get pound, maybe a pound of it.
- AS: Yeah.
- LS: Pound of sugar. Have little cards for that. Mmhm. [**Shoshone at 50:39**]. It was for his shoes, he had little stamp, and then, [**Shoshone at 50:47**]. [Laughter] Yeah. So he'd have to wear boots.
- AS: What you're not supposed to do, [**Shoshone at 50:53**]. [Laughter]
- LS: [**Shoshone at 50:55**]. Then later on, I'll tell him, "[**Shoshone at 50:59**]." Mmhm, yeah. Them grandparents so nice. You just [**Shoshone at 51:07**].
- C: So your grandparents were nice people, then.
- LS: Mmhm. Yeah, they were kind people. Then they always say, "You feed people, whoever come visit you. Then, if you don't have no food, if you have coffee, give them a coffee!" [**Shoshone at 51:38**]. So I'm still like that, mmhm. [**Shoshone at 51:43**] Yeah. [Laughter] [**Shoshone at 51:50**]. [Laughter] Yeah. [**Shoshone at 52:01**]. Mmhm, yep.
- C: Okay, well, I guess this concludes our interview for today, and I want to thank you, and Lorraine, thank you, and Alvin, I want to thank you, for taking the time to share these stories and your words of wisdom with us. So...
- AS: Yeah.
- LS: That's what I really want, is the kids to, you know, be nice to one another, don't abuse one another. Leave this alcohol and leave the drugs out! Yeah. Just keep it out! [**Shoshone at 52:40**]. Don't let the *enne'tsi* [ghost; dangerous spirit] get 'em, let the Devil get 'em. [**Shoshone at 52:48**].
- C: Yeah, *aishen tsaa*. [**Shoshone at 52:55**]
- AS: [**Shoshone at 53:00**] Told about everything.

LS: [Shoshone at 53:08] I just know the *Itsappe*. No, the Bear and the Deer [Shoshone at 53:18].

C: Oh. Okay, [Shoshone at 53:23].

AS: Yeah. [Laughter]

LS: [Shoshone at 53:25]

AS: Yeah, that's what they say.

LS: [Shoshone at 53:29]

C: [Shoshone at 53:33]

AS: [Laughter]

[End of recording]