



Maria Trindade

Translated from Portuguese

Interviewer: We can start. Your name?

Maria Trindade. I am a native of St. Michael, the parish of Ribeira Chã. When I was young, my job was embroidery. My job when young was embroidery. After, I got married, had three children. I came to América. When I got to America, I liked it. As we all know I have a lot of problems because I didn't know the language. The jobs were different and also I didn't know people. After, my daughter was not bad, because my sister-in-law helped me very much when I got here in America. My husband got sick. We arrived in the month of June. In the month of July my husband got sick, was in the hospital and that's how my life was.

Interviewer: So, when did you immigrate here?

When it was that I come to America?

Interviewer: Yeah.

I came to América on the 11th of June of 1976.

Interviewer: To New Bedford, Fall River?

To New Bedford. I was always in New Bedford.

Interviewer: Always?

Always. I worked at Cliftex.

Interviewer: Cliftex?

At Cliftex. I always worked there. Never knew another factory. When the factory closed that's when I retired. The factory closed, and I came home. There was only a few months left to take my retirement and I didn't go look for another job, I was collecting.

Interviewer: At Cliftex, you made dresses?

Was, my first job there was to turn vests, right side out, men's vests. After that style ended, I went to another job. I came to Jackets. In jackets, my life was to cut the threads. After I went to check the Jackets before they went out to the stores. Had to see if they had defects. And after I was putting plastic coverts on the jackets so they could go out. And now, I have my kids all married. My husband died already. I live alone.

Interviewer: You live alone in?

I live alone in New Bedford.



Interviewer: And the children live where?

I have a daughter in North Carolina. And my sons are here. I pair of sons that I have here.

Interviewer: You got some grandchildren?

Ai, I have two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Interviewer: Here in New Bedford or in North Carolina?

I have a granddaughter in North Carolina and I have two grandsons here in New Bedford. But my grandson does not work here in New Bedford. I have one that works here in New Bedford. The other one lives in Connecticut, works in Connecticut.

Interviewer: Are you a member of a church?

Yeah, my church is the Mount Carmel Church. I live close to that church. I walk there. The church is near my house and I walk to church. Yeah, I really live close. Even without me having a car—I never drove in this country. Never drove.

Interviewer: You never drove?

No, no. My sister-in-law always took me to work. Because she worked in the factory I worked at.

Interviewer: You come here every Tuesday?

Yes on Tuesdays, and there are days that I can't come. But when I can, I always come here on Tuesday. On Thursdays I don't come. Because on Thursdays we also have one at the Mount Carmel Church. We have a program like this. It's on Thursday now in the summer. But in the winter, when it's cold we don't. On Thursday then I stay at the church and on Tuesday I come here.

Interviewer: So, you have girlfriends?

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Interviewer: When you come here, what do you do? Cards?

Cards. I like to play cards very much. Because, it's my pastime, because I am alone in the house, it feels good. And here my distraction is with my friends.

Interviewer: I just learned a new word in Portuguese: Cards, for activity.

Cards, yes. Cards. I don't know another card game. It's donkey. The game of donkey all the cards value is the same.

Interviewer: Anything else you want to talk about?

I have nothing more.

Interviewer: So, I think you ladies have snacks over there. So we can finish. Great.



Ok. Thank you.

Interviewer: Thank you, very much.

Good day to you.