

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr Frank Beck

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agriculture in Illinois - School Reorganization Oral History

Interview # AI-A-L-2011-056

Dr. Frank Beck, a scholar at Illinois State University who served as chair of the Center for Economic and Community Development and has done extensive studies on school closure issues, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois – School District Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: October 27, 2011 Location: Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPLM Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 0.57 / 0.95 hours

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on January 9, 2012.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Dr. Frank Beck, Agriculture in Illinois, AI-A-L-2011-056

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. Frank Beck was born on September 30th, 1966 in Cleveland, Ohio, and grew up and went to school at Walsh Jesuit in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, graduating in 1984. For the past fourteen years, he has been at Illinois State University teaching in the Sociology Department. At the time of the interview he served as chair of the Center for Economic and Community Development. The Center has been active in data collection on wind farms, labor and economic trends, longitudinal studies and social - economic studies. The Center has recently completed a three-step Study of Illinois School Closures (Elementary, Junior High School). These studies have looked at demographic, economic, and educational causes of school closure, the most important and leading trends leading to closure, the results of school closure, and what if any benefits may a closure cause a county, district, or community. Dr. Beck additional work will be ongoing on this data. The School Closure Study examined data from 1972-2005.

Subject Headings/Key Words: school reorganization in Illinois; Center for Community and Economic Development, Illinois State University; Center for Educational Policy, Illinois State University; Center's Study of Illinois School Closures (1972-2005), money and enrollment in Illinois schools; Education Fund; economics of Illinois school closures; school test scores

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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