

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Jack Waddle

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Education is Key – Civics Education* Oral History project

Interview # ECE-A-L-2020-002

Jack Waddle, a civics and social studies teacher at Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Civics Education* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: January 8, 2020      Location: Carmel Catholic High School, Mundelein, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Transcript being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_      Total Time: 1:00 / 1.0 hr

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

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## Abstract

### Jack Waddle, *Education is Key – Civics*, ECE-A-L-2020-002

**Biographical Information/Overview of Interview:** Jack Waddle was born in Chicago, Illinois in August 1980. He grew up in Northbrook, Illinois and graduated from Glenbrook North High School in 1998. While there, Jack participated in football, wrestling, the student advisory council, and was class president. Jack graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2002 with a major in political science. He attended the Chicago-Kent College of Law and earned a JD degree in 2007. Jack practiced law for three years before joining the social studies faculty at Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, Illinois in 2014. In 2019, Jack earned a MA in Secondary Education from National Louis University in Chicago. At the time of the interview Jack was teaching both dual credit and advanced placement courses. He also has done legal work, specializing in 1st Amendment and privacy laws.

Waddle examines how civics education, a state required high school semester course, is being taught at Carmel Catholic High School during the senior year. He discusses examples of controversial topics used in class, including cannabis legalization, abortion, right to die and impeachment. He also addressed service projects (Rwanda), content found in the civics class, and different Supreme Court cases. Waddle also covers the dual credit Criminal Justice class conducted with the College of Lake County and the advanced placement course, 'Comparative Government,' which looks at the governmental structures of China, Russia, Mexico, Nigeria, the United Kingdom, and Iran.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** civics requirement in Illinois public education; Carmel Catholic High School; teaching of controversial subjects; Social Justice Club; Carmel Catholic HS Advanced Placement Comparative Government Class; Carmel Catholic HS Criminal Justice class; 1st Amendment privacy cases; news literacy

**Notes 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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