

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Kevin McClain

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Education is Key - Alternatives in Education* Oral History project

Interview # EA-A-L-2018-055

Mr. Kevin McClain, a parent who sent his children in private schools, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Alternatives to Illinois Schooling* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Sep 13, 2018      Location: Springfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: John Perkins, ALPL volunteer

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

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

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 0:50 / 0.83 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on January 9, 2019.

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

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# Abstract

## Kevin McClain, *Alternatives Education*, EA-A-L-2018-055

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Kevin McClain, together with his wife Linda, decided to send their four children to private school for their entire elementary and secondary school experiences. Mr. McClain was born in East St. Louis, Illinois in October 1950 and lived most of his early life in Quincy, Illinois, attend schools there. His parents were supportive of both public and private schools in Quincy. He was raised in a catholic family and attended private parochial schools. Following high school graduation, he attended St. Benedicts College and Southern Illinois University (SIU). He graduated from SIU in 1972. Following graduation, he attended law school and received his Juris Doctor in 1980. His wife of thirty years, Linda, is also a lawyer and works for the State of Illinois.

Mr. McClain's professional legal career included legal work with the State of Illinois, an appellate prosecutor, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Police Training Lawyer and twenty-one years in private practice. Mr. McClain also served as Executive Director of the Illinois Police Training Board.

This interview covers the experiences of the McClain's four children during their years of elementary, secondary and college to present time, 2018. He explains their thoughts and reasoning for sending all four children to private parochial schools in Springfield. All four children, two sets of twins, were very involved and very successful throughout their years in all levels of their educational experience. They all attended Sacred Heart Griffin High School in Springfield, Illinois and Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana. Mr. McClain also describes he and his wife's relationship with the school system as their children progressed through the grades.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** parochial school education in Springfield, Illinois; Sacred Heart Griffin High School, Springfield, Illinois; rationale for sending children to a parochial school; parental involvement with a parochial school; Sacred Heart Griffin High School administration and faculty; Sacred Heart Griffin High School Executive Council; Sacred Heart Griffin High School Board of Controls; parochial school curriculum, courses;

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