

# Title Page & Abstract

## An Interview with Maryam Judar

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

Interview # ECE-A-L-2019-087

Maryam Judar, a participant on the Illinois Civics Education Task Force, 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: Nov. 7, 2019    Location: Elmhurst, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

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

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

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_    Total Time: 1:27 / 1.45 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 10, 2020.

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

Interview being  
processed

© 2020 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

## Abstract

Maryam Judar, *Education is Key - Civics*, ECE-A-L-2019-087

**Biographical Information/Overview of Interview:** Maryam Judar was born in Tehran, Iran in 1970. She grew up in Illinois and graduated from Downers Grove North High School in 1988. She then attended Northwestern University, graduating in 1993 with a degree in Anthropology. Maryam later earned an MA in Public Health from George Washington University in 1999 and a JD from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2005. Maryam has worked for a variety of entities, including Planned Parenthood, the U.S. Peace Corps in Madagascar, the U.S. Court of Appeals 5th Circuit, and Legal Services Northern California. At the time of the interview Maryam was the Executive Director of the Citizen Advocacy Center in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Dr. Judar, a participant on the Illinois Civics Education Task Force, shares her involvement in this group, which met from October 2013 through January 2015. Judar discusses the interest in having civics as a separate required class, the process used by the Task Force, the feedback from the public meetings, and the Task Force recommendations that resulted from their work. She also explains the role of the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition and the efforts by a non-profit organization to promote civics awareness (media literacy, civil discourse, citizenship, FOIA, Municipal government, and voting).

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Citizen Advocacy Center on Civics Awareness; Illinois Civic Mission Coalition; Illinois Civics Education Task Force (ICETF); teaching controversial subjects; service projects; civics lesson plans

**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.

## COPYRIGHT

**The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955**