

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Bryan Murley

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Illinois Civics Education Oral History project

Interview # ECE-A-L-2019-095

Bryan Murley, a Journalism professor at Eastern Illinois University, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education in Illinois - Civics Education* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Nov 12, 2019 Location: Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL and

Date: Dec 3, 2019 Location: Telephonic interview at ALP Library

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 0:47 + 0:37 / 0.78 + 0.62 = 1.4 hrs

Session 1: Early career and introduction to ethics and bias in journalism

Session 2: Detailed discussion of the Journalistic Ethics course and its lessons

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 4,
2020.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in
Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Bryan Murley, Education is Key – Civics, ECE-A-L-2019-095

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Bryan Murley was born in Tacoma, Washington in February 1968. He grew up in Texas and attended West Brook High School in Beaumont, Texas in 1986. Bryan participated in theater, drama, and the school newspaper, and also worked at the local newspaper. Murley first enrolled at the Southwest Baptist Seminary before transferring to Lamar University, where he majored in communications, graduating in 1995. Following graduation, he worked as a journalist and publisher at Winnie, Texas. He later worked for the Ft. Worth *Star Telegraph* as well as for a Dallas newspaper and in Greenville, South Carolina. Bryan currently teaches at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, including courses in journalistic ethics and news literacy as well as serving as advisor to the University's student newspaper.

Murley talks about journalism from his perspective as a news reporter and publisher. He discusses context of two courses in particular, *News Information*, and *Media Literacy and Journalism Ethics*. He also discusses the challenges of discerning fact from opinion in contemporary journalism, as well as understanding bias and advocacy journalism. Additionally, he discussed current controversies involving ethics in journalism and challenges in college newspaper reporting.

Subject Headings/Key Words: journalistic career; journalistic ethics; media literacy; bias in journalism; journalistic echo chambers; EIU course *News, Information and Media Literacy*; bias in news reporting; trend of political figures becoming journalists; college newspaper advisors;

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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