

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Brita Hunegs

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

Interview # ECE-A-L-2020-053

Brita Hunegs, a DePaul University journalism student, 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: Aug 10, 2020 Location: Telephonic interview

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:02 / 1.03

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 1, 2021.

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

Transcript being
processed

© 2020 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Brita Hunegs, Education is Key – Civics, ECE-A-L-2020-053

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Brita Hunegs was born in 1997 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She grew up in the Minneapolis-St Paul area and graduated from St. Louis Park High School. While in high school, Brita played lacrosse, competed on the quiz bowl team, and worked on the school newspaper. She then attended DePaul University, majoring in journalism. In 2019-20, Brita was a student in the Center for Journalism Integrity and Excellence found at DePaul. While there, she was involved in making two documentaries which played on WTTW (PBS, Chicago). One was on the impact of Illinois gambling legislation; while the other examined how Washington, Illinois citizens dealt with a devastating tornado in 2013 November and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Brita looks at journalism from her perspective as a student at DePaul University. She discusses the courses required, the emphasis on ethical training, understanding media literacy, current challenges in journalism, the good/bad of social media, and the question of controversial speakers on campus. Brita also talks about the Center for Journalism Integrity and Excellence (CJIE). She discusses how the two documentaries were made in 2019-2020. Each used a different reporting technique. One looked at the Illinois Gambling law and its impact on people; while the other examined the impact of COVID-19 and a prior devastating tornado on residents in Washington, Illinois. These documentaries would later be aired on WTTW-Chicago (PBS). She also talks about the challenges of finishing the Washington, Illinois documentary during the March-April 2020 timeframe when a change was made to remote learning.

Subject Headings/Key Words: DePaul University School of Journalism; Center for Journalism Integrity and Excellence (CJIE), DePaul U.; documentary on Illinois's gambling law; documentary on Washington, Illinois tornado of 2013; WTTW-Chicago (PBS); Washington, Illinois's experience with the COVID-19 pandemic; U.S. Senate internship for MN Senator Amy Klobuchar; 2020 Iowa caucus; 2020 protests in Minneapolis, MN;

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