

# **ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

by

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**Prepared for Dr. Rozanna Lilley**

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## Transcription

Ricky: I am Ricky. Now, I am doing interview with Mr. Sung Lop Choi. He is our hostel tutor in Hall F. What is your unforgettable event during childhood?

Mr. Sung: My mother told me a story to my brothers and me in certain summer. This famous story is very interesting and I like very much. This will rich my thinking and creation.

Ricky: Will ... (phone rings) this experience affect you?

Mr. Sung: Of course, this makes me have a interest in human society.

Ricky: What do you think about your school life in primary school such as feeling about your classmates or teachers?

Mr. Sung: I had been studied two primary schools. For first one, I have a deep impression about a classmate, his surname is called "Lai". He likes drawing a picture especially for robots in the class. I like to see his picture before lesson or in rest time. He can draw some picture that we called him to draw in front of us immediately. I have impression about a male teacher who teaches our Chinese - his body is fit - and other English teacher who is very young about 19. They treat us very kind and teach us very well. Then, I go to anther school in Kowloon to study because my mother think that my result is not good so she call me to repeat primary four. the teachers of new school are more serious. The Chinese teacher is very serious - he said that he would hit our hand if you were naughty. He had hit me one time (he smiles). At primary six, a teacher who teaches us English - his teaching method is quite interesting. He called me to make English equation in my heart.

Ricky: What equation is?

Mr. Sung: The verb after he, she, it, needs to add "s". It is useful for me. Up to now, I still remember it.

Ricky: Do you have any problem after changing school?

Mr. Sung: I am not familiar with my classmates until promoting primary five. Other reason, I need to adopt the new environment. There are much more tree, table-tennis table and a place where have some little animal such as rabbit.

Ricky: Do you have closer relationship with your classmates via playing with table tennis or feeding rabbit?

Mr. Sung: Yes...

Ricky: As you mention before, your mother seems to have a high expectation on you. Could you tell me something about your family?

Mr. Sung: I have parent, seven brothers and one grandmother. My father works in business field. My mother is housewife and need to look after us - we often quarrel with my brothers, sometimes, we fight with each other.

Ricky: Do you play with your classmates after school?

Mr. Sung: In the past, there is little recreation in community center. And the student will not go to tutorial institution. I go back home after school.

Ricky: Do you play with your brothers at home?

Mr. Sung: My mother concerns our education very much. When I go home, I will do homework first then play my brothers at home before dinner. Phoning is not as convenient as nowadays, seldom phone to classmate and watch TV, mainly play toys with brothers.

Ricky: Does your father rarely accompany with you and your brothers?

Mr. Sung: Yes, it is true. He not only works in office but also need to have a gathering with his clients outside. So, he often comes home late. If he have time, we will have a dinner together. Sometime, we go picnic on Sunday.

Ricky: What do you think about your living condition?

Mr. Sung: We also live with grandmother, we are more willing to listen to mother rather than grandmother.

Ricky: Is there any general gap?

Mr. Sung: The term " Generation Gap" is not be used. There is nature power on parent, many things are decided by them - we will respect my grandmother. But my brother and I do not like to listen to her because we think that her generation and mind is not matched with ours.

Ricky: Do your parent treat you very serious?

Mr. Sung: Yes, but they will explain to us why we will be awarded or punished. It is very helpful to our thinking - think about the reason before action.

Ricky: Do you adopt the new environment after promoting to secondary school?

Mr. Sung: There will be open examination on Chinese, English and Mathematics when promoting secondary school. My mother called me to study with my brothers at the same school because it is easy for her to manage them. There is quite a big different between primary and secondary school in term of study environment and school's rule. Thus, it is quite difficult for me to adopt. The teachers are more serious towards our study and behavior.

Ricky: Your school is a famous school, do you have a great pressure?

Mr. Sung: Yes, there is quite a great pressure. The teachers in our school are very good. I have a deep impression that there is a Mathematics teacher at F3. He is studying master and he does the example very detail for us. It is very easy for us to understand.

Ricky: Could tell me about your activities after school in secondary school?

Mr. Sung: The activities after school is more rich, sometime playing ball game, go to library, seeing movies and listening seminar with my classmates.

Ricky: Do you interest in reading? And why you have this hobby?

Mr. Sung: Yes, it is because the library is near to our school and my brothers usually bring me to library. I remember that it can only borrow two books from library and feel it is not enough. Actually, it can very helpful to my studying.

Ricky: What is your position among of your brothers? Does the academic result of your elder brothers make you under a great pressure?

Mr. Sung: Sure, I am at the fifth position. My next elder brother has a good result in open examination so he no needs to pay school fee. He works very hard and he is very clever. His good result becomes my pressure.

Ricky: Do you have any changing point in secondary?

Mr. Sung: In secondary school - there is no changing point.

Ricky: Do you have any changes in the relationship of your family?

Mr. Sung: The relationship among of my brothers becomes loose because we have our own friends. Playing together after school is less. But we have more quarrels about some topic during the dinner. It is probably because we have our own opinions. I concern more about my smaller bothers as you said.

Ricky: The last question, what is your impression on him?

Mr. Sung: My father is very busy in his job. We realized that his pressure because he is the main and unique financial support of our family. He emphasizes on the honest... he teach us that don't fear dirty and hard should brave to face the problem.

Ricky: This is the end of the interview with Mr. Sung on 19 April 1999. The interviewer was Ricky. Thank you very much!

## Summary of Interview

Mr. Sung is interviewed with me at 3/F conference room, General Education Building, Lingnan College on 19<sup>th</sup> April. He talks with a great deal of feeling about his childhood. It sounds interesting. He has 7 brothers and lives with his parent and his grandmother during his childhood.

His father is work in business field and his mother is housewife and his grandmother is very traditional women. Thus his family is not poor. His mother and his elder brothers do not care the finical support of his family so that Mr. Sung and his brothers no need to work outside when they were small can only focus on their studying.

When he was studying at primary school, he had been changed from original school to a new one because his academic result is not good. It is quite difficult for him to adopt the new environment. Fortunately, he familiars with his classmate no longer via playing basketball and feeding little animal such as rabbit. After promoting secondary school, he felt that there are quite great pressure came from assessment and serious teacher. On the other hand, the good academic result of his elder brother is one of the major sources of pressure. He gradually looks after and concern about his smaller brothers when he was growing.

Name of interviewee: Mr. Sung Lop Choi

Date of interview: 19/4/1999

Name of interviewer: Mr. Kwok Ming Fung Ricky

No of tapes recorded: 1

## **Evaluation of Interview**

The recording was taped in 3/F conference room, General Education Building, Lingnan College on 19<sup>th</sup> April. The environment of room is very quiet and provided comfortable place for interviews. But there is constant interruption to me, I often bit by mosquito.

During interview, he is very nature and interested to talk about his childhood. I find that he is very interested in reading. Actually, it is quite difficult for me to follow my framework of question I set before. The question I asked will follow the field he interested. There will be no problem for the interview. I think we have a closer relationship with him via this interview.