



1980-07-25

Canete, Francis Interview

Carole Hensley

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/witw>

Recommended Citation

Hensley, Carole, "Canete, Francis Interview" (1980). *Delta Women Oral Histories*. 17.
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/witw/17>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Western Americana at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Delta Women Oral Histories by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgebney@pacific.edu.

Stockton Immigrant Women Oral History Collection

Interviewer: Carole Hensley

Interviewee: Francis Canete

Transcriber: James Lyons

Date: 7/25/1980

[Tape 1, side A]

[Begin tape]

Hensley: Mrs. Canete, I'd like to know your place of birth and how long you lived there.

Canete: Um hum, well I lived in the town, in the barrio, of Los, I was born there and then I was baptized in Carcar in the province of Cebu, _____ but my town, where I was born, is in the barrio of Pylilos and then I was baptized in Carcar, just like Lodi and Eight Mile road or something like that. That's where I was born.

Hensley: How long did you live there?

Canete: Well I lived there until I was in 7th grade. (baby yelling) . When I was in 7th grade I had one sister in Manila, she was working as a laundress, you know, working for this rich American lady...

Hensley: As a what, as a laundress?

Canete: Laundry, she washes her cloths, and her husband was a driver, he's a chauffeur. And he wrote to my father, you see my mother died when I was nearly born, you know, I didn't know my mother though. So my father and I were living together and so all my sisters are all scattered and one, there was my brother, were all over the place, one in Hawaii, some were in Manila, and then my sister who was in Manila wrote to my father and she says "please send Francis over here so she can help me and at the same time continue her school." So my father was kind of worried, you see, I was the last child of the family and I was the only one that goes to school, my other sisters send me to school.

Hensley: You went to school in the Philippines.

Canete: Philippines, yeah. I was the first... when they were teaching American, you know, we have American teacher there, the first time I was there then, you know, I attended an English school. So when I was in 5th grade my sister told me I could continue in Manila. But then my father agreed, he got assured so he sent me to Manila and my sister was there with me and I was kind of scared because I wasn't used to her ways you know?

Hensley: Why were they different?

Canete: Well I don't know, just because I was grown with my father all during the time and I was not used to the ways of the house, her ways, and I told her to, she told me I can babysit with, she's got a baby, she's got one boy, I can babysit while they are working and then I babysit at her house so she doesn't send me to school. See? So I says "no, I better go back home" and she says "alright, if you want to go back home I'm going to put you somewhere else." So she put me in this little Good Shepherd of sisters, 'Good Shepherd Convent.'

Hensley: What was that?

Canete: A Pastor's convent. All the American sisters are there, they are taking foreign aids and all those people that got a little fault...

Hensley: Like refugees?

Canete: No, not refugees. Like you have a court order and they keep you there for a while until the trial comes and that's what my case was. They put me there and I didn't know it, I didn't know the difference then and then they put me there and never come to see me. She put me there about three years and I have no contact with them at all.

Hensley: How about your father?

Canete: Not even my father. And of course I was about six months in there, they took me to the port, they want me to find out which one I want to stay in, if I want to go back to my sister or stay where I was. So I chose to stay where I was, I was better off there, I learn something. So I stay there with no communication for about seven years.

Hensley: Wait, excuse me, with no education?

Canete: With no communication. With my people.

Hensley: For seven years?

Canete: For seven years. Ahuh. And then during the seven years they appointed me, you see we have a printing shop, we have a laundry thing, and we have sewing and lacing, we have musician and all that, so I took music and then they appointed me to work with an outsider in the printing shop. I feed the machine. So I happened to sneak out and I lied to the sisters. I wrote a letter to my father and I let this man that was supervisor there at the place "Mail this for me" and then I put my address in case they answer your address. He says "oh this is against the law, the sister's law" and I says "please do this for me."

Hensley: Why was it against the law to send letters out?

Canete: Well you see I send it through the peoples that worked there to outside, they could stay there, they were all men, and these men, that was their trade, they type and printing press, and were doing manual walks through Manila. And sometimes we do something like a book or a _____, we do that, and then we do some, we are making, ah you know when you write, it's something like this where you write with lines, what's it called? A note book? Is that what you call it?

Hensley: Ahuh. A note book.

Canete: A note book. Yeah, we do that. I had a list of things and I was pretty good, so the sister trusted me. So finally when I got an answer from my people, so I know that my father is still alive.

Hensley: What was he doing by then? How was making his living?

Canete: Well he was about to die, he was all _____. And then, inside the convent I met a friend, who was married to but we don't know anything about whether she got married or not but I know when she told me this. I made a friend, a very nice woman, she was married to an American man named Edgar _____ and she was put there, I think she had disobeyed or something, she was put there and she was married through the parents, taught by the parents and the parents say "ok you can marry her" and all that, but he wasn't in love with her, and she wasn't in love with him, but by force, you know? But by anyhow he put her there so she was there about two years. Within two years he got to visit her every Sunday and one day she says to me, "he would you like to go to the States?" And I says, "Really? What would we do in the States, what we are doing here we would starve over there." She said "I wouldn't worry about it." I says "Who's going to take us?" And that's when she told me the story about herself.

Hensley: Which was what?

Canete: Which was she married this man, she was a professional language professor, with English speaking, Italian speaking, Esperanto, Spanish, and French. She was teaching those talents in Manila. So he took her, her name is Hellen, he told her "Helen, if you want to get out from here I'll take you out of here to the States, because I am going home." And then she said "No, I'm not going" and then he said "You are not going? Then you are staying here forever because I am not coming back."

Hensley: Would that happen? Would they keep people there forever?

Canete: No they don't. No they don't. If you have learn something, or you want to work outside, they'll get you a job, but anyhow, every Sunday he repeated the same questions. So finally she asked me would you like to come with me and I said "What would I do over there?" And she said "nothing, it's just like an adventure." I said "With the knowledge we have here? We will starve" and she said "I don't think so." So that day I didn't give her an answer so the next time he came in he said "did you make up your mind?" and she said "Ok if I go with you, you have to take one with us." He said "Who is this?" she said "my friend, my best friend" and he said "ok, you can take two, or one, either one, as long as you say you're coming with me to the States." So she already knows. So finally I told her ok, that's where I wrote my father, I told him that I'm going to the states, and then my sister came over and tells me "how often do you go to the States in the old days" and I says "well there's my friend here that wants to take me" and she says "oh, don't you want to see our ____" and I says "oh I don't think there's a chance because we leave on the 31st that was 1930.

Hensley: 1938?

Canete: 1930. So she said well there's nothing I can do. So I talked to my friend and asked how am I going to tell the sisters to get out, and that was in November in 1930. No '31st, because we leave January 1931st. Yeah in 1930, we said we just have to lie, white lie. So she says "when are you supposed to leave?" I says "as soon as we get out here" so I have to do my part so I went to mother ____ you know and I nailed down there and I asked mother ____ "Please mother, my father is very ill and I've sat here a very long time, would you let me go and see him?" And I was in the habit of reading and I was becoming a ____ not become a nun but we have some kind of society. And she said "Well don't you know what you've got? Once you take it out, you going to put it back." I said "I'm sorry

mother, but please let me go.” She said “Well ok, if you want to go see your father, but don’t forget always serve God, never forget, always put God in your mind, or you’re going to come back here.” Right there that minute she let me go but I had no choice but to talk to her. But she gave me instruction I go you call this number, that’s her husband, and besides that I know the address and my sister told me where she was so I went there so when I get out I told my sister come and get me and my sister was already remiss. But my sister took me in, and we went to my cousin and she let me stay there and then that Sunday she told her husband that she was out already, so he came to look for us, for me, so he found me and he said that I was provided for that. This was late in November and she was coming out in December, after Christmas. So, on December, just to cut it short on December, just about the Sunday on the 29th, I don’t know day this was Sunday, I got sick.

Hensley: How’d you get sick?

Canete: I got appendicitis. He took me, this is her husband, he took me to the hospital, the Mary Child hospital, in in Manila, and I stay there until she came out. When she came out she took me out of the hospital and then took our passport, and he already worked for our passport, so we had our rolls and _____. On January first, I think 1931, that’s when we left for the States. Our passports were the same thing. We took the USS President Taft from Manila to Hong Kong, and then from Hong Kong we took the USS Samamaru, a brand new Japanese boat because the USS President Taft won’t go around Japan and Shanghai and Honolulu, and San Francisco, this is on the Samamaru, because the USS President Taft goes the other way. So we had lots of fun you know, we enjoyed ourselves...

Hensley: Did you stop off on Hong Kong for a long time?

Canete: Yes we stop at Hong Kong and took the USS Samamaru, and then we start from Shanghai, that’s the first city I have seen, and then _____ Japan, first we _____ and then Shanghai, and then Honolulu, we stayed in Honolulu for 24 hours, and then when we reached Los Angeles, it was mid-July, and we don’t like to get out, so we left early in the morning so we _____ we reached Los Angeles, Terminal Island, at 8 o’clock in the morning and there there was, his sister met us there from San Diego, her husband’s sister, so when we reached Los Angeles we go and we stay there about, not quite a week, she was against Filipinos.

Hensley: Why? Just prejudice?

- Canete: She prejudiced. She just don't like to see her brother marry a Filipina woman, especially a young one.
- Hensley: Why, was he old?
- Canete: Yeah he was old, he was about fifty or sixty years old.
- Hensley: How old was the woman?
- Canete: The woman was 14 years old (when they got married), she was born in 1912, and that was 19, and you can see how old she was in 1931 (when they left the Philippines), and she told me this, his sister likes me she says "Francis, what in the world... that ah, you come with them" I says "Why don't you just let them go here and why do you have to come with them?" Well I said they were a very nice people to me, I was sick and I was helped, they put me in the hospital, there is nothing I can do, this is all I can do is come down with them to be a companion, they didn't treat me as a servant, nothing like that, what I got I got, see. And we buy cloths, and the same thing with me, we eat the same food, so I says there's nothing I can do, I have to come with them, besides I have no money. My goodness, so she told her brother, Edward was his name, we have an uncle in el central, Imperial valley, el central, and that was about June so it's hot, and she says you go over there and maybe you guys can have a cabin between yourselves, and at the same time you go look for work to support the girls.
- Hensley: This was in august, what did you do between January and...
- Canete: I, we arrive here February 28th.
- Hensley: What did you do between the time that you arrived and...
- Canete: That's why she was nagging on us, because we were there, we stayed with them, so she said the best thing for you guys go where our uncle is and he's running a cabin, and there's a back cabin for you. So we did, we left about one week after she took to us. When we reached El Central we says "Wow, it's so hot" and he took to us nicely, he took to us nice. But then he was looking for job, and he met a Frenchman whose name was _____ and the court, an interpreter there, so he was an interpreter, he was hired as an interpreter in Spanish, and the other was hired as an interpreter in French, that's how he became appointed there, and Louise didn't caught him doing nothing. So finally when we run out of money he told us "well girls, it looks like I'll have to go back to the Philippines" and his wife said why so he said "Well we run out of, we're short on money now, so I have to

go to the Philippines and sell all my property in _____ and come back, but I need you to not sell the one in San Pablo," he's got a house there, a nice house. Ok, so he says "in the meantime I'm going to entrust you with Mr. and Mrs. _____ (Frenchman) this is, you do your share and when I come back maybe he'll charge us more or less, but you do your share like, you help her around the house, things like that." Well I did my best and of course when you're lazy you're used to that and I told her that at least you should use common sense. She says "we're leaving _____ we should do our share." She was really particular so we cut it short, about three months and here he comes, so he went down there to take us out of there and he charged us three hundred dollars just for us to go there.

Hensley: For how long?

Canete: For three months. For three hundred dollars.

Hensley: And you were working for them.

Canete: Yeah we shared, like washing the dishes, or help her cutting the vegetables while she cooks, someone has to cook you know, so that's how I learned to keep house, and finally we went to Los Angeles we rented an apartment there and we stayed there about three or four months and then they got a divorce, she can't stand anymore because she got irked because he got too many, too much _____ there. So when they got divorced she told me you're going to go to school and just as soon as we get settled down and then I'll let you know.

Hensley: How old were you at this time?

Canete: Well, let's see now, I was born in 1908, 1931, how much is that?

Hensley: That's um... 23?

Canete: Something like that... so we met a woman that's running a room and board and she told us girls "if you need any help you let me know and we'll put you up" or something like that because she knows that we had a hard time because they are divorced you know. So I went there, both of us stayed there for until I go to school one season whole year, I stayed there, 1931 to 1932. In 1932 I met my husband.

Hensley: How'd you meet your husband?

Canete: Well I met my husband because they were also boarding there see...

Hensley: Boarding?

Canete: Uhuh, boarding. Because he was taking electrician... he was going to school and he stays there and ate and on the weekends and that's how we met, and she also met someone, and she got married and got a house. She met a very nice man, he was a chef, cook, in _____ hot springs, [I cannot remember his last name], so while there she told me she says "no don't forget, take care of yourself, if you need any help you write to me" and she gave me her address and all that, and on the final day my husband, the husband told me "Why don't we just get married, she's married, lets soon get married."

Hensley: How long had you been dating him?

Canete: Oh, we were dating, we were not really dating you know, we were just sitting like this, talking, and I didn't know he was in love with me, but he told Helen that he likes me, but Helen didn't even tell me the thing about, she just told me to just take care of myself, and she left to get married. So finally, about the middle of 1932, no '31, '32, we get married in June... July 6th, 1932, we were married. We rented a house for ten dollars a month...

Hensley: Where at?

Canete: Just by the back of the boarding house. Hahaha. On sunset boulevard 1931 Sunset Boulevard, that's where we lived. So, and then he went he goes around and acquires friends, some Filipinos, tries to find a job, so finally he found a job as a janitor in Saint Francis hotel in Hollywood, Saint Francis Hotel in Hollywood.

Hensley: Saint Francis...?

Canete: Saint Francis Hotel. So he's in the US married so they says "ok, we'll give you one hotel [room], free hotel, no apartment," but they have a big community kitchen. I says "ok, well I'm going to help the housekeeper" and that's another experience I learn from her. Housekeeping was so nice. Mrs. Carpenter told me what to do and what not to do, just pile up all the linen and then the janitors would put it in their apartment, so I would do that and count how many linens to be... [asking Ms. Hensley] are you cold hun?

Hensley: Yeah a little bit.

Canete: So, ah... we finally, we settle down. We stayed there one year, 1933. Then they changed the crew into a colored people. See, our manager was Mr. _____ and

they were giving us notice that the crew was going to be changed, instead of a Filipino crew it was going to be a colored crew.

Hensley: Why did they want to change it to a colored crew?

Canete: We don't know know, we don't... ask why. But that was the rule, that was the notice they gave us so it was on us to look for an apartment. So we got an apartment and we, but first we went to the employment agency. There was a Filipino employment agency there and we put in an application for man and wife. So next day they told us when we went back there they says "oh I got a job for you" and I says good. It's right there and _____. It's close to, it's right in town. So it's sixty dollars a month, free apartment. It was good enough, you know those times are hard, you lucky if you got a job.

Hensley: And that was during the depression, too.

Canete: I know and we didn't, myself, we didn't even know what is depression, because we always have money and all that, my husband even though if he earns a dollar a day he'll take it as long as he gets something for work. Anyhow everything was cheap then you know, rice and things, a hundred pound bag of rice was six dollars, something like that, so we get by, rice and fish. We didn't really live like rich people, but anyhow we were rich because we believed, it was depression time and we got a job, and my manager said "alright, Francis and Joe," and his name is Joe, "alright Francis and Joe, when the job is done, if you finish at 12 o'clock, the time is yours" so this is good.

Hensley: Oh, yeah...

Canete: So they were all nice to us, I don't know why, they were so nice, none of them were _____, we were always treated nice. So I told my husband I says "you know what, I think I'm going to go around the Filipino restaurant and ask for a waitress [job]." He says "oh what, that's a good idea" he says ok. We went around, after we get through, we walk around. I met a man that was married to a Japanese, a _____. Her name is ah... mama-san, we call her mama-san, she's still alive. I said, but you know I went over there, he was in the same town with us. I said "hey, we ordered something to eat" we had dinner, he said "what's your name" Boss, I told him boss, I told him... "I'm from Cebu" "oh, you're from my town, I'm from Cebu too but I'm from Carcar." And I says "hey boss how about a job?" and he says "A job? You know how to wait people?" Well, I've always, it's easy to learn, I could always learn. He says "ok, you're hired. You start tomorrow, I'll give you ten dollars a week. Ten dollars a week and tips is

yours" so that was ok with me so there you are, we worked at our own jobs, we have new car, all we do is take that ____ car. So I started there until oh... let me see now... when was the war broke?

Hensley: Umm... 1942.

Canete: 42? Is that when the war...

Hensley: When the war ended? It began...

Canete: The Japanese.... '42 is that...

Hensley: When the Japanese bombed pearl harbor? '41.

Canete: '41?

Hensley: Umhmm.

Canete: Well, anyhow, I stayed there until 1941 and then the war broke and all the Japanese are all gathered up to put in the concentration camps.

Hensley: Were you acquainted with many Japanese then?

Canete: No I wasn't acquainted I was just acquainted with my boss, the one that I worked [for]. Well since he was a Japanese naturally she had to quit, she sell the restaurant, but she told me "Francis, if you want to, you see I'm not sure whether I'll go or not, I'm not sure," but a lot of Japanese had business, some are hotels, apartments, so yeah "we'll get partnership, I'll buy an apartment, you and I are partners, I'll buy the apartment," she bought 32 units, "and you manage it, in case of I go I don't have to worry." I says "ok mama, don't worry about it... I'll partner with you" and so we did. So my husband and I managed the apartment and then when they were in the concentration camp, I don't know how long they stayed there, I forgot now, I give up my share, because my husband always sick, he got this psoriasis, this skin psoriasis, and the doctor advised us to get out of... to go to the country, where you can be in the sun. So we give up the apartment and we rented another apartment while we were preparing what to do next. And then...

Hensley: About what year was this?

Canete: It was I believe '36 and then '36, '37, '38, [I think she's going back in time a little bit] and he was drafted and it's a good thing he wasn't taken in because he was the ____ haha. So, and then from then we went to, I was pregnant then, and

then we went to Modesto and we looked for job and we reached there by November in '36, '37, something like that.

Hensley: Was this your first child that you were pregnant with?

Canete: Yeah. First child but I lost it. In November, it was November 1936, I'm not quite sure, but anyhow he was working with grapes, in a winery, it was about time at the winery, right here in Modesto, California. And I was helping the cook, as a cook. I was helping there.

Hensley: Where at?

Canete: In Modesto, on 6th street, there was a contractor, a Filipino contractor, it had a crew of 25 boys. His wife and I was the cook, I helped her cook, I put that on my mind to learn and experience. So finally, by November 24th I lost my baby and I was kind of sad, you know, very sad. So after, when the season was over, I told my husband we had better go back to...

Hensley: To Los Angeles?

Canete: To Los Angeles, and that's where I have my restaurant, I have a restaurant there about, oh about ten [stalls] come there, come there. I don't serve nothing but Filipina food, what I learn in the kitchen I apply in the preparation of food. So I stayed there until 1942. In 1942 we moved out again to Santa Maria. We stayed there in Santa Maria until 1949. In Santa Maria, my husband was working bunching carrots.

Hensley: As a what?

Canete: Bunching... bunching carrots, you know, to ah, make a bundle of...

Hensley: Oh, bunching carrots, ok, got it.

Canete: And I was trying to apply in the packing shed, you know, where the... oh I mean first canary, where I first apply, I wasn't hired, and then I went to packing house and I was hired cleaning celery, things like that you know. Then finally I went to work with the Japanese man that had strawberry farm. And that, I didn't last long because one of your knees supports your breast and one on the ground and you pick the strawberries and when you pick the strawberries you don't have to take the ah...

Hensley: The stem.

- Canete: Stem? Ahuh. You have to be very. Boy, when I filled up one, one basket I told the boss "boss, I'm sorry I cannot take this job" "Why? What's the matter? That's how you learn something," "Yeah, but it's too hard for me, that's basically it." I wasn't skinny you know, I was kind of stout, I don't think I could do it, so I went home, I got a [blister], ooh it hurt, oh my god.
- Hensley: Was it hot?
- Canete: It was hot. Santa Maria is not very hot like here, it's very mild, but the job is too hard, ooh it's blood money. Well anyhow, I quit the job and then I went to, there's also hiring the scratch celery. You know what scratch celery is?
- Hensley: Celery?
- Canete: You know how to scratch celery? You know they planted celery like that and then you have to scratch it this way until all the weeds are out by bending like this see?
- Hensley: Ahh... so it's kind of like chopping cotton.
- Canete: Ahuh. Oh man. Well I last... I last ah... almost a month because after three weeks I don't have no _____, they keep on just doing it and they were... And so my husband said I think we better go back to Stockton. Over there in Stockton there is pretty good job, besides we don't have to work hard and that was in 1949.
- Hensley: How did you know Stockton, just from living here in Modesto...
- Canete: Because we were in Modesto. We come in and out. So we went back and we left Santa Maria 1949, I think [Al] was 14, somewhere around there, and we bought this house and that was ours. And then on asparagus season he took a job as a you know, a boss, like a _____ group...
- Hensley: Foreman...
- Canete: Foreman, yeah. And boy that guy I feel sorry for him, he cried because we have mostly a Mexican crew and on payday they go to town, they get drunk, everyone come back next day and he has to go and look for them, he says that's the hardest part, and I was in the kitchen, I was in charge of the kitchen, we were about 16 boys to feed, I was alone in the kitchen. And I sell soda, I sell beer, that's for my side money. So what they earn in the field, that's also what I earn in the kitchen. So beer and soda is my side money, that's how I make my money. So

that's season, we were doing pretty good. We got about 1500 dollars each, so we bought a truck, a pickup.

Hensley: Where were you living?

Canete: In here.

Hensley: Oh, in this home right here?

Canete: Yeah. And my next door neighbor is a buyer. He bought, a buyer, like he buys grape _____ "you got a pickup, pickup men. I'll give you 50 cents a head, 5 cents bonus every box they make. I told [Eugene] "Oh that's good." So I says meantime while we're doing that I'm going to go work. I worked in asparagus one season, that was in 1951. I was working in asparagus alone, in the kitchen. So I read in paper on 1952, and I read in paper they were hiring state job as a janitor. So I apply. I went down to the state employment and signed myself there and answered all the questions and all that, and then the lady told me "well, you wait, because there will be examination within an hour." So I says ok, I waited there and within an hour they called me up to read an examination. I pass. I was the third hire, so I was hired in 1952, I don't know what month was that, I wasn't quite sure. I was hired in 1952 in a state job in the department of employment, right there on Freemont Street. Now it's a human resources. So I worked there until I retired in 1973. Twenty years of service.

Hensley: As a janitor?

Canete: As a janitor. And then in 1956 I lost my husband, my first husband. I lost my husband, he got cancer in the lungs. And I was alone then. I was left alone, well I didn't mention my daughter, my adopted daughter.

Hensley: Yeah, tell me about your children. All of your children.

Canete: Well, I only have one adopted child, when I lost my baby, when we went back to Los Angeles, I got neighbors, that got a friend, that she had a baby by accident, you know what I mean, and she wanted to give it away and my neighbor told me she says, she's a Filipina too, she says about, she told me "Francis, why don't you take this baby, this poor thing, she's a girl. Instead of giving it to somebody why don't you just take it?" I says I have to talk to my husband about it. But them my husband liked it because being that we are not steady, we do not have steady job, we go from one place to one place. So finally, this woman went into my apartment, we lived on Freemont Street apartment there, I think the woman

must have told her that, she says just leave the baby in the back, that way she has to go. Where? When I went there, when I went inside my apartment the baby was there and was crying and so dirty, and oh boy, oh god, I says here goes. I fell in love with the baby right away he said. So I says to my husband this is just gods will that he gave us this baby, you see. He says "Ok, just to make it legalized we have to hire a lawyer so we went to a lawyer and the lawyer advises us we have to go to the woman, the mother of this child, and we did. I found him, I found her, her name is Virginia Flores, the father is Filipino and the father is Franciscan Indian. She was married to a Filipino. Well, to cut it short, we adopted her legally then so we took her from one place to another, and at the same time we were happy here. She goes to school, Jackson school.

Hensley: Did you ever talk to her real mother about it?

Canete: Oh yeah, I talked to her up till we seen that she understand, that she knows better.

Hensley: What did she have to say?

Canete: Well she really did want to see her mother, but we can't find her. She feel bad about it, that I told her that once she brought you to me I haven't seen her since, and that was the truth. She was kind of sad.

Hensley: Did you ever speak to her mother?

Canete: I spoke to her when she was small, that was when we were in the court, you know, when we were in court that was about the last time that I've seen her.

Hensley: Did you ask her why she was giving up her daughter?

Canete: Yeah, well she said well the reason I'm giving her away is because I couldn't support her, you see I would rather, I don't like to see her starve, I'd rather give her away so she could be well cared. I said that's a good reason. That was about the last time that I've seen her. She only visited her once and that's it. So we, when we moved here I bought a place on 1759 _____ because she was married, she [daughter] keep on asking me about her [birth mother], so we went to Los Angeles and inquired some people that told us she died. She was disappointed. She got six children.

Hensley: Wait, when did your daughter get married? When did she start becoming independent?

Canete: Well, she never did become independent. She's always depending on me even when she was married because she had tough luck on her marriage, either she married a man that didn't care to support her, she's always with me. She never wanted to leave me alone so she's always lived closer, she never wanted to go out of town. So she was, she was... anyhow, for me, she's just like my own. I don't treat her like she's different. Because she's giving me happiness and that's why I care for her. She give me a _____ when I was lonesome, she was with love. And the same thing with Helen, the one that was with me when I was up here. She was with love, she was well dressed, even in _____ he told her that she was a well-dressed _____. He buys her expensive cloths. Well anyhow, that's, I do know why I come to her mind about looking for her mother, I cannot understand.

Hensley: Why, would you rather that she didn't try to look for her mother?

Canete: Well, I would like to see her mother too, you know, so she could compare, but she don't have luck. She got in an accident, she couldn't stand any more of the pain, she was married twice. In her first marriage she got three kids. And then she was married to a Chew...

Hensley: She was what?

Canete: Ah, Chew. Like ah, John Chew, that's her second name, C-h-e-w, and he was younger than she is and she just, she just not happy, and bore her three kids. So finally she got into an accident, come into a glass door and she bumped into the planter, she didn't know that there was glass you know, cut her legs. And she don't want it cutted off, the whole thing, the doctor told her it's better. She says "no, I'm not going to have my leg cut, I just want to _____ it again." He says "it's going to hurt you" and she says "I don't care." So she suffered for that and when the Chew are getting the nerves, she was getting, it was hurting her. She drink double _____, she killed herself. Left me six kids. And the three, the father took them back to Pennsylvania and then the three are still here. The other one is married, but still here. Still with me. Luckily, she is going to have a baby. She's living up there in _____ now. And bobby, still with me. They're all with me. In other words, they can't leave me alone. I was alone, and then I lost my second husband.

Hensley: When did you get remarried?

Canete: I married my second husband on 1969.

[End tape one, side A. Begin tape 1, side B]

Canete: We were getting old, you know, the same age, _____ married, so we did, and then he got a job. I put him, I told the state secretary can you put _____ the veteran department, and he did, first he got in the _____ and then he was transferred to the division of Highway right here on Mariposa road. And we retired, we had a good retirement, we have been _____. And then one day there was an accident, somebody opened the door and he was shot.

Hensley: He was shot?

Canete: Yeah, ah last year. May 6, 1979.

Hensley: How? What happened?

Canete: Well, it's this way. [Rocky], that's my granddaughter, we told her to go buy a chicken and shorts. When she arrived there, she saw trouble, there was somebody beating one poor old man, beating him up, and to top it all, they shot him, and rocky saw all that. She was the main witness. So, while they were, I don't know why the police put our address. Three months after it happened, somebody knocked on the door, and my husband told me before he died, there was two Mexican boys knocking at the door asking for Rocky. And I don't know that my husband was shot because I was asleep with the baby, you know, with my great-granddaughter. I was asleep and he told me they was asking for Rocky and I told him that Rocky's not here. And I thought he got a stroke so I called the police and the paramedic, and when they come they told me "oh, your husband is shot" and he couldn't take anymore, he could hardly breath so they put something to put him to sleep [anesthetic probably, not euthanasia] when they arrived there. They couldn't do anything though. This was May sixth, that was Sunday. That's the end of it. We were both retired. And we don't work, we don't have... we just have fun for ourselves. He was a good man. I think it was just his luck. It was really bad.

Hensley: Umm... let's turn to different items.

Canete: Yeah, ahuhh.

Hensley: What about some Filipina customs, or practices, or rituals, do you still celebrate any holidays...

- Canete: Ah, yes. We have this fiesta first of the year, that's in January, we have a San Antonio Fiesta, we use our _____, our Filipino cloths and all that. We celebrate, we dance, we have fiesta, we have food...
- Hensley: With your family?
- Canete: Oh yeah, _____ even, even strangers _____ to attend, they are welcome to it. It's free for everybody to come. We celebrated it at Saint Mary's church, every year, that's San Antonio Fiesta, infant Jesus feast. And then the second is like in May, we have our Lady of Antipolo. Yeah, we do the same thing, we celebrate, we have program, like singing, dancing, Filipino customs. And then the next one is Our Mother _____, we celebrated that, the same thing, with the church, same thing, the same wearing our costumes, program and all, see.
- Hensley: From being in the convent, do you still have as much devout Catholicism as you've always had, since you've come here to the United States?
- Canete: No, my feeling is just, as long as you serve God as the mother told me, go to Church every Sunday, do goods for other people, helping one another, do God's work. Now helping my, I'm helping with my grandchildren, doing good for my grandchildren, giving them what they need, I think that's, that, I count that as my work, to god.
- Hensley: Did you raise a few children and you grandchildren with the church?
- Canete: Oh yes. You see, the way I raise those kids, of course over here you have too many, they are too dependent, sometimes the children they think you are right [Hensley], I was being old fashioned. But I don't want to force them, I told them once, nicely, if they follow what I say it's ok if they didn't, forcing them is no good. If I would say "Come on, let's go to church" and your mind is not on the church, you might as well stay home, that is the way I feel. So with the children I give them to God, if they ever decide, well they are all baptized as Catholic.
- Hensley: Did they go to Catechism?
- Canete: They did, they did for a while until they know better. Now they don't have to go to church. I go to church by myself.
- Hensley: How do you feel about that?
- Canete: I feel, well, this is the way I feel, you know as I said, if you force them to go the way you want, it's no use, because their mind is not there, their hearts too,

especially their heart. You see, if I told them “come on, take me to church, stay with me” and her mind is wandering around, it’s more sin than just let them go, just let them take you to church and let them go wherever they want to go. Because there is no use as I said. If I tell them well this is the way that we do, we should go to church every Sunday and all that, and then their mind is wandering somewhere else, what can you do? There’s too much freedom in here. But in the Philippines, the whole family must go together, in the Philippines.

Hensley: You’re remark about too much freedom... and what other means do you think there is too much freedom here.

Canete: Here? Well, like for instance, if I tell these kids to say, like for instance if we go to church, and they didn’t want to go to church, and I beat them up, the first think you know the policeman come to me. Why did I beat them up? I don’t have to beat them up to go to church. That’s a freedom. No that’s the way I look, that simple, simple explanation. And if I told them alright, you can go to church, or you can go to party, but be sure to be home by 10 o’clock, and they never been home by 10c’clock, they will come home, do you want me to beat them up or what? It’s no use. It makes me sick. If I tell them to come home 10 o’clock and they don’t come home 10o’clock then... I have nothing, I can’t do anything. Now other parents, the kids they give them freedom to go, ok, but this is a certain time, some obey and some don’t. When you obey that, at least there’s harmony in the family.

Hensley: Do you still feel close to the Philippines?

Canete: No. Not anymore. See, right now I just feel like going back and then visit, not to stay.

Hensley: Have you visited?

Canete: Oh yes. I visited for, all of us. Five of us went to the Philippines one day, one time, that was in 1974.

Hensley: You and your grandchildren?

Canete: My husband, his name is [Joe] Canete, my husband, and the three granddaughters. We were five altogether. And they wanted to stay there a while but the first thing I told them is “well, how long do you want to stay?” and they all said “we just want to stay one month.” Okay, one month. But anybody who

complain it's too bad. And sure enough, when we reach that he wants to stay more. You like it.

Hensley: What do you think they like the most about it?

Canete: Well, you are more free. Like, for instance, they want to go swimming, the whole bunch will go, and then almost every day we were invited to eat. There is a big _____ in there, bar-b-q pit.

Hensley: Where were you staying while you were visiting there?

Canete: Well we were staying with my husband's brother-in-law [her brother in law, her husband's brother], he says his brother-in-law came from here in the States too. When he went back he built a house, just like over here, we got a bathroom inside, a shower inside...

Hensley: Is that unusual?

Canete: Unusual. Because mostly in the Philippines, except for the hotel which is Americanized, but like for instance poor people like me, when we go back to the Philippines we go to the house, and the toilet is outside, just like, I don't know if you have camped before, the bathroom is outside. That's the way in the Philippines.

Hensley: Do you have any friends or relatives that are still in the Philippines?

Canete: Yeah, I got a sister, I got my cousins, and... yeah.

Hensley: Do you keep in contact with them?

Canete: No, not exactly, the only one that keep contact with me every Christmas, they wanted something, but I don't, I don't care. That's alright.

Hensley: When you first got here to the United States, did you have any expectations of what it would be like?

Canete: No. I don't speak nothing because I know I have no experience and I'll have to have... I'll have to work hard in order to earn my living. I know I expect that. In other words, nothing else.

Hensley: You talked about this woman, who you were living with, as being prejudiced, did you ever run into any more problems with prejudice?

Canete: No.

- Hensley: Never at all?
- Canete: Never. As far as I myself am concerned, every place I go I was well greeted. You know what I mean? There weren't, usually, I'm not stuck up, I don't like to say "oh, I don't like this" I just go, what do you call this... that's why they like me. Because I don't let them know how I feel, I just wanted them, I'm the one who expect what they feel about me. And they were all like, wherever I work, I was well placed. They all, they get united and that see.
- Hensley: In your neighborhood, where you lived in here in Stockton when you first moved here, were there a lot of other Filipinos?
- Canete: There was no Filipinos. I was the first one.
- Hensley: You were?
- Canete: Mhmm.
- Hensley: Were there any other immigrants whatsoever?
- Canete: No, not that I know of.
- Hensley: What, were they all Caucasians?
- Canete: There were some Chinese, Japanese people, but Chinese and Japanese people are nice neighbors. I would rather have them, nice neighbors.
- Hensley: Let's see.
- Canete: I didn't think you'd ask this about my experience in camp. Like, first we started in Arvin, you know Arvin California?
- Hensley: Yeah.
- Canete: Yeah, I cook there for 31 boys. They work in _____, ah _____ is that the right pronunciation? Well anyhow that's a family, a big camp whether you know, my husband and other boy was 4 month, I take care of the kitchen by myself. And the water we have to pump it from the, this big pump, irrigation pump, I have to hold the water to go to the kitchen and wash the rice.
- Hensley: Alone?
- Canete: Mhmm. And my poor husband had to help me too, after they got back from the field. Some boys pitch in. That's how hard it is. In fact I was in the kitchen but I,

in the field, picked grapes until we reach here in Stockton, _____ until I get a state job. And then we have raisin in Fresno, we stayed there two weeks.

Hensley: You were in Fresno?

Canete: Ahuh, Fresno. It used to be three cents a tree, you know what you know how to pick a tree like this? Well you line them up in the alley and you put all the grapes in there to dry, they pay you three cents for that, to fill up the tree, and I told my husband "oh boy, I don't think I can stand it" and he said "oh it's not so hard, you just sit down under the shade." It's too hot.

Hensley: Yeah, Fresno's hot, just like Stockton.

Canete: And then we stop in Milano a few weeks, two weeks, and find a place and then Lodi, we work in Lodi for a while. It's a tough job. They're all blood money.

Hensley: Have you been involved in any organizations here in the United States, like maybe Filipino organizations.

Canete: Ah yeah I was involved, only one _____

Hensley: Why?

[Someone else begins speaking to Canete from the background, one of her grandsons]

Grandson: Grandma, the, what'cha call it game over today.

Canete: Who?

Grandson: The insurance man.

Canete: Umm... Medina?

Grandson: Nuhuh some white guy. Old white guy.

Canete: What did he say?

Grandson: He said everything was ok.

Canete: Oh. Did you clean the backyard?

Grandson: It's been clean, remember?

Canete: Oh. Ok, I'm busy now, you guys go... this is Rocky.

Hensley: Hello Rocky. It's nice to meet you.

Rocky: Hello.

Canete: And uh, where was I? Oh involved, yeah. I was only involved to this [Carcaron], a _____. Carcaron was the town where I came from. They are all from Carcar, Cebu. Well, this is more like helping each other. Like, for instance, if I have nobody to... in case like for instance if I have nobody, if I pass, if I die, I have nobody to bury me, this organization will bury me, and then feed the people that attended the funeral. And if there is leftover, if I have survivor, they get the food. That is the only organization I belong to. In other words I am not belong to any fraternity, oh I belong to American Legion, yeah, because my husband was a veteran, World War II veteran.

Hensley: So do you still go to church now? Are you very active with the church?

Canete: Mmhmm. Well not in, not in church activities. But I go to church. I don't, I don't belong to anyone except for one of these _____. I've always belong to that but I'm not very active.

Hensley: What kind of recreational activities do you do, or do you have any hobbies?

Canete: Well, if I'm alone I play the piano. You see I was, I was in orchestra, in the Philippines I was a trumpet... we were all girls in the convent. And I was a student, trumpet player, you know, for two years by the teacher.

Hensley: You were a teacher?

Canete: No, they teach me. For some people they, the sisters will teach them the piano, for instance or something like that. But if you play the violin and trumpet, they hire a teacher from outside. And I was two years a trumpet a player.

Hensley: Did you learn to play the piano there too?

Canete: I learn by myself.

Hensley: By yourself? You taught yourself.

Canete: You see, when I was in the convent I wanted to play piano, but the sister told me they are already taken so I must take another instrument, so I took the trumpet. I don't like it, but that was the only way, I want to learn. I like to learn how to learn notes, it taught me that, by reading the trumpet note its equal to the same note the third down or something, the same note on the piano.

Hensley: Did you ever go to school at all here in the United States?

Canete: Yeah, one year only. That was in bunker hill, Los Angeles. Bunker, Junior high Bunker hill.

Hensley: Oh really. How did you like it?

Canete: Oh, I like it very much. I was also teacher there, they like my, the ways and how I _____, well I was among the American sisters so I have a different, say some Filipinos they don't understand, they cannot understand how to speak, you know.

Hensley: An accent?

Canete: An accent, yeah. Accent, yeah. So I was well liked over there in that school. I went and they didn't know, the teachers was very nice, and especially when you tell him you're from the Philippines. They would respect you and things like that. I don't know, to me that's the way I feel, they were all very nice.

Hensley: Did you get along with all the kids there?

Canete: Every one of them. Every one of them. They all liked me.

Hensley: Did you make any close friends with them at all?

Canete: No. I don't like to be a close friend, I just like, a friend you know. No particular friends. Everybody is the same.

Hensley: Really? Why?

Canete: I don't know. That's the way I am I guess. Ever here now I have no particular friends.

Hensley: Really?

Canete: Yeah. Now if we go to the _____, that's it. Forget all about it and we go, we go home. Not like, um, like this Mr. or Mrs. Carido, and Mrs. Semporna. We were the first...

Hensley: She was a nice lady.

Canete: We were the first Filipina woman that take care of this community action.

Hensley: And what's that?

Canete: We already have, well we have this feeding now, this Filipina feeding once a week. Did you here that?

- Hensley: No, I didn't know anything about, nuhuh.
- Canete: Yeah, well, we have created this ah, first time when they have this Filipina feeding, we were in the Filipino center. We elected president, we elected vice-president, vice... and then just to work on it, Mr. _____ trying to work on it so we could get the Filipino feeding. Now instead, you know who get it now? The General Services, and their, we fought for that for a long time, we were the first one to create the Ethnic feeding. So, since we not get, we didn't get the funding, because the general services go it, well we work it out between ourselves that uh we would have at least once a week to feed the old senior citizens and the Filipino food.
- Hensley: This is just Filipino senior citizens?
- Canete: Filipino food, that's all, oh no anybody's welcome. They don't have to be a Filipino, right now we have Mexican senior citizens, we have American senior citizens, colored people, all kinds. You should come attend, we have on this Thursday.
- Hensley: Yeah, it's this Thursday?
- Canete: Yeah, every Thursday, that's all.
- Hensley: What time?
- Canete: 12, lunch time. Yeah, you give me a call and I'll, if you have no ride I'll pick you up.
- Hensley: Ok.
- Canete: Mhmm. We'll do that, that's a date. See, that's the only way you can find out what I was talking about. That's why Mr. _____ find us three women there. That's where Mr. _____ went. So, Mrs. Semporna now will sacrifice herself, cooking without pay.
- Hensley: Without pay? It's just all volunteer?
- Canete: Yes, it's volunteer, Mrs. _____ now. And some, this community action help us, they give us maybe 50 or 60 dollars, I'm not quite sure, to buy the groceries. See, to buy the groceries, to, and then she cook it in her house, and then bring it over there in the Filipino...
- Hensley: Center?

- Canete: Center. So we, took a [routine?] and then finally, then each one of us pay fifty cents, to go in you know you pay the place fifty cents.
- Hensley: That's all?
- Canete: That's all. And you'd be surprised. And then, when we had enough, we took it over that we should pay the cook. Twenty dollars a day, it's for one week, every week she'll be paid. So we did, we _____ it, we voted it on that, so we pay the cook. Then I took it over, I cook for, oh I don't know how long. Until '79, I got my eyes operated, both of them operated... Cataracts...
- Hensley: Cataracts.
- Canete: Mhmm. I gave up, and my husband says it's kinda hard because we have high stairs. With all the food, the cooked food, and I don't mind cooking you know? Load and unload and he says this is too hard for me, poor guy, he's the only one that really could carry it, see we're all girls here.
- Hensley: He has to carry it, yeah.
- Canete: So when I got operated I gave up, so now they're looking for a cook, but it's still Mrs. Semporna is the one who's still cooking.
- Hensley: That's great. Umm, let's see.
- Canete: But it's still going on. Even though we don't get the funding, we're still going on.
- Hensley: Now, what is community action? That's just the idea that involves all the ethnic groups?
- Canete: All the activities in Stockton, you see, I don't know, I can't explain it to you now. Ahh, Ben _____ is one of the head, where we are now see, where we are feeding the seniors, we got help, through him. He talks to them or that. I can't really explain about that, not an expert, but we will find out later on.
- Hensley: Do you think that people here have changed, well naturally have changed, but what changes do you note most in people, especially Americans, since you've been here?
- Canete: Oh, oh they change a lot. You know ever since the World War II broke, that's how we give the first time, we get respect from the American people... Before we were just look like we're nothing, most Filipinos have no business at all, hardly own any properties. When the War broke, most Filipinos dropped it, or

maybe volunteered in the war, that's where it starts our, Filipinos our respecting. That's how the change, it changed a great deal. You can buy a property, any time. And you can open business if you can afford it.

Hensley: If you can afford it. Excuse me.

Canete: That's right. Well business is really kind of hard if you don't have money to back that, but the Japanese and Chinese, they have _____.

Hensley: Would you, have you ever thought about starting a restaurant here?

Canete: Would I? The other day I was just talking to my friend, because it's strange I have. I told them I says "if I was young..." do you know how old I am? 72 years old. I said "If I was younger I would put these kids to work in a restaurant."

Hensley: Do none of your grandchildren work?

Canete: Well, they work for a while. But, no. They work at a restaurant they complain about this, and this, and that. I said, when you run a restaurant, I said when you with the people, you cannot be selfish, you know, you've got to be smiling and be courteous, they see you...

Hensley: Really...

Canete: Really. Yeah, really. I told them I says when you work things like that among people, you've got to be friendly, otherwise they won't even give you not even a dime for things. I says when I was a waitress you'd be surprised how people enjoyed my waiting for them, and every time they leave I get atleast 50 cents, a dollar under the plate.

Hensley: Wow, that was a lot for those times.

Canete: Mmhmm. I told them I says all you have to do, just, you don't really to stay there and attend them, once in a while check on them, see what they need, with smiling face.

Hensley: What do you think, cause you worked a lot, what do you think of your grandchildren not working?

Canete: Well, that's one thing too I can't force them. I just told them one of these days, when I'm dead and gone, you gonna realize that idle, it doesn't pay. I says "you don't know how much opportunity you got. You are really lucky that you got this opportunity. You are helped by your social security, and that is harder, and you

are helped by the welfare, all they need is you study. Get what you need. Just be at school." Instead, they don't appreciate that, they were not raised to see social security, money is taken away from them. Now none of them have social security. They are all under welfare.

Hensley: What do you think about education?

Canete: That's what I was trying to drive them, to educate them. But they don't want to go. I says that's too bad, I felt sorry for you guys, education is what you need to get a good job. Because I myself, I was only high school, and not even graduated high school, and I was lucky to get a state job. But that's the lowest, the lowest category you can get is janitor. Now if I was well educated I could getted maybe secretary, or clerical work. I says, but I'm proud that I'm a janitor, in a state job. Because even though it's a janitor, you can't just get it because you like it, you've got to pass the examination. If you don't pass that, shit, it's too bad. And I was lucky, I was very lucky. That's why I told myself, lucky woman, I came over in this country, _____, I was sick, I was hospitalized with ah...

Hensley: You were hospitalized for what?

Canete: For appendice, for appendicitis. And now that I'm going to get sick, who's paying? The Medicaid. Medicare. See how lucky I have been? And I'm well fixed. I don't have to worry. But you guys, I don't know. That's nothing I can do.

Hensley: Would you have liked to have gotten some education, more education than you did here?

Canete: Well yes, I would rather stay in school than work, if I could afford it. The more education you got, you don't know how interesting it is.

Hensley: Considering your own life now, what would you say is the best age to be from your life?

Canete: How's that?

Hensley: Considering your age now, and everything you've been through, what do you think is the best age to be?

Canete: Oh well, I hate to... well I think this is my best life now, my best age.

Hensley: Really?

Canete: Don't have to hurry to work, don't have to get up early and work, don't have to worry about paying bills, my house is paid in full. My best age really was when I was in the Philippines.

Hensley: What do you miss most about the Philippines, if anything?

Canete: Hmm?

Hensley: What do you miss most about the Philippines?

Canete: Nothing really.

Hensley: Nothing?

Canete: Nothing. It seems to me I spend more in here than in the Philippines, it does. See, all my husband, my first husband, my second husband, and my daughter is here, I have no, it looks like all my family is here. Looks like I don't have any in the Philippines anymore, they are all stranger to me now.

Hensley: What do you think about the Women's Liberation Movement?

Canete: Liberation? Well, I don't know. As soon as they practice it I think it's alright. You know what I mean? They just talk and talk, without no, show no work. It's no use talking when you can do it. But if they practiced it, maybe I don't know, might be...

Hensley: Do you think women should be strong like that and try to push themselves?

Canete: No, no one should be... just. Don't be like a man. We are made as a woman, we are not made for a man to fight, do you know what I mean? With all the, they are drafting women, I know they are not going to go to the front, and maybe just be in the offices and things like that. It's alright. Maybe some women deserve to be in the army.

Hensley: So what do you think of the draft in general?

Canete: There's nothing about it, I don't know. Well, the way we, the world is going on now, I think some people deserve to be in the service I guess, it's better over there, they learn more, than out, if they're out they're wild, some of them I don't mean everybody. And if they are inside, they get their, they learn more, they learn more inside than outside, because that's the way I was when I was locked in for seven years. I learned more and I was so glad I was there, honest to goodness.

Hensley: Well you learned a lot...

Canete: I learned a lot, and if you don't wanna learn you've got to be, they've got to put you, whether you like it or not. So just to make it easy for yourself is to obey, bide with it. So this is the way that I look for the draft, because some peoples they deserve to be in there, some don't, but I think they're better off, they learn more.

Hensley: Umm...

Canete: There's no such thing you studied as being a wife, to learn to be a wife. You know what a wife's duty you should do. But being we have a hard time we don't have to be united and work together, I wonder how happy, I was the happiest woman in my first marriage. I was happy in the second one too, but we have the same liking. If we want to go finishing, we go all together, rain or shine. Now especially when I got the state job, I told him don't work so hard, just take it easy, it's too bad I didn't have him long enough when I got my job. Fifty six it was. And this one here, he's the Joe Canete, is also a very nice man. He's the one that you won't hear nothing, but we are not the same liking.

Hensley: Ahh... why?

Canete: That's it. When I said "come on, let's go fishing" he said "Ooh, I have no patience to hold a pole and wait for a fish to bite." I'm the kind that I don't like to force, you know, I like to take you someplace that I see you enjoy you know what I mean? But I know that he wouldn't enjoy, so I don't force him. He would let me go, he'd say "go ahead, enjoy yourself." He was a very homely guy. Very nice. I miss them all.

Hensley: Crime has hurt your family.

Canete: It is, it is. And it still under investigation. The state helped me lots though.

Hensley: What did the state do to help you?

Canete: Gave me 10,000 dollars, [and] 1000 a year for six years. But I would rather have him than money.

Hensley: Well, Mrs. Canete...

[Interview ends]

Timestamps for Specific Topics

Discrimination / Prejudice:

- **16:44 - 16:56, tape 1**, Discriminated against by her best friend's sister-in-law for being Filipina
- **26:38 – 27:07, tape 1**, Filipino workers in a hotel all got replaced by colored (African American) workers
- **28:48 – 28:58, tape 1**, Generally didn't notice prejudice; Mrs. Canete considered Americans (Caucasian or otherwise) to treat them fairly well
- **28:04 – 29:20, tape 2** Mrs. Canete noticed that Filipinos were respected (both in the United States and in the Philippines) more after World War II on account of them serving with the American Armed Forces,

Great Depression:

- **27:51 – 28:27, tape 1** Didn't really recognize the Depression because she and her husband had jobs, and considered that having such things as an apartment and a car made her, relatively, rich

Labor / Working (Mrs. Canete or close family):

- **1:03 – 1:23, tape 1**, Sister working in the Philippines as a laundress, sister's husband as a chauffeur, for rich Americans
- **3:15 – 3:22, tape 1**, Her sister forcing her to babysit, instead of sending her to school
- **21:32 – 21:48, tape 1**, Working to live in (essentially) a boarding home with her best friend
- **25:15 – 25:40, tape 1**, First husband (not Mr. Canete, her second husband) finds a job (as a janitor),
- **27:14 – 27:51, tape 1**, Her husband goes to an employment agency, gets a job
- **29:58 – 30:35, tape 1** Mrs. Canete gets a job at a (Filipino) restaurant, gets paid well, and receives tips averaging \$.50-1.00
- **33:05 – 33:35, tape 1** Move to Modesto to find a job in agriculture
- **34:50 – 35:10, tape 1** Move to Los Angeles, Mrs. Canete works in a kitchen
- **35:28 – 38:00, tape 1** In Santa Maria, her husband works bunching carrots, while Mrs. Canete tries to work in the agricultural industry, canning and strawberry picking

- **38:50 – 40:04, tape 1** Her husband gets a job as a foreman and suffers much hardship, Mrs. Canete works in the kitchen
- **40:43 – 41:50, tape 1** Mrs. Canete gets hired as a janitor working in a state building, works there for 20 years,
- **0:13 – 0:37, tape 1** Mr. Canete works in the VA for a while then Mr. and Mrs. Canete retire

Maintaining Customs

- **3:17 – 4:52, tape 1**, Mrs. Canete on Filipino customs and celebrations, such as the San Antonio festival and My Lady Antipolo
- **4:52 – 5:49, tape 1**, Mrs. Canete on Catholicism

Home life:

- **27:43 – 27:50, 30:15 – 30:24, tape 1** Lived in apartments for almost twenty years before she became a homeowner; owned a car after living and working in the United States for several years
- Moved around a lot, from San Diego to the valley, to Los Angeles, to Modesto, to Los Angeles, to Santa Maria, to Stockton, moving from Modesto to Los Angeles,
- **35:15 – 35:26, tape 1**, Move from Los Angeles to Santa Maria, from 1942-1949
- **38:30 – 38:45, tape 1**, Bought a home in Stockton in 1949
- **5:48 – 8:02, tape 2**, Mrs. Canete on going to church
- **8:03 – 9:23, tape 2**, Mrs. Canete on the difference between family rearing in the United States and the Philippines, especially in regards to the freedom American children are given
- **19:03 – 19:25, tape 2**, Plays the piano and

Community Relations:

- **39:09 – 39:24, tape 1**, Mrs. Canete shows some (potentially) discrimination towards Mexicans
- **22:36 – 24:10, tape 2**, Volunteered for a “Community action” program that essentially provided free lunch to senior citizens (particularly Filipino and Mexican, but open to the general public) once a week, on Thursdays, with two other women

Living in Stockton:

- **38:04 – 38:52, tape 1**, Mrs. Canete moves to Stockton permanently
- **13:27 – 14:03, tape 2**, Mrs. Canete talks about moving to Stockton, what the neighborhood was like
- **22:36 – 24:10, tape 2**, Mrs. Canete volunteered for a “Community action” program in Stockton

World War II:

- **29:15 – 30:35, tape 1**, Worked for a Filipino man with a Japanese wife, Mrs. Canete lost her job when her employers had to relocate due to internment
- **18:26 – 18:36, tape 2**, Husband fought in the war, what he did was never described
- **28:04 – 29:20, tape 2**, Mrs. Canete noticed that Filipinos were respected (both in the United States and in the Philippines) more after World War II on account of them serving with the American Armed Forces