

Student Handout
Oakland Museum of California
What's Going On? California and the Vietnam Era
Lesson Plan #3
Coming to Terms: Stories of Southeast Asian Political Refugees

Guidelines for Using Oral History

Review at least two of these websites for information about analyzing oral histories. You will also refer to all of these websites when completing your group oral history projects at the end of this unit.

1. The following website, <http://www.dohistory.org/home.html>, created by the Film Study Center, Harvard University, and hosted by the Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, has several web pages on working with primary sources, and, in particular, oral history.

http://www.dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/primarySources.html

Using Primary Sources (from History Toolkit)

http://www.dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html#WHATIS

Step-by-Step Guide to Oral History

© Judith Moyer 1993, Revised 1999

I Introduction: What Is Oral History

IV Issues in Oral History: How Accurate Is This Oral History

2. See also The Library of Congress's lesson on analyzing oral histories:
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/lessons/oralhist/ohdir.html>
3. The Whole World Was Watching website has a number of pages worthy of a close viewing. Refer to this particular page to see one teacher's view of a class project where students actually do oral history interviews, not just analyze oral histories already completed.
<http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/1968/notes/sharonEssay.html>
4. RE: Vietnam Stories Since the War is another excellent website that provides both oral histories and oral history tips in its essay, "How to do an oral history about the impact of the Vietnam Era."
<http://www.pbs.org/pov/stories/vietnam/curriculum.html>

