

Erica:

So, I was considering going to either the one in Kansas City or the one in Birmingham, and I was going to collect interviews using this same archival system because I'd already found the archive and I'd already thought about how important it was and partially written this article. Right? Thinking about archival practices as a part of, as a part of the activist movement and what kinds of ways archiving pieces of marches or pieces of these movements, what that can do for us over time so that we don't just have what's going on in the media. We also have firsthand accounts from the people that are attending those marches. So I had intended to do both. I was intending to collect the interviews. I had all my interview materials printed out and ready to go, regardless of which place that I was going to be in.

But my uncle's funeral was during the march in Birmingham, so it was in Birmingham. And I emailed this person and said, "Hey, I'm going to go to the funeral. I'm going to go to visitation. I'm gonna go to the burial and then if there's time for me to go to conduct some interviews, I'm going to do that." But you know, I had the, the after dinner or the after burial meal and all that stuff. So I don't know that anybody collected interviews in Kansas City or in Birmingham and I don't think, did we find interviews from Birmingham? I don't think that they collected interviews before either, so it would have been cool to collect some there. I've already forgotten what the question was. I got distracted.

Abby:

We were just talking about how you heard about the march.

Erica:

Well, I don't know how we got into that conversation.

Erin:

We talked about like the how you found out about the first one because you were involved in conversations. Yeah. 2018, you could have possibly done it.

Erica:

Got It. Got It. Yes. That was like, how did we even get there? So I'm full of all kinds of excuses.

Erin:

Well, and also for like the 2017 when like I was aware of it, it wasn't like Twitter and everything and all my friends, like a lot of my friends knew about it. But again, I was in a place where like I obviously lived with my parents and they had control over what I did for sure. And it's not, it's not that they didn't want me to go and be an activist or anything.

Erica: No, but I mean being 17 or 18 years old and going to downtown to a potentially, potentially dangerous experience, you know, is good parenting. Yeah. If I was, if I was a parent of a 17 or 18 year old, I might not let them go. Yeah, I might go with them.

Erin: I recently went on this like a retreat, a spirits or whatever and you get like letters from people that you love or whatever. And I got a letter, both of my letters from my parents mentioned being marching for like beliefs or whatever because they were like, you just are so strong and like the things that you like think about. And they were like, we're really proud of you for like doing that or whatever. And I was like, oh, because in my head. It wasn't that big of a deal. But I guess that they did see it like that. And I just got a text from my grandma like a few days ago, cause she's like, well some ladies want me to go march in the one here. She's like, she's like, well I don't know. And I was like, I think they would really like having you there. She can't walk that far though. So I'll have to say about it.

Erica: That's awesome. What is it? Um, so what is it?

Erin: I think they are still doing the women's march up in Omaha. So they just wanted some of her docent friends of the zoo. Cause my grandma works with a bunch of other old ladies and they were like, well there's this march thing we should go. Cause my grandma really, really amazing. But she's also 88.

Erica: Yeah, my grandma's also 88 and amazing. Things we have in common.

So we were on the political involvement question. Do we feel like we covered that?

The how do you plan to...follow up in the march.

Erin: Yeah. Um, I definitely, I realize also the importance of like voting while we were there because Sharice Davids stopped by. Oh yeah. She's amazing.

Erica: Yeah, she's really cool. I met her at one of her talks. She's really great.

Erin: She gave a speech to us and it was really, really awesome. She's a great, great representative for the state of Kansas because she talked about how like I've worked with those minimum wage jobs and I've been in the exact same position as the rest of you. I know how that feels and I want to cater my decisions and my

voting decisions in Congress to reflect that. And she said to us if that, if I ever stop reflecting the values of my state, then you guys should vote me out of office. And I was like, oh, like you're so right. And it reminded me of the power that like everyone has as a voter, that if like she is failing to do what we asked, what we asked her to do as a representative, then she should no longer be our representative, you know. So I thought that that was a very inspiring message to give, especially considering how much conversation is going on around voting right now.

Erica: But we don't hold at the forefront of our minds just how recent it was that some of these groups, women included, got their voting rights and how precious that is and if we don't exercise them, what that looks like in the future.

Erin: Yeah. One thing that I also want to say in the, I don't know if this is relevant or not, but thinking about the panel for the 50 years of women at Rockhurst was that a lot of these women were present for second wave feminist movements. And the fact that like in thinking about second wave feminism and first wave feminism with suffragette rights or the equal rights movements is that like they accomplished something. So like even though I don't in this moment understand or like fully grasp the whole focus of it, like something is happening.

Erica: Yeah, I know it's happening. It's happening. We just don't know what it is yet. I would argue that it's either third or fourth wave feminism depending on whether or not you define a third one earlier. And, yeah, I think it's definitely happening. We just don't necessarily know what it is yet or what to call it, but it's an exciting time to live.

Erin: It is.

Erica: I mean it is tumultuous for sure, but I feel like we're definitely in the middle of an awakening. And just like you, I come from a place where I'm not validated and my beliefs, not with my husband, but with my family at home, they're all republicans. They all voted for Trump. And they think that, which might be true, they think that my sole focus in the academy is to produce more liberals, which might be true. But it's, it's a difficult spot to be in when the people that you love and the people that you grew up with don't necessarily understand your stance or where you are, who you are or what you become, and may never and may never, and in that, in that way, it's important to find your people.