

Eva Gibbs Adams: Very smart, lovely person. We loved her as dear as we did the others, but she got the inferiority complex because she was a little bit darker. We'd have to go and pull her out where the others of us would decide where we're going to meet. But other—I don't know too much of that. Not too much of that there.

Sonya Ramsey: Did you ever notice any teachers that would show favoritism to students based on that, or based on who their parents were and things like that?

Eva Gibbs Adams: Did what?

Sonya Ramsey: Did you ever notice any teachers when you were in school who showed favoritism because of that or because of who their children's parents were and things like that?

Eva Gibbs Adams: Well, no, I don't. Frankly speaking, I don't, and I didn't.

Sonya Ramsey: Okay.

Eva Gibbs Adams: Because things like this, when I was teaching over at the H.J. MacDonald school, that's the place I retired, I found that the White kids were more friendly to the teachers than the Black ones, even though I was a Black teacher. The only thing they would say, they would say things like—White kids would say, "Goodbye, hope you have a lovely evening," or something to the teacher when they're going out, and the Black ones just strut out. Then, if they see one at the desk talking, maybe asking what you're going to do because they ask personal questions. Then the Blacks would say, "Oh, she makes me sick," talking about the White kids. They are just showing their manners and respect by coming up and wishing you have a good night or something and see you tomorrow, or something like that. So, I don't know.

Eva Gibbs Adams: I noticed this, though. Every little thing that the Whites would do and the Colored had not been doing it, they took on the bad habits. Our Blacks took on the little habits that we wouldn't like for them to take on. Say, for instance, kissing in the hall, the boys and the Whites. And before when we had segregated school, a kid wouldn't let a teacher see them stand up there kissing and hugging. Now, our Blacks just took right to it. And little things like the little bad things that we would want them to take from the Whites. We wanted them to get in there and try to excel them in their work or do something like that, but that didn't matter to them. But those other things, like smoking, also. The Blacks wouldn't have let us see them smoke before the Whites did. And so they got to the point, little things like that, they picked up, but they didn't pick up the habits that they should have picked up.

Sonya Ramsey: Okay. Well, I guess that's all my questions. Is there anything else—that's all my questions. Is there anything else I left out or that you'd like to add?

Eva Gibbs Adams: No, I think I've told you about all I know.

Sonya Ramsey: Okay. Okay.

Eva Gibbs Adams: Yes. I just missed the neighbors on this street that we used to have. But now the girl across the street is young. She's in her thirties, but she doesn't live the life that I think her mother would like her to live. In fact, I don't know her mother, but she's friendly to everybody. She's got four children, I think, but she's young and wild. She'll tell me, "Ms. Adams, I'm wild".

Eva Gibbs Adams: But now, she respects me highly. If they come over there and they have the music going too loud on the porch, she gets it lowered because of Ms. Adams. I told her yesterday, I said, look, Jill, nothing going on there.

Sonya Ramsey: Oh.