Reginald Armistice Hawkins: 50 billion, 500 billion in the saving and loan. And here I see them dumping food out in the Gulf Stream rather than giving to people, they give them food stamps and then they keep a time to make their husband be leave home and everything. The vicious system. So, this is what it's happened to America. It's feasting on itself. And this is what happened to the Jews when they got into the promised land. They turned their backs on God and they put God in a box. And before you knew anything, they had turned on themselves.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: They had started all kinds of sexual promiscuity, Jezebel, [indistinct 00:00:36]. When you knew anything, they were diseased and unable to fight. The Babylonians came in and conquered them, but the first thing they did was had their internal strike. They divided into Israel and Judah, this is what's happened in history. If you know, forget your history, you become its victim. And that is what is happened. Why do people don't go to church because of this? We made it simple. Billy Graham, all you got to do is be born again. The worst thing ever happened to Americanism is protestants is Billy Graham. And these fundamentals are Falwell in all of, and Pat Robertson. This is what happened to us. There's no more moral discipline.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: I never heard of child abuse when I was a kid. I know you better not beat a kid, have mercy, because everybody come in. I never heard any pregnant girl. They got married early. They might have been pregnant before they got married, but they weren't no children. Then There was extended family. Grandmother raised a whole lot of us. A mother and fathers had to go to New York to get a job. Grandmamma took care of them and raised them.

Chris Stewart: Did you have people leaving to go to New York?

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Sure. All my relatives in Brooklyn. Yeah, all my relatives.

Chris Stewart: Did they send money back?

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Oh, they send money back and forth to educating the kids. But grandmamma kept them. Grandmamma and granddaddy.

Chris Stewart: But some people who went up to New York would stay up there?

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Sure. They go up there and work as domestics or in the factories and all they staying there, and after a while they sent for the children, they sent for the sisters and brothers. That's how we got north. Let me tell you another story. This is interesting. When I was a student, I rode up, my cousin, I mean my brother-in-law, was a theological student and he could get passes on the train and the pass they were giving would be a Pullman, okay. Upper berth.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: So he would get me the ticket when I'd come pass back and forth and they would, it'd be Pullman, I'd pay a Pullman upper berth. They would give me a drawing room for segregation. They'd give me a drawing room. But they wouldn't let me eat in the club car. So about lunchtime, breakfast, whatever time of day, I would go out in the coach with these Black people with the shoe boxes, fill up with chicken, potato salad, pound cake and lemonade. Probably the only meal they had to get them back where they came or get them where they're going.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: First thing they look at me, I guess they say, "Is you a student?" "Yes ma'am. I'm a student." "Where you go to school?" "I go to Howard University." "What you studying for?" "I'm studying to be a dentist." "You is? Have you ate?" I said, "No ma'am. I haven't eaten." "Kids, open up that box and give this young doctor some of that food."

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: We had that togetherness. We had it. That is what integration has done to us. What I'm working to try to bring back. That's why I want these students to be themselves, to learn who they are, to bring back the togetherness. We would know, we knew where we could stay, and I knew where we were accepted because of the network that existed. Word would travel. When I was fighting for integration, I had waiters and maids that worked in Black folks house that heard them talking because they considered, they were invisible. They heard it. They would bring me the message as to what they were planning.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: These were the big wigs down at the country club, down at the city club. They don't know that. They just talking and the waiters and the bar maids and they salad bar people. They listen and they would call me. They said, "This is what they're playing Dr. Hawkins." And they would tell them, "Who you go to? The dentist?" "I don't know." "Don't go to Dr. Hawkins." And they was for my patients, they'd come and say, "They told me not to come to you. But I ain't listen to them." And see we the masters of see, well, Black folks did that trying to destroy me. Economic. And they couldn't. I had the biggest practice in the state of North Carolina. That's why they jumped on me.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: I was making too much money. But these people knew that was an identity. I did not put on a high horse 'cause I was a doctor in all these degrees. I mingled with Johnny White or Johnny Black. And I still do. I don't make any difference cause of the fact I got education and a little money. I have not forgotten my roots. And the people appreciate that. The little people, they hear me gladly. But this is why they have been tried to be done. And I'll never forget the kindness that was shown to me as a student. White people, when I was working on the Great Lakes, I'd come in, the Kappa Psi fraternity would take me and let me stay in the house over the weekend when the boat was docked. When I was a student, I'd go to A&T North Central. I'd live in the frat house, which was a dormitory room.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: The guys would share their meals. Mother Washington, he didn't know about that. Dr. Shepard would, just like a dictator, he wouldn't let the students, wouldn't let them foreigners stay on it, wouldn't let us talk to the girls. Couldn't walk the girls down from the dining room to the dormitory. But we would sneak and we'd do it. He'd have a Monday morning, I was a football player. Monday morning he'd have a session cursing us out. And he was a fraternity brother of mine at A&T. We had the Dr. Gibbs and

all them Al Sandler, who's in Atlanta, leading broadcasting, would give us food. Virginia State, all over the CIAA. I'd get out with a cut, my college sweater on, thumb. People would pick me up, carry me anywhere I wanted to go because of the fact we had that kind of togetherness. I'll never forget when I was, replaced Shaw University for Thanksgiving Day and James Willie, who's now the physician in Norfolk—

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Transcribe, then I sign. 'Cause I can't do, from what I've said, you want to send it to me to tape when you transcribe it?

Chris Stewart: Well, I mean we're not going to transcribe it. These tapes are going to go back to the university.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: But I have to—I can't verify what I've said. Now I don't know what I've said.

Chris Stewart: Well, what's been on the tape is—What you can do, we have two agreements that you can choose to look at. One is the interview agreement that says that you are going to allow Duke University to have the tapes and—

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: I will do that, but I do not sign, that's why I took my tapes.

Chris Stewart: Right.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: 'Cause I've had so much misinterpreting, screwing of what I said. Once you get the tape transcribed, then I will sign after I verify why they—

Chris Stewart: Okay. The other option then for you is that you can sign an agreement with restrictions and that anything that gets taken from this tape—

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: That, no. Well, I want to see the transcript that you make before I sign anything. Send me the transcript.

Chris Stewart: I tell you what, let me suggest something to you and see if you will agree with this.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Right.

Chris Stewart: Right. That I will fill out the interview agreement with restrictions and say that this interview cannot be used for anything until the transcript is sent to you.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: That is correct. Because in fact, I'm quotable and I've been misquoted and I don't know what you're going to do with it. But anything that I sign, I want to make sure that—

Chris Stewart: If I write that in the restrictions would you sign that?

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Yeah, you write that. Well, yeah. Restrictions.

Chris Stewart: Okay. Let me just make, read this to you so that you can, you know exactly what you're signing. And then we'll leave, I promise.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: Yeah. Okay.

Chris Stewart: "The purpose of the this project, the Behind the Veil Project is to gather and preserve historical documents by means of tape recorded interviews. Tape recordings and transcripts resulting from such interviews become part of the archives of the Behind the Veil collection at Duke. This material will be made available for historical and other academic research and public dissemination regulated according to the restrictions placed on its use by you. Duke University is assigned rights, title, and interest to the interviews unless otherwise specified below."

Chris Stewart: And this is the one for the restrictions. "We, the undersigned, have read and voluntarily offered Duke University the use of this information contained on the tapes and transcripts of these oral history research interviews. In view of the scholarly value of this research, we are hereby assigned rights, title and interest pertaining to it to Duke University with the following restrictions."

Chris Stewart: And the restrictions that I'll put down is that you—

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: I want to reserve the right to see the transcript and then sign for the veracity of the transcript. Otherwise, everything else is hearsay.

Chris Stewart: Reserve the right to view—

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: To view and verify the transcript. Otherwise, everything else that has been said is basically hearsay.

Reginald Armistice Hawkins: And I do that not with any malice, sorry, but I've had people that come in and make transcripts and write books. And then when I see it's like Fria Gillia, that I told you who wrote this book about how the schools desegregated, came in and interviewed me and I have the tapes. And in the book, he completely lied about what I had told him. And I've had that done on the news media and everything else. And I do not—let me call Ray back. This thing, you got it off? I'm going to call him, see where this thing is forming—