

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Joanne S. Faulkner

Date 2005 August 2

Primary Maker Joanne S. Faulkner

Description Oral history interview with Joanne S. Faulkner who was interviewed by Beverly J. Hodgson on August 2, 2005 for the Connecticut Bar Foundation's

History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project. Topics Discussed:

- Early Life: Joanne Faulkner was born in 1938 and grew up primarily in Ithaca,

New York. She graduated from public high school in Ithaca in 1956 at the top of

her class. - College: She attended Nazareth College, a women's college in

Rochester, New York, from 1956 to 1960. - Ambition to Become a Lawyer :

Someone suggested law to Faulkner due to her enjoyment of debate and

argument. - Law School: She chose Cornell Law School in 1960. The Dean of

Admissions noted that her high law boards (LSATS) were the only reason she

was accepted. She was on the Law Journal as the notes editor and participated

in student government as secretary. - Early Job: During college and law school,

she worked for Ithaca Savings Bank. - First Legal Job and Move to New York City :

Faulkner secured a summer job at Reavis and McGrath, a New York City law firm,

through the dean of Cornell Law School. She worked there the year before her

last year of law school. Although there were no women in the firm, she was

offered a permanent position upon graduation due to her capability, top

academic standing, and good work. - Bar Exam: She passed the New York Bar

Exam in 1963 and the Connecticut Bar Exam in 1967. She stayed in New York

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until 1966, got married in 1965, and then moved to New Haven, Connecticut. -

New Haven Legal Assistance: She began working for New Haven Legal Assistance

Association. She focused on consumer law, handling cases like landlord-tenant

defense and repossessions. She was involved in civil rights litigation in the

United States Supreme Court between 1968 and 1974. - Notable Cases: Simmons

v. West Haven Housing Authority (1970); Boddie v. Connecticut (1971); and

Kokoszka v. Belford (1974). - Private Practice Cases: Faulkner left Legal Aid in

1985 and went into private practice. Connecticut v. Doeher (1991); Heintz v.

Jenkins (1995).

Dimensions Duration: 1 Hour, 22 Minutes