



TRANSCRIPT – THANKSGIVING: THE INTERVIEW

- ***How did you celebrate Thanksgiving when you were a child?***

Well, when I was a child, we did like most American families do. We had a Thanksgiving... a Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day, on that Thursday. And the whole family got together. In my case, it was a bit interesting because there are nine children in my family. So, there were so many people in the house, just organizing it was a difficult task for my mother. So, we would all get together and even if people were at university or they were married and living in a different city, everyone would come home for that weekend and we would get together. We had lunch at about 3:00, which is later than usual. Usually, we have lunch at 12:00. And then we celebrated with the big meal, everyone at the table.

- ***What kind of food did you eat for Thanksgiving?***

Well, in my case the food we ate was a bit interesting also because we had the typical traditional food that most Americans families had, turkey, roasted turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, a type of sauce and we also had usually some vegetable dish, either green beans or broccoli and then there were always the desserts, right, there was always some type of... there was always pumpkin pie, but usually several types of desserts. But my parents come from a German background so we had other things to add to that, chocolate cake, some special dishes that were German. And then because there were so many of us, a turkey wasn't enough, even a 20 pound or 30 pound turkey was not enough, so we also had ham and other dishes like chicken with noodles, a lot of food, too much food.

- ***What do many people do after the Thanksgiving meal?***

Well, the first thing we did because my parents did not have a dishwasher was to clean up and we had to organize who would wash the dishes, dry the dishes and clear the table and that was a gigantic thing to do because of all the people. Then after that, we watched TV, usually football games, American football and college or university bowl games. Those of us who

did not like football we played games, board games and cards, usually with my mother.

- ***Why is Thanksgiving special for you?***

Well, it's... I have very good memories of Thanksgiving probably because since there are so many brothers and sisters, we did not live all together for very long. The youngest ones weren't with the oldest ones. So Thanksgiving was a time when I could be with my older siblings, my older brothers and sisters, and with my favourite sister and I... I really enjoyed it. I really did feel that it was the... a time when our family got together and we...we really enjoyed being around each other.