ORAL HISTORY RECORDING SUMMARY

'Fighting for our Rights' project

Surname Campbell

Given name Jane

Date of birth 1959

Place of birth Kingston-upon-Thames

Date of interview 5 May 2017

Length of interview 01:13:53

Number of tracks 1

Name of interviewer Jen Kavanagh

Track 1 of 1 [01:13:53]

Baroness Jane Campbell of Surbiton DBE (JC) was born in 1959 in Kingston to parents Ronald and Jesse. Father worked as a heating engineer, mother as a teacher. Attended Bedelsford School. Describes education as remedial, didn't follow National Curriculum. Reflects on education as the worst time of JC's life. Left school with 2 CSE qualifications. Then attended first purpose-built college, achieved 7 O-levels and 3 A-levels [00:05:25]. Gained degree in Hatfield Polytechnic, then Masters at Sussex University. Wrote dissertation on Sylvia Pankhurst and women's movement [00:09:20]. Describes political awakening at Sussex University, involved with feminist forum. Talks about challenge of finding work as disabled person. Started work with Radar, national disability charity. Frustration at lack of support, eventually sacked for being 'too disabled' [00:14:50]. Talks about work with Ken Livingstone in Greater London Council as disability equality worker. Introduction to local government. Progressed to head of Disability Equality Training department. Introduced to British Council of Disabled People (BCODP), Mike Oliver, Frances Hasler and Vic Finkelstein – social model of disability [00:20:25]. Describes priorities of disability movement. JC interested in anti-discrimination legislation. Explains social model further. Mentions Colin Barnes book and campaign for Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). Talks about campaigns, marches, sit-ins. Talks about Vic Finkelstein's experience in apartheid movement in South Africa [00:26:20]. Describes getting arrested during protest. Talks about interest in independent living. Describes getting to know Ann Macfarlane (AM) after contacting Kingston Association for Disabled People (KADP). Researched independent living scheme. AM thought JC was radical [00:32:30]. Talks about relationship with AM. Talks about attending KADP meetings. Clash between national and local approaches. Describes creating proposal for independent living scheme (ILS). Mentions Jenny Webb being key to making it happen. Explains aims of ILS [00:38:10]. Mentions Roy Taylor, Director of Social Services. Talks about Direct Payments Act. Took 13 years to be introduced. Gives insight into background, including Paul Hunt's action in Hampshire. Talks further about BCODP and Independent Living Committee. Mentions John Evans. Explains formation of the National Centre for Independent Living [00:48:35]. Talks about resistance including from home care industry and charities who ran care homes. Describes criticism received to ILS. Mentions support from Roy Taylor in addressing opposition. Talks about research by Joseph Rowntree Association [00:53:20]. Describes clash of trade unionism and employment law, aggressive politics. Talks about links between Kingston Association for Independent Living (KCIL) and National Centre. Describes paternalistic nature of KCIL. Describes training and developing disabled people, slow progress in getting people to sign up to ILS. Class driven approach in Kingston [00:59:30]. Talks about becoming chair of BCODP in 1990s. Interested in equality agenda more

broadly. Became commissioner for Disability Rights Commission. Talks about first political appointment as Executive Chair for Social Care Institute for Excellence. Explains putting name forward for a ministerial role [01:05:10]. Talks about being awarded DBE. Explains applying to be an independent member of the House of Lords. Describes enjoyment of this role, fighting for rights again. Working in equality and human rights politics. Talks about private members bill to transfer care packages across local authorities. Mentions challenges of campaign regarding assisted dying. Describes current work, very full on. Ends with describing proudest achievement is that disabled people still believe in JC, being an active member of the disability family.

End of recording [01:13:53]







