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The United States History

On Monday 23rd, September, I interviewed Mark Doe who lived in US a while back. He was born in Texas 1942, 15th January. He lived in United States in 1966 and schooled in the University of Texas. The second teenager was called Hayley Blocks who lived in US in 1950 with her family. I interviewed her on Wednesday 25th September. She was born in New York city on 3rd 1930. She went to a University in Boston. Before I decided to do my interview on the two teenagers, I did a research about them. I needed all the information I could find. I interviewed them at my office since it was quiet. I had prepared the questions that I wanted to ask them so that I could get the information I needed. Mark graduated from the University of Texas in 1970 September 4th and got a job in Chicago where he worked as a doctor for four years. On the other hand, Hayley graduated in 1954 August 24th. I located the two teenagers at my work place and arranged an interview with each in different days. This essay will entail the interviews I did on them on September 23rd.

Mark grew up in the midst of great scientific breakthrough in history. Problems of an unprecedented nature affected values, goals, education, employment and morality. During Mark's time teenagers had a hard time making decisions that were effective; money, sex, power, prejudice and their role in the world. After interviewing Mark, he claimed that most decisions he made, he always confided in his dad. Adults made decisions for their children. Teenagers that were there in the 1960s have been termed to be the most trustworthy teenagers in time (Nye, 2014). According to Mark, 1966 was the year that defined the 1960s. The people who died during the Vietnam War tripled in 1966. Their families were depressed. As the anti- Vietnam movements and hippie ramped up, young people in San Francisco were conducting 'acid tests' an ocean away. Mark also claimed that he was there when sniper Charles Whitman did the

shooting of sixteen people from the Texas university. 1966 was the year there were most deaths in the United States. Robert Speck also murdered eight students in Chicago dorm (Burns, 2017).

In 1950, Hayley claimed in her interview that she lived in the US when there was the Civil Rights movement and Cold War. Her dad supported the movement. The United States was the strongest military power worldwide. During this New car, house which people dream of and other consumer goods were available to almost everyone. Also, there was great conflict among nations at the time. During 1946, approximately 3.4 babies were born in the US. The reason that people bore many babies in the 1950s was because they thought that since the World War II was over, their children would have a peaceful future. At the time the wages that most people in the US received were high according to Hayley. Most of the capital was invested in the military and ensuring that the country grew (King, 2013).

Hayley's family was one of the group of Americans that spoke against injustice and inequality during the 1950s. They fought against racial discrimination with other people who were against it. After World War II, communism needed to be contained by force so the country came up with the idea of Cold war. In the 1950s, most people lost their friends and families in the anti-communist 'Red Scare'. Hayley's family was average. They watched shows like 'The Honeymooners', 'The Twilight Zone' and 'I Love Lucy'. The box office was dominated by actors like Marlon Brando, James Stuart, Charlton Heston and John Wayne. Mostly, the music that they listened to was Rock and Roll which swept the nation of its feet. In 1950s, the music changed and started targeting the youth (Nye, 2014). Today, young people still listen to rock music more than other genres.

During 1966 according to Mark, they wore drain pipe jeans and capri pants. They got their culture of dressing from Audrey Hepburn. Slim blue jeans were worn with plaid button-

down shirt to have a casual look. Mark Doe grew up in a family of five. He had three sisters and they were raised by a single parent, their dad. He was raised in a religious home. Each Sunday they would attend mass. Their father ensured that he taught them moral values. Also, he ensured that they took their education seriously so that they can have good jobs in future. As the older brother, Mark was expected to set a pace for the others so that they can follow in his footsteps. Notably, it was his responsibility to ensure that they were safe. In Mark's family, they respected each other and ensured that they had a peaceful home.

Hayley was raised in a family of three. She was the only child. Although she had two parents, she claimed to have had a lonely and secluded life. In her year, they wore blouses, jeans and long, narrow skirts. This look is mostly common in Hallmark movies. During that time, clothes were affordable hence Hayley's family bought for her what she wanted. Since she was the only child, her parents' attention was only hers. Her parents were pagans due to the background they were raised in. On the other hand, Hayley was a believer. She claimed that she did not live in a peaceful home even though she had everything that she wanted. Her parents were always getting into fights. Hayley grew up with the fear of getting in a relationship due to her parents. This explains why until now she is single and childless. When it came to respecting the law, her parents were not good at it. They ran a drug business which was illegal. Her dad was arrested in 1956 when she was in the University and passed years later. Life in the US was difficult and not peaceful according to Hayley (Burns, 2017). I finished my interview at after one hour and wrote down the data that I had collected. Also, any questions that they had, I answered.

After this interview which I conducted I came to a conclusion that occurrences that took place in different times of the American history affected people's lives in various ways; socially economically or culturally. For instance, one of my interviewees Mark grew up in 1960s a period

in which the young people were experiencing problems in making their decisions in terms of time management, sex, how to utilize finances as well as power. They therefore relied heavily on their parents to provide guidance and were as a result referred to as the trustworthy.

Factors such as the second world war affected the size of families. For instance, most babies were born in 1950s after the end of second world war this was because people perceived that they would have better futures since the war was over. And at the same time the payments of the most people in the US were high therefore there was an increased supply of suburban houses, new cars as well as consumer goods.

After second world war a cold war arose in order to curb communalism which led to many families becoming enemies. According to Hayley who came from an average family dressing code was affected by programs watched on television. Music watched during the 1950s rock and roll music was listened. Rock changed and started targeting the youth and is up to date perceived as youth music.

I also came to conclusion that early childhood experiences affected the entire life of an individual as depicted by Hayley as she explained that she was childless up to date due to the violence she observed in their home. Television shows also affected the dressing code of many in the us during 1950s.

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