

**Interview of Dr. Hilda Crosby Standish**  
**November 18, 2002**  
**by Julie Bzenas for**  
**The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame**

**For comprehensive source analysis review both written transcripts and audio recording**

Note: Parentheses indicate additions or clarifications made by Dr. Standish in a follow-up meeting on April 23, 2003

JULIE BAZENAS: The following is an interview of Dr. Hilda Crosby Standish, obstetrician and prominent advocate of family planning and sex education (1) and the first director of what is now Planned Parenthood of Connecticut (2). This interview is being conducted in connection with the Oral History Archive at the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame. The mission of the Oral History Archive is to record and preserve the voices of women who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Dr. Standish was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1995. The audio-tape and transcript of this interview will become the property of the Hall of Fame and will be available to scholars and historians and others interested in the histories of Connecticut women. I'm Julie Bzenas, a volunteer with the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame, and it is my honor to have the opportunity today to interview Dr. Hilda Crosby Standish. Hello, Dr. Standish.

HILDA CROSBY STANDISH: It's nice to have you here.

JB: Thank you. You've had quite a remarkable life filled with accomplishments and many interesting and adventuresome experiences and it's a lot of ground to cover.

HCS: Well, I have and I appreciate everything that has happened. It seems to me that things go well for me. There may be humps here and there but they come out right in the end.

JB: It's wonderful. And I want to...before we get started...I want to congratulate you in this year of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your birth date.

HCS: That's right.

JB: Which occurred in September. September 14<sup>th</sup> of this year. And I guess you've been celebrating that on-and-off through out the course of the year, haven't you?

HCS: [laughter] Yes, they began in 1999. I wasn't going to live for another year. So by the time I got to 100, I had four days of celebration...four birthday cakes, oh my, as many grandchildren and great grandchildren came as possible from the west coast. There were 25 of us in all. One or two were...there is a nephew and his wife who have been very close to our family. The other was a man, and his wife. The man (3) had been our first American Field Service student in West Hartford, who lived with us for a year. And we've followed through with him, every since. In Germany, in France, and wherever he was, he'd call and he'd say, "Here I am. I'm in Utah skiing." And the next time he'd be back in England where they live. They came particularly for our...for my...birthday.

JB: Well you couldn't have had a better birthday gift than to have everybody gathered around you.

HCS: They had done the same for our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

JB: Wonderful.

HCS: So, it's been a great experience to know somebody like that.

JB: Wonderful. Let's begin at the beginning of your biography and start with...let's get some basic biographical facts on the record. What was your full name at birth?

HCS: What was what?

JB: Your full name at birth, when you were born? Hilda...Hilda Crosby.

HCS: Hilda Crosby...Hilda Chaffee Crosby.

JB: Hilda Chaffee Crosby.

HCS: I was born in Hartford on Sergeant Street. But very soon father bought a house, I'm sure he had it mortgaged, on 117 Vine Street in North Hartford off of Albany Avenue.

JB: So that's where you grew up?

HCS: That's where I grew up. And we were on the second floor. Almost all of the houses in that region were two-family houses. But it was great fun. Do you want me to tell them about the chestnuts?

JB: Sure.

HCS: My first...my very first friend...my best friend (4) lived downstairs with her family. And her bedroom was under mine. So come fall, I would take a long string and on the end of it I would tie a nail and swing it out and let it come in until it hit Mildred's window below so that she would wake up and then we would go up to Keeney Park and pick up chestnuts before school. We got quite full bags. It was not in the park, but right adjacent. And the family said, "Help yourself to the chestnuts." So that was fun.

JB: That was fun.

HCS: I had a second friend who lived down the street but they were in a single house, one of the very few in that region. And her father was Mr. Bill of Bill Brothers (5) and it was a trucking machine...trucking company. And in the summertime they piled their sleighs two deep in their back lot. We used to race through those, jumping from one sleigh to another, and that was a little precarious but we didn't think that at all. We had a great time.

JB: Now, did you...from Vine Street, were you able to go downtown to Hartford? Did you go by...

HCS: Trolley car.

JB: Trolley car, okay.

HCS: In the summertime, open cars, these seats were crosswise, open at both ends. And in the wintertime they were closed and then you'd, the seats were lengthwise, one on one side and one on the other. I think it was a five-cent fare from Vine Street to Elmwood. And I remember taking my younger sister who was some eleven years younger than I was, and getting her off Mother's hands, and it was fun for me taking her on a trolley ride down to Elmwood and back.

JB: So you would go to Elmwood rather than to downtown Hartford?

HCS: Well, yes. I just wanted to take her just for a ride, that time.

JB: I see.

HCS: But when we had to go shopping we always went by trolley, or to church downtown by Fox's.

JB: And Fox's was a small dry goods store at the time?

HCS: No, it was a large one.

JB: But it wasn't this big building that's in downtown Hartford today?

HCS: It's the same building.

JB: Oh, it was the same building.

HCS: They had the whole building.

JB: Oh, I thought that was constructed later.

HCS: No, no. It was their own building, and they've found a way to use it now, which is nice.

JB: Yes, it is.

HCS: And Mrs. Auerbach, who owned it all had a wonderful apartment on the top floor and one of my friends said, "Hilda, you'd better get on the Board of something so you can have luncheons down there because they always have lobster salad." I think she nominated me for some position. Anyway I went there and had a lovely time. [laughter] I don't think I was any help to the Board, whatever it was.

JB: But the lobster salad was good.

HCS: The lobster salad was very good.

JB: Now, I want to talk a little bit about Wellesley and what led up to that when your own mother had gone to normal school, is that right?

HCS: Yes.

JB: She was a teacher by profession?

HCS: She lived in Simsbury. Well, father decided...we lived in Hartford, and my father felt very seriously that education was important. He had had to drop out of high school when he was a sophomore and go to work and help support his family. So by the time my older half sister was ready to go to college we all piled in the car and we knew nothing west...there were no colleges we ever heard of west of the Hudson River. In fact, we never got as far as Vassar. We went to Springfield...Spring...Smith...and Father looked around and he saw sort of a small lake. I don't know, I don't remember ever seeing it. He called it a puddle. I don't know what we did about Mount Holyoke. But we got to Wellesley and that beautiful lake (6) of water, and father said, "This is where Ruth wants to go to college."

JB: Ruth was your older sister?

HCS: Yes. And I visited her some weekends. I had a cousin who went. And I thought, "Well, that's a good college." So I applied, and in those days if you graduated anywhere except at the very bottom of your class from Hartford Public High School you applied to one college and you were in. So there was no worry about it at all. So I went to college, both my daughters went without any coercion. I said, "You're privileged to choose where you want to go." And the daughter of one...of my younger daughter...is a graduate too. She wanted to go too.

JB: So it's a family tradition.

HCS: Quite a family tradition.

JB: But when you decided to go to college, what were you thinking? What was your vision of yourself as an adult? What did you hope you would. . .

HCS: Well, I had been very anxious since childhood and hearing the minister of our First Baptist Church right next to G. Fox & Company preach on foreign missions and I had always had the feeling well I'd like to make my worth...my life worthwhile. And I went into Dr. White afterwards and I said, "Dr. White, I'm very much interested in the thought of going on the mission field afterwards." But then I got to high school, or to college, and there was a student union...a student volunteer group...all of whom had committed themselves verbally and so forth to go to a foreign mission. And I went to many of their meetings, but I knew perfectly well, if I met somebody who had my ideals and wanted to have children and a home, that I wouldn't go. So, I went to the meetings but that was that. And I got up to my junior year, at the end of junior year, and what was I going to do? Well, should I be a nurse? That would be nice. Mother said, "That's all right. But why don't you go on and become something else. I mean, drop out of college, don't bother to have more than two years." Well I didn't want to drop out of college. I loved it.

JB: She was actually encouraging you to stay in college and go on to something other than nursing?

HCS: She didn't have to encourage me at all, actually. But she was...if I was going to do something, don't drop out of college. Get through college and then decide. But it wasn't until the end of my junior year that I did decide. I wanted to try medicine. It just appealed to me immensely. Well, nobody in the family had ever been a doctor. So here I was faced with having had nothing more than chemistry in high school and I had to spend the senior year practically in the laboratory. At the same time I was a village...I was the senior advisor and lived with students in the village. They couldn't all be on campus in those days. So I

thought, "Well, come June or come spring I'll go and apply and see where I might like to go." Yale took only...Harvard, I couldn't even cross the threshold at Harvard...but Yale took three or four a class and I thought it's going to be a lot of baloney and I'd like to have more people, more women. I'm there to learn to be a doctor not to compete with the men or something. (7)

JB: Harvard wouldn't take you because you were a woman?

HCS: Pardon me?

JB: Was it because you were a woman that Harvard would not take you?

HCS: Oh, yes. Oh, yes. They didn't want any women doctors.

JB: They didn't want women.

HCS: No.

JB: And Yale would take a few.

HCS: And Yale took a few. I'm not sure about Columbia. I think they were about the same as Cornell. I got there and there were 11 of us (women) out of 67. He told me that's what was going to come. So I said fine. Could I possibly get in? Because I hadn't quite completed the courses that I needed. I had one more, that I couldn't get in (on my schedule.) He (the dean) said, "If you go to summer school and pass that, you may come in in the fall." I got an 'A'. And so I got in. But I think they were a little biased to Wellesley graduates, because they had had one (8) who was so wonderful a few years back that they named a building for her and then the next two were the Travell sisters: Virginia who was first in her class at Cornell; Janet who was second in her class a year later. And Janet was the one who recommended the rocking chair for President Kennedy, wasn't it?

JB: Yes, because, she...interestingly, her name came up in the paper today or yesterday in connection with President Kennedy and all of the medications that he was taking.

HCS: Yes, that's right. So, I thought, well, I'd better keep this record up somehow or other or Wellesley will... So I did! I was the fourth in my class. I was the fourth from Wellesley to graduate (from Cornell.) And I graduated third in my class.

JB: [laugh] Third in your class from Cornell. Very impressive.

HCS: I loved it. It was a hard, constant grind if you will, but an interesting grind.

JB: Sure, and did you develop an interest in obstetrics there at Cornell or that came later?

HCS: I had no idea.

JB: But you still hadn't selected a specialty, you were just generally interested in medicine?

HCS: As a matter of fact, when I was almost through, the doctor, the head of pediatrics at Yale...no, well, somewhere else, called me on the telephone and here I was out in the hall on the telephone at Bellevue Hospital. "We would be glad to take you on as a resident, for an internship, if you'd like to." Right then I said, "I'm very sorry, but I have decided to go into obstetrics." I'd thought about both of them and somehow the other appealed to me.

JB: You thought of obstetrics and what was the other?

HCS: Pediatrics.

JB: Oh pediatrics.

HCS: Which was something that many, many women go in at that point. And I love babies, but I thought the other was more thrilling some how or other.

JB: And during the time that you were at Cornell you spent some time at Margaret Sanger's clinic, didn't you?

HCS: Yes, I did. Well, it was people that she knew, the Stone's. Dr. and Mrs. Stone, both doctors, who had a clinic on West 16<sup>th</sup> Street. And I thought, well, if I'm going to do (practice) medicine that's just a normal part of being a good

doctor. So I must do that. And (I) went over (and) listened several times and watched them fit diaphragms.

JB: And this was not something that you were learning in medical school?

HCS: No, no. They didn't mention it at medical school.

JB: Was it controversial?

HCS: Probably, but it just wasn't brought up as far as I know. I never heard about it. But I sort of figured that whether I'd be a general practitioner or what that this was something that I should have. So then I...it was a matter of obstetrics. But I had to have a two-year internship, I felt, a general internship. And that was in Philadelphia General Hospital, Blockley, which is no longer there. And that was through a connection of a doctor at Cornell who came up to teach surgery to some of us. He picked a group of us. And I was chosen for that, to use animals...surgery on animals. I did that with Dr. Sweet and then when I was going down there (for an interview) he gave me a good recommendation. Well, I got a two-year internship there. Then, it was a matter of what I was going to do again. I wanted to do (practice) obstetrics. So I applied and was given a chance to go to St. Louis Maternity Hospital, which was part of Barnes. I don't know just how it works now. But that was an important part of Barnes Hospital. It was a separate building but we ate together and so forth.

JB: In Philadelphia, you did not practice obstetrics at all? That was just a general. . .

HCS: Part of it.

JB: As part of the whole tour.

HCS: Yes, it was a rotating internship. So we did everything from drugs and erosyphilis and so forth to pediatrics and what have you, every branch of medicine.

JB: And were there other women residents when you were there?

HCS: Yes, there were five when I went in there. Not...we weren't residents, we were interns.

JB: Interns.

HCS: But we didn't have residents and that was what bothered me. In those days there weren't any residents. We had to just do what we could out of medical school and I'm sure we made some very bad judgments sometimes. But what could you do? You do the best you can.

JB: And were your teachers all male doctors or were there any women doctors at all?

HCS: There was, well, at Cornell we had a very interesting woman doctor, Dr. L'Esperance, whom we all liked very much. But there weren't any women doctors on the staff at that time. But they (the entire staff) were very kind to us, and I never felt anywhere that I was discriminated against because I was a woman no matter what. The few that griped about it seemed to me they probably deserved it from their attitudes. [laugh] And we did have those who had a chip on their shoulders if they didn't get special.

JB: Did you feel the opposite? Did you feel kind of special and privileged that, of all the women in the country, that you were one of the women who was in this. . .

HCS: No. That never occurred to me. I was just anxious to get on with it. And the only place...I said nobody discriminated against us...the only one person who ever did was a woman (patient) in the obstetrics who wanted no woman doctor to come in and take care of her, thank you. [laugh]

JB: Really.

HCS: I mean, she's the only that ever made me feel. . .

JB: A patient?

HCS: Yes.

JB: Interesting.

HCS: But some how or other, I decided I'd like to then go, as long as I had not married, I'd like to go and teach obstetrics in a mission field somewhere.

JB: Because that was your early vision for yourself to be a missionary.

HCS: I don't know how I got a five-year contract, but I did. And that was to include one year of language study up (north) in Peking. And we went right to Shanghai. We had to go by train across this country, (then it took) a week to (get to) Hawaii, (then) two weeks (to go) on to China, via Japan, where we went through the Inland Sea and things like that. And then we were met at the Bund (landing area) in Shanghai in a little old Ford that belonged to the hospital and a couple members came and greeted me and we jogged off to the hospital. (9)

JB: I've read a number of your letters that are at the Schlessinger Library. They have quite a collection of letters that you wrote home to your parents during that time. They're fascinating.

HCS: Well, I used to take notes. Every time I'd see something that was different, that appealed to me, I'd jot it down and at the end of each week I'd write a letter and include those things. Because you get there and you're startled by such things that you've never seen before.

JB: Well, that explains why the letters are so descriptive. Because they really are.

HCS: I had learned to do blood transfusions at St. Louis Maternity, by a method that had been invented by Dr. T. K. Brown who was on the staff there. We got...we did very well. We got along. I had a lot of patience. And I never thought of it as being unusual. But when I got to China...Oh, I'd asked his permission, if I could take two of the boxes that contained all of the things that were needed to do a transfusion, because it was a good sized box. That is the rubber tubing and the flasks and the needles and all the rest of it. And he said, "Certainly." So, he had a

couple of them fixed up for me. And I took those to China and so after I got there I said to the chief of the department (10), "Would you like to have me start trying to do transfusions?" And she said, "I'd love it." And we found very quickly, that taking blood is the loss of spirit, so it took us some time to get anybody to give blood. And finally our gateman did. By offering an amount of money that was more than a month's salary for him, well, he finally decided that maybe he would try it. And he did. But all of his friends stood outside the hospital while he was in, expecting that he would die. He came out waving this money that he had. Well, he thought, "That's a pretty good deal." So, very shortly we had to come down on the price we gave. But even a husband whose wife almost certainly would die if she didn't have a transfusion, she was bleeding profusely, would not give blood. His gateman could give it but not he.

JB: Isn't that something?

HCS: Incredible. But by the same token many of...of course most of the women were delivered in their homes by midwives. And the midwives would get in trouble, they couldn't sometimes delivery the baby. Or there were twins and they got one and they couldn't get the other. So they would be bringing in all kinds of serious cases.

JB: These were. . .

HCS: Pardon me?

JB: You were seeing distressed cases then for the most part?

HCS: Yes. Well, some of them just had an easy delivery except they had no anesthesia, they didn't want anything. They didn't expect any. This was a 200-bed hospital. One hundred beds were (for) obstetrics. So it was quite a good-sized place. The only ones who came in for prenatal care, and who'd come in whenever we told them for an appointment, were the girls who had gone through a mission school in China. And there were a good many of them (from) way up in the

country where they taught. Missionaries would come and they taught English to these...whoever would learn. And those girls (who spoke excellent English) had a great time. By the same token, I could teach...because that was true...I could teach them from the books I had at Cornell and they could interpret for me in the hospital and in the clinic. So that was fine. The end of the year, it was great. And the whole year while I was across country (living in Shanghai,) I spent a good many weekends with people on the staff, as they made a habit of doing that. So I saw a lot of country in the region of Shanghai. Shanghai's flat and uninteresting as a city. (11)

JB: Now Shanghai was where you went for language school, is that right?

HCS: What?

JB: For language school?

HCS: No, then I went up to Peking for language school.

JB: Oh, to Peking for language school.

HCS: And that was wonderful. And I had that great year in Shanghai in the hospital. Busy night and day and transfusions, enough so that by the end of April we had done 125 (transfusions) and these people (12) were absolutely aghast, the doctors. They invited me to give a paper and then I showed them how to do the transfusion. Eighty of them (doctors) came to the hospital (13.) Twenty stayed after to see how it was done. We knew blood typing of course, but we knew nothing about the Rh factor. We never got in real trouble. They would have a bit of a chill but no real problem.

JB: And these were all, the transfusions, were all in connection with maternity patients?

HCS: We were in the maternity section.

JB: So that was strictly...

HCS: We had nothing to do with the other half of the hospital.

JB: But the other doctors wanted to learn about transfusions for general purposes?

HCS: Well, that was more true of doctors, interns coming when I was at the clinic in Hartford coming there to learn how to fit diaphragms. I wasn't conscious of doctors coming to see transfusions because they didn't really know anything about them until they heard that we had given so many. And then, what was this all about and what was your method? So then I was invited to show it, and with all the pictures, and then what we needed, the flasks, and the rubber tubing and the basins and all the rest of it. And then I took pictures of Dr. Eula Eno who was my supervisor doing the transfusion and then I had all these things down, how you did it, and the pictures of it and so forth. And twenty stayed to see me do one. Fortunately that was easy and it went well. I mean men's veins are different from women. They are all muscle.

JB: And you have a suspicion that this was the first time blood transfusions were performed in China, right?

HCS: Yes, because these doctors were absolutely aghast. They had never heard of it before. And so I tried to find out whether any other place was doing transfusions and the one place that occurred to me was Peking Union Medical College, which would have a hospital attached to it. So I've tried to find out whether they did transfusions and, if so, what type? And I'm in the midst...or how they did it. I'm in the midst of trying to get that information from Yale, which sponsored the PUMD and I've written to two women there who were helpful in letting me know whether in the files they have anything about it. In the meantime, there's a man (14) who is going over who is married to a Chinese wife who has written back to an appraiser here whom I happen to know through the medical society to say that he thinks he can now get into the hospital complex. I called to say that please go on further, I want you to get into the medical society and look at their records and

see if they have any records of our giving this talk and transfusions of 125 (in Shanghai) in the middle of April. We had given that number (125). I mean any medical society would have records. (15)

JB: Well, that will be an interesting point to establish because that's a historical first, possibly. Sure, absolutely.

HCS: Of course, I...one never knows anything about it, when you do it, you don't think of anything unusual with what you did.

JB: Now you left Shanghai and went up to Peking for language school.

HCS: I left (for) Peking to go to language school.

JB: And you did begin the language school.

HCS: Yes. It was a very interesting, great building, modern. The best of professors. And again, I could see a lot around Peking because I joined a group (of Americans) and went here and there for weekends (visiting various restaurants) and somewhat.

JB: And this would have been sometime around 1933?

HCS: I went to China in '32.

JB: '32.

HCS: And came up to Peking in the fall of '33. And so I had four months there of studying the language and enjoying the countryside and taking trips with people, here, there and elsewhere (16.) My father had been writing me, quite frequently, that my younger sister had had an accident but she was coming along well. And he wrote several times that way, but all of a sudden came a cable saying, "Please see if you can get a furlough for three or four months and come home because both mother and sister are ill, and I feel I can't cope with it." Father being deaf from childhood when he had Scarlet Fever. So they granted, of course, the furlough and I quickly got things together and took the next boat and went back to Shanghai and took the next boat from there and back again three weeks, and then of course the

country and train. And got back only to find that my sister had thrown herself under a train in Nadick, and injured... broke her arm...but nothing else really. I thought it was because she felt the responsibility of (caring for) mother and father when I had left. But they had, they didn't object to my going.

JB: So it was a suicide attempt?

HCS: Well, yes, she was just...well, I couldn't imagine why this had happened. But it turned out later when I got home, she had been in a depression. She was a manic depressive and I didn't know it, it had not shown up before. Because by the time I got home, she was in the manic phase. And we had to get her down...she was in a hospital near Wesley where this had happened. Had to get her down. I took her to New York Hospital because I knew the people there and the ropes. And we had a driver and I sat on one side holding her hand and the nurse on the other and we got her in there. And she did very well. It was always shock therapy in those days. So by the time a little bit had gone by, mother had gone into a depression. And so I got her into Hartford Hospital because one of the people from Cornell who was in that department at Hartford Hospital, so here we were balancing one after the other. They both got well. They both had shock therapy.  
(17)

JB: Oh, they both did.

HCS: Well, they had it more than once. That was the only way of treating in those days. And they inject something and you shake, shake, shake. I don't know just what happens, but anyway. [laugh] But they had to have it, both of them, more than once.

JB: So you were absorbed with family matters for what, about a year after. . .

HCS: What?

JB: You were absorbed with family matters for about a year.

HCS: I really was. But when it got to be a little freer, and they were on the road to recovery, it happened that it was at a time when Mrs. Hepburn, Katherine Hepburn's mother, was about to open a clinic. She had for years, testified in the legislature hoping to change the old Comstock law of '87, '85.

JB: That was the law that banned birth control.

HCS: Well, it was...

JB: Among other things.

HCS: Made it illegal to use contraceptives. The use of them. . .

JB: They made that distinction, didn't they? The use rather than the sale.

HCS: Yes. So, she said every year the House of Representatives more and more would vote for it. But the Senate never, because it was predominantly Catholic. So she said, "Come Hell or high water I'm going to open a clinic and see what happens."

JB: Now, she is one of the Hall of Fame inductees as well. And I wonder if you have... . . .

HCS: Katherine Hepburn.

JB: Katherine Hepburn, yes. I wonder if you have any personal insights about her?

HCS: About Katherine? She was a patient of my husband's, dermatology. I mean some little thing probably. But I had met her and I've seen her once up at her mother's home, Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn lived in Hartford, and I was invited up for tea with [unclear] thank you. Katherine was there and I met her on the way out, as she was going out one day. But I didn't have any real association with her.

JB: No, but I actually was interested in her mother because it was her mother who tapped you on the shoulder for the birth control clinic. What was she like? She was quite an activist.

HCS: She was as (much an) activist as anybody. She had been with Margaret Sanger and she had also been a suffragette voter, getting women the vote. And she was great. So we did open a clinic. And then the doctors at the Hartford Hospital would come to see how to fit diaphragms when they had some free time. And when Dr. Goodrich who graduated from there went to Waterbury and opened his office, he had practiced about a year when suddenly the police arrived and grabbed his records and closed the office. Our Board of Directors, which was a great representative group, were amazed but they said that we'd better close too or the same thing is going to happen to us. (18)

JB: So this was in 1939, I think?

HCS: Well, we opened in '35, so yes, it was '39. We closed in early '40.

JB: So you had operated, so you operated for about five years.

HCS: Five years and 3,000 patients.

JB: My goodness.

HCS: Half of them were Catholics. Because they would say the priests have no idea what we go through trying to raise five or six children or eight children or nine children. And they've never taken care of children. They don't know. And also, where do you get the money when you have that?

JB: Now these women were looking for birth control, preventive devices, diaphragms, condoms? Were they?

HCS: Well, they were Catholics, were good Catholics. But the only one who questioned this a bit...well one of us must have questioned it...but she saw my name in the paper in '99 about the clinic that had opened. And she said, oh, she had grown up in a family of fourteen. Couldn't even go to school because she had to take care, help her mother take care of the baby. Her husband had a family of nine. Neither one wanted to have that happen to them. So, she said, "I decided that I would go to that clinic no matter what, and I put my two children, a boy and

a girl in a carriage, and it was quite a distance but I said to myself as time went along, I'm going to Hell, I'm going to Hell, I'm going to Hell. But as I got there, there were three kindly ladies who greeted me at the door and then I felt comfortable and they advised me." And of course, I was the doctor. . .

JB: Now, is that women Jeannette Arube, do you remember that name?

HCS: Yes, Jeannette Arube.

JB: Because I have a picture of you that I came across somewhere of the two of you.

HCS: In my apartment.

JB: And isn't that a. . .

HCS: She's a lovely person, sitting in the chair there.

JB: Isn't she? Lovely.

HCS: And we followed each other. I had her come to lunch, at McCauley where I live. And we had a chat and then we went up and had one of my neighbors take a picture of us there, which I sent to her. From then on we visited, I went to her apartment down in Wethersfield and had a lovely luncheon and saw how happy she was, and they'd had no more children. And she had the, the presents in October, the presents sent out to the children for Christmas. And she had the grandchildren. Her children have done well. One is a doctor and so forth.

JB: Isn't that great.

HCS: Lives in East Hartford.

JB: What a gratifying thing for you. All those years later to see the difference that you made in one woman's life.

HCS: She said, "I just couldn't have lived if I hadn't had that.:

JB: Wonderful.

HCS: So we corresponded and saw each other, and always at Christmas time I sent her one of my Christmas letters that I've written for over fifty years. . .

JB: That's a wonderful story. Let's get back to the clinic, though and talk about what kinds of things were going on. These women weren't coming to have abortions at the clinic though?

HCS: No. I never even thought of it in those days.

JB: Okay.

HCS: If they had got pregnant we had to say well come in after the pregnancy is over and we'll fit you to a diaphragm.

JB: And you were taking care of just poor women, is that right?

HCS: We took care of everybody who could not afford private doctors. Some could.

JB: I see.

HCS: And then we'd give them the name of three or four doctors who were doing it in their own offices. But otherwise, even if they didn't pay, because Mrs. Joseloff gave \$5,000 to run this clinic for a year. We were...two or three days a week was all we were doing it and it was insufficient.

JB: Now Mrs. Joseloff was, she was one of the directors?

HCS: She was, I can't think of whether she was a director but she was a very interesting woman who lived in Hartford, did a lot of good for a lot of people.

JB: So she was a benefactor?

HCS: Yes. So that clinic eventually, of course, we had to shut down and then it was back to the legislature, back to the legislature. . .

JB: I was going to ask how you got involved with testifying before the legislature. That was just a natural outcome of having been part of the clinic?

HCS: Yes. If we couldn't, if we got shut down, and then she, Katherine's mother, had already been to the legislature, what else could she do? You had to get a higher court to say it was all right.

JB: Sure.

HCS: So we got back and I testified a number of times.

JB: Over a long period of years, wasn't it?

HCS: Over a period of years.

JB: Sure.

HCS: And finally we got a director, Estelle Treburg Griswold, who was a friend of mine from high school.

JB: And she is also one of our inductees in the Hall of Fame.

HCS: Yes. She called me one day and she said, "Hilda, I'm out of a job again.

I've gotten through with doing the job I did during the war and so forth, and I hear the clinic in New Haven is having trouble and I'd like to come up and run that thing the way it should be and get it through the courts as it should be."

JB: Now this is in the early 1950's, I think, maybe. (19)

HCS: I'm not sure quite when that was. Yes, I would say probably then. But anyway, I said, "Well, Estelle, as far as I'm concerned the darn thing is died and is buried. But if you want to bring it back to life, come right up." So that was a challenge for Estelle. She was just all for doing things like that.

JB: And she rose to the challenge, didn't she?

HCS: She rose to it and boy did she crack the whip on people. Those on the Board that she didn't like, she said, I'm going to have to do it anyway. They didn't always like her. But eventually she got it through the Supreme Court.

Every...they didn't...they wouldn't pass it in the Connecticut courts, she had to get it up to the Supreme Court of the United States.

JB: And it turned out to be the basis for Roe vs. Wade, too?

HCS: Yes.

JB: Wasn't it? The privacy argument which was the argument that was used successfully in Griswold vs. Connecticut. . .

HCS: Yes.

JB: Was the same argument that was later used for Roe vs. Wade. So very important legislative achievement.

HCS: It was important. But it was finally passed with great rejoicing. Well, now of course, we are having trouble all over again. Now that the administration is in and...they are not going to give any money for foreign information.

JB: For anyone for birth control overseas, if they are performing abortions, I guess is the. . .

HCS: It's amazing.

JB: It is amazing. Sometimes you think you've made progress. . .

HCS: And wonder if you'll ever see the end of it. But now they vigorously want more and more money because we've got to work harder. There is one group, that for years, a private group, I've contributed to it for years and years...I can't think of the name right now...that does have clinics in various countries, but they are small and they can't begin to do the job that needs to be done.

JB: Scratch the surface. Let's go back, back track a little bit, because during the time that you were running the clinic, you also met and married your husband. So let's talk a little bit about that.

HCS: I had not known him beforehand. I'd heard of him in Hartford, but I had not known him. And I met him through a doctor who was a neighbor of ours who took us...who asked if I'd like to go to the medical meeting. And I said, "Yes, I'd love to Dr. Rowley." And so I met him there.

JB: And his name?

HCS: And I think he wasn't impressed at all because I think I must have worn a white suit and he thought that was just not quite the thing to do. That was a doctor's thing and you sort of don't run your flag up or something. And he was one who would never, so he said later, marry a nurse because he thought there would be some conflict medically. I just don't know just what, but anyway. But it

went on. And the place I really met him was coming back on the train from Chicago. Medical meetings were in Chicago in early December and mother and sister were well enough so I could go away. And I went to the meeting and was sitting in the train reading, three doctors came through, whom I knew outside because I been to doctor/hospital things, and they went along and one of them apparently said, "Why don't you, Myles, why don't you go back and ask her to come and have dinner with us?" And I did.

JB: So your husband's name was Myles Standish?

HCS: Myles Standish. And then we came back and they left me at the train where I had my seat and went and to play bridge. And the pretty soon he was sent back because, "Well, why don't you ask her to join us for bridge and we'll have a fourth?" Well I hated bridge so I was no good at it but I won, that evening. I think maybe that made the difference on whether we got married or not. But then I really met him when I was on that train trip. And then I saw him at other meetings and things and began, and finally I invited him to come to our cottage at the shore for over the weekend.

JB: So it wasn't love at first sight, you kind of gradually came to. . .

HCS: Well, I liked him, but I don't think he liked me, I mean he was very questioning about whether this woman doctor would make a mother. He wanted children.

JB: Oh, he had kind of an attitude about the woman doctor?

HCS: Uh huh. But it was just in the background. He was going with a girl from the Midwest, I don't know how he met her. Through Wesleyan probably.

JB: Well, you were a beautiful woman at the time, so I would think that you might have stolen his heart, I have a photo of you in 1938, a little bit later but it...you were quite a beauty.

HCS: Oh, well, thank you. I didn't think I was a beauty but I really tried, you always try to get dressed up when you're going to have a picture taken, you know. Anyway.

JB: Sure. So anyway, eventually, you did fall in love and you got married in 1936.

HCS: 1936. And in 1937 Nancy was born. In 1939, Myles, Junior, in 1941 Susan, 1943, Jerry and these were all planned parenthood, of course, [laugh] planned pregnancies. And then there was an interval of five years before Rick was born in '48. Rather recently the children said, "Gee, I guess that was a mistake, Mom." I said, "That wasn't a mistake. I had a couple of miscarriages in between 'till Rick was born and fortunately he was not born with the Down's Syndrome, which we did not recognize was a rather real possibility for the older women, because I was forty-six when Rick was born.

JB: So that wasn't well known at the time then, that that was a risk.

HCS: No. Well, it was in the background. . .

JB: Sure.

HCS: I probably would have gone ahead anyway and taken a chance [unclear] family.

JB: That's kind of a great story, that the director of the family planning clinic was suspected of having made a mistake.

HCS: Well actually I testified once when Susan, when I was pregnant six months with Susan, obviously pregnant, I was testifying in the legislature and when I went to a meeting some years ago, an anniversary of some thing for Planned Parenthood, didn't they have that photo all around the room. [laugh] That was a fine thing to put around there. [laughter]

JB: Well, it was kind of ironic.

HCS: It was a bit.

JB: A pregnant woman waving the flag for birth control.

HCS: Didn't I know enough about it? Well, I did because I had all I wanted.

JB: Sure.

HCS: In those days it was all right to have five children. You know, it didn't cost quite what it does now-a-days.

JB: Now was that controversial, that period of time when you were testifying before the legislature.

HCS: Oh yes.

JB: Your name was in the paper.

HCS: Oh yes. I got a whole scrapbook full of stuff that I've got to get in order some day, I tore out. Because the Catholics were still high and mighty and what they would get, one woman got up and said, "I have a petition here from 500 women." Maybe it's 300, saying that we could not have anything as awful as that. So, it was that type of nasty...

JB: Sure. And did you feel that personally? Did you feel hostility directed toward you because of your. . .

HCS: We knew we were going to have it. We all did. Planned Parenthood people were here and others were over here and we came early to the legislature and we didn't have a seat anywhere.

JB: Was it difficult for you to do that?

HCS: No.

JB: Felt like you were at risk?

HCS: I had spent a lot of time lecturing anyway so that was not difficult.

JB: Okay.

HCS: And I tried to make it short.

JB: What was your husband's attitude toward this advocacy?

HCS: That's all right. He agreed with me. And agreed that we'd go through with it. . .

JB: So he was supportive.

HCS: Yes. He was supportive.

JB: Because during this period of time, you were very busy at home with five, over that period bearing and raising. . .

HCS: Fortunately, as a dermatologist he had almost no housecalls. And very few patients ever in the hospital. So he could take care of the children while I went lecturing here and there and elsewhere. (20)

JB: I was going to ask how you juggled those responsibilities?

HCS: Well, I did have help in the house in those days, most of the time. In the early years, wonderful help. Swedish people who would stay. We had a couple...because we had built the house so that, being a mile from the bus, I said that we've got to have a place where a couple can live. Rather than a single woman. And so we had two in the [unclear] off the kitchen and the backstairs went up to the second floor and so forth. So that was a good arrangement.

JB: So it was a good set up for that kind of thing.

HCS: The early ones took care of the children so if I wanted to go away and we'd get somebody and that worked out, but they got poorer and poorer in caliber till I had to fire a couple of them. One of them began stealing things from the attic.

JB: Now why do you suppose that was? Why do you think the caliber of people changed? Was there something about. . .

HCS: Well, they thought they didn't want to live there and I don't know, they weren't getting enough money or something, I'm not sure. We had some that were fine. But, every now and then they were awful. I had one who, the husband looked white, she was decidedly black and a nice person, but he said, "I can't take

it because we can't go out together anywhere here. We've got to move somewhere else. We'll probably live in New York or Boston or San Francisco or Hawaii."

JB: They were facing discrimination here. Interesting. Now, I did have an opportunity to see the Life magazine article in 1954. It was, I came across a reference to it at the Schlessinger Library, but I didn't find it there. They have it in West Hartford Center. And so I got it out and looked at it and it is a wonderful photographic spread of your family on a typical Saturday night in 1954.

HCS: That was a great time, and all of those people were there at the same time, four or five of them. I was having a dinner party, the children were off here and there and I have in my records [laughter] that they stayed overnight, I don't know how I got them overnight. But then they wanted to take a picture of us going off to church the next morning. That was one of the better pictures but then they decided family Saturday night, so they couldn't use it.

JB: So they didn't use your church picture. How did that come about? How did that article come about?

HCS: That was the man who started the West Hartford News who had an apartment down near Hartford Hospital, where our clinic was. And he got to know me and he let them know in New York, there was a family that he thought...they'd been asked to pick a family who was...that they could have an article about. And he...Bice Clemow is the name I was trying to think of.

JB: Sure.

HCS: And so Bice recommended us and I thought, well, I don't know, but I guess so, so we wanted to cooperate and we did it. And they came up. Four or five people came. Because they followed the children, the ones who were going off to the birthday party and the ones who were lying on their stomachs doing stamp-collecting and two of them were waiting on tables for me because we were entertaining a group of neighbors. And it was a pretty wild evening, I must say.

JB: Well, it certainly depicts a portrait of a happy family, united, and it shows you in the domestic sphere rather than in the professional sphere.

HCS: Yes.

JB: So it's an interesting picture, I think, with the backdrop of all of your professional achievements to see that you also were able to balance that happy, healthy household.

HCS: And they still are happy, and healthy and we've gotten together now for our 14th year and we're signed for the 15th to have a family reunion.

JB: Isn't that great.

HCS: Family camp at Little Sebago Lake near Portland, Maine where every family has a cabin. Every cabin faces the lake. Bathing beach, picnic beach, full drawn lobster picnic Friday nights, and so forth.

JB: And you do that every year?

HCS: We do that every year the last week of June. Because there are so many of us it's the only time they can take. . .

JB: Wonderful. Wonderful.

HCS: And it's easier the beginning of the summer, more people can come. And there always are some who can't, of course, but twenty of us stay for a week. Almost always it's twenty. And then the others come and go as they want to. And I said, "Well, wouldn't you like to go somewhere else? I mean, feel free." And, "Oh no, Mom this is the place where we can all be together and have a great time."

JB: Isn't that wonderful.

HCS: Of course, it's mostly get together for happy hour and meals, family meals, long tables, food passed around and you have it at a certain time and they want you to come on time. And so we do. But we have a happy hour right before. Either on the beach if they've gotten back from playing golf now-a-days, or in whatever cabin has the largest screened in porch. The cabins all have a screened in porch

and a livingroom, and an old wood stove or a fireplace. So, they're delightful.

They're rustic. Very rustic. [laughter]

JB: That's a great family ritual.

HCS: It's a great place to be.

JB: Now, I don't want to forget about the work that you did promoting sex education in the schools. Can you talk a little bit about that? Because that is still a controversial area even today.

HCS: Yes.

JB: Isn't it?

HCS: Well, I decided I could talk to parents often and actually put words in their mouths that they could use if they wanted to explain parts of the body and how things work. Because they're all so embarrassed and if you can get it going on simple terms, and if the child asks embarrassing questions at the dinner table, tell them, that's a wonderful question, but save it and ask me at bedtime when I have time to talk to you about it. It was that type of thing. But where do babies come from? Well, a stork doesn't drop them and then you can always think of things that people say happens, but you can just say it grows inside of the mother, and not the stomach, inside of the uterus, which is adjacent, and comes out through the opening between the legs as it expands. And a lot of them, if they've ever seen animals born, that's a great help because they've seen the same type of thing, you see.

JB: And when you would go into the schools, would you talk to a classroom of students or how would it be?

HCS: I'd talk to the girls first and it was about the fifth grade and I was invited to start talking to them at the Whiting Lane School. At that time, the girls had to have written permission to get in the auditorium to hear this terrible speech that I was going to give. The girls who were Catholics went to the library because their

families would not let them come. And I'm sure they found out more about it than any of the others. But they felt free in their own small group to ask questions more, again, I explained, and we had a very fine simple diagrammatic film about the sex, issues of sex, how babies are born and so forth.

JB: So you were teaching them about the changes that would happen in their bodies during adolescence?

HCS: Yes. Adolescence.

JB: And a little bit about how babies are born?

HCS: Yes. The film helped a great deal for them to sort of see what, in diagram, what happens.

JB: How did your own children react to their mother being the prominent teacher of sex education in the school?

HCS: How did who?

JB: How did your own children react to that?

HCS: Oh well, Nancy said one time, "Oh, you never said a word to me until I was a Girl Scout." I said, "Nancy, you're just crazy." Rick one time, the youngest one, I was going to do some errands and I stopped I said, "Rick, wait, I'm going to go in just a minute and get some African Violets." And he said, "Why don't you bring back a baby?" And I thought, "Did I ever teach my own children anything?"

[laughter]

JB: That's a funny story. When you were an adolescent, was there someone who stepped up and told you about the facts of life? Or did you just kind of muddle through it?

HCS: Oh, no, in deed. It wasn't mentioned.

JB: It wasn't mentioned.

HCS: Wasn't mentioned. And at that time, of course, there was nothing like even Kotex to be used. There was just diaper material. Which you saw a mother put in the bathtub and where did all that blood come from, that kind of thing.

JB: So she'd wash it every month. Oh my goodness. And so when a young woman would begin menstruating she might not have any idea what was happening to her?

HCS: That's right. And she had to know. And about what time, you can't predict of course, completely. But that there will be some spotting, just a little bit for a while and then in another day or two it would be fairly profuse and then it would stop again after a bit. And some might have a little bit of discomfort, some had more, I didn't tell them that. But a lot of people sail through it and it's normal. And then from then on, of course, when the egg was developing in the follicles that they were, it had to be joined by the part from the man's body, the boy's body, to be a baby. There was some of that explanation.[Unclear]

JB: And that was the part that was controversial, I guess, the parents didn't want you to. . .

HCS: Oh, every part of it was controversial. [laughter]

JB: Was it?

HCS: For some people.

JB: And yet you were welcomed into the school over a number of years, so there must have been people who were as supportive as there were people who were not?

HCS: Well, people mostly, it was to PTA meetings and to church groups of women, almost always and that was a good group to get together. They were having their business meetings and refreshments afterwards and so forth. I got smart at the end and said, "Well, may I please talk first and you can have your refreshments later." I had one time when I waited one hour while they discussed

everything from how to raise money to get new coffee pots to this and that. And I was off somewhere in the middle of Connecticut and had to get back home at night late, but I didn't catch on to that point until quite late, which was unfortunate.

[laughter] But I didn't have any trouble.

JB: Let's reflect a little bit on your life and your career in particular. If you had it to do all over again, would you do anything differently from the way you did it?

HCS: I don't know. I've been very happy. It seems to me everything turns out right. I don't think I would have, probably Myles and I wouldn't have been interested in each other if we had met earlier. In fact, he had an aunt who, when he went to New York to get his education in dermatology, like a residency, his aunt who knew several people in New York, several women, gave him the names of some of them. And I was at the beginning of the second page and he never got to the second page. And he was very regretful afterwards, but I think it was a good idea. But we used to, I lived with a group of five gals in a small apartment. A walk-up place. And Sunday nights we'd say to some of the guys that we knew in the class and if they wanted to come along and have a sandwich or something on Sunday evening. Well, Myles was very fond of food and he regretted very much that he hadn't come there and joined us, and looked me up, so he'd be able to come to Sunday evening. [laughter]. And to this day, I think it was wise that. . .

JB: It was probably good that that didn't happen.

HCS: We may not have cared for each other at that time.

JB: Sure. And you wouldn't have some of the experiences that you did have.

HCS: That's true.

JB: China.

HCS: It turned out that way. If I had stayed in China I would have enjoyed the life of medical but I should have had more training in gynecology. We did Caesarian sections and things like that but. . .

JB: Do you think you didn't have enough training in gynecology?

HCS: Not in gynecology, I just did pure obstetrics. See, I was in an obstetrical hospital and they gave us what we needed there. But now-a-days you have to really have both.

JB: So what advice would you give a young woman today who wanted to follow in your footsteps and go into obstetrics and gynecology?

HCS: Well, it's a long process, but you've got to be thorough in it. You've got to do the obstetrical training. You've got to know a lot about gynecology, which means surgical training. And it's a long process. Now-a-days I could not possibly practice obstetrics. I could not do these intra-uterine things that they are doing now. Pull the baby out for a bit and operate on the baby and put it back in again. I cringe to think of a flaw.

JB: Well that, that must be a very highly specialized thing. Every obstetrician doesn't do that.

HCS: No, everyone doesn't do that. But, you have to, well, it's much more complicated now than it was, you have to have a great deal more training. Then I got along with the one year. Now it would be two or three anyway.

JB: How many babies do you think you've delivered in your lifetime?

HCS: Well, I didn't deliver many, because it was just the ones in China.

JB: In China.

HCS: I didn't deliver any here, you see, I didn't set up an obstetrical practice. But I have decided, honestly, that I think perhaps I did more good by what I did in sex education and Planned Parenthood than deliver a few thousand babies. I mean that's kind of a mechanical thing unless once in a while you're in trouble. But most of the time I mean they let them go along until the nurse calls you and says, "Come on, it's time to get there to catch the baby before it comes."

JB: Well, the work that you did in Planned Parenthood certainly was groundbreaking kind of work and even though Estelle Griswold was the one who was at the forefront at the time the legislation was passed, all that work had been done beforehand by you and by Katherine Hepburn. So it was a collective effort certainly.

HCS: Dr. Buxton was very much for it and did a lot, so it was a Griswold/Buxton law, or not law, but decision.

JB: How did it feel when that decision finally came down?

HCS: Oh did we celebrate!

JB: Did you? Wonderful.

HCS: I don't remember now, but I'm sure we did. [laugh]

JB: That's wonderful.

HCS: It was great rejoicing. Well, now we've had to weep a number of times since and we're weeping all over again right now.

JB: Isn't it something?

HCS: With the Bush administration.

JB: It is. What accomplishment in your life are you most proud of?

HCS: Pardon me?

JB: What accomplishment in your life are you most proud of?

HCS: Perhaps the fact that I have seriously tried all of my life to be helpful to other people, because that's one reason I went into the mission field, one reason I continued in that, a feeling that the collateral sort of thing, that sex education was also important. And because now I am doing the best I can at age 100 to visit people who are sick up at St. Mary and so forth. And I can't do much in the church now. I do go pretty regularly. But I can only get a few things and give as much money as I can which isn't very great, but I am paying for having some

railings put on to the entrance to the chapel [laughter] because I don't want to stumble down it.

JB: Well, that's interesting because that is a consistent thread throughout your life, isn't it? From that early moment when as a little girl the minister inspired you to do the missionary work and you really have throughout your life done things that helped people.

HCS: Well, I try now to. I mean visit people up at St. Mary and I try very seriously to keep in good health. I have excellent health. And I've been told by the cardiologist last week, "Come again next year," as he's told me from one year after the other.

JB: Well you are very fortunate.

HCS: And I am grateful to him for that, or grateful that medications are available to take care of whatever I have. And then it leaves me to be vigorous. So I still go down four flights, I live on the fifth floor of a retirement complex. I go down four flights every morning and then back up four flights. And then of course, I walk from the 'B' building to the 'A' building, which is a fair distance. I do use a walker because it is a little quicker but I don't actually have to, I could get there on foot without anything. There are rails on the way.

JB: Well, it's wonderful to be 100 years old and to have such perfect health and to be able to look back on a life that is well lived and to be able to look forward. I think that the thing about your life is that it has always been a matter of looking forward.

HCS: Well, I've just come back this last summer from Iceland, a trip with my younger daughter (and my middle son and his wife and my youngest son) in a group of twenty to Iceland and Greenland. And I'm just sorting the slides now to show those because every time I take a trip, I do show them at the, in the auditorium at McCauley. People like to hear them, see them, and hear the

comments on them. And I have 30 (carousels) on my shelf in...over in my apartment. There's one or two where there's two for one trip or something like that. But that's fun to do.

JB: You're planning a trip to Ireland next year?

HCS: But I've also made a down payment for myself and my younger daughter who always goes with me. I never travel alone. She lost her husband some years ago, and we are going to Ireland next summer.

JB: That's great.

HCS: And then I said, well, then I will plan for beyond that because I'm going to be able to go to my 80<sup>th</sup> reunion at Wellesley in 2004.

JB: That's wonderful!

HCS: I don't know any reason why I can't. And I've also ordered that I just don't wake up one morning when the time comes. [laugh] I can't imagine having some crippling thing and not being able to do what you wanted to do.

JB: I know.

HCS: It just breaks my heart to see people who have to do that. And that can't do, that would like to do other things. Aren't able to.

JB: That doesn't seem to be a problem for you. You've got wonderful energy and wonderful enthusiasm for life and I want to thank you for this interview and wish you well on your trip to Ireland and your Wellesley reunion.

HCS: Well, they all come to my rescue if something happened, like yesterday when I got a fire in my apartment. All of a sudden my son appeared over, they notified him. I said, "Don't let Rick come because I'm all right and whatever happens to the apartment can be fixed." And next I knew, they took me in the ambulance to Hartford Hospital. Rick and his wife came. And I mean that sort of thing, the family does, if you need them they are there. I'm going to one of them for Thanksgiving and the others I go to early for Christmas and then they come

back to my apartment, or back to McCauley for dinner. That works out. The others live too far, but they get together. The two in Oregon are getting together. My daughter in Portland, Oregon is going to Medford with her older sister.

JB: Good.

HCS: Because she can't be with her children, one who's in Charlotte, Pennsylvania, no, North Carolina and the other, who is presently in South Africa on an exchange thing. So he couldn't go down there very well.

JB: Well, you have lots of blessings to be thankful for, haven't you?

HCS: I do. And the fact that we can get together and that they want to get together. And they're like a bunch of puppies, calling each other by their silly nicknames that they had as children, you know. And doing things. Pulling jokes on each other always.

JB: Great fun. Well, thank you so much for this interview, Dr. Standish.

HCS: Well, I'm very glad to do it. I just am so grateful to all that I have had over the years. I just hope to be able to continue.

JB: A good way to feel. Thank you very much.

[END OF INTERVIEW]