

Forms to be Filled out for Each Interview

FOLKLOPE

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FORM A

NEW YORK

Circumstances of Interview

STATE **New York**  
NAME OF WORKER **Vivian Morris**  
ADDRESS **225 W. 130th Street**  
DATE **June 29, 1939**  
SUBJECT **Harlem.**

1. Date and time of interview
2. Place of interview
3. Name and address of informant
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

(Use as many additional sheets as necessary, for any of the forms, each bearing the proper heading and the number to which the material refers.)

## FORM C

FOLKLORE

TEXT OF INTERVIEW (UNEDITED)

NEW YORK

STATE           **New York**  
 NAME OF WORKER   **Vivian Morris**  
 ADDRESS           **225 W. 130th Street**  
 DATE             **June 29, 1939**  
 SUBJECT          **Harlem**

DARE TO BE A DEVIL

Standing by a purpose true,  
     Heeding God's command,  
 Honor them the faithful few,  
     All hail to Daniel's Band!

Many mighty men are lost,  
     During not to stand,  
 Who for God had been a host  
     By joining Daniel's Band.

Many Giants great and tall,  
     Stalking thru the land,  
 Headlong to the earth would fall  
     If met by Daniel's Band.

Hold the Gospel banner high!  
     On to victory grand,  
 Satan and his host defy,  
     And shout for Daniel's Band.

Dare to be a Daniel,  
     Dare to stand alone,  
 Dare to have a purpose firm,  
     Dare to make it known.

Yeah, man, we ain' been doin' so well in this here coat n' dress job. An' I kin say fum my own person'l experience us cullud people ain' been doin' so well in other kinds a wuk. I kin see y' knows that already, an' I kin not tell y' so much 'bout that. Y' know how we does fer ourselves in any kinda business. Well, if y' wants to know my experience I'll tell ya.

I been wukkin' in this coat establishment fer onta twelve years. A friend of mine give the job t' me when he quit. He said he can't stan' it no more, he gotta leave. I cum up fum Charleston with my wife an' kid so I took it. I been put into the shippin' department doin' all kinds a wuk. An, man, I learnt ev'ry thing there wuz t' learn. They takes me out an' shoves me into th' fac'try. I learnt that too. Learnt how t' run the machines n' take a dishin' out th' wuk proper. I wuz all aroun' help to th' foreman. I know his wuk, too. In fac' I does his wuk fer a coupla hours ev'ry mornin'.

I gets \$16 a week now. Been wukkin here fer 12 years an' gets a dollar raise - only one goddam dollar. I know the job. I know it inside an' out. I practic'ly runs the place. The foreman's outa the place gabbin' wit' th' boss fer hours an' says t' me -- "Man, y' take care of the wuk. I depends on ya. I knows y' kid do it!" An' so he leaves an' I gotta go trampin' up n' back fum th' shippin' room to th' fact'ry, fixin' machines an' shippin' an' dishin' out wuk fer about 25 folk. They ain' never give me a chance t' wuk on 'em machines. Why? 'Cuz they keeps me fer th' laborin' end a the wuk. An' why? 'Cuz I know as well as you becuz a my culla. I ain' never got a half a chance t' make some damn decent dough. Yeh, I remember when I gets th' job th' boss wants t' give me 12 bucks an' I says this ain' fair; I got a wife an' kid. How 'm I gonna get along on 12 bucks. I argues with him an' then he comes across with 15 bucks.

I know I'm worth more. I know every job on my finger tips an' I even show others how t' do the job but I ain' never got no chance an' I don' expect none fum this joint. -- The foreman comes in about 10 every day when he's supposed t' be here at 8:30. An' me? I know the wuk's gotta get out so I comes in at 8 instead a 8:30 like I'm supposed to t' get the wuk done. He gets \$75 a week t' be foreman an' I gets \$16 an' I does some a his wuk. First he asks me t' help him out wit' his wuk an' I wants t' be agreeable an' does it. That's a long time ago. Now he never asks me but expects me t' do it, an' I gotta or else.-----

I think they don' want me t' do operatin' wuk on the machine. I'd hafta join the union an' get more pay. They don' like that, no man. The don' like payin' if they don' have to if they kin get away wit' it. I'll tell y' sumthin'. Once I needed a coupla bucks an' asks th' boss t' lend me 2. He lend it t' me very nice. Next week I comes t' pay him back an' he says fer me t' keep it 'cuz I deserves it. I says no I don' want it. I ain' askin' fer a han' out. If he thinks I deserve it why don' he give me it eve y week at th' proper time on Saturday. He didn' like it much. I tol' him jus' like that. Of course I didn't get it.

Yeh, man; I'm on my vacation fer a week. This's been the first one since I been here. Maybe I oughta thank him, huh? But I don' think I feels like thakin' him fer somethin' I shoulde got every year.

They ain' fair -- an' that ain' the half a it. There was a strike an' the boss tried t' use me durin' the strike. No go---n. man!

I ain' gettin' gixed up again' the union. I ain' gonna do no strikebreakin' at all. They's strikin' fer what they wants that's why they join the union.

I gotta get back t' wuk Monday. Wukkin' fum 8 t' 6 an' 7 an' 8 when it gets busy. The boss says t' me t' be in early Monday because

4-

ther's lotsa wuk an' it's gettin' busy an' the foreman is gohna be on a vacation.

No, mam; you knows this ain' fair t' us but whata y' gonna do, huh? Somethin's gotta be done--I knows that. This here's discrimination t' us cullud people. We gotta do ev'ry thin' an' get paid least. We knows th' job as well as any an 'em but they don' give us a chance t' do th' same wuk. The situation ain' good. Somethin's t' be done.

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