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ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM
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Dorian Langi

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INTRODUCTION

Dorian Langi was interviewed by Chinez Chukwurah on 16 October 1984. Mrs. Langi was originally from Molokai. She later came to Oahu and obtained her primary education in Honolulu and then attended the Church College of Hawaii and there met her husband. At the time of the interview, they lived in the Laie community and were actively involved in its affairs.

The interview discusses the various highlights of Dorian Langi's life. She notes some of the activities she was involved in while a student at CCH and related her opinion on the contrast of the school then and now. She also offers insight into her family life and her active involvement in the LDS Church and the Laie community.

Chinez Chukwurah
Student

Note

This interview was conducted by Chinez Chukwurah as part of a class assignment in History 120. She selected the topic and narrator and also did the transcribing and some of the editing. The auditing was done by a classmate. The final typing was done by the secretary of our Oral History Program, Alice Tay.

Because we tried to get the transcripts into the hands of the participating students and narrators as quickly as possible there may be errors that otherwise would not be permitted. Our apologies for presenting a less-than-perfect transcript, but this does enable us to get interviews that might otherwise be lost.

For most of the students this was their first interview and while they were surprised at how much work was involved they were pleased with the results of learning not only about the subject matter covered but the development of a skill at the same time.

Kenneth W. Baldrige, Director
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Laie, Hawaii
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INT Today is October 16, 1984. I'm going to interview Mrs. Dorian Langi and I'm going to ask her a few questions about her background and her experiences in Hawaii. Mrs. Langi, would you tell me about your early years in Hawaii?

DL I was brought to Hawaii when I was eighteen months old. My mother and father were going to school on the mainland. I was brought to the island of Molokai and was really raised by my grandparents when my parents went to school here at the University of Hawaii. I was the oldest of four children- one sister and two brothers. I started my schooling on the first English speaking school on Molokai called Holomua. Then, I moved to Honolulu and went to school by the name of Maemae. When I finished sixth grade at Maemae [school], I transferred into Kamehameha [school] and I was there until I graduated and went to Church College.

While in school, I was active in scouting, mostly girls scouting and music. I was also part of the drama and speech club while in high school. My mother is an art teacher, she's a specialist. She teaches other teachers how to teach art. Because of her influence on us, my brothers and sister and myself, we had among us a lot of art materials. We were allowed to work with ceramics or drawing and painting. We did lot with sculpturing and all kinds of different projects that you would work with art. Because I was raised by my grandmother, she taught me how to sew more of the homemaking skills that women of today need.

I had an influential teacher as I grew up. She was my teacher in the seventh grade; she was a very popular teacher. The thing that I remember from her was that when she wanted to correct the mistakes that I was doing or other people in the class, she would give the right positive side of it and I learnt many things from that. When I was in high school, I had two very special friends, one by the name of Barbara Chun and another girl by the name of Joanne Lao. I had a roommate while I was boarding at Kam School and her name was Jerry Kinney. We became very good friends and then later on she became a cousin of mine because her uncle married my auntie.

We lived on the beach and because of that we spent all our weekends on the beach. We would invite all our cousins to come down. Some weekends we would have as many as five or six families in the home for the whole weekend and we did- we grew up doing the kinds of things which you would do on the beach which is sand, sculpturing, doing a lot of playing in the sand, swimming a lot, boating and canoeing.

During my sixth grade, my grandmother rewarded me by taking me with them to Canada, parts of Alaska and parts of the United States. I remember that the most exciting part of that trip was being able to go through Canada and into Glacier Park which was really frozen water, it was too cold to really swim in Glacier Park which was really frozen water, it was too cold to really swim in. I remember my first time seeing the snow and actually walking in snow bare-footed, didn't last

very long and walking in the snow bare-footed, didn't last very long and playing with chipmunks, seeing 'old faithful' and how smelly it was and meeting different cousins all over United States.

My social life as a teenage was mostly at our home, on the beach. We invited a lot of because we lived in the country and I went to school in town- we incited a lot of friends down and also a lot of cousins. Most of my social life was spent plating with cousins or visiting with friends in our home on the weekends. We played hide- and- seek and volleyball and swam all weekend.

When I was younger, I didn't really hold any real jobs except for babysitting for neighbors and friends. I started really working after I had graduated from high school. I worked at Liberty House in sales for a couple of summers. Then I worked in a restaurant at Laniloa In at that time, and I worked in the college in the cafeteria and I also worked at the Polynesian Cultural Center in the reservations office and started to dance in the show for just a very short time.

INT Mrs. Langi, it sounds like you had quite an interesting experience growing up on your early years. I think we forgot to talk about your birthday. Would you please tell me when you were born, place and the situation then?

DL I was born on December 12, 1947 in Rapid City, South Dakota. My mother at that time was on her way home to give birth to me here but she didn't make it so she stopped at her sister's place in Rapid City and had me there and then three weeks later, she brought me home to Molokai.

INT Thank you. Mrs. Langi, you talked about going to the beach and everything, would you tell me where the beach and everything, would you tell me where the beach was and your community and other events that took place then?

DL Okay. When I was younger, my parents have a place in Puunui which is right below Nuuanui Pali. My father because he was working at Bishop Nuuanui Pali had the opportunity to pick up a beach home in the country. So we purchased a home in Punaluu and after while it got to be too expensive to commute between the home in Honolulu and the home in the country, so we just stayed in the home in the country on the weekends. My father wanted to fish a lot more so we gave up the home in Honolulu and we moved entirely into the home in Punaluu, so we grew up in Punaluu. Because I grew up in Punaluu most of the children on this side of the island were going to Kahuku for school or Hauula School. My parents didn't want any of us to go to these schools and besides I was going to Kam School at that time. So my brothers were sent to Radford High School because my mother was teaching at Aliamanu School. My sister was entering Kam School and I was already at Kam School. Because of that we really didn't get to know very many of the children in the neighborhood around us. There was one other family that lived down the street that we knew about but their boys also went to Kam School so we hung around them because we all went to Kam School.

INT So, Mrs Langi did you serve a mission since you are an LDS now?

DL No, I did not serve a mission. My husband baptized me, approximately a year before we were married and the new were married and we started a family. Right now in church, I'm married and we started a family. Right now in church, I'm the stake Primary President and I'm really enjoying it. I happened to love primary and the children and I think it's one of the most fun callings. I think the most fun thing about being on the stake is that what you're doing is teaching other people how to be successful in their callings in the church and I think it's really fun to be able to see other people succeed. I am also on the ward level serving as the advancement chairman for the scout troop and I serve as a visiting teacher in the Relief Society.

INT So, how much time does your position take with the busy working schedule you currently hold?

DL I spend lot of time in fact, all my extra time doing my church working whether it's scouting or helping my husband with his calling or my primary work. In fact, I had to have my children help me fulfill some of my calling by helping me with making visual aids, helping take care of their younger brothers and sisters, helping to cook the meals so that our family can function as a family.

INT From what you said, I figured that you don't have any other job apart from Church work. Do you work?

DL At home, I baby-sit during the day. Sometimes some days up to twelve children but I usually try to keep it under ten. I really feel that eight children is an ideal amount to work with and I prefer them to be around two years old because they are so cute and fun. They like to do all kinds of fun things. Other than that, also do a lot of community services. I serve on the Laie Community Association as just a board member and this past year I was able to go before the City Council and fight a park that is going to be built in our community. I am also an active member of Four H club. I lead a group called the 'Sweet Melodies' and assist in a group called the 'Purple Pansies'. My daughter, my eight year old is also a brownie troop and I do all I can to help that brownie group to be successful.

INT Do you get paid for all this work or do you volunteer just to do it?

DL I do get paid for the baby sitting that I do, most of it. I do baby sit for the temple and what I do is, I baby sit families that come in from outer islands or from the mainland or from Japan. When the temple calls me or these people call me, I baby sit them for free. That's my feeling that I can help to get them to go to the temple. Other than that, I do baby sit for money. Now, I my other community services where I work on the community association or in Four H or in scouting or brownies, I don't get paid for. But I feel that the joy of success when we complete

something or when a child or a young girl has been able to succeed in a project is paying itself.

INT Let's go back and talk about your college. Where did you say again you went to school and why?

DL I went to the BYU [Hawaii campus] which was then called the Church College of Hawaii, and the real reason I went there was because it was close to home and my parents felt that I could- it would be an east drive for me or I could even ride my bike down if necessary. In those days there were no buses going back and forth as there are right now.

INT So, how did you manage to go into town from Laie which is so far from the town? If you had a project in town to commit, how did you get about doing it?

DL Well, either my father or my mother had to drive me. By the time I entered college I did have my driver's license so they would lend me a car. Now, my grandparents who kind of raised me, they are my mother's parents in my second year of college gave me a car to use. So, I had a big Chevrolet that I was able to run around with and go back and forth between the college and home or do anything in town that I needed to do.

INT You were quite lucky, weren't you? So, what was your major?

DL While I was in the Church College, I majored in Elementary Education and finished off my degree in Elementary Education. My club activities- I was part of the Tongan Club and that's how I met my husband was through being part of this club and in their activities.

INT To me it feels like you weren't into so many clubs. You didn't join so many clubs; you were just in the Tongan Club, right? So what else did you do to occupy your time?

DL The reason I really didn't join too many school activities was that I was working outside of school to earn enough money to go to school. So, I didn't spend a lot of my time in extra curricular activities. I spent most of my time working studying.

INT So didn't that jeopardize your social life in school?

DL Its kind of did. Most of my dates were in the library and I remember some of the dates when the library would close at night, we would rush down to the small little snack bar that was there and share a package of French fries.

INT Were you involved in any religious activities and could you tell me your experience if you were?

- DL Most of the time I was a student; I was not a member of the Church. It wasn't until just before I got married that I was baptized just about a year before and I went to Church and at that time worked in the nursery and served as Sunday school teacher. I served in Relief Society as a teacher for just a very, very short time. Then I was married and we moved off-campus and then I moved immediately into primary positions.
- INT So, you got married before you graduated from school?
- DL Yes, we got married approximately two years before I was ready to graduate from school; I was serving in a ward position and also going to school.
- INT So, how did you feel to be a married woman going to school at the same time?
- DL At that time, it seemed really easy and I guess it just seemed really really natural. My husband was dancing in the show at PCC. I was working at Laniloa Inn and at the college and it just seemed like it was very very easy. We would see each other in the evenings when we came home but we didn't seem to really have any trouble, I didn't seem to have any trouble. My problem was trying to finish up school and get through with school.]
- INT So, you can be with your husband.
- DL Just to get it over and graduate, I think.
- INT Did you graduate with honors?
- DL No, not really was a B student.
- INT You graduated approximately fifteen years ago. Can you remember any of the highlights of your college days?
- DL I really can't remember the particular things, the really special things that happened. I guess maybe the ward luaus at the beach and going to a lot of dances. And I think learning that you really got when you are in high school, you have friends but there's a lot of pressure to act certain ways in things and then when you get to college it just seems like everybody becomes your friends, everybody is older and more matured and the social pressure is not as heavy in college as it was in high school.
- INT So were there any influential teachers and friends in your college days?
- DL I had one influential teacher. He was a religion teacher that I remember. His name was Craig Mayfield and he influenced me to become a member of the Church. Then there were other teachers that I had, like Brother Jerry Roundy who also

influenced me in becoming a member of the Church but I think my biggest influences came from my roommate when I was boarding in the dorms.

INT That's great. Did you have any indelible learning experiences while you were in the college, indelible experiences, something that you know you can't forget from your teachers.

DL I really don't think that there wasn't anything really in particular that I remember. There were things that I've learned from every single one of my professors. I know that when I was a freshman in college, I took a speech class from a man, a teacher by the name of Robert Donagon and those experiences now help me when I have to go in front of a large congregation to speak or when I have to go before the City Council to speak.

INT When you graduated from college, what were your key decisions?

DL Just before I graduated from college, I was sure that of course, I'll go and become an elementary school teacher and work for many many years. But, I got pregnant with our first child just before graduation and that really influenced me. I decide as soon as I had my first child that I did not want to go into the working field if I didn't have to. I wanted to be able to stay home with my children. Before that first child was born, I really thought that I would be able to have a career and to be able to – I guess what you might call 'get rich' or make a lot of money and be able to have my own home and lots of clothes and all kinds of things along that line and be able to have a career for myself. But I could see that as soon as I had that first child my ideas completely changed and I know that my place would be the home and that I would want to be with my child.

INT So, you didn't get into any advanced studying or something?

DL Right. What I did was I tried to work for what Elementary Education calls a fifth year. As I got into it I found that my child took a lot of my attention and needed a lot of time. So after a while, I just completely stopped that end of my education and just worked towards learning how to take care of my child.

INT So, what is this fifth year, what is it all about?

DL You have to have a fifth year to get into Elementary Education. You have to have five years, four years plus what they call a fifth year.

INT Oh, that's good, Mrs Langi, would you please tell me about your marriage and your family life?

DL One of the funny things when my husband and I were dating was that he was really dating one of my roommates and I was kind of chasing one of his friends. This other boy that I was chasing sort of liked my roommate also. She liked him

and so it was kind of a vicious triangle but then the triangle slowed down to just two of us and while we were performing in the Tongan Club, we got to know each other really good. What happened was that he was graduating and going into the Peace Corps and working on the island of Molokai which I was from. So, I wrote a letter to my grand-parents and asked them if they would give him one of my cars that were up there to use while he was up there. When he got up there, not only did they give him a car but they invited him and all his friends to come in and eat anytime they wanted to. So, he went over often to eat because he was always going back and forth to eat different things, my grandparents got to know him really well. We got to know each other really well. And that's how we started our courtship. I was still in school at that time but as soon as he finished his Peace Corps experience, we planned a wedding and we got married right here at Church College of Hawaii in the old cafeteria. Since we've been married we've had seven children – one boy, and six girls. The boy is the oldest and all six of the girls followed and the boy is fourteen and the girls are aged twelve, eleven, eight, six, three and a new baby that is only six months old.

INT Okay you have like seven kids and I can see that one of them is retarded. So how do you feel about having a retarded child?

DL Ok. Vienna, our three year old has cerebral palsy. She was six weeks overdue and they feel that the placenta must have pulled away from the uterus at that time and cut off the oxygen to her brain and so she was extremely delayed. At birth and over the first year or two she was a very very easy child to work with because she really was very placid and she would do anything that you wanted her to do. When she moved to her second year of life and into her third year of like, her demands have gotten very great; our worries for her have heightened too because of the fact that she is trying to learn how to walk. She has a log of falls so she has a lot of bumps on her head. She is trying to learn how to speak and trying to get along socially with other children. Her delay and parts of her body are beginning to develop and because of these things she's starting to look different. Her eyes sag and some of her muscles are very, very loose so it makes her look a little bit different than normal children. She also is very very slow when she does things but also she doesn't comprehend some of the things that she does. When she's hurting a child or irritating a child- a playmate of hers- she does not realize what she's doing. She also has a poor control- the brain controlling the different parts of her body and what she doesn't and so if she moves into something that she knows that is wrong like biting, it takes her a long time for her brain to realize that the mouth must open again to let go of her other child's finger. Vienna had become very difficult time-wise. We must spend a lot of time now with her, working with her constantly, trying to move her muscles and doing all kinds of things to help her improve and get her body working. Every night she has to go to sleep in a brace which she really hasn't fought off but in the morning- because her legs have been stiffly place in the brace, they are very sore and she does cry and we have to massage her and get her legs moving in the morning. We also have to spend a lot of time taking her to different therapists, different doctors, different

psychologists doing a lot of testing to make sure that we are doing the most that we can for her at this age, that she can develop as close to a normal human being as possible.

INT From what you said, I can see that Vienna is not doing badly and you have lots of kids. I mean seven kids, six girls and one boy, right? How do the other kids feel about her?

DL They don't feel that Vienna is any different from any other child. We constantly remind them that they have to also do their share to help Vienna to help her move, to help her with her walking, to repeat the words constantly so that she can learn some words and help her. They really do not treat her and they get upset when they have to do their share of getting her bathed, getting her dressed and they all try to do their best to help. If any time she does any kind of improvement, everybody is really happy for her.

INT Could you tell me a little bit of your family tradition?

DL I have not really bought that many family traditions. We celebrate Thanksgiving like American families do; we celebrate Christmas like Americans do. One of the things we don't do is – lots of people go out trick or treating on Halloween. Many, many years ago, we decided one night that for the safety of the children and because one night all the children came home from Halloween and they threw up all night- we decided to do away with all this candy trick or treating. So what we do on Halloween is we let the children dress up and we take them out to a nice restaurant, we have dinner there and come home after all the trick or treating is done. We do have a Christmas morning; we get together after all the presents are opened. The children could never stand to let us wait. We have a nice big Christmas breakfast. On New York, the tradition- we always have some kind of party soup to start the New Year Off right usually probably leftovers of the turkey from Christmas. We do like to go on a lot of picnics when my husband has a holiday or there's any kind of a holiday. We just gather everything we can, take a picnic with us, go down to the beach. We just enjoy eating at the beach. One of the things that we really do like is to go on ward camp. Every year, the different wards camp out at Kakela. One of the highlights of our year is to be able to take the family for a week or two, go out there and swim camp and do a lot of eating.

INT Were there any unusual hardships and trials in your family in the past years.

DL I've had several illnesses, I went through two miscarriages, and one was extremely rough. At one point I was tiring to pass a kidney stone and it took six months before they finally surgically removed it and it took two surgeries to remove it. My husband has his appendix removed. There was a period in my husband's life that he was out of work for almost a year, but really we have not had real hardships where we've had a death or a child that has been extremely ill. We've had little ones and I prefer it that way.

INT What about your finances?

DL Well, we were breaking even until we decided to buy our own home build our own home, since we bought our own home we have found it very, very difficult to get before the very very high mortgage that we had since we got into the loan market when the interest was starting to rise very, very high.

END OF SIDE A

SIDE B

DL So we found that we've had a very very little budget to live on for food, to provide our food for our family, clothing and other expenses. I like to talk a little bit about my hobbies right now; I like to work with clay and with my hands. I taught my girls and we do a lot of work with different kinds of needle craft. Working with embroidery, needlepoint, candle wicking. And we just about want to try any kinds of things. Right now, one of my daughters is working with soft sculpture while another is trying to finish off a project in candle wicking. I try to constantly have little projects around for the girls as whenever I get started into anything they also are there trying to do it too.

INT Are you involved of both PTA. My husband was the president of Kahuku PTA last year. I get a lot to help that PTA and Laie PTA. This year I've not been actively chair-manning a certain group in PTA but I do attend their meetings. The only other civic activity as I mentioned earlier on the tape, is that I am in the Laie Community Association and we are working with the leases right now and I'm actively working.

INT Could you tell me about your personal traits? Things you like to do, about your health, preference in food, music, books, arts, sports and movies?

DL My preference in food is Chinese good and Hawaiian food. I particularly do not like sea things. I don't care for fish and I don't care for limu and I don't care for crab and lobster. I will eat it if I have to. I definitely like to try all kinds of pastries. I really like doing aerobics, I haven't been able to do aerobics for the last few months because we been busy doing church work or community work. I also love to swim. I love to do anything that has to do with swimming. I like to do canoeing and boating. I love to do lots of diving and just different kinds of swimming even entering contest for swimming. I am not a real health 'nut' when it comes to eating no sugar or things along that line. I do think that people should eat wheat bread rather than white and I try to influence that in my home. I do not like a lot of sugar treats in my home, we try to look for recipes that limit the guar, but I 'm not a health fanatic that way. I don't go in for a lot of health pills that a lot of people take from health food stores and things like that. I try to look for natural food that has the ingredients in it like papaya has vitamin C. etc. things like that. I like slow, quiet music, music to read by. I'm not really a modern music

person and I'm not really a classical music. I just like music that's peaceful and quiet things like Claire D'lune. I love to read as well as my children do, we go twice a week to the library and get lots of books and bring it home. We try to do all different kinds of art. I'm not really a sports fanatic. I don't really care for any types of sports and I hate television

INT Mrs. Lange, would you tell me anything about some historic events that have happened in your life?

DL I've not been in any kind of depressions or war or anything that I can really really be last year I was in the hurricane that went through Hawaii and we lost a huge coconut tree and it fell out of our yard and it just barely missed the neighbor's yard and the year before our home was flooded. The bottom floor was surrounded with three feet of water- the day Laie was all flooded. Historical events that have happened in my life- I remember being in school when President Kennedy was killed and the historical experience that was and the sadness that I felt in myself, even though I didn't personally know the President of the United States. I was alive when Hawaii became a state. My uncle is Hiram Fong. I got to help with his election and with his campaign and he was one of the first senators from Hawaii and he was the first senator to get a six-year term in the National. I also have an uncle who is the Chief Justice Richardson right now and when he was younger and campaigning for the lieutenant governorship and things like that. Our family also helped with his campaign. I've been alive in the time that the first man was put on the moon. I've been through different presidents; I think the first president that I remember was Eisenhower. I'm sure I've been through younger presidents but the first one that I really remember trying to study and learn about was when Eisenhower become President since then I've studied and tried to keep up with some of the different presidents because I do feel that voting is very important and voting for the right man is important. One of the things that I guess is not really an historical event but that worries me is the movement in ERA [Equal Rights Amendment]. I feel that the women that are trying for the ERA are fighting for the wrong kinds of things. I don't think these women realize that they already have equal rights and the kinds of things they are fighting for in ERA; I think they are going on the wrong track.

INT I'm sure you've gone through some changes in your life time. Could you tell me a little bit about it?

DL One thing is that every time we have added a child onto our family, we've made a lot of changes. We've had to change, not only toward the different people but you have to adjust to the children. Over the years, I have picked up a lot of weight and lost a lot of weight. It usually comes with each pregnancy and different things. I lost my grandmother who was very close, very close to me, many, many years ago and up to that point if there was anything that I really, really needed I could always kind of count on my grandmother to give it to me and after her death, of course, the changes came in that I didn't have anybody that I could really turn to

and say, “ oh, can’t I borrow a hundred dollars for weekends?” or something, for awhile, to cover expenses and things as I did with her? I guess over the years changes have come in that I’ve been able to when I was first married, I had really long hair and I always thought I’d keep my hair really long and then after a couple of children, I found that with them pulling on it and doing different things that it was better that I cut my hair and keep it short. The dress length and dresses have gone from very, very mini to very, very long. The fads have changed in my life time. I have always been the type of person who felt that once you dress modestly any kind of dress changes that would include skimpy clothes I just completely ignored. When I think about the lessons that I’ve learned there have been a lot of things that have influenced me, like different lessons in church, different people. My problem is when I learn things for a little while like how to act around different people; I find that after while I slip right back into my old habits. So although I know now better ways to act or better ways to do things or easier ways to do things, many times I’ll slip back into my old habits and it the old way I used to do it.

INT How do you feel about being a wife of a PCC personal manager?

DL PCC has gone under many, many different managers and every manager has been different and every time there is a change, I do get scared for a little while wondering if my husband is going to have a job under the new manager and he has a job right now. I live so far way from PCC, I think I should say four or five blocks in a private kind of enclosed area, I really don’t hear any of the gossip that goes on around PCC or anything. I have visited the center under the new management and seen the great improvements. The place looks beautiful, the employees seem to be more energetic they seem to be out trying to serve the people better something about this new management- they really have done their best to serve the tourists that go through the management, and I think that they are also trying to do their best to help the employees along.

INT So what do you do to help your husband become more efficient and effective in his job as a personal manager?

DL I really don’t do anything when it comes to his job. I hope I try, but don’t always succeed to make sure he is eating properly and getting his right meals and try to take care of his clothes. Because of my busy schedule too several times he ironed his own clothes or sewn a button on his shirt but usually I feel like all that I can do is to make sure that the family is taken care of that he doesn’t have to worry about the kids and myself while he’s over at PCC working. When it comes to his job or anything, I don’t really know what he’s doing. We don’t really discuss his job at all.

INT Your husband is quite a busy man. Does it really bother you when he doesn’t come home on time or call home and things like that?

DL Yes, very much. I know that his job does keep him away from the house and he doesn't get to come home at exactly five o' clock everyday, sometimes it drags on until seven o' clock at night and it interferes with plans that we have made with the family. Sam himself tries to remember all the things that we have planned as a family and tries to make the things and sometimes I have to call up and say, "Where are you?" He does try to make most of it. There are times when meetings come up and he can't discuss it with me. But he does work with grievances, he does work with different kinds of problems at the centre that takes him over time it does irritate me but it doesn't bother me to a great deal.

INT Is there any future goal that you'd like to accomplish within the next two or three years?

DL Right now, my life is centered around the children and this house. We have set a goal as a family to not just be concerned with the house and the house payment and trying to get it finished and built and completed and the children taken care of, we're also looking to start some kind of traveling where we would maybe be able to take the children go to the mainland and see different places in the mainland, Washington D.C and different places where it would also be a learning experience to our family. Also because the house payments are so high when our family started to get older, I am hoping to be able to go back into teaching maybe. I realize that the teaching field is extremely difficult to get into but I've been thinking lately about taking more courses at college and going into teaching or some other kind of field to earn more money for this family because the children will be going to college and on missions very shortly.

INT Mrs. Langi, is there anything unusual about you or strange or any personal thing you'd like to add to this interview?

DL Nothing that I can really, really think about. I really enjoy doing church work because it provides an opportunity to serve others beyond my family. One of the things that I really, really like to do is I like to be able to be of service to neighbors and other people around me. I like to be able to take a lot of treats if I can or be of some kind of help to them when it's needed. One of the strange things about me is like to get off by myself once in a while and spend as much money as I can spend or just even go window shopping if that's what it is and forget that I have a husband and a family and just do crazy things.

INT Crazy things, like what?

DL Like ride roller coasters or go to an amusement park and just do something really fun and unusual. I'm just going to add this and it's really about my birth. Hawaiians in the olden days had a tradition that the oldest grandchild was given to the grandparents, it was called lanai style and because both of my parents were students in college I was given to my grandparent's lanai style and so I was raised by them until I was almost eight years old. At that point my father really felt that

he wanted to have me back so I came back here to Honolulu where my parents were living in Puunui and went to school here but every vacation and all during the summer. I again returned to Molokai to stay with my grandparents. At one point my grandparents did want to adopt me but my parents said that they didn't really want to do that, they wanted me to be part of this family because I was turning onto an old child under my grandparents, they wanted me to grow up with brothers and sisters and to also meet my brothers and sister because I was becoming a very "snotty" child.

INT What do you think of inter-racial marriages as you are one of them? For example, your husband is from Tonga so how do you feel about inter-racial marriage? Is it disgusting or what?

DL Because I live in Hawaii, I do not think that inter-racial marriage is as big a problem as any other places. As I look around, a lot of my neighbors are inter-racially married. I'm Hawaiian, Chinese, Scotch, German raised in Hawaii and of course, my husband is from Tonga. He has brought with him very many Tonga traits that when we first got married would irritate me, and I'm sure that I had very many American traits that irritated him. I think our biggest problem in our marriage has been because of the traits. His traits and my traits, the kinds of food that we have to eat. He did not come into our marriage eating any kind of Chinese food. He didn't eat any kind of hamburger. He still doesn't eat hamburger but he loves Chinese food now. Because I live in Hawaii and I'm constantly around a lot of people that are inter-racially married, they seemed to be getting along fine and my husband and I get along pretty well. We have a lot of differences, man and woman differences rather than inter-racial differences. My husband has an education, he is an educated man and we both bend a little bit toward each other's ways/ I think- I don't know for sure that if we lived on the mainland that we might have more problems as people would look at us and see me looking like a Haole and him looking more Polynesian and they might have ill-feelings towards tone of the other groups. Living here in Laie- one of the things that I've noticed is that there are cliques among the groups. There are Hawaiian Cliques, and there are groups of Samoans that hang around together and the groups of Tongans. My husband does enjoy hanging around with the Tongan group. I personally do not hang around with any cliques. I don't really have a group of close friends. I have lots of friends but they are different kinds of people.

INT So have you experienced any prejudice right here in Hawaii?

DL I think the biggest prejudice I have had in this community is prejudice of Polynesians against Haoles because I'm a mixture of Hawaiian, Chinese, Scotch and German, I look very Haole and I have felt that some of the people when they don't know that I 'm part Hawaiian have- I've felt the prejudice against me and yet as soon as they find out I'm Hawaiian, that kind of a slight irritation that they have for me seems to end. It seems like in Laie there's more prejudice against Haoles than any of the other groups.

- INT Are you ever offended by the derogatory remarks made by people around here in Hawaii?
- DL Yes, I don't think that people should call other people names. I am a mixture of all different kinds of nationalities and because of that I get offended when people say "a stupid Hawaiian" or "a dumb Haole" or any kinds of things. I grew up in a home where my parents' tries to encourage us to like all kinds of people, my father had all different kinds of friends and so it's so hard for me to understand how people can hate a certain color of a person.
- INT However, did you feel any apprehension towards attending school in Hawaii or just living in Hawaii as a whole?
- DL No, because I grew up here and everything is right here. I guess when I was first thinking about going to college I probably wanted to go to a mainland college but because the money was limited, I stayed right here. One of the things though before I came to Church College of Hawaii, my father was very concerned about me, hanging around the Mormons who have plural wives. And he was very concerned about that and worried that I might become a Mormon.
- INT So having lived here in Hawaii for so long, do you consider it difficult to cultivate friendship, relationship or social life here in Hawaii?
- DL No, I haven't really had a hard time developing any kind of friendship here. The problem that I have found is that after I have developed a very close kinship to a sister or a friend in the community because they are BYU professors wives, most of them and because its is a transient community, they've moved back to mainland and we have to keep in touch through letters and phone calls rather than over day -to day contact. I do though, constantly, develop new friends and I have a couple of women that I'm very, very close to, but my mother also lives right here in Honolulu and so, of course, I've become her friend and talk to her every night on the telephone.
- INT This might sound funny or stupid but when you were in the Church College of Hawaii, did you have frogs hopping and leaping across the passageway like it happens now and does it irritate you when you walk around campus?
- DL Let me tell you about frogs. When I was going to Church College the front area that is now a big parking lot used to be a grassy area, and majority of the time when it rained, it was at least under a foot of water. The students and myself when it would rain, we would go mud sliding in all this water and the frogs felt that they should mud slide too, so while you were mud sliding in the water, you also slid along with all these frogs. One of the interesting things was when the water would finally subside and go under the ground, and the grass was back, a lot of these frogs were dead because they been banged by the students when which were mud

sliding or doing different things and so there were tons and tons of frogs. Talking about frogs, my oldest daughter when we were little, we were living right across the BYU Campus next to Ken Baldrige, one day when she was three years old, I went out to get the mail and the mailbox had been filled with about six dead frogs. My three-year-old daughter with a grin on her face and listening to her mother scream said “I put it there, mommy”

INT Mrs. Langi, having been successful in life so far, what is your counsel or advice to people of this generation in general?

DL Probably the same thing that the older people used to say a long time ago that the youth should listen to the older people because the older people seem to know things. The older people have experienced lots of things and I feel that if the youth would listen to these older people and do some of the things they say, they would be better off. I also feel that the younger generation maybe not the ones in college right now—but even the younger generation in the community, don’t work as hard as they should. They don’t work within their own families as hard as they should. They don’t work in church positions as hard as they could. They’re getting life a little bit too easy and I think that somehow they should find ways to work, because with work they’ll learn how to live and be able to take care of themselves.

INT To round up the whole interview, Mrs. Dorian Langi, is there any special events or remarks that you’d like to add to this brief interview?

DL One of the things that I have always loved and treasured is as I mentioned a little earlier, older people—I mean really older people. I feel that the younger generation do not take care of their elderly neighbors as they really should or, like I said a little earlier, about listening to them. I love older people. I love to just sit with them and just to chat and talk with them because I think they have a lot to offer. And I wish that more people, even the younger generation, would take the time to look around them and find out who are the older people around them and take care and do things for the older generation who now cannot do things for themselves.

In closing, I’d like to say that I think that I’m a very ordinary person. I do not have very much patience with my family or my church callings or different things. But I’m very, I guess normal. I hope I’m normal; sometimes I don’t think I’m normal.

INT In the course of the interview, I found out that you’re quite an interesting woman and a delightful one too and I thank you for all the time you devoted for the interview. And I appreciate that. Thank you very much.

END OF INTERVIEW