

Interview with Bette Bernstein

Kathy Hersh: My name is Kathy Hersh. I'm interviewing Bette Bernstein for

the Miami Beach Visual Memoirs Project. The date is the 12th of May 2015. We are in the Bernstein's lovely home. You said you were born in Chicago and moved here when you were six. You

must have some memory of it.

Bette Bernstein: I certainly do. We came down in a car. Gas was rationed

because the war had just been over. We moved into a house with my two older brothers. The one bedroom apartment was my first experience with scorpions. I saw my first scorpion there. I went to South Beach Elementary School, which wasn't

a far walk from where we lived.

It was wonderful having the beach close. My mother loved the beach. She took us there frequently. My mother would exercise on the beach with the soldiers when we were at school. She had a regular routine to work out down there. Life was free and

easy here compared to cold Chicago.

Kathy Hersh: When you sat around the dinner table at night, did your mother

talk about exercising with the soldiers on the beach?

Bette Bernstein: I don't know if she talked about exercising on the beach with

the soldiers. It's hard to remember those conversations. It was hectic during those times to get settled. My father was still finding out what he was going to do while he was here. It was

about getting us located in a new area.

Kathy Hersh: What did your father eventually do?

Bette Bernstein: My father eventually became a builder. When he was in Chicago

he took photographs. They would paint them and sell picture frames. During the summer, my grandfather and he had a resort in South Haven, Michigan. It was a seasonal business. He had to work very hard during those three months. It was right off Lake Michigan. During the war, people came from Chicago

and Detroit to South Haven, especially Jewish people.

They had eight or 10 resorts that Jewish people came to. Recently, I went back to see it. There was a poster saying that it was the Catskills of the east. There was a brochure of all the resorts. One of the resorts was Baron's Resort, which was my father and grandfather's. He came from a service type of job that my mother said he had to get out of working at the resort. It was either the resort or her. It was a very demanding three months. That's not the life she wanted.

Kathy Hersh: Do you think part of the decision to move down here was hers?

Bette Bernstein: I think it was a joint decision. I don't think my mother was

outspoken as women are today. She definitely didn't like the strain and stress of working day and night. It was a lot of

pushing in those three months.

Kathy Hersh: You went to South Beach Elementary. You walked to school.

Bette Bernstein: Yes.

Kathy Hersh: What other kinds of things were there? What was play like for

children?

Bette Bernstein: I remember roller skating and going to the park. They had a

park off of Washington Ave, which I believe is still there. We had activities there. A lot of the parks have them today. We'd go to the beach. South Beach Elementary School was a lovely school. It was open. It wasn't as confined as it is today. Growing up six, seven and eight years old, you do what kids

do. You're out in the streets playing. It was a very easy time

growing up.

Kathy Hersh: Tell us about when you contracted Polio. Could you tell us

about that scare? I remember it very much. Tell us about that

time and what happened.

Bette Bernstein: As I said, my parents had this resort in Michigan. That's where

I was, in South Haven Michigan. At the time, it was summer. We loved to go to the lake to swim. One day, I got up from bed. I started to walk to the bathroom. I just collapsed.

Kathy Hersh: How old were you?

Bette Bernstein: I was 11, going on 12. My birthday's in August. My parents had

the choice to take me to Kalamazoo, Michigan. There was a Polio ward there. They could also take me to Chicago. The closest was in Kalamazoo, Michigan. They decided to take me

there. They couldn't transfer me until I was out of the

incubation time.

I spent a good two weeks in a room. I couldn't see anybody. My parents could come to the window. My brothers were in school, so they took a train back to Miami. When I was stable enough to leave, I flew with three seats on a commercial plane. In those days they had hot packs, which were wool blankets. They had hot steamy water, so the muscles could loosen up.

Unfortunately, when you were in incubation they didn't let you move or do any exercises with you. I was pretty stiff. I didn't have the use of both of my legs. I had some loss in my left hand. When we got back to Miami Beach they took me directly to Jackson Memorial Hospital, which was still a large hospital. The bad part was that the Polio ward was above the kitchen. We'd hear all the trucks coming in and the garbage being collected. There was a lot of noise.

We were boys and girls in a great big room. We had curtains to give you privacy. We spent the time doing stretching and getting used to bending your legs. I was stiff as a board. We had whirlpools that they could put you in to help facilitate stretching you. I think twice they had to put me to sleep to stretch me out because of some of the systems. They didn't realize that you had to keep moving, just like now with ACL surgeries. As soon as you're out, they're moving them.

I had rotator cuff surgery later on. Immediately, they put you in motion. That was one of the mistakes the made with a lot of people and young children not keeping them active. When I got out of the hospital I left home school. I had home school while in the hospital. I had to learn to walk with braces and crutches. I had to go up steps. The house we were living in, the apartment building that we lived in for many years, was upstairs. I had to learn to navigate that set of stairs.

Kathy Hersh:

Was there an elevator?

Bette Bernstein:

No. It was a two story building. I had to learn to navigate going up those stairs. My brothers carried me when I first got home. I couldn't just stay upstairs. I have to be able to walk and get out. Eventually, we moved to a one story apartment building. There were only four steps that I remember. I had fear about them. I didn't mind going up the steps. Going down was frightening and scary because it takes a lot of getting used to. You don't have the use of your legs and have to navigate with locked braces.

It was quite a challenge. I remember that I was able to go to the Mayday Festival in my sixth grade to the school to see the Mayday celebrations. That was one of the outings that I remember. It was a challenge to learn how to walk and get around. My first year at Ida M. Fisher Junior High, I went in a wheelchair because I didn't feel like I could navigate that well.

Kathy Hersh:

How were you treated by the other children?

Bette Bernstein:

One of the things that was so wonderful about going to junior high in Beach High is that everyone was so helpful, supportive and encouraging to me. I still have young and older men coming up to me, saying, "I used to carry you up those stairs in Beach High!" My husband didn't get to Beach High until senior

high. He was in 10th grade. I would have been in eighth grade. He moved from Memphis.

He said that he was inspired by me before he knew me. He said that I always had a smile on my face because whatever I did was an adventure. My kids say to me that it is an adventure when I do anything. It is an adventure. I'm so happy to go out and do things. I heard so many stories about other children having Polio at the different Polio support groups I've been to.

So many people had families that were shunned. Nobody wanted to send their kids around them because of the fact that I was in the hospital for nine months. By the time I got out, they knew they didn't have to worry about catching anything. Polio was scary. I was one out of four people that caught Polio in the area that I caught it.

Kathy Hersh: That was in Michigan.

Bette Bernstein: It was in Michigan. It was South Haven.

Kathy Hersh: That was an epidemic.

Bette Bernstein: One in four people caught it. I don't know if that is considered

an epidemic. I've been to Warm Springs since then and attended many conferences. Of course, South Haven was a small town. It wasn't a big town. It is on the map. It was a

resort area on Lake Michigan.

I don't know. I can't qualify that it was an epidemic. I had a fever and I fell on the floor. That was history. I was active before then. I swam a lot. My mother loved to swim and go to the beach. I took dancing lessons before. I played ball. I was an active child growing up before I got the Polio.

I still have a friend from South Beach Elementary School. We still talk. He knows everybody in the class. I don't remember everybody's name. He's still a good friend of mine. I think it was wonderful for me to have such a supportive environment growing up. I was never afraid to do anything. I took on any challenge. I fought to do the very best I could in whatever I did.

In high school, I was on the debate team. I don't know if you want me to talk more.

Kathy Hersh: Sure.

Bette Bernstein: I was on the debate team with Madeline Lauber. She always

used to say that we did so well because I looked so good in a sweater. [laughs] That was a wonderful experience being in the National Forensic League. Mrs. Robarge was our speech

teacher. She produced many fine attorneys of my class mates

that went to debates. Dick Massington is world renowned as a negligence attorney. He got his training from Mrs. Robarge. He

was my secret boyfriend. [laughs]

Kathy Hersh: Your husband was ahead of you.

Bette Bernstein: Yeah. He was two years ahead of me. He didn't come here until

the 10th grade. He came from Memphis, Tennessee.

Kathy Hersh: He was the new kid.

Bette Bernstein: Right.

Kathy Hersh: You would have overlapped by one year.

Bette Bernstein: It was two years.

Kathy Hersh: He remembered seeing you and you always had a smile on

your face.

Bette Bernstein: Yeah. I tried. [laughs]

Kathy Hersh: You were being carried by some boys, so maybe that had

something to do with it. [laughs]

Bette Bernstein: I wasn't carried that many times. It was the first and second

year while I was in junior high. I was able to walk, so my mother made me walk to school. It was so that I would get stronger. It was over a mile that I would walk to school. I

would walk home.

Kathy Hersh: I imagine that was a challenge. What other challenges were

there?

Bette Bernstein: I walked to school. I used to come home from school. My

mother would get me up on the dining room table to do exercises with me. I didn't have that much free time when I came home from school. I was active in several clubs. I was nominated in junior high for queen of some kind of spring

coronation.

I had political office in the school. Nothing ever really stopped me because I walked with crutches. It took me longer to do everything. I remember on my son's high school graduation. He was oriental. He made the top grades. He said, "Just don't think that because I was oriental that I was smart. I put in lots of

hours working when you guys were fooling around."

I wasn't a bookworm. I did try to apply myself at school. I didn't go to as many parties as some of the other girls. I didn't go on lunch dates. I did go to the beach with friends. I'd have to have someone take me because I couldn't walk everywhere.

I didn't take the bus at that time. The busses weren't friendly to people with disabilities at that time. I was able to walk.

Kathy Hersh: You had to walk.

Bette Bernstein: I had to walk. My mother could drive me if I needed her to. I

believe it was in the 10th grade that I had a boyfriend. No. In the ninth grade I had a boyfriend who had a car and he would pick me up and take me home from school. Jerry Lippson was his name. We went together for a couple of years. Then, I

decided he wasn't the one for me.

Kathy Hersh: What was his last name?

Bette Bernstein: His last name was Lippson. I've seen him subsequently at one

class reunion. He said that I broke his heart. He's gotten over

it.

Kathy Hersh: [laughs]

Bette Bernstein: He moved to Colorado. There were a lot of wonderful memories

and parties. There were always things going on at school. It was a very active school. I participated as much as I could. I

wanted to be part of school activities.

Kathy Hersh: Were there any Polio support groups then?

Bette Bernstein: No. At that time there wasn't. I didn't realize that one of my

classmates had Polio until much later. I never questioned him. Now, when I see somebody I can imagine whether or not they had Polio. As you get older, your legs aren't as strong. Post-Polio is evident in the 50's. We had a Polio support group here.

Kathy Hersh: There weren't at the time.

Bette Bernstein: No. There was nothing at the time. I didn't want to affiliate with

somebody who had a disability. I was open to any kind of disability, but it would too hard for me to be friendly with somebody who was walking with crutches and had no mobility. I didn't have that opportunity because I was the only one I knew of who had a disability in school. There were people who had hearing or visual disabilities, but not anyone who was flagrantly disabled like me. I was disabled only physically, not

mentally as far as I know. [laughs]

Kathy Hersh: Was there a stigma?

Bette Bernstein: There's certainly a stigma that some people don't want to play

with somebody who has a disability. When I got out of the hospital, my mother had a birthday party for me. Several of the girls that I knew from grammar school came to that party. It was awkward not having been with them in sixth grade. Girls

are pretty chatty at that age.

To this day, I'm not very chatty on the telephone. I'm purely business. "Yes. What is it that you want?" I wasn't one of those teenagers who spent their time on the telephone or as they do now with YouTube. It was entirely different for youth then what we have today.

Kathy Hersh:

Tell us about going to law school.

Bette Bernstein:

I'm a very practical person by necessity. Time was money. My father would say that to me. You have to prepare yourself for the future. What are you going to do? I thought about social work before I met my husband because I wanted to help other people with their problems. I thought about insurance, but I'd have to be walking up stairs and in unknown conditions. I thought the best job for me was to be an attorney. I wasn't afraid of speaking.

I was up to a challenge. I really thought I wanted to be a family lawyer or judge. I got into negligence because I had several operations growing up. This was during the summer. I must have had 10 different operations that would enable me to get rid of my crutches. I got rid of my braces. I never got rid of my crutches. I had two operations that had to be done over because they weren't done correctly, if it was the surgeon, my bones or whatever.

I didn't think it was fair that people go through operations and don't get the desired results or have to get it done over. The March of Dimes was helpful in paying for some of the surgeries. I just thought it wasn't fair that people were maligned from the surgeries. I thought that I could do that, but once I got into law school I realized that in order to be a malpractice attorney you have to have knowledge of law and medicine. I wasn't about to take on that challenge.

I went to work. In law school, my biggest challenge was carrying on crutches those heavy books. Nothing was on computer or digitized. You had to have the books to read them. I used to have a satchel that I would carry on my crutch. That was my biggest challenge. I had a car at that time. I drove to school. I was in undergraduate school. I stayed at the dorms for a couple of years. It just seemed easier to live at home.

Kathy Hersh:

What was the car like?

Bette Bernstein:

I had a handicap control on it that pushed the lever down for the gas and brake, so I did learn how to drive in high school. I think the National Forensic League that I had in high school was a good stimulus for me to say that I could think on meet feet and have a profession that I could earn a living from. It would a good source of income.

I'm like some attorneys. I had an income that was presentable. I started in the negligence office. My father was in real estate. I handled most of his closings, clearing titles, foreclosures and things like that. It wasn't a demanding practice, but it was a practice that kept me busy. It kept us out of trouble. [laughs]

I was also awarded a plaque at the Miami Law School. It was the Roger Serino Award. It was for outstanding student, so I was recognized by the school for academics. Somehow I named my son Roger. [laughs]

Kathy Hersh: Your father must have been proud of you.

Bette Bernstein: My mother was probably more verbal with praise. My father

was not one to give praise. He just expected you to do the best you could. I think he was proud of me, but he never verbalized that. He wasn't showy or demonstrative. My mother was very loving. My brothers were very loving and helpful. He never acted it. I could see it in his face that he was proud of me.

Kathy Hersh: If he had you do his closing, he had confidence in you.

Bette Bernstein: [laughs] Well, it was in the family. It was easy.

Kathy Hersh: Your mother did physical therapy on you in the afternoons after

school.

Bette Bernstein: Right. All the time I was in the hospital doing daily stretching

and trying to build the muscles you have to be strong.

Kathy Hersh: Was that painful?

Bette Bernstein: In the beginning of the nine months in the hospital it was

painful because of all the stretching. If you kept yourself limber with exercise, it helped. My mother truly believed in exercise. She was ahead of the food people who ate right. She tried to do everything that would keep you strong and healthy. She was ahead of that. I have to be thankful that she cared enough to spend time with me to get me strong and able to handle.

Kathy Hersh: Did your mother work outside the home?

Bette Bernstein: No. She did not. She helped my father with his books. In those

day we didn't have as many comforts as we had in our homes today. Raising three kids and me was enough of a challenge. She enjoyed later on when I was more self-sufficient. She enjoyed playing bridge, dancing and doing things like that. She

kept herself busy.

Kathy Hersh: You were their only daughter.

Bette Bernstein: Right.

Kathy Hersh: Were your brothers older?

Bette Bernstein: My brothers were older than I.

Kathy Hersh: When did you meet your husband? When did you connect?

Bette Bernstein: We didn't date until we were in college. We both went to the

university of Miami. He was two years ahead of me. I admired him from afar. He was from Tennessee. He was very sweet and polite. It wasn't that the boys from New York weren't. Most of the people from Beach High came from New York and New

Jersey. There were other areas represented.

He was just very sweet. I really didn't date him until college. I believe I asked him out to what was known as Pledges on Parade. I was in D Fi E [Delta Phi Epsilon]. All the pledges from the school were presented at the Roney Plaza. I asked Lou if he would be my date. I had gone out with some of his fraternity brothers, but I especially liked him.

I did and we struck up something. We didn't date continuously until he graduated and came back to Miami. I was already in law school when we started to date. He went back to school to do social work in Florida State in Tallahassee. He would come back on vacations. He had an internship at Veterans Hospital. We became closer. I was telling him that his mother returned from a trip to Japan in the Far East with a cousin of hers. We were talking to his mother about it. I told him that's what I would do when I graduate law school. I wanted to travel before I got confined to a practice and responsibility.

I think he liked the idea that I wanted to travel, but I don't remember exactly how it happened. It was after that conversation with his mother that he said that he wanted to marry me. I think he didn't want me to go on that trip without him. [laughs] I can't be sure of that. We've been married now for 52 years. It was a good start. The trip that we made a year after we were married took us around the world for six months.

We had an open job ticket as they called it. As long as it kept going it forwarded. I tried to book it through a travel agency. When we got married, my mother had planned an engagement party. Our engagement party turned out to be our wedding because Lou wouldn't let me come up with him to Tallahassee unless we were married. We couldn't live in the married dorms unless we were married. Our engagement party turned out to be our wedding party. We got married that afternoon.

We had our close family. The people we invited for the engagement party came to our wedding party instead because we were very practical. Lou didn't want to have a lot of parties or big wedding. I was so delighted that I borrowed Judy

Einhorn's wedding dress. I also borrowed Judy Einhorn's dress in the picture I have of being in the coronation when I ran for queen of the school. I didn't object to hand me downs because I did everything in a hurry. It was a lot easier to find someone my size. That's how my wedding dress came. We did it in a week. We got a rabbi. We had it in my parent's home.

Kathy Hersh: That was here in Miami.

Bette Bernstein: We were in Miami Beach. I have a wedding album of the

ceremony. It was small, but it was just perfect for us. We went on that trip, and Lou was working. He went to work for a Jewish family and children service. He did his internship working with the elderly. He went to the Blackstone Hotel several times,

interviewing people. That's another story. [laughs]

Kathy Hersh: Let me ask you about accessibility issues on Miami Beach

because you are the first person we've interviewed for this project that has a physical disability. Do you have a perspective

on that?

Bette Bernstein: Yes. Abe Resnick and his wife, Phyllis, were very instrumental

in working on it. I don't know if you know about them or not, but he was a quadriplegic. They were very demanding. He was an attorney. He didn't like the fact that he couldn't get

anywhere. Some of the hotels were inaccessible.

I walked until my son got married. That was 20 years ago. It has been 20 years that I've been in a wheel chair. It's not just a regular wheel chair but a motorized wheel chair. If you try to get into the hotels, you'll notice that most of them have little

elevators that take you to the lobby.

Kathy Hersh: The elevator from the sidewalk.

Bette Bernstein: Right. That wasn't always. In my youth I didn't have those

problems because someone could help me or I can manage up the stairs. It's wonderful. There are curb cuts. If you are disabled, it was a good time to be in a wheel chair. It was a lot of accessibility to a lot of places. I don't go to the beach that much, but there are accessible beaches. I've been asked to try

out the sidewalks they built.

Miami Beach is a wonderful place now to be disabled, even if you're blind. One of the leading young men from the disability community is blind. He spoke to our Polio group. He's trying to cover all areas of disability. Growing up, I don't remember taking a bus while on crutches. It was too challenging and too fast, but I've been to New York. I take the busses in New York. I haven't tried the busses in Miami Beach because I do have a car. That's what they say about living in Miami and Miami Beach. You need a car to get to work because transportation is

so difficult.

Kathy Hersh: What about parking?

Bette Bernstein: Parking is another problem. I must compliment the New World

Building and the accessibility of the seats of the bathroom. Also, the parking is wonderful. I know Joy Malakoff had some input into that. I thank her for that also. We've come a long way, baby, in disability and making things easier. We cater to an older community, too. There are buses that accommodate a wheel chair, whether it's a manual wheel chair or motorized

wheel chair. I've personally never used them.

Traveling is a challenge because bathrooms aren't properly equipped, but we have to understand that disability comes in so many forms. There are many heights and sizes of chairs. It is a real challenge to meet the needs of all the disabled. I have a problem because the toilets are so low, and I'm in a higher chair. It's a big leap for me to go to the bathroom and get up into my chair.

Today, I cannot do it by myself. I need my husband's help. We're very happy with the family bathrooms where he doesn't have to walk into a big bathroom with a lot of women. We push for family bathrooms because that does make it a lot easier.

Kathy Hersh: You say, "We push." Have you been involved in lawsuits?

Bette Bernstein: The Resnicks have. He's passed away and she's now retired. I'm not personally very active in it, but I do go to the Polio meetings if they call me for support. I'm always happy to help in any way that I can. I did think about it. In my later years, I wasn't doing property, so I thought about going into disability law. There are a lot of very good disability attorneys. I'm beyond the age where I want to have an active practice. You really can't do it half time because you have to be available for

the people you serve.

I did that for over 50 years. I practiced law, and I did a lot of pro-bono people for pro-bono work. Those were people who weren't able to get things accomplished. That's what my husband said. He said, "As much effort as you're putting in, you're pushing yourself more than you need to." My friend, Joe Schwartz, is still practicing law. He says that he does it to make his kids happy. Those maybe aren't his exact words.

We all have different financial responsibilities. We're very comfortable. We're in the same house that we built when our son was six months old. We moved into it. Barry Sugarman went to school with us. He was a well renowned architect who made an addition to our house that could accommodate my wheel chair. Our home is our sanctuary. I'm blessed to have been raised and educated in Miami Beach.

We've come a long way in our cultural efforts. People say, "How can you live in Miami Beach?" when we go to North Carolina in the summer. We love diversity and different nationalities. It adds so much to our culture and lifestyle. It's thrilling to live here. We're very happy here.

Kathy Hersh:

You told me a very funny story about how you finally moved out of apartments into a home. Could you set that up and tell that story again about your father's decision?

Bette Bernstein:

My father was a very practical man. He thought it was much better to live in an apartment than to put the money into a home. He wasn't the smartest man we can now say. [laughs] We lived in apartments until I was about 20 years old. Parking was such a problem. We lived on Michigan Ave. It wasn't in a high tourist area. It was residential.

He said, "I think we need to build a home, so I can come home and have a place to park." When you go on Miami Beach, you see how difficult it is to park. It's even difficult in the South Beach area, particularly we didn't think of two or more cars to a family. My father finally decided to build since he was a builder.

He decided to build a house. Suzanne Miller was one of our active philanthropists now. She had a house with an extra lot on 21st and North Bay Rd. My father bought half of her property for our home. He paid \$10,000 for that lot. It faced the bay, but it was across the street from the bay. We did have an open view to the bay. \$10,000 for a lot on Miami Beach sounded pretty good.

My father did buy real estate, but he didn't buy it. I think he bought one lot on Miami Beach on Collins Ave. He held onto it for 30 years or so. He got just what he paid for it. It wasn't a big investment. He could have leased it for 99 years. He didn't see any future in doing that. That was his big investment in real estate on Miami Beach.

He did buy real estate. It just wasn't on the beach. He helped me build this house that we're living in. He was happy in his home because he had a place to park. They used to walk on Lincoln Road every night. That was their exercises. He was wonderful. My parents were wonderful. My brothers were wonderful to me and so was the beach community. [Video Ends 43:27]

My brother, Ronald Baron, was bar mitzvahed at Jacob, which is now the Jewish museum. That was after the war in 43'. We went after the bar mitzvah to the Park Avenue Restaurant. We had a lovely dinner. We had strawberry shortcake with real whipped cream. Whipped cream wasn't available until after the

war. That was really a treat. My brother reminds me of that incident.

I thought it was interesting because during the war it was very difficult to get a lot of things. We had to cut back. We had

stamps and gas was rationed.

Kathy Hersh: Did you ever see any of the fires on the horizon from the

burning oil tankers?

Bette Bernstein: No. I don't remember that.

Kathy Hersh: Did your brothers ever tell stories about beach combing and

finding tar?

Bette Bernstein: Yes.

Kathy Hersh: It washed up from the war.

Bette Bernstein: I don't remember any artifacts from the war turning up. We

lived on 4th and Ocean for several years. My brother relates that he and my mother used to go to the beach to sleep because we didn't have air conditioning. In fact, my brothers remind me that we didn't have air conditioning in any of our apartments. We didn't have it until we moved into our home.

We didn't have that luxury. Maybe we were behind the times. It was hot in those days. You didn't spend a lot of time in the house. You try to get out as much as you can. We forget about

the beauty and comfort of air conditioning.

Kathy Hersh: Are there other stories that you can recall from your brothers?

Bette Bernstein: [thinks to herself] I remember the first party that I went to. My

brother drove me to the party. I was in the seventh or eighth grade. I wore lipstick when I got to the party because everybody else was wearing lipstick. This is kind of cruel because my brother's really sweet and wonderful. He picked me

up and said, "Why are you wearing lipstick? You don't need to

wear it." He smooshed my face.

I was really angry because where did he come off telling me what I could do? That was in the times. He wanted to protect

his little sister, so that was sweet.

Kathy Hersh: He was acting as your parent. [laughs]

Bette Bernstein: It was something like that. [laughs]

Kathy Hershe: It was because you didn't leave home with the lipstick on.

Bette Bernstein: I would have been 13 or 14 at the time. I thought at that age

you could wear lipstick. You see what the girls are wearing or

doing. We come from a different time.

Kathy Hersh: Does he remember that?

Bette Bernstein: I'm sure he does. He remembers a lot of things. They both live

in Miami. My one brother does live in Miami Beach. My other

brother lives up north. We stay close.

Kathy Hersh: That's nice.

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