

A. SPELIOPOULOS: World history and **[unintelligible - 00:00:05]** 3708 41st avenue south. Alright give me your name?

D. SUKULIS Despina **[unintelligible - 00:00:11]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And your address?

D. SUKULIS 3708. 41st avenue.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And where were you born?

D. SUKULIS I born in **[unintelligible - 00:00:20]** that is Greece.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay now...

[CROSSTALK]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And give me your birthday.

D. SUKULIS Birthday my, my birthday is 31st of January 1906.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And what was your maiden name?

D. SUKULIS My?

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Your maiden name.

D. SUKULIS My maiden name before?

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Before yeah.

D. SUKULIS [Zaba].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Gizerba yeah okay your father's name?

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:00:45]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And he had died in what 19...?

D. SUKULIS 1945.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: 45, he was born where?

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:00:52]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and what did he do for a living?

D. SUKULIS He was a salesman of goods **[unintelligible - 0:00:59]** goods.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: **[Unintelligible - 00:01:00]**. Did he have a nickname?

D. SUKULIS No.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: What was your mother's first name and her maiden name?

D. SUKULIS Cleo **[Unintelligible - 00:01:08]** and his father [Labadarios].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and she died in 19...?

D. SUKULIS She died in 1916.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Where was she born?

D. SUKULIS She born in 89 on **[unintelligible - 00:01:19]**.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And what is a **[unintelligible - 00:01:22]** an island?

D. SUKULIS Island...

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Coastal, coastal.

D. SUKULIS The coastal one **[unintelligible - 00:01:25]** from Peres.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: From Peres okay. And where are your parents buried?

D. SUKULIS In **[unintelligible - 00:01:32]** Greece.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay do you have brothers?

D. SUKULIS No, all my brothers.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Oh your brothers yeah.

D. SUKULIS Well my other sisters, that's my Marianna **[unintelligible - 00:01:40]**
Alexandra, Satiri, **[unintelligible - 00:01:44]** Merdiami and Spiro and
kids.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah, alright.

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:01:52]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and now, and Marianna is married to who?

D. SUKULIS To Andrea Papa Demetrio.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and Sophia is married to?

D. SUKULIS To Andrea again Andrea Simeon.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay so [Tories] is married to?

D. SUKULIS To **[unintelligible - 00:02:09]** I didn't know who because I was
[unintelligible - 00:02:12]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay Alexandria is married to?

D. SUKULIS To Spiro **[unintelligible - 00:02:16]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And Pantiagos?

SPEAKER 3: **[Unintelligible - 00:02:21]**

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:02:20]** Mary Angeline **[unintelligible - 00:02:25]**.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and [Dorphin]?

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:02:28]** is a single.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and Spiro.

D. SUKULIS Spiro single too.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, grandparents if you can recall their names, places of birth and death?

D. SUKULIS My mother's?

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Your mother's mother.

D. SUKULIS My father's, my mother's so **[unintelligible - 00:02:45]**.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And, and then your father's mother?

D. SUKULIS My father's was Sophia Zerba` but I didn't know that.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Maiden name.

D. SUKULIS No.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and your father's father?

D. SUKULIS My father's father was Satirius, Satirius yes.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Alright, remember your nono and your nana?

D. SUKULIS I didn't have a nana because he was single exactly, but he was Nicholas Marusis.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay. And where were your place and date of marriage?

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:03:27]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And the date?

D. SUKULIS The date it was fourth July.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: **[Unintelligible - 00:03:32]**

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:03:33]** after it was.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: In 19?

D. SUKULIS 26.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, was your marriage arranged by somebody?

D. SUKULIS Yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And how did that happen?

D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:03:45]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah.

D. SUKULIS My husband's aunt says "You know any girl?" He says, "Yes I know her."
[Unintelligible - 00:04:05] [FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Was there a dowry? A [prica]?

D. SUKULIS The [prica], [prica] [unintelligible - 00:04:38].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: No [prica] okay.

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:04:40]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and your husband's name, his place of birth and his date of birth.

D. SUKULIS Yeah, [unintelligible - 00:04:49].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, and your husband did he have a nick name?

D. SUKULIS [FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: No nickname okay who was your [unintelligible - 00:04:59]?

D. SUKULIS [00:05:00] His cousin – [unintelligible - 00:05:07] [Karanyot].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: His name is [Besicly]?

D. SUKULIS [Besicly] [Karanyot].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, your father in law's [unintelligible - 00:05:22] not.

D. SUKULIS Yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: His name was?

D. SUKULIS Anastasias [unintelligible - 00:05:26].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, and his village was?

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:05:28]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And your mother in law's first name?

D. SUKULIS [Caterini] [unintelligible - 00:05:34].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Those are good okay. Now how many – you have two girls?

D. SUKULIS Yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay two girls, their names and their date of birth.

D. SUKULIS My daughter yeah, Cleo and [Caterini].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And Cleo was born in 19?

D. SUKULIS 1928 in January 16 and [unintelligible - 00:05:55] was born in 1929 12th December.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and who is Cleo's godparents?

D. SUKULIS It was [unintelligible - 00:06:05].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, and your other daughter's as well?

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:06:10]

- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay and have you got any – grandchildren, how many grandchildren?
- D. SUKULIS Grandchildren yeah, two.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: And Chris [Kiers]?
- D. SUKULIS Chris [Kiers].
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay now when did you come to the United States? You remember the date?
- D. SUKULIS Oh Yeah very well. [FOREIGN LANGUAGE]
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Oh good.
- D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:06:41] the 22nd August in New York.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: How long did your trip take? Do you remember?
- D. SUKULIS It takes 12 days to complete it.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay could you get sick on the boat?
- D. SUKULIS Yeah definitely.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Your husband was with you?
- D. SUKULIS Yes.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay, did it scare you to come in the United States?
- D. SUKULIS Not exactly.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Was it hard for you to learn the English language?
- D. SUKULIS Yeah [unintelligible - 00:07:06].
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay yeah.
- D. SUKULIS I stayed here [unintelligible - 00:07:10] certain things together.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay.
- D. SUKULIS And [unintelligible - 00:07:16] but I'll talk most when you come.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah.
- D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:07:19]
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay what was the name you used when you arrived in the United States? Was it your real name that you used?
- D. SUKULIS Yes.

- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay sure yeah, okay. And how did you – yeah so you got
[unintelligible - 00:07:37] Did you receive any education at all, any jobs
or anything?
- D. SUKULIS No.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: No, okay. And what did you do in Greece to make a living?
- D. SUKULIS My father supported us.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah okay, you didn't do any sewing or anything?
- D. SUKULIS Oh yes in...
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay.
- D. SUKULIS In the house.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay. And under special interests, you like cooking?
- D. SUKULIS Cooking.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: **[Unintelligible - 00:07:57]**
- D. SUKULIS **[Unintelligible - 00:07:57]**
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: And you do a lot of reading.
- D. SUKULIS Read yeah.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay what kind of books do you read?
- D. SUKULIS I like more of **[unintelligible - 00:08:06]**.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Oh alright anything in particular that you like?
- D. SUKULIS Well, I love that Old Testament most.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay alright. Do you go to bible study at all? Or you
[Unintelligible - 00:08:18] okay. **[Unintelligible - 00:08:19]** is when
your husband came to Greece to marry you because you were like a
Cinderella.
- D. SUKULIS Yeah.
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Why were you like the Cinderella?
- D. SUKULIS Because I was a slave to my step mother and that's what...
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Oh Step mother okay. What happened to your real mother? Did
she die early? Yeah.
- D. SUKULIS My ...
- A. SPELIOPOULOS: Your real mother **[unintelligible - 00:08:41]**.

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:08:41]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay.

D. SUKULIS Yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: [Unintelligible - 00:08:48]

D. SUKULIS Oh with my mother?

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah.

D. SUKULIS Okay yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Cleo is here with us and she is also helping us. Cleo is her oldest daughter. [Unintelligible - 00:08:56]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah.

D. SUKULIS [FOREIGN LANGUAGE] all his brothers three of them.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Oh yeah.

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:09:12] and there is another that was adopted.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah how did she die?

D. SUKULIS Pneumonia [FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: So then you were like a slave to your stepmother. So you were [unintelligible - 00:09:27] When you became a mother, and that was when your [unintelligible - 00:09:36] go out when you had Cleo?

D. SUKULIS Oh yes.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay how many pounds was she?

D. SUKULIS And she was eight pounds. I think eight pounds, eight pounds yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And you had your other daughter a year later.

D. SUKULIS Yeah.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: How many pounds was she?

D. SUKULIS 7.5.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: 7.5 pounds okay and you became an American citizen. When did you become an American citizen?

D. SUKULIS 1945.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: What did you have to do [00:10:00] to become an American citizen? Do you remember you had some rules that you had to follow, you had to learn key...

D. SUKULIS I learn -- I went to school [unintelligible - 00:10:10] I learned who is the first president [unintelligible - 00:10:13] that was the Mayor at that time [unintelligible - 00:10:10].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Now tell me you didn't work your husband supported you. What did your husband do for a living?

D. SUKULIS Well he was a [unintelligible - 00:10:27] in Minneapolis [unintelligible - 0:10:28].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: [Unintelligible - 00:10:30] that's very good, that's an excellent job Okay I'm going to stop this for just a minute here.

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:10:38] happens to I was about 10 years old.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: She wants to say a story.

SPEAKER 3: Okay yeah sure.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: In Greece when she was 10 years old.

SPEAKER 3: Yeah okay.

D. SUKULIS [FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: You met any special men that you remember?

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yes, that's beautiful, do you remember any more?

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah but you remember that?

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Now tell me did you do anything special for holidays here, you know like Easter was the big Holiday, did you do anything special every year or you did the same thing?

D. SUKULIS Same thing always.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Did you make [unintelligible - 00:14:29]?

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:14:30].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: You still make that?

D. SUKULIS Yes.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: And anything else, any special prayers or anything that you did for the holidays?

D. SUKULIS Pray.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah prayers...

SPEAKER 3: Anything special.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Yeah.

SPEAKER 4: [Unintelligible - 00:14:43].

D. SUKULIS No [unintelligible - 00:14:48].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: [Unintelligible - 00:14:49] name days or anything.

D. SUKULIS Name days.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: [Unintelligible - 00:14:54].

SPEAKER 3: Especially to [unintelligible - 00:14:57].

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE] [00:15:00]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay sure read it.

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: That's right read it.

D. SUKULIS Give me the date to.

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay.

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Did you go back to Greece, did you ever see your father again?

D. SUKULIS No.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: No you never saw him again.

D. SUKULIS I went after 58 years.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: After 58 years yeah. Did you ever see your mother? Your
stepmother?

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

D. SUKULIS No she was not.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: But you saw your brothers and your sisters, did any of them
[unintelligible - 00:17:38] United States here?

D. SUKULIS [Unintelligible - 00:17:38].

A. SPELIOPOULOS: How nice [unintelligible - 00:17:47].

SPEAKER 3: She stayed a year.

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Bravo.

D. SUKULIS 1958.

A. SPELIOPOULOS: That's good anything else **[unintelligible - 00:18:01]** that you would like to mention on **[unintelligible - 00:18:03]** even after the tape, that you want to -- you've given me some beautiful history your back ground, you've given your poetry...

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

A. SPELIOPOULOS: Okay.

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE] **[00:20:00]**

A. SPELIOPOULOS: That's right that's true, okay. Good anything thing else dear? **[Unintelligible - 00:20:32]** Anything else?

[FOREIGN LANGUAGE]

D. SUKULIS This concludes the oral history study then **[unintelligible - 00:20:39]**.