

# In Conversation

## Aging Across the States

Gili Kliger and Nicole Friedman

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## By the Numbers

We conducted **24**  
interviews in **5** states

The youngest woman  
we interviewed was **61**  
years old

The oldest were **98**  
years old



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Gwendolyn Kelly – Atlanta, GA

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# Writing Memory

- How does one tell her own life story?
- Memory as a string of unrelated anecdotes
- A life story as something that can only be told at the end of a life and by someone else?



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Genevieve Olsson – 98, Dallas, TX

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"The oral history can serve a positive function in the aging process by helping to integrate past life experiences, cope with reduced life activity and loss of close relationships, and ultimately, prepare for death.

Women's oral history ... is the creation of a new type of material on women; it is the validation of women's experiences; it is the communication among women of different generations; it is the discovery of our own roots and the development of a continuity which has been denied us in traditional historical accounts."

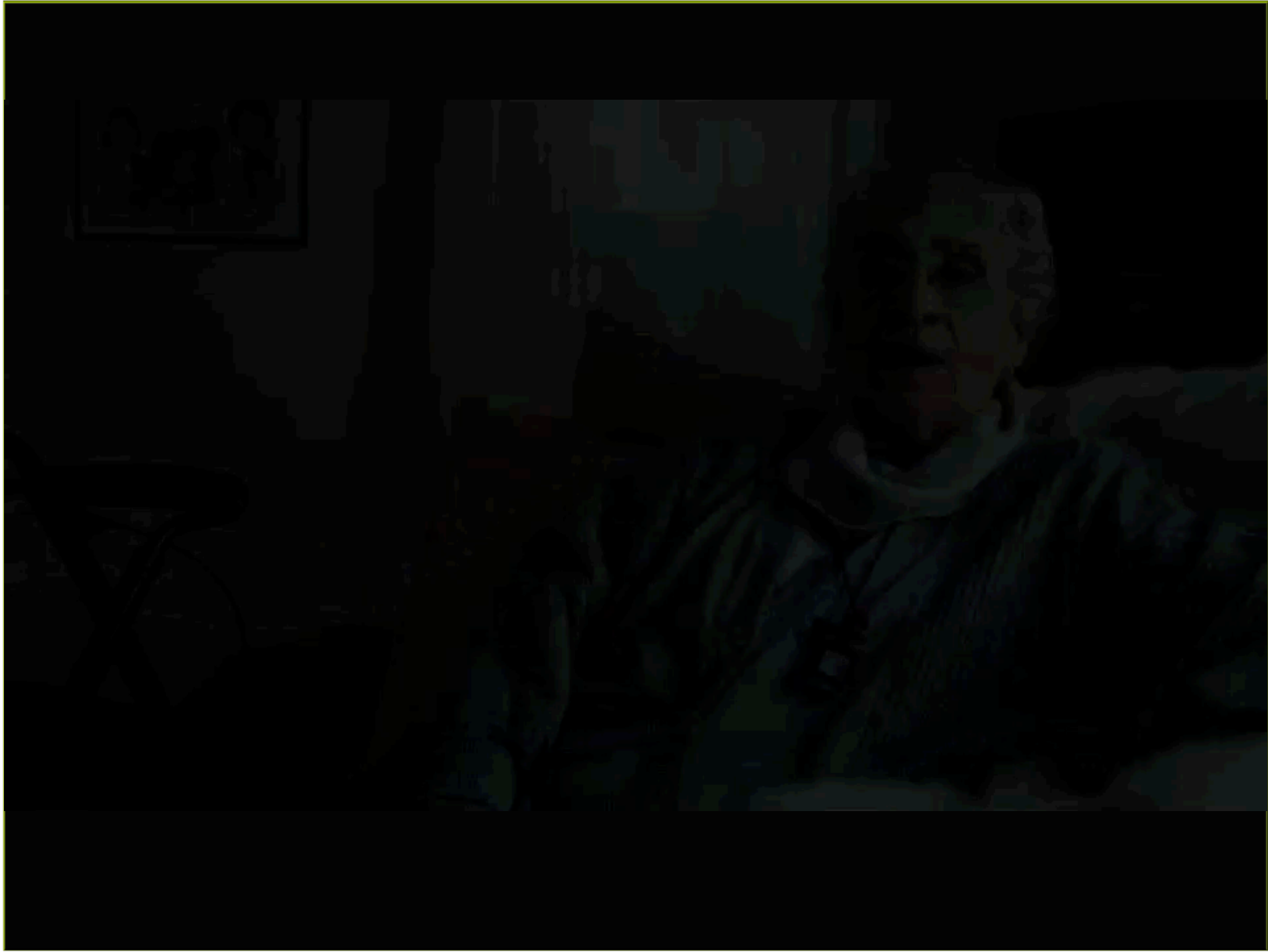
"What's So Special About Women? Women's Oral History" by Sherna Gluck

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Petra Sanchez – 83, Albuquerque, NM

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# Conclusions

- Online medium offers a way of preserving the individual stories
- Certain versions of history can only tell us so much.
- To read more:  
[agingacrossthestates.wordpress.com](http://agingacrossthestates.wordpress.com)

