

Jack Greenberg LRC Oral History Project 8â\204¢ November 2007

(including Deborah Mann Greenberg on speakerphone).

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Thank you very much Deborah, for your time.  
Youâ\200\231re very welcome

Thank you very much Jack, as well for agreeing to be interviewed for the LRC Oral History project.

(addressed to Deborah). Can you hear her now?  
Can I hear?

Can you hear Roxsana?

Yes.

Okay.

I was wondering Jack whether we could really begin by talking a bit about you, in terms of how you came to be involved with the legal profession in the first instance, in terms of you formative influences?

Well, as I told you that I wrote so much about it in a book that I am not going to be able to tell you a great deal more now. So, Iâ\200\231ll give you an outline.

Sure.

...My father thought I ought to be a lawyer and I never thought to question that. But I had no idea what was involved. I scarcely knew any lawyers, except one who was married to a cousin of mine. â\200\224 When I started going to college, I said I was going to be pre-law but very quickly became a major in Chinese because thatâ\200\231s what captured my imagination. Then World War II came along and I went into the Navy and the Chinese lapsed. So when I came back, it seemed natural to go to Law School, because the Chinese just didnâ\200\231t seem to be the thing to pick up after about three years. I went to Columbia Law School here, and in the first few days, first week or so, I saw up on the bulletin board at the Law School, an advertisement for a course called Legal Survey, in which students worked for [service] civil rights organizations. At that time, there were only about three or four in the country, and none [each one] of them had more than three or four lawyers working at them. There was the ACLU, which now has hundreds of lawyers; it had one lawyer at the time. There was the NAACP [Lawyers] Legal Defense Fund, which now has about 25 lawyers, it had three. And then there were three Jewish organizations, the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish

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Committee and the Bâ\200\231nai Bâ\200\231rith. They each had one, except Bâ\200\231nai Bâ\200\231rith had three and then, I did... in fact, I was just telling my class today, because we were studying about class actions â\200\224 I did some work for individual lawyers, one was working in cases involving Japanese-Americans who had been placed in relocation centers, during the Second World War. â\200\224 and just to make that story, a bit shorter, when I graduated from law school, people at the Legal Defense Fund knew me and thatâ\200\231s how I got into civil rights,.

So in terms of your association with the LRC, when was the first time you became involved?

Well, Iâ\200\231d been working at the Legal Defense Fund for quite a long while and â\200\224 when Thurgood Marshall left, I became the Director of it. The person who...

Hello?

Yes?

Oh, I was going to say that you were working there for nearly 30 years, by the time it was 1978.

Thatâ\200\231s right. I started working there in 1949 so just about 30 years. â\200\224 And I knew

people in the foundation world and one of them was David Hood, who worked for the Carnegie Corporation. Carnegie had a division called the Commonwealth Division, the Commonwealth part of it anyway, and South Africa being a former member of the Commonwealth fell into that category and Carnegie did work there and David Hood had gone there and he had met Arthur Chaskalson and Sydney Kentridge and some other lawyers, who were very unhappy with the state of apartheid and the whole political situation in South Africa. In fact, Arthur (Chaskalson) was planning to emigrate, I think, he was not going to stay there and David (Hood) laid out for him, the idea of starting something like the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, where we had played an important role persuading the supreme court to hold segregation [from segregation in the United States, upon which racial segregation was] unconstitutional. And Arthur (Chaskalson) was captivated by that idea and David (Hood) suggested that I go there to discuss with him how the legal defense fund worked. And Debby was working at the Legal Defense Fund at that time. Were you working at LDF at that time?

No, [ was running the Legal Action Center.

Well, why donâ\200\231t you describe the Legal Action Center, because itâ\200\231s relevant to this.

Well, the Legal Action Center was and is a public interest law firm that worked on the rights of people with histories of drug abuse, alcoholism and ex-offenders.

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And also most of the work we were doing was employment discrimination, which is what I had done for several years at the Legal Defense Fund. That's about it.

So, we went there for a month and David (Hood), not David (Hood), Arthur (Chaskalson) got for us the house of, oh I have forgotten. Debbie, do you recall the lawyer whose house we stayed in?

I might in a few minutes. Jack Unterhalter

It was not far from where Arthur (Chaskalson) lived. We brought a... one of our kids with us and his classmate, so we wouldn't be leaving him all alone. He had the advantage of the travel and being there during that time. We just discussed with Arthur (Chaskalson), the idea of how this public interest law firm would work. How you would take cases that might make an impact -- how you would select them -- litigate them, of course with the client in mind, but the with the law-making capacity of the case in mind, potential. Then he asked us to travel around the country to various universities and bar associations and talk about how the NAACP Legal Defense Fund might work and how a comparable organization might work in South Africa and we went to...

I, I might just say, that at that time, there really was no, no concept of public interest law, as we knew it, in South Africa.

In fact, there was no such concept outside of the United States, outside the United States, yeah.

Well, that's right and -- the -- the -- he really wanted us to inform the, both the advocates, the South African equivalent of barristers and the -- I can't remember what the equivalent of solicitors is called.

Attorneys.

Attorneys.

To inform them, as well as law faculty and students about what public interest law was about.

When was this trip Deborah?

Pardon?

When was this...

1978.

1978, it must have been our summer. It was....

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â\200\230Cos Billy (Greenberg) was not in school.

Yeah, yeah, I think it was the month of July, â\200\23178.

Okay.

And then after that, I really havenâ\200\231t kept a diary about it but we went to, oh, every year, every other year for a good number of years to keep up with it.

Right.

Arthur (Chaskalson) and various others came to the United States and met with people like various public interest organizations, which has really developed considerably since I started doing that kind of work.

You might say, that at that, in that first â\200\224 trip in the summer of â\200\23178. We had a travelling road show, we went to the University of the North, which was a black university and we went to, and we spoke, each of us spoke about different aspects, of public interest law. As I recall, Jack, I spoke about the organization of public interest law firms and Jack spoke about legal strategies, and we went to the University of the North, we went to the University of the Western Cape, which was a Colored university, we spoke at Wits, University of the Witwatersrand, the...

We spoke at the --, the â\200\224 the Afrikaner University in â\200\224

RAU

RAU yeah.

And at the â\200\224 and before the Bar and before the legal profession generally.

Right, in terms of your memories of that trip and speaking to the different universities and associations, I was wondering what the reception was towards public interest law in South Africa?

I thought it was all good. Certainly, there was never any hostility to it.

I think we were speaking generally to the â\200\224 the converted. â\200\224 ..

But even at RAU, I would assume that they were not converted, they were certainly not disagreeable at all.

Right, they had some difficulty with â\200\224 a few concepts. One was the concept of the class action. One was â\200\224 the, the, because they didnâ\200\231t have class actions; I donâ\200\231t

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know if they do today. Another was the participation in a single organization of both barristers and solicitors and as I recall Arthur (Chaskalson ) had to go before a body or bodies to â\200\224 get permission to have both in the same organization that is in the Legal Resources Centre.

In terms of your association with Felicia Kentridge, when did that happen?  
From the very beginning.

And it really started through Sydney (Kentridge), I guess originally but almost simultaneously...

Iâ\200\231m not sure, I think, I think Felicia (Kentridge) was almost there from the beginning. Feliciaâ\200\231s mother was the first woman advocate, so Felicia grew up with that idea and she was a barrister (advocate) herself.

Shortly, shortly after we got there, Sydney (Kentridge) began practicing part-time in England and then he went up there for one or two months and gradually, transitioned to moving from South Africa to London, over a period of years.

So, your first trip was in \*78 and it was really the idea that gave birth to the LRC.  
Oh yeah.

I am just wondering, immediately thereafter what the actual steps that were taken in setting up the LRC and were you privy to that?

Let me say one thing, later, a few months later, we went back to South Africa, I think it was December or January â\200\23178 or â\200\23179 to the first, what do they call it, the first International Conference on Human Rights in South Africa?

Thatâ\200\231s right.

Remember that, Jack?

Thatâ\200\231s right, it was in Cape Town.

In Cape Town and â\200\224 you spoke Jack about affirmative action ,which they had not thought about and they had all kinds of speakers, I think, I donâ\200\231t remember whether Tony Lewis spoke â\200\224 and several leaders of both the British Bar and as well as South Africans.

And then I guess, David Hood, but I guess we working with him and Arthur

(Chaskalson) also approached Carnegie and the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation to set up the Legal Resources Centre.



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Is it Rockefeller Foundation or Brothers? I guess thatâ\200\231s something you can find in the archives.

Right.

So, subsequently once it was set up and then you went every year, Iâ\200\231m assuming that your association with Arthur Chaskalson and with Felicia Kentridge has been very strong since then...

Yes.

Well, yes and they would come here and stay with us.

And prior to your first trip, what was...given your involvement with the NAACP, Iâ\200\231m wondering what your knowledge of South Africa was prior to that trip?

Well, I would say as an American, semi-educated about South Africa. I canâ\200\231t say that I knew....for someone who read the papers and read a book or two about it.

And so going to South Africa, what are your memories of that first trip and your impressions of...?

And I recall the first, we were met at the airport by John Dugard and, do you recall that (addressed to Deborah)?

Hmmm.

And he drove into Johannesburg and along the road, there were some African men hitch-hiking and John picked them up. And I was absolutely shocked when one said to John, â\200\230thank you bossâ\200\231 ( this should read as â\200\230baasâ\200\231 ); (elicits laughter from both). Thatâ\200\231s, thatâ\200\231s I would imagine that, that is not something that you would use today.

One thing that I remember was that the kids, Billy, and his, our son and his friend, who were 15 at the time, went to two schools while they were there. First they went to --, Iâ\200\231m not sure which they went to first. But they went to the King David School, which was a Jewish private day school and then they went to a school that was started by somebody, whatâ\200\231s his name, Michael Cork?

Yes.

Who had started an integrated school. I'm not sure whether it was against the law but he hadâ\200\224he had â\200\224 Colored kids, and black kids and â\200\224 Asian kids and white kids in this school and thatâ\200\224was an amazing experience for, certainly for Billie and his friend Michael. And, and I think, so we learned a lot through them. I mean they went out and I think they stayed overnight at the Indian boyâ\200\231s house during

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Ramadan. And I'm trying to think of our, well, part of our experience was that we had a housekeeper. We were staying in this, ahhh, Jack, I got the name of the person whose house we stayed in, Jack Unterhalter.

Yes.

U-n-t-e-r-h-a-l-t-e-r who was a member of the Bar and was on vacation and who very nicely turned his house over to us. His housekeeper who had been, lovely woman who had been there for a long time, lived in a little, little house sort of in the back, which is how most people's housekeepers lived. There were all kinds of restrictions on where she could go. I remember one day, didn't the, the police came to check her out. Or maybe she had had her husband come and stay with her. I mean they were watching very carefully to make sure, that no unauthorized non-whites came into that area. That was something that was, it wasn't shocking to us, because it became more real to us, but it became much more real for us. And then, we went, no we went to Soweto with Richard Goldstone, who was at that time in private practice but was also the Head of a worldwide organization, that

ORT, O-R-T

Yeah, an organization that was...

Based on rehabilitation and training. involved ex-convicts and you know teaching and training them.

He took us to Soweto and we generally got a good feeling and we went to a homeland, when we went to the University of the North that was in a homeland.

I am wondering also, just coming back to the early discussions about the LRC, I'm wondering what the parallels were between the situation in the United States, and your work with the Defense Fund and with setting up the LRC...?

Well, legally, the parallels were both very general and remote. I mean, we have here in the United States, a Constitution and you could litigate under the rule of the Constitution and laws have to be interpreted under the rules of the Constitution; in South Africa, it was just the opposite, the Constitution was against you. So, it was up to Arthur (Chaskalson) to think up cases that would have an impact and he had one case that involved the pass laws, that was one of his early cases. I can't recall any of his other cases but he thought about cases that would have an impact and the pass law cases, is one that I would recall.

Most of all what he did was that he couldn't change the laws and laws couldn't be held unconstitutional, but since so much of what was done regarding the pass laws and other resident laws was made by administrator's ruling, he could attack the administrator's ruling as being ultra vires of are you a lawyer?

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No, but I have come across this term.

So you are familiar with the concept.

Yes.

They were beyond the scope of what these administrative bodies were permitted to do by the legislation, by the enabling legislation and he really achieved remarkable results...

Of course, the South African authorities were in a position to pass authorizing legislation but that they were constrained by international public opinion. And the Washington Post would write an editorial telling them not to do something and thatâ\200\231s the sort of thing that would happen.

Right. Okay. So if in South Africa, parliament was supreme and the LRC was using a unique test case approach, Iâ\200\231m wondering what helped the LRC and actually helped these key cases from being overturned?

I think it was public opinion. International public opinion. I donâ\200\231t think any of them were ever really overturned.

I think there was also one thing that helped or helped the LRC generally, was Arthurâ\200\231s (Chaskalsonâ\200\231s) stature in the Bar, he and Sydney Kentridge were the indisputable leaders in the Bar, at the time that the Legal Resources Centre was started.

And there was paradoxically, this Afrikaner sense of rectitude and the important sense of the law. If that was the law said, they might not like it but they werenâ\200\231t just going to disobey it. They might try to change it but they werenâ\200\231t gonna flout it.

In terms of your first discussions of setting up the LRC with Arthur Chaskalson and others, did you have any reservations about the actual success or about the implementation of the LRC?

I didnâ\200\231t have any reservations but I had no way of knowing. I mean I thought it was worth trying. I had no sense of how they would attack things as long as they were ultra vires and I had no sense that the international public opinion would then weigh in on it. I hadnâ\200\231t anticipated that. â\200\224 I just thought that it was worth the effort, thatâ\200\231s all.

And then, once funding had been actually achieved from the major foundations and the LRC had been set up, how, how, what was your level of involvement with the LRC thereafter?



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Well, it sort of tapered down thereafter, but it, I recall when I came here to teach at Columbia in 1984, I had conferences with academics and others, well the ANC was illegal and you couldn't get ANC people within, within South Africa to admit they ANC, I got people from the ANC, got foundation grants to bring them from England and from Africa, and then some people from within South Africa, who nominally were not ANC people and we had conferences, and had several big ones, about what a South African Constitution would look like, if ever it was adopted. And then I taught a seminar on what a South African Constitution would look like.

You might add that that first seminar or maybe a couple of them were funded by the University, Columbia, which gave you a 50 thousand dollar grant to start that.

That's right. That's right. The -- -- conferences and seminar were attended by people who ended being the majority of the members negotiating for the Constitution. I think most of the members of the Constitutional Court participated in them, at one point or another before they were actually appointed to the court.

Right...

Excuse me, one more thing...

Sure, yes...

There was another thing. But unbelievable, but you can verify it. Penuel Maduna who I guess ended up being Minister of Justice was in one of my seminars and we had a session on affirmative action and so he said what was that, so we explained it and he said he was against it and we asked why and he said for all the reasons people give to be against it, that it was a racial distinction, discrimination, that he wouldn't want to think he was appointed as something because he was black but he was appointed because he was the best person and whites would emigrate from the country and so forth and so on. And then when they had the meeting between the ANC and the National Party, I think it was in Dakar, -- the A...the National Party people said okay, so what do you people want and (Penuel) Maduna said that the first thing we want is affirmative action (elicits laughter from all).

There's a lesson there.

You can verify that.

Yes. I'm wondering since both you and Deborah (Mann Greenberg) went back to South Africa since 1978 onwards, you went frequently, you were also in South Africa during the 1980s, which was quite a tumultuous period, what was your concern if any for the staff of the LRC, during this period and for the work they were doing?

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You mean in terms of personal safety?

Well, yes, but also in terms of banning of the work they were undertaking.

Well, it was very strange from the first time we went there, I was aware of all the restrictions, but nobody ever interfered with us. I recall going to the homes to people that were banned and Iâ\200\231m sure somebody knew we were going there.

Well, no, I might add that when Jack came to the Law School ,which was in â\200\23184, thatâ\200\231s when he left the Legal Defense Fund, -- he started a Program called the Human Rights Internship program, in which he and I later on took over the program, -- sent students in the summer, about 50 students altogether, all over the world to work in human rights organizations and we funded them and â\200\224 every year we had maybe four students going to South Africa. But at some point, that stopped. They would not permit our students to go into South Africa. Remember that, Jack, I donâ\200\231t remember why...

It was a brief, briefly for a year or two. I think thatâ\200\231s right.

Well, for two or three years...

I think they got in...

But we got in...

Kind of some pretext or another.

So, we were able fortunately, we had at least two students at any time, who were South African nationals, who could go back to South Africa and, and work there for human rights organizations and work there under our program.

So were you concerned that the LRC might have been under threat during this period at all?

No, I mean, maybe I should have been. I assumed they knew more about it than I did. But Iâ\200\231ll tell you a funny story, the first time we went there. Somebody told us that we would have to meet Albie Sachs and we called, we didnâ\200\231t know how to contact him and we were told that the American ambassador in Mozambique would know where to find him, everybody would know where Albie Sachs was. So we called and we arranged a rendezvous with him in Mozambique and the first thing he said to us was what are you doing there, meeting with the enemies of my people. And we explained the whole thing, what it was about but he was very skeptical about it but he was willing to keep an open mind. He now says that he was wrong about that.





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Right. I am wondering funding was very crucial to setting up the LRC, especially external international funding. And could you tell me a bit more about, the visits by Felicia Kentridge and Arthur Chaskalson to the US and whether there was any work that you did in terms of putting them in touch with funders etc?

I think that is something...you didnâ\200\231t do any of that, did you Jack?

I probably knew a couple of people, nothing of major...

They probably had some contacts. Felicia (Kentridge) did most of that. Thereâ\200\231s no question that Arthur (Chaskalson) would come but Felicia (Kentridge) came more often, made the initial contacts and â\200\224 helped organize the SALSLEP, was it, I think thatâ\200\231s what itâ\200\231s called. The, it was the tax-exempt organization in this country that was, that received grants from the foundations and from some individuals that would then go to South Africa. But, but I donâ\200\231 know how anyone interviewing Felicia (Kentridge), I know sheâ\200\231s very ill...

Yes, I have interviewed Felicia Kentridge last year in England.

Yeah, so she was really the person I think who would know the most of that.

Well, Sydney (Kentridge) might know also.

He might, but...

In the United States ,would you say that the LRC had a high profile? Did it garner a lot of support from maybe the legal fraternity?

No.

No, I wouldnâ\200\231t say so. Not one person in a thousand who would even know what it was.

Why do you think that was...

Well, it was remote, it was in South Africa, didnâ\200\231t get a lot of publicity here.

People who knew about it were approving but...

Right, sure.

If you ask now, I don't think. It would be a rare person who would know about it.

Right. So, by the late 1980s, did you have a sense that transition was on its way and that apartheid would end?

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No, everybody knew it was coming at some point. People didn't know whether there would be violence or not. No, I don't think so.

And...

We knew that Arthur (Chaskalson) and George Bizos would see (Nelson) Mandela and others on Robben Island but that was all very secret, so I had no way of knowing.

Once transition happened, did your association continue as closely with the LRC or where there any changes?

Well, no, certainly not as closely like at the very beginning. But now occasionally, its been five years since visits there but now the visits are both to the LRC and various people, Geoff Budlender and George (Bizos) and I would go and see various students who still go there in various offices of the LRC.

Deborah mentioned SALSLEP and I was just wondering what your association has been with SALSLEP, if any?

Just intermittent and occasionally. They have meetings here and I have been invited to some and I go to some to which I was invited.

You've also mentioned Geoff. Have you had close association with Geoff Budlender?

Well, I don't know what you mean by close but certainly, not as close with Arthur (Chaskalson), but I would say in that range, wouldn't you say? (addressed to Deborah)?

What?

How close were we with Geoff Budlender? I said not as close as we were with Arthur (Chaskalson) but within that range.

A warm relationship, but we did see him.

I am wondering since 1994 to now, what are the key issues that have emerged surrounding the LRC and what are the key concerns that you have over the LRC?

Well, I really haven't thought about it a lot. But it certainly I think more now in

terms of the South African Constitution development, if the LRC has been in the forefront of that. Well the thing that, the development of the LRC that I most closely thought of, at least by me, is the development of a jurisprudence of rights of --- in property, in economic wellbeing, which is something that we donâ\200\231t have here, at least at a constitutional level.

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Could you talk more about the Constitution work that the LRC's undertaken since I know that you are more familiar with that?

Well, I suppose, talking about the economic constitutional rights. The three big cases that I think you know about. The Grootboom case about housing, the AIDs case, Treatment...?

Treatment Action Campaign.

Treatment Action Campaign and the Soobramoney case, the medical case. I won't develop the jurisprudence of that for you, because you probably know it but I think the LRC has been careful in selecting its cases and trying to develop this and they have made some progress although I think some people claim that the progress has been much greater than it's really been. I mean that Grootboom said that you had a right to housing but it also said that you had a right to housing with all deliberate speed. Like here with school integration. And Treatment Action Campaign said you had a right to treatment for HIV and AIDs but of course the resources, the doctors and volunteers were all there and ready to go but they didn't summon up some thing that was a constraint on the government that they had to undertake something new, different and of course the Soobramoney case was one where he did not get his dialysis.

Right. And I am wondering at some point there was the creation of the Constitution Litigation Unit and I am wondering whether you know much about that and the work its undertaken?

Not as such. I don't know about the discreet work of that unit.

Its been more than a decade since apartheid ended, the LRC has expanded and then they've been forced to close some centers, I'm wondering what you think, what you think are the core issues that the LRC now faces?

I really don't know, I haven't followed it that closely. Certainly, there's the issue of economic human rights, but I'm sure there are subsidiary issues that I am not aware of.

Right. Do you know much about the involvement of the LRC in relation to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission?

No.

Its been said about post-apartheid South Africa that South Africa is no longer the funders choice, as such, and I'm wondering how you think the issue of funding

has impacted the LRC? Have you heard about or had much discussion about this with people from the LRC?



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No. I go to the Annual Fundraising meeting here in New York; I go to most of them.

Right, in terms of the amount of contact that you now have with people like Arthur Chaskalson or Geoff Budlender and Felicia Kentridge, has that now lessened?

No, I see him (refers to Arthur Chaskalson) just about every time he comes to New York. In fact, we saw him, when was it Debbie?

I am sorry, what?

Did we see Arthur (Chaskalson) in September when he was here?

I guess so, I can look in my datebook.

Yeah, in fact this week he is going to be in Israel and I have a granddaughter on a kibbutz there and they are going to meet. So that's a visit by extension. And we meet other people like Jules Browde, we see quite a lot of him.

Yes, we saw Arthur (Chaskalson) on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

I think I am going to put this question to both to you and Deborah, when you first discussed the LRC, setting up the LRC in 1978, its now been over 26 years and the LRC continues to thrive and its quite an established institution. Did you have a sense, did you have any idea that you could predict that it would become such an established institution in South Africa?

I never thought in those terms. If somebody had said, would it become an established institution, I probably would have said I doubt it, but I don't know I don't think it occurred to anybody to ask or answer that question.

Right, what do you think have been the greatest achievements of the LRC?

Oh, I think to develop a jurisprudence of human rights and to make the country and the legal establishment conscious of the importance of human rights and actually also to play a leadership role in the world on such, such issues, because the South African Constitution is considered to be quite advanced, it certainly is compared to ours on such issues.

One of the interesting things that I come across when I've interviewed people about the LRC, is this idea that the LRC has managed to adapt itself to a post-transition phase, whereas during apartheid it had the same ideals in many ways as the ANC, now it has to adapt itself and in some cases actually go against some of

the rulings of the ANC. I am just wondering what are your thoughts?



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I think that's right. That would be my observation. You know, more credit to their integrity and their capacity for innovation.

I don't think she finished her question?

I did. That's fine. I am wondering also you and Deborah have been involved since the inception of the LRC and you've obviously done lots of other things. When you look back, where would you place the LRC in terms of your involvement and the highlights of your life, where would the LRC be placed as such?

Very high.

Very high, yes, probably only second to my involvement here with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Wouldn't you say? (addressed to Deborah)

Yeah. Although there were other organizations that you also started like the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund, which you know, which is right up there.

That's right.

Right, and in terms of your association with the LRC over the years, what are some of your fond memories. I'm really interested in maybe some stories that you might have, associations with people, memories of experiences of South Africa in relation to the LRC?

What do you think? (addressed to Deborah?). Are you thinking?

I'm thinking. (elicits laughter from all).

Well, I think just the range of people we met and people whom we met through those people. Arthur (Chaskalson) and Lorraine (Chaskalson) would every time we were down there, periodically, I guess, would arrange a big garden party and bring...

No, we stayed there. No, we stayed there.

Yeah, we stayed at their house and we would always have...some people...

Well, I remember they would throw wonderful parties that â\200\224

Go on trial on a death, death penalty case.

One party that they had was when the remember those, what was that group of people who were tried?

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

Int

DMG

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

JG

DMG

There was a capital case, they would be sentenced to death, if they lost the case...  
There were about 20 of them?

That's right.

I can't remember the trial but many of them were out on bail and Arthur  
(Chaskalson) and Lorraine (Chaskalson) had a garden party with them all and that  
was a wonderful experience and one of the things that came out of that party, was

a very successful recipe in Jack's cookbook.

Lorraine Chaskalson's Lamb Pilau, that's in the cookbook (elicits laughter  
from all).

It's a constant reminder and given to generation of students since, because it can  
be made in large quantities and they like it (elicits laughter from all).

That's wonderful. This interview is slightly different from others I have done and  
I am just wondering whether there are things that I might have neglected to ask  
you and which you would really like to add to this oral history of the LRC.

Gee.

I don't know, I think we...

You've done a very good job of mining

That's right...

the very little we have in our memory.

One of the things is that we met the Browdes and I don't know how that

happened. For some reason or another we were travelling in India and persuaded them to come with us and we travelled together...

No, we didn't persuade them. They had independently turned out we had a mutual acquaintance in India, who was arranging our trip...

They didn't know Bim before we...huh.  
They did, because, because....  
We introduced them to Bim.

No. I am sorry to disagree with you but...

JG

Okay, disagree.

DMG Somebody knew somebody's son or something, I don't

JG

Anyway, the Indian...

DMG Anyway, we don't have to get into these family arguments uh...

JG

Int

JG

Int

DMG

JG

Int

DMG

Int

DMG

Int

JG

Bim Bissel who was quite influential. She was a public relations person for the World Bank and she comes here to the States quite a bit every year. So the Browdes, we travelled through India in a private railroad car with her and the Browde's on one trip. And she was staying here in an apartment here on 72" Street in New York and the Browdes came to visit with us. So, you know, we made some life-long friends.

That's wonderful.

And Sydney (Kentridge) and Felicia (Kentridge) even though they are now... and their son, William Kentridge.

Yes. In terms of, just one question that occurred to me, you mentioned that you do go to the fundraising event that's held annually for the LRC. Have you had any concerns about whether the LRC would continue, whether the funding situation is dire...

What we have gone to every year has not been, I didn't realize if it was, it was a sort of reception for the woman who is now the Director of the LRC and was held at the Mellon Foundation?

That's right.

Janet Love.

Yeah, that's what we have gone to.

Okay.

I don't even know if there is a fundraising in New York. I doubt it because they don't have enough people, to have such a thing.

Okay, I am really appreciative of the time you've spent. Is there anything else you

would like to add, please feel free

Okay.

17

Int

DMG

Int

JG

DMG

Int

DMG

Int

JG

END

Deborah, thank you very much for sharing your memories.

You are quite welcome. Good to speak to you. I'm sorry I couldn't be there.  
No, that's quite alright. But thanks for taking the time.

I am glad she's here. Her memory is far better than mine.

That's because I'm younger (laughter).

Thank you.

Alright. Good to talk to you. Bye.

Thanks. Bye. Thanks very much Jack for arranging all of this.

Okay, happy to do it.

Jack Greenberg (including Deborah Mann Greenbergâ\200\224Name Index

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## Legal Resources Centre Oral History Project

### PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, William Cullen Library, University of the Witwatersrand  
Location:- Johannesburg

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### DOCUMENT DETAILS:

Document ID:- AG3298-1-054

Document Title:- Jack Greenberg Interview

Author:- Legal Resources Centre South Africa (LRC)

Document Date:- 2007