

Interview Descriptions: Marisela Chavez Radio Interview, March 8, 2004

Record Information

Collection	The Virtual Oral/Aural History Archive
Subcollection	Women's History
Series	Chicana Feminists
Interviewer	Sherna Berger Gluck; Aura Bodago
Interviewee	Marisela Chavez
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Original Interview Description

This was a short interview conducted for a special International Women's Day radio program on KPFK fm. As part of the discussion of Chicana feminism, Chavez talked briefly about her research on the impact of the 1975 Mexico City UN Conference on the Chicana activists from LA who attended.

Original Audio Segment Descriptions

File: Marisela Chavez Radio Interview

- (0:00-1:50) Chavez discusses the U.N. Women's Conference organized to unite third-world women around the globe. The conference was attended by numerous Chicana groups of California. Although they initially expected to all join together as women, they discovered that the conference was divided into an "official" conference and "tribune" conference. Because they were not government-appointed representatives, the Chicanas were directed to the secondary tribune section.
- (1:50-3:15) The conference (IWY Tribune) made Chicanas realize that they were part of a larger global struggle of women. By 1975 the women began to look to an international identity that reached across the border to fight for Chicanas, Mexicanas, other Latinas, and women around the world. A feeling of "global sisterhood" emerged that united women by their similar experiences.

(3:15-4:18)

Another result of the Mexico City conference (IWY Tribune) was the Chicana's new connection to women of Latin American countries. Not only did they learn of new views, they also became aware of torture and assassinations of women leaders. Although Chicanas were oppressed, they still had basic rights as US citizens, and they gained a new perspective when comparing their experiences to the physical violence against women in other areas of the world.

End of tape.