



Interview summary and transcription

MR SIMMONS

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Transcriber Jonathas Meireles de Azevedo

Content summary [00:00:00] Mr. Simmons share his personality traits, as an introvert person whose main goal was to provide for his family.

[00:00:48] Mr. Simmons shares about the challenge of adapting to a new weather and having to go to work. His family was never in financial trouble.

[00:01:27] Mr. Simmons brings up the difference on the perceptions about life between people from the West Indies who come from well-off and poor families.

[00:02:14] Mr. Simmons shares he does not have the intention of going back.

Content transcription:



[00:00:00] hmm... So coping with... mortgage and all the items that go with family life, I had no room in my life for too much of the socializing. I was never... for [unclear]... for everybody has a little fault, mine is that I am too introvert. I was never an outgoing, good mixing person. I had enough.... I didn't care much about friends. I don't like noise, I don't like groups, you know... parties, dancing, all those things. That didn't interest me. I... I had a job, you know, to me, my family was like a job. And I had to get there and get it done, as long as they had something to eat.

[00:00:48] It's hard to explain what it feels like coming from a tropical background and to take on riding a bicycle in freezing temperature. And to tell yourself well ive got to do it.

You don't really want it if you had a choice [laugh], you know. And those were the hard years. But I... I persevered and we got by. We just sort of got by. We kept, we were never in any financial trouble. We were never... Don't like owning anything. I worry if a bill came in, and it wasn't paid the same week [unclear] it was still sitting around.

[00:01:27] It's an obsession that I inherited from my..my..my background. Because... If you were come from a well-off family. There are many Western Indians whose parents, whose backgrounds are reasonably wealthy, or the parents had... Perhaps their.. their... the way they would relate to you would probably give you a little different picture about life in the West Indies. But... I didn't come from [pause] that affluence. I didn't



come from the upper-middle income group... I came from the earth [unclear] right down there

[00:02:14] I'm...I don't intend to go back. I'm like the chap who crawls up the hill and [unclear]. If I move on for top, I hang in there and I drive a [unclear] and I tie myself to it. I don't mean to slip down. But that's my attitude. That has always been my attitude to life.

END OF RECORDING.