

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Hugh Price

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Price, Hugh B.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price,
Dates:	September 15, 2004
Bulk Dates:	2004
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:21:59).
Abstract:	Nonprofit chief executive Hugh Price (1941 -) is the former CEO of the National Urban League and was the first executive director of the Black Coalition of New Haven. He later served as vice president of philanthropy for the Rockefeller Foundation and as senior advisor and co-chair of the Nonprofit and Philanthropy Practice Group for the law firm of Piper Rudnick. Price was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 15, 2004, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2004_162
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Former Urban League CEO Hugh Price is descended from Boston's celebrated fugitive slave, George Latimer, and his son, Lewis Howard Latimer on his mother's side of the family. Price was born November 22, 1941 in Washington, D.C. and grew up around the campus of Howard University where his father, Dr. Kline Price, practiced medicine. He attended Blanche K. Bruce Elementary School, Georgetown Day School and graduated from Coolidge High School in 1959. He graduated from Amherst College in 1963, and that summer served as a marshal for the March On Washington. He finished Yale University Law School in 1966, and in the process of offering low-income legal services to the Black Coalition of New Haven, became its first executive director.

Price joined Cogan Holt and Associates in 1970 to evaluate programs for the Ford Foundation and worked in community development. By 1976, he was Human Resources Commissioner for New Haven, and in 1978, Price moved his family to New York to take a position on the *New York Times* Editorial Board. Leaving in 1982 to become senior vice president of WNET/13, Price moved on to join the Rockefeller Foundation as vice president of philanthropy in 1988. There, he instituted the National Guard Youth Challenge and the Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth. As CEO of the National Urban League, Price established the Institute for Opportunity and Equality and revived *Opportunity*. He has been a director of Metropolitan Life, Inc., Sears, Roebuck and Co. and a member of the Corporate Governance Committee of NYNEX Corporation. He is currently senior advisor and co-chair of the Nonprofit and Philanthropy Practice Group for the law firm of Piper Rudnick.

Price is the author of *Getting Your Child the Best Education Possible* and *Destination: the American Dream*. The recipient of many honors and awards, Price lives in with his family in New Rochelle, New York.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Hugh Price was conducted by Larry Crowe on September 15, 2004, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Nonprofit chief executive Hugh Price (1941 -) is the former CEO of the National Urban League and was the first executive director of the Black Coalition of New Haven. He later served as vice president of philanthropy for the Rockefeller Foundation and as senior advisor and co-chair of the Nonprofit and Philanthropy Practice Group for the law firm of Piper Rudnick.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Price, Hugh B.

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Price, Hugh B.--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

National Urban League.

Occupations:

Nonprofit Chief Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, September 15, 2004. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, Section A2004_162_001_001, TRT: 0:29:30 ?

Hugh Price was born on November 22, 1941 in Washington, D.C. to Charlotte Schuster Price and Kline Price, Sr. His paternal ancestor, Robert Gunnell, purchased his own freedom and owned land in Langley, Virginia. Price's paternal grandparents were William Price and Irene Payne. His maternal

ancestor, Nero Hawley, fought in the Revolutionary War. Price's great-grandmother, Margaret Latimer was the sister of inventor Lewis Latimer who fought in the Civil War and a descendent of George Latimer. Several of Price's mother's ten siblings chose to pass. Passing in the family of Price's wife, Marilyn Lloyd Price, was chronicled by HistoryMaker Shirlee Haizlip in "The Sweeter the Juice." Price talks about celebrities of African American descent and passing in popular culture. His parents met at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Price describes how his father became a doctor, his earliest childhood memory, and prominent African Americans like Art Carter, Charles Hamilton Houston and Todd Duncan who were neighbors.

Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, Section A2004_162_001_002, TRT: 0:29:58 ?

Hugh Price was raised in a segregated neighborhood of Washington, D.C. near U Street, the center of the city's African American community. Leading figures like Charles Hamilton Houston were among his parents' friends. Price was an avid baseball fan who attended baseball games at Griffith Stadium. His favorite team was the Cleveland Indians, and his favorite player was Jackie Robinson. Price attended All Souls Unitarian Church. As a student at Bruce Elementary School, he benefited from the instruction of teachers like Hilda Cobb. Price was among the first black students to integrate Taft Junior High School after the 1954 Supreme Court rulings of *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Bolling v. Sharpe*. In 1956, he entered Coolidge High School, one of the best high schools in D.C. He recalls his experiences of racial discrimination as a student and a supportive teacher, Ms. Anderson (ph.). Price also talks about his older brother. In 1959, Price enrolled at Amherst University in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, Section A2004_162_001_003, TRT: 0:30:29 ?

Hugh Price proposed to Marilyn Lloyd Price during his senior year at Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts. After graduating in 1963, Price was a marshal in the March on Washington. He then enrolled at Yale Law School in New Haven, Connecticut and became interested in community activism. Price's own parents were activists who contributed to funds for school desegregation cases. At Yale, Price worked for the Legal Assistance Association in New Haven. He talks about grassroots organizing and community leaders in New Haven during the 1960s like Henry Parker, Alphonso Tindall, and Erika Huggins. Price also talks about race riots in the city in 1967, and Yale University president Kingman Brewster, Jr. In 1968, Price became the executive director of the Black Coalition of New Haven. In 1970, he joined Cogen, Holt & Associates where he conducted program evaluations for the Ford Foundation until 1976. Price then worked in for Mayor Frank Logue's administration before joining the New York Times Editorial Board.

Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, Section A2004_162_001_004, TRT: 0:29:37 ?

Hugh Price joined the New York Times Editorial Board in 1978 where he covered issues like public education, highlighting the work of Ron Edmonds and HistoryMaker James Comer. Comer's work influenced Price's own book, "Achievement Matters." Price describes his experience on the Editorial Board and memorable pieces he wrote during his tenure. In 1982, Price joined WNET-TV as the station's senior vice president. In 1988, he became the Rockefeller Foundation's vice president of philanthropy. In 1994, Price was appointed president and CEO of the National Urban League, joining the legacies of predecessors HistoryMakers Vernon Jordan and John Jacob. Price compares the history, mission, and contributions of the League to the NAACP. He led the League through financial challenges, tripling its endowment, and focusing on academic achievement. In 2003, Price became a senior advisor at Piper Rudnick

LLP and started his memoir. He talks about his aspirations, and his hopes and concerns for the African American community.

Video Oral History Interview with Hugh Price, Section A2004_162_001_005, TRT: 0:22:25 ?

Hugh Price reflects upon what he would do differently and upon his legacy. He also talks about his family and how he would like to be remembered before concluding the interview with his narration of his personal photographs.