

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Ed Gordon, III

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Gordon, Ed, 1960-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III,
Dates:	June 24, 2014
Bulk Dates:	2014
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:40:23).
Abstract:	Broadcast journalist and talk show host Ed Gordon, III (1960 -) was president of Ed Gordon Media and host and executive producer of the nationally syndicated Conversations with Ed Gordon and Weekend with Ed Gordon. He has also hosted numerous other shows, including BET News, BET Tonight, NPR's News & Notes, Our World with Black Enterprise, MSNBC's Internight, and BET's Weekly with Ed Gordon. Gordon was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 24, 2014, in Detroit, Michigan. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2014_149
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Broadcast journalist and talk show host Edward Lansing Gordon III was born on August 17, 1960 in Detroit, Michigan. His father, Edward Lansing Gordon, Jr., was a school teacher and a gold medalist in the 1932 Summer Olympic Games; his mother, Jimmie, was also a teacher. Gordon graduated from Cass Technical High School in 1978 and received his B.A. degree in communications and political science from Western Michigan University in 1982.

Gordon first worked as a production assistant for WTVS in Detroit, Michigan from 1983 to 1985. In 1986, he was hired as host of the weekly talk show, *Detroit Black Journal*. That same year, Gordon became a freelance journalist for Black Entertainment Television (BET) and in 1988, was named anchor of the weekly program *BET News*, which covered African American social issues and popular culture. In 1996, he joined NBC News as a contributor to *Dateline* and *Today* and hosted the MSNBC talk show *Internight*. Gordon also became the first journalist to interview former National Football League star O.J. Simpson since Simpson was acquitted of murder in 1995. In addition, he has interviewed Presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey, Beyonce, R. Kelly, Jamie Foxx, Halle Berry, Minister Louis Farrakhan, Senator Trent Lott, Steve Harvey, Janet Jackson and Michael Jackson, among others.

In 2001, Gordon took over as host of the nightly news program, *BET Tonight*. He became a correspondent for the CBS News program *60 Minutes II* in November 2004, and began hosting a daily public affairs program on National Public Radio called *News & Notes* in 2005. Gordon was then named host of the syndicated talk show *Our World with Black Enterprise* in September 2006, and returned to BET in 2010 as host of *Weekly with Ed Gordon*. He subsequently founded Ed Gordon Media, a multi-service production company, where he serves as president, and became host and executive producer of the nationally syndicated *Conversations with Ed Gordon* and *Weekend*

with Ed Gordon.

Gordon has received an Emmy Award, the Journalist of the Year Award from the National Association of Black Journalists, and an NAACP Image Award. He was named to *People* magazine's "50 Most Beautiful People in the World" list in 1996, and was nominated to the Alumni Academy of the Western Michigan University School of Communication in 2006. Also, in 2009, Gordon established Daddy's Promise, a nonprofit that celebrates the bond between African American men and their daughters.

Gordon is married to Leslie Gordon. He has one daughter, Taylor, and two stepchildren, Stephen and Landon.

Ed Gordon was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 24, 2014.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Ed Gordon, III was conducted by Larry Crowe on June 24, 2014, in Detroit, Michigan, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Broadcast journalist and talk show host Ed Gordon, III (1960 -) was president of Ed Gordon Media and host and executive producer of the nationally syndicated *Conversations with Ed Gordon* and *Weekend with Ed Gordon*. He has also hosted numerous other shows, including *BET News*, *BET Tonight*, *NPR's News & Notes*, *Our World with Black Enterprise*, *MSNBC's Internight*, and *BET's Weekly with Ed Gordon*.

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:

Gordon, Ed, 1960-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Gordon, Ed, 1960---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Broadcast Journalist

Talk Show Host

HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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 Ed Gordon, III, June 24, 2014. 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 Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_001, TRT: 1:31:57 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_002, TRT: 2:28:46 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_003, TRT: 3:27:26 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_004, TRT: 4:28:18 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_005, TRT: 5:30:03 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_006, TRT: 6:34:59 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_007, TRT: 7:32:21 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Ed Gordon, III, Section A2014_149_001_008, TRT: 8:06:33 ?