**ABSTRACT – JOAN MCALLISTER**

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| Interviewee: | Joan McAllister |
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| Interviewer: | B. Bernetiae Reed |
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| Interview Date: | 8/26/2015 |
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| Location: | This interview was conducted on the front porch of her sister’s house in Chapel Hill, NC. |
| Length | Approximately 1 hour 34 minutes length. The audio is a WAV file (943 MB). |
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Joan McAllister had a middle class upbringing in Chapel Hill, NC and is a retired Social Worker. She tells about embarrassment at having grown up in a bubble unaware of the civil rights struggles around her. She describes life in Chapel Hill at that time, including the fact that her parents rented rooms to African exchange students. She entered Woman's College in 1962 when it was a two year institution, prior to becoming the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1963. While in graduate school at UNC-CH, she participated in some Vietnam War protests. A varied career includes work with psychiatric prisons, parole boards, children/adolescent group homes and North Carolina Social Services. She discusses 5% recidivism rate using Nicholas Groth Method with Nashville sex offender prisoners, work with violent women, and the Carolina Lodge Program (started to stop rewarding those who acted to stay in the NC prison system). She was the Independent Living Coordinator for NC adolescents for 16 years. This interview reveals how she became involved in the Moral Monday movement and what made her decide to become one of the arrestees.

The interviewer met the interviewee at the pre-rally event on July 1, 2013. During this session, instructions were given, for those who decided to participate in civil disobedience that day at the state legislative building in Raleigh. They were to form pairs for marching. Since we were seated together, we agreed to march in together at the rally and were arrested in the legislative building that day. This event and aftermath is described.