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CITY OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS

LAWRENCE FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE  
50th ANNIVERSARY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Interview of Gerald Cooley

October 12, 2016

1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Today is October 12th, 2016. I  
2 am local historian Tom Arnold interviewing Jerry  
3 Cooley at Lawrence Public Library for the City of  
4 Lawrence Fair Housing Ordinance 50th anniversary  
5 oral history project. At the time the ordinance  
6 passed in July, 1967, Mr. Cooley was serving as  
7 the assistant city attorney for the City of  
8 Lawrence.

9           Mr. Cooley, please tell me a bit about your  
10 background and what you were doing in Lawrence in  
11 the mid to late 1960s.

12           **MR. COOLEY:** I returned from the military in  
13 1959, finished law school, joined with Milton  
14 Allen, an attorney, in his practice of law.  
15 Milton became the city attorney sometime in the  
16 '50s.

17           During the times that you mention we were in  
18 a period of conflict, may I say, from two  
19 directions. Number one, there was a race issue,  
20 the unrest that accompanied that. Number two was  
21 the Vietnam War demonstrators that came from all  
22 over the world literally to be in Lawrence,  
23 Kansas, at that time.

24           I was kept busy running around town to see  
25 where the fires were and what we needed to do, if

1 I could assist in resolving some issue or halting  
2 some problem that the city was engaged in. I  
3 prosecuted truckloads of people, I suppose would  
4 be a fair way to put it.

5 The old police station was just down the  
6 street to the south here where the fire station  
7 and senior services center is today. There was a  
8 place on the second floor for the holding of  
9 prisoners. There were, I believe, two big cells  
10 there. Generally I was at the call of the city  
11 manager, who at that time was Buford Watson.  
12 Earlier in that same early period there was  
13 another city manager. Buford got in right in the  
14 middle of things and did a very good job, I might  
15 say, in trying to soften the impact on the  
16 community.

17 As I say, I was up practically every night.  
18 I roamed the streets in my car, I walked, I rode  
19 with the police wherever they thought that I might  
20 be of some benefit.

21 A lot of it wasn't fun. Some of the tactics  
22 I saw were used by the North Koreans, a strong  
23 piano wire in the alleyways across from tree to  
24 tree about neck level. I suppose they were trying  
25 to get the police or others that they didn't

1 approve of to pursue the alleyway as an exit or an  
2 entrance and cut their necks. Fortunately that  
3 was discovered very early. We had no interest in  
4 that.

5 We had a lot of violence in the high school.  
6 The high school seemed to be a focal point for the  
7 racial issues at that time, although there were  
8 certainly bigger issues than just the high school  
9 involved.

10 There was housing, employment, education. We  
11 had a very small African-American community in  
12 Lawrence at that time. Of course, Lawrence was  
13 quite small at that time, I'm guessing less than  
14 20,000 people, may have been even under 15,000,  
15 but anyway, it was a small percentage of the  
16 African-American community who lived here.

17 The job itself was all-encompassing. It was  
18 to give advice to the police, to the city manager,  
19 to the City Commission. It was to deal with those  
20 who were actively involved in the demonstrations.

21 We were very fortunate we had a Highway  
22 Patrol colonel who was chief of the Highway Patrol  
23 at the time who came to town and actually got out  
24 and walked the streets and mingled with those who  
25 were in the demonstration mode at that time. He

1 softened the impact a great deal, at least during  
2 the time that he was working the streets, so to  
3 speak.

4 I could go on and on, I guess.

5 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

6 **MR. COOLEY:** But it all leads to the same  
7 issue, what did we do ultimately, I guess.

8 (04:56)

9 **MR. ARNOLD:** Yes, let me ask you, you said  
10 you had come back after serving in the military in  
11 1959. Had you been in Lawrence before that? Did  
12 you grow up in Lawrence or go to K.U. as an  
13 undergrad?

14 **MR. COOLEY:** No, I grew up in Oklahoma City.

15 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

16 **MR. COOLEY:** Which gave me probably a  
17 different perspective of what the, among the  
18 racial issues than other people who had not lived  
19 in the south. Even though it was not the south,  
20 it was sometimes worse conditions than existed in  
21 the south.

22 I lived in Georgia. I served in the Army at  
23 Fort Benning on two different occasions and got a  
24 real experience of my life there, but coming back  
25 I had a feeling for what the racial issue was

1 because I had witnessed the no black person can  
2 sit beyond a certain seat in the bus, in the  
3 street car, and the white people were not supposed  
4 to go back to where the black people were seated.  
5 That was something that bothered me and a couple  
6 of my buddies. We were eight, ten, eleven years  
7 old, I suppose, but we challenged that and stepped  
8 to the back of one of the street cars and were  
9 ostracized by the conductor immediately, but  
10 anyway, we did it.

11 I remember what bothered me a great deal was  
12 that in downtown Oklahoma City there were a few  
13 restaurants where they had, it was not drive in  
14 but it was walk up type restaurants and you could,  
15 people could go inside to eat after they were  
16 served or sit outside, but the colored could not  
17 go inside. They had benches for them. I really,  
18 I wasn't an activist by any means but did wonder  
19 why, why we had such a rule.

20 I left K.U. I was commissioned in the  
21 infantry in 1954 and went to Fort Benning on a  
22 second, my second time. The south was  
23 unbelievable in those days. You may have been  
24 there some yourself, but I thought the government  
25 could have saved a great deal of money if they

1 hadn't had so many different water fountains for  
 2 whites, blacks, enlisted, officers, women, men.  
 3 Same thing for toilets. They were all over. I  
 4 had, we had, my class at Benning, my second tour  
 5 there, I don't remember that we had any diversity,  
 6 maybe 150 of us that were in a particular class.

7 That's about my background. As I say, I  
 8 think I have a feel for different aspects of the  
 9 race issue, particularly having lived in these two  
 10 foreign, I will say foreign places.

11 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

12 **MR. COOLEY:** They certainly were foreign to  
 13 me. I had not been out of the state of Oklahoma  
 14 until I came to Oklahoma, excuse me, to Wichita to  
 15 attend high school in 1945. My dad was  
 16 transferred and we moved into a different, an  
 17 entirely different community atmosphere.

18 (08:30)

19 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay, great. Interesting.  
 20 Those are useful perspectives.

21 From the time you came back to Lawrence in  
 22 1959, or at the time you came back how would you  
 23 describe the types of discrimination that you  
 24 found in Lawrence?

25 **MR. COOLEY:** Well, the obvious were in the

1 restaurants and theaters and that's something  
2 that's often talked about, but we had four  
3 theaters, as I recall, at that time, four public  
4 theaters, and the balconies, particularly at the  
5 Jayhawker I remember they, the African-Americans,  
6 the minorities, were put in the balconies. They  
7 weren't allowed to sit downstairs. The same thing  
8 existed in the other theaters. For some reason  
9 the Jayhawker came to mind, witnessing that.

10 There were a lot of exchanges between the two  
11 levels in the theater by the people. Some were  
12 for and some were against what was going on, so I  
13 had to feel uncomfortable about that because it  
14 later led to some significant impact between those  
15 who were in favor of the racism and those who were  
16 not.

17 (09:47)

18 **MR. ARNOLD:** So over the course from the time  
19 you returned in 1959 to start law school through  
20 the kind of very tumultuous, even violent times  
21 you described at the beginning, which I assume  
22 kind of set in in the late 1960s, how did you see  
23 things evolve in terms of race relations during  
24 that decade? Did just kind of tensions gradually  
25 build over some of these practices?



1           **MR. COOLEY:** Let me correct myself. I  
2 returned to Lawrence in 1957. I graduated from  
3 law school in 1959.

4           **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

5           **MR. COOLEY:** I made a misstatement there.

6           I'm not sure that anyone recognized a slow  
7 process that was evolving. Obviously the housing  
8 issue was significant, but there weren't any  
9 rental places to speak of. I returned to go to  
10 summer school in 1957 and my wife and I had a very  
11 difficult time. We finally found a 400 square  
12 foot basement apartment that was infested, but the  
13 price was right for \$50 a month in those days.

14          **MR. ARNOLD:** Interesting.

15          **MR. COOLEY:** But there was no significant  
16 rental market here in town at that time. You  
17 could get a room in a boarding house or in one of  
18 the old homes over in the west part of town.  
19 Those facilities weren't available to me and I'm  
20 sure they weren't available in any greater number  
21 for the African-American.

22                 There were ways that I remember that  
23 landlords, landlords' agents, those who were  
24 renting properties, and even selling properties,  
25 attempted to control who they rented to. One way

1 would be that they'd make a telephone call in  
2 response to an ad in the paper and make an  
3 appointment with the representative of the owner  
4 to view the property. Well, the owner would drive  
5 up within a half a block or so and see who it was.  
6 If it happened to be somebody of color, then  
7 they'd go on and would not show up to show the  
8 property. Obviously that couldn't be tolerated,  
9 wouldn't be tolerated today.

10 Secondly, there was the problem that, in the  
11 mixed marriage situations, and that has continued  
12 on even until somewhat recent times, where a white  
13 woman, a black man, would be married. The white  
14 woman would respond to an ad for rental of a  
15 property, sign an agreement, and then show up to  
16 move in and the two of them, the black man and a  
17 white woman, were present. It could have been a  
18 white man and a black woman, but basically it was  
19 a white woman and a black man in those days.

20 That threw a lot of the landlords, the  
21 renters, the rental companies into reaction that  
22 was really not very good, and, as I say, that's  
23 even happened while I was still, toward the end of  
24 my tenure as city attorney, we had cases involving  
25 that particular aspect of mixed marriage.

1 (13:20)

2 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. And what year was that  
3 that you finished your tenure, just to put it in  
4 perspective in time?

5 **MR. COOLEY:** I graduated -- I graduated: I  
6 retired from the practice and as city attorney in  
7 January of '12, 2012, yes.

8 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

9 **MR. COOLEY:** Roughly five years ago.

10 **MR. ARNOLD:** So the issues certainly have  
11 persisted in some form well past the time frame  
12 we're talking about.

13 **MR. COOLEY:** We had litigation going on --

14 **MR. ARNOLD:** Interesting.

15 **MR. COOLEY:** -- involving that.

16 (13:48)

17 **MR. ARNOLD:** Do you recall the Jayhawk Plunge  
18 swimming pool protests in 1960 and was that kind  
19 of the first really visible protest against  
20 discrimination and do you recall how the community  
21 reacted to that?

22 **MR. COOLEY:** I recall it very well. Jayhawk  
23 Plunge was a private pool and had a big fence  
24 around it. People of color or no diverse groups  
25 were permitted to be admitted, though I think some

1 did climb the fence in the late hours of the  
2 evening or early morning hours and take a free  
3 plunge, but it was a debatable issue.

4 The city sought to solve the problem by  
5 building a pool. There was at least one, maybe  
6 two votes where the pool issue was rejected.  
7 Ultimately there was a passage of an issue at  
8 election time and the City Commission then  
9 proceeded to find a way to finance the pool and in  
10 fact build it.

11 There's, it's not a misconception but it's an  
12 overlooked fact that there was a public pool  
13 before the current outdoor facility was built at  
14 the northeast corner of 23rd and Iowa Street, back  
15 before the public pool was built. There was a  
16 private club which had been developed by a couple  
17 of local developers. They sold that interest to a  
18 client of mine that happened to be out of St.  
19 Louis who owned motels and hotels and I talked  
20 with these people in St. Louis and the others that  
21 were involved. I think there was somebody out of  
22 Topeka, maybe an accountant out of Topeka.

23 Anyway, the group agreed that the city could  
24 lease the pool for a short, the remainder of  
25 whatever season it was, it was sometime in the

1 '60s, and that was open to everyone, so that that  
2 gained some time, some relief from the antagonism  
3 that surrounded this issue for the city to get the  
4 pool built over from one period of time, one  
5 closure to the next year when they opened, so that  
6 greatly relieved a lot of the stress.

7 (16:29)

8 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. I don't know whether  
9 you're familiar with a book by Rusty Monhollon  
10 called This is America: The '60s in Lawrence,  
11 Kansas, but he wrote a description of that  
12 decision by the city to rent the pool and his  
13 version of it is that the city, that there was  
14 pressure from, I think it was high school,  
15 African-American high school students over some  
16 racial issues, the lack of access to a pool being  
17 one, and that there were even threats of violence  
18 and so the city acted kind of under pressure to  
19 rent that. Do you recall any specifics of how  
20 that happened?

21 **MR. COOLEY:** I don't recall that but it's not  
22 surprising.

23 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

24 **MR. COOLEY:** I don't think that you get  
25 anything changed that involved race --

1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

2           **MR. COOLEY:** -- without some force coming  
3 from the opposing side.

4           (17:19)

5           **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Now that, the actual  
6 passage of the bond issue, which I think was in  
7 November, '67, after it had been defeated a couple  
8 times, what do you think finally changed people's  
9 minds to go ahead and pass that?

10          **MR. COOLEY:** Well, I'm not sure. Some were  
11 probably doing it because they thought it would  
12 decrease the volume of protests, of opposition. A  
13 great many I think decided that it was the right  
14 thing to do, and between the time I returned from  
15 the military until the mid '60s there was an  
16 increase, substantial increase in the population  
17 in this community and those came from outside who  
18 established their relationships, whether it was  
19 with the university or private employers, so I  
20 think those people probably had some impact on the  
21 outcome of the election.

22          **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

23          **MR. COOLEY:** But that's speculation, but I do  
24 know that there were a great many people, the  
25 leaders of the community, who opposed it

1 originally and who finally said it's time to do  
2 it.

3 (18:36)

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Continuing kind of along  
5 that line, what would you say were the, both the  
6 factors that were kind of impediments to change  
7 and then what motivated some people, and you've  
8 already kind of touched on this, to decide it was  
9 time to get involved and take action and who were  
10 those people who tended to get involved and join,  
11 you know, fair housing groups and groups that  
12 opposed discrimination?

13 **MR. COOLEY:** I'm not sure I have a handle on  
14 who the people were. I can -- I know some of the  
15 people who were opposed. I'm not going to mention  
16 them by name.

17 (19:15)

18 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. No, absolutely, don't  
19 expect you to mention names at all but just kind  
20 of, kind of general social groups I guess would --

21 **MR. COOLEY:** Well, --

22 **MR. ARNOLD:** Local community.

23 **MR. COOLEY:** -- social, business. If you had  
24 a business you engaged socially in those days. It  
25 was always somewhat the same mix of people who got

1 together from their business and did things  
2 socially.

3 The resistance came from a great many sides  
4 of the community. Different voices were sounded.  
5 Some people just grew up in an atmosphere that  
6 they didn't like the colored people, they didn't  
7 like what they did or what they stood for. Others  
8 didn't want to share, what we really had is an  
9 ideal community at that time, with anyone who they  
10 didn't approve of.

11 The university faculty and students, they had  
12 a great influence I think on what changes were  
13 ultimately made in the pool issue, the adoption of  
14 the ordinance, that type of thing.

15 The university grew. When I came, when I was  
16 in school here, I started in 1950, I don't think  
17 there was maybe 7,500 students. It increased  
18 dramatically simply because a lot of returning  
19 veterans, World War II was still returning  
20 veterans to the campus, the Korean conflict, there  
21 were a great many who returned to the campus who  
22 had been in that conflict, so that the population  
23 of the university grew.

24 It's not a secret that a lot of people think  
25 the university has a more liberal attitude than



1 some of those who are on the other side of the  
2 fence, but whatever it was, I think that the  
3 university, not only the personnel but the  
4 students, had tremendous influence and impact on  
5 what ultimately resulted in the ordinance on fair  
6 housing, and many other things that occurred to  
7 share what we have with other people.

8 (21:28)

9 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Yes, it's interesting you  
10 say that because I just interviewed Fred Six a  
11 week ago and he kind of had the same perspective.  
12 He felt that if this wasn't a university town the  
13 change would have come much more slowly and  
14 possibly much more painfully than it did.

15 **MR. COOLEY:** I think that's true, and Fred  
16 and I started law school the same year, in 1953.

17 **MR. ARNOLD:** Really?

18 **MR. COOLEY:** He just returned from Korea and  
19 started in the summer, I started in the fall, so  
20 --

21 (21:54)

22 **MR. ARNOLD:** Interesting. Were you involved  
23 in any groups that were pressing for change, if  
24 not community organizations but say through your  
25 church, or was your church involved? I know that

1 the churches played, many churches played kind of  
2 varying roles in pressing for change, or at least  
3 for fairness in community policies.

4 **MR. COOLEY:** My family members were and still  
5 are members of the Congregational Church.

6 **MR. ARNOLD:** Which was very active, I think,  
7 in --

8 **MR. COOLEY:** It was very active. There was  
9 division within the ranks of the church as to what  
10 the minister was doing at the time. I recall  
11 particularly a photograph that appeared in the  
12 Journal-World showing a march down Massachusetts  
13 Street toward the courthouse and the minister at  
14 the time was noticeable in the photograph. That  
15 brought a lot of comment, pro and con, but the, I  
16 don't want to call them antagonists but those who  
17 were opposed to what he was doing certainly let  
18 him know about it.

19 I later, at some later time I served as a  
20 deacon of the church for a short period of time  
21 and it was always an issue what should the  
22 minister do and what shouldn't he do. Well, he  
23 did what he thought was right and in those days  
24 there were two great ministers that I'd had close  
25 contact with and my attitude was that they could

1 get a job anyplace so I doubt if they were afraid  
2 of being fired.

3 **MR. ARNOLD:** Interesting.

4 **MR. COOLEY:** They were very good at what they  
5 did.

6 (23:35)

7 **MR. ARNOLD:** Do you recall Reverend Richard  
8 Dulin, who was at Plymouth Congregational as, I  
9 think he was the campus minister?

10 **MR. COOLEY:** You know, his name comes up and  
11 I don't recall him.

12 **MR. ARNOLD:** Yes, he ended up becoming the  
13 chairman or the president of the Fair Housing  
14 Coordinating Committee, which actually took the  
15 proposal to the Human Relations Commission --

16 **MR. COOLEY:** Right.

17 **MR. ARNOLD:** -- to move forward with the  
18 ordinance.

19 **MR. COOLEY:** And I'm sure I knew him and had  
20 some contact with him but I simply can't recall,  
21 and I mix his name up with another Reverend  
22 Dulin --

23 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

24 **MR. COOLEY:** -- who's still around Lawrence.

25 **MR. ARNOLD:** Yes.

1           **MR. COOLEY:** And at that, at the time all  
2 these things were going on there were I recall --  
3 maybe I better recall my notes here. There was a  
4 Reverend Sims. Has his name come up?

5           **MR. ARNOLD:** I do not believe we have run  
6 across his name.

7           **MR. COOLEY:** Reverend Sims was an interesting  
8 fellow. He was not a youngster at the time I  
9 first met him. I started the practice of law in  
10 February of 1959. I don't think I'd been in the  
11 office more than a week when Reverend Sims showed  
12 up. He had a little pocket notebook that he kept  
13 and he handed that to me and it was asking for a  
14 contribution to his church, which I certainly felt  
15 I should do, even though I didn't know where I'd  
16 get the money at the time, but I did it, and he  
17 was very active in the community and was well  
18 respected.

19           At the same time then came along Reverend  
20 Barbee, Reverend Dulin, and others who have had  
21 great impact on the cohesion or lack of cohesion  
22 in the divided issue --

23           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

24           **MR. COOLEY:** -- that we deal with in racism,  
25 so -- but they have been very active and I think

1 have contributed greatly to what calm we have  
2 today.

3 (25:39)

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. In doing our research we  
5 really found that a lot of folks from the  
6 university were involved in some of these groups,  
7 many of the churches were involved, but also you  
8 find the names, and Fred Six also kind of pointed  
9 this out, that there were certain fairly prominent  
10 Lawrence businessmen or spouses of businessmen who  
11 were involved and often he thought their support  
12 was key to kind of bringing on more of the city  
13 establishment behind it.

14 **MR. COOLEY:** Sure, sure.

15 **MR. ARNOLD:** Do you recall any particular  
16 individuals among businessmen who played  
17 particularly important roles off the top of your  
18 head?

19 **MR. COOLEY:** I'm not sure, I think Glenn  
20 Kappelman was here. Has his name come up?

21 **MR. ARNOLD:** Absolutely.

22 **MR. COOLEY:** And Glenn was very active as a  
23 realtor. He operated out of an office on  
24 Massachusetts Street for a lot of years and then  
25 became a partner in Calvin, Eddy and Kappelman,

1       which still exists. He had a good perspective.  
2       He had a lot of combat experience in World War II.  
3       He was from the Lawrence community so he had an  
4       understanding of what it was about when he  
5       returned from the military, and he in general was  
6       in the forefront of not only the race issues but  
7       any issues that were confronting the city, would  
8       try to assist in any way he could. Some thought  
9       he agitated but generally he was received as one  
10      who was trying to resolve the impact on the  
11      community that was happening.

12               (27:20)

13           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Do you recall any  
14      particular incidents or conditions that you think  
15      in the mid '60s, before kind of the violence set  
16      in, but any particular incidents or conditions  
17      that really spurred some people to action or was  
18      it just generally the climate and the  
19      discrimination, conditions of discrimination in  
20      general that really motivated people?

21           **MR. COOLEY:** Well, it's difficult. At some  
22      point I -- it's sort of like a nightmare at times.

23               (27:52)

24           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. And I know it was 50  
25      years ago --

1           **MR. COOLEY:** Even longer, but there were a  
2 lot of days without sleep so I don't remember  
3 some.

4           **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure, sure.

5           **MR. COOLEY:** I think that the thing that  
6 really got our attention or got the city's  
7 attention was the activity at the high school.

8           **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

9           **MR. COOLEY:** And I'm sure that's been gone  
10 over, but I recall being called out or being  
11 instructed to go to the high school because there  
12 was a demonstration on the north, the exterior but  
13 on the north side of the building as it existed in  
14 those days, and this is Lawrence High School out  
15 on Louisiana.

16           When I arrived I saw a lot of parents of  
17 students at the high school, many of whom I knew.  
18 I stood there for awhile and the parents were  
19 trying to get their children to break up the  
20 activity that they were engaged in, which was very  
21 vocal, very Trumpish, if I may, if that's a use,  
22 proper use at the time. They were vulgar.

23           **MR. ARNOLD:** I think that's going to be a new  
24 terminology in the American lexicon.

25           **MR. COOLEY:** They were very disrespectful of

1 their parents. They certainly were disrespectful  
2 of the administration of the high school that was  
3 trying to control the situation. I took sides on  
4 that. As a parent I thought that that was wrong,  
5 but I was impressed that the parents were trying  
6 to do the right thing, at least what I perceived  
7 to be the right thing. Combat is never a  
8 solution, in my view, but that was one of the key  
9 things that occurred.

10 We had all types of activity. We had a fire  
11 bomb thrown into Judge Gray, who was a district  
12 court judge, into his living room. We had a fire  
13 bomb to hit the county attorney's house at the  
14 time. We had shootings. I mentioned the barbed  
15 wire situation, which brought back my training,  
16 prior, --

17 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

18 **MR. COOLEY:** -- when I was getting ready to  
19 go to Korea, and the disrespect that was going on  
20 in the community. It was something that was quite  
21 alarming to me, and to a lot of people.

22 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure.

23 **MR. COOLEY:** I was under personal attack by  
24 an underground newspaper, by people who made  
25 threats. My wife and children lived under police



1 protection for a period of time. There was even a  
2 period of time when we had two officers stationed  
3 across the street in what was then the home of  
4 Vice Chancellor Albrecht, who was the dean of  
5 academic affairs for the university at the time,  
6 but they remained there and guarded and took care  
7 of my family and my home.

8 (31:07)

9 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. What time frame would  
10 this have been? Was this kind of in '69, '70, the  
11 height of the violence, or --

12 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, probably '67, '68, or --

13 **MR. ARNOLD:** So --

14 **MR. COOLEY:** '68 really broke out.

15 **MR. ARNOLD:** '68? Yes

16 **MR. COOLEY:** '68 was a period of time I  
17 remember when Chancellor Wescoe cancelled the ROTC  
18 review, which was the final program for the ROTC  
19 program for the year, where students received  
20 awards, designations, whatever it might be, and  
21 commissioning ceremonies sometimes took place in  
22 those times. That generated a lot of concern for  
23 people who were not involved really in the issue  
24 of race or the Vietnam War at the time but felt  
25 that that was just wrong, and I think it stirred

1 up a lot of problems.

2 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

3 **MR. COOLEY:** Certainly in my mind at the time  
4 I thought it was an error.

5 (32:01)

6 **MR. ARNOLD:** In your position as the  
7 assistant city attorney did you play any  
8 particular roles in that time in measures to  
9 address discrimination issues or fair housing  
10 issues in particular or did you simply not have  
11 the tools in terms of, you know, laws to tackle  
12 those issues?

13 **MR. COOLEY:** Well, we didn't have, certainly  
14 the laws were on the book at the time that we had  
15 adopted and which have been expanded upon even up  
16 to this time. It generally was not considered our  
17 business, if you will, to get involved in real  
18 estate matters, that type of thing.

19 Certainly we did get involved in the  
20 restaurant issue. There was a particular business  
21 located out on 23rd Street just immediately west  
22 of Louisiana and 23rd which was a well known  
23 popular steak house, dance house, drinking house,  
24 and the owner of that just wasn't going to have  
25 anybody in, he wasn't going to permit people of

1 color in his establishment.

2 We knew the owner quite well and Wilt  
3 Chamberlain came to town. Wilt had a great impact  
4 on the race relations in this community. There  
5 was a simple, very simple statement made to the  
6 owner of this establishment that, you know, we're  
7 going to quit coming to your business, and  
8 ultimately he backed down and people started  
9 going. I'm not sure there was any great influx of  
10 African-Americans or others who went there, but at  
11 least it opened the door. They had the  
12 opportunity if they wished to take it.

13 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

14 **MR. COOLEY:** So I think that Wilt had a great  
15 impact in this community; still does.

16 (34:05)

17 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure, yes, absolutely.

18 As I recall, the State of Kansas passed a  
19 public accommodations act, I think in 1959 or  
20 1960, which was supposed to open up public  
21 businesses to integrated customers, but I recall  
22 reading about a number of businesses, a roller  
23 skating rink I think comes to mind, that was not  
24 following the apparent direction of the law and  
25 there was some concern at the time the law was

1 simply too vague in terms of what all kinds of  
2 businesses that it applied to, whether they were  
3 public or private. Do you recall dealing with any  
4 of those kind of issues?

5 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, I have some recall. During  
6 those times, I think it's important to realize and  
7 to understand that this country was in turmoil for  
8 many years. We went through World War II, thought  
9 the wars were over forever. Five years later  
10 we're in Korea. That lasted for three years. And  
11 it seems like we've been at war ever since, but  
12 there was a real lack of interest, if you will, to  
13 get involved in something else that seemed to be a  
14 struggle or a fight, having gone through those two  
15 wars. Lot of people just set back and said, oh,  
16 to heck with it, let somebody else figure out the  
17 problem.

18 It ultimately got our attention, of course,  
19 and I think more so because of the impact of the  
20 Vietnam conflict and the Vietnam demonstrations.  
21 At the same time we still had the racial issues.  
22 I'm not sure but if the racial issues would have  
23 gotten the attention that they did without the  
24 involvement of the demonstrations against the  
25 Vietnam War, because it was a big forum then.

1       Anybody could play "I don't like what's going on"  
2       and do something to attempt to change or alter the  
3       direction that things were being taken, so yes, we  
4       were scared, I think it was a scared community  
5       during the time of Vietnam and the demonstrations.

6               **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

7               **MR. COOLEY:** And it served -- as I indicated,  
8       there was violence on public officials. It  
9       particularly concerned me that Judge Gray got the  
10      bomb, truly an outstanding jurist, but it  
11      happened.

12              (36:54)

13              **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Any other national  
14      events that you recall that may have had a  
15      particular impact on Lawrence and people's  
16      perspectives, whether it be, you know, some of the  
17      race riots in big cities around America or the  
18      assassination of Martin Luther King? Do you  
19      recall that that had any particular impact on the  
20      community that was worrisome?

21              **MR. COOLEY:** Sure. There were two major  
22      events. Kent University is still a front page  
23      issue and the dean of students at Kent at the time  
24      has been on the administrative staff of the  
25      university here for many years and I visited with

1 him, been friendly with him about what went on and  
2 what he felt was happening at Kent, and then he  
3 became dean of students here, expanded and gave it  
4 a title of student life or something like that;  
5 still the dean of students as I would recall the  
6 position.

7 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

8 **MR. COOLEY:** That was a significant thing,  
9 and the Vietnam War issue and Martin Luther King's  
10 death, if they thought they were going to cure a  
11 problem, whoever did this, and I have no reason to  
12 know who was the actual perpetrator or who set the  
13 thing in motion to kill Martin Luther King but if  
14 they thought it was going to ease the pressure  
15 from the colored community they were extremely  
16 wrong. They misjudged their opponent, because all  
17 it did was bring people together. Even as  
18 hard-hearted as people are they don't like to see  
19 people murdered.

20 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure.

21 **MR. COOLEY:** At least that's my observation.

22 (38:44)

23 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Scott Wagner pointed out  
24 to me that you've lived I think for many, many  
25 years in the University Heights neighborhood going

1 back all the way to this time period and he was  
2 just wondering whether -- I assume that was an  
3 all-white neighborhood at the time but probably  
4 had faculty members living among you. Was fair  
5 housing ever a, or segregation a point of  
6 discussion among your neighbors, that you recall?

7 **MR. COOLEY:** No, and I'm not sure it was  
8 University Heights. I live two blocks west of the  
9 fountain at the university, --

10 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

11 **MR. COOLEY:** -- if that's University Heights.

12 **MR. ARNOLD:** I was actually trying to figure  
13 out, you know, there's Hillcrest Heights, I think  
14 University Heights, there's several neighborhoods  
15 back in there, I'm not sure I got the right name  
16 --

17 **MR. COOLEY:** Yes, that's all right.

18 **MR. ARNOLD:** -- but in that area near the  
19 university.

20 **MR. COOLEY:** West Hills neighborhood --

21 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right, West Hills.

22 **MR. COOLEY:** -- just west of that. No, I'm  
23 trying to think. I know that no one would have  
24 opposed integration into the neighborhood, at  
25 least no one I was aware of, as long as they mowed

1 their yard and cleaned off the sidewalks and kept  
2 the place looking decent.

3 (39:59)

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** Yes, it's interesting you  
5 mention that because one of the perspectives of  
6 the fair housing issue is that the real estate  
7 agents were steering people away from generally  
8 all-white neighborhoods because they thought the  
9 people in the neighborhoods would be strongly  
10 opposed to having African-American neighbors and  
11 they might then hurt the real estate agent's  
12 business, but at the same time I've read things or  
13 seen things that suggest that there was actually  
14 much broader-based support for, or at least no  
15 opposition to African-Americans moving into  
16 all-white neighborhoods. Would you agree with  
17 that perspective?

18 **MR. COOLEY:** Well, certainly in my  
19 neighborhood I don't know of any objections that  
20 existed. I'm sure in some other neighborhoods  
21 there may have been people who expressed their  
22 concern but I don't know that it got to my  
23 attention as a legal issue. I don't recall any  
24 cases I had to defend on that particular subject.

25 (41:05)



1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Let's shift over a little bit  
2           now towards the more, the specifics, and again, I  
3           know you weren't directly involved in the passage  
4           of the Fair Housing Ordinance but let me, can I  
5           ask you some questions along those lines, starting  
6           with what was your view at the time, if you  
7           recall, of the Human Relations Commission, its  
8           purpose, and whether it was successful in moving  
9           in the direction of ending, or addressing and  
10          ending discriminatory practices?

11          **MR. COOLEY:** Well, I think they were  
12          addressed. I don't think it's ever ended.

13                 (41:42)

14          **MR. ARNOLD:** Right, exactly. That's a valid  
15          point. Was the membership of the council a fairly  
16          respected group of people whose efforts were  
17          credible among much of the Lawrence citizenry or  
18          do you think they were, you know, some people's  
19          referred to them as do-gooders who were looking  
20          for problems that didn't necessarily exist?

21          **MR. COOLEY:** All of those terms have been  
22          used. They were good people. They were good  
23          citizens. They were either from the business  
24          community, university community, just the  
25          community as a whole. I would not fault any of

1       them. They had the right attitude toward their  
2       mission that was assigned to them as a member of  
3       this particular commission.

4             Same thing goes on today, it's not changed  
5       any. There are people who don't -- who oppose it  
6       because they're told what to do to comply with the  
7       law. It seems that the older we get, the older I  
8       get the more rebuke I see to existing laws by some  
9       people than existed in my earlier career.

10            I am still one who thinks if it's the law,  
11       that it is what it is. There may be unreasonable  
12       laws. Those need to be changed, but the Human  
13       Relations Commission has dealt with some  
14       significant problems. It's continued to.

15            There was -- oh, Heavens sakes, help me out  
16       who the director was for so many years.

17            (43:27)

18            **MR. ARNOLD:** Of the Human Relations  
19       Commission?

20            **MR. COOLEY:** The human, department, the city  
21       organization, human relations organization. Ray.  
22       Ray. Anyway we'll get to that, Ray Samuel, I'm  
23       sorry.

24            **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

25            **MR. COOLEY:** And Ray put out a lot of fires.

1 People had no idea what he was doing. I mean,  
2 staff did, his bosses did, but the general  
3 community didn't realize that he solved a lot of  
4 problems with the one-on-one conversations, did a  
5 lot of those in the evening after office hours.  
6 He had a successful career. He didn't get all the  
7 problems solved because a lot of them still exist,  
8 and they'll continue to exist as long as you've  
9 got people of opposing views.

10 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure.

11 **MR. COOLEY:** But it served, it served a good  
12 purpose.

13 I remember some of the prime objection was  
14 from employers who had substantial number of  
15 employees and there was a quota system, if you  
16 will, a percentage of your workforce was to be to  
17 those of other, of lesser economic means and also  
18 of color and diversity, not just African-Americans  
19 but Mexicans, all other than Caucasian, so they  
20 heard a lot of jokes, you know. "Well, the guy  
21 came in and said you gotta have 10 people of  
22 diversity working here," and he called back to the  
23 shop and would say, "Lay off one of them, we got  
24 too many," you know. Well, that was sort of an  
25 attitude that existed. They were doing what they

1 were told but they weren't doing anything more.

2 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

3 **MR. COOLEY:** I think that if you go into most  
4 of the places of business today you just see a mix  
5 of everyone working there.

6 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

7 **MR. COOLEY:** But I'm sure there are still  
8 those who oppose being told what to do.

9 (45:42)

10 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Sure. Do you recall  
11 being involved at all in the actual process of  
12 reviewing and then passing the Fair Housing  
13 Ordinance? Do you recall consulting with the city  
14 attorney over it, reviewing the ordinance for its,  
15 you know, legal wording?

16 **MR. COOLEY:** You know, I don't recall that.  
17 I was still a youngster in the practice at that  
18 time.

19 **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay.

20 **MR. COOLEY:** I had my hands full with taking  
21 care of those who violated our city ordinances.

22 (46:13)

23 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure. Were you at least aware  
24 that it was --

25 **MR. COOLEY:** Yes, oh yes.

1           **MR. ARNOLD:** -- being brought to the  
2           commission and what -- did you feel like it was,  
3           that the ordinance was addressing a real problem  
4           and was sort of fulfilling a need?

5           **MR. COOLEY:** Sure, sure. We would have, if  
6           we didn't have such an ordinance we would be back  
7           in the days that existed at that time, --

8           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

9           **MR. COOLEY:** -- the ways and means that  
10          existed at that time, which would not be  
11          acceptable and I think would lead to more  
12          violence, more outpouring of hatred, bitterness  
13          between members of the community.

14          I think there was another important thing  
15          that took place in the same time frame and that  
16          was the creation of the Douglas County Legal Aid  
17          Society. I don't know if that's been mentioned or  
18          not, but I know Fred, Fred Six and I and some  
19          others had impact on that. We worked to get that  
20          established, and it simply is, it's run by the law  
21          school. It was an elective course at the law  
22          school. It has represented or the members have  
23          represented those of diverse backgrounds, those of  
24          low income, low income areas, and they do a good  
25          job, and it serves two functions. It serves the

1 public and it serves -- the law students get some  
2 training in hands-on use of what they're being  
3 taught.

4 I know that we recognized one problem before  
5 the thing really got going that we hadn't, the  
6 students couldn't appear in court because they  
7 weren't admitted to the bar so we got the Supreme  
8 Court to adopt an order stating that, with  
9 limitations what they could do as long as they had  
10 supervision from an admitted attorney, so it has  
11 handled all kinds of realty problems, rental  
12 problems of every nature, and they still have  
13 those problems.

14 And it's interesting to look back. I think  
15 Deanell Tacha was the first director of the Legal  
16 Aid Society at the university. You know who  
17 Deanell is, I think?

18 **MR. ARNOLD:** I do not.

19 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, okay. Well, she became, she  
20 was vice chancellor at the university. She is now  
21 the dean of the law school out in California. She  
22 was on the United States Court of Appeals for the  
23 Tenth Circuit, was chief judge of that group, and  
24 she's held a lot of positions and been involved in  
25 many, many things of value in this community, so

1 she kind of got her start back there as initial  
2 director.

3 (49:18)

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** Interesting. What do you think  
5 ultimately influenced the City Commission to pass  
6 the Fair Housing Ordinance?

7 **MR. COOLEY:** I'm guessing. I know of one  
8 reason was that there was, we knew, or the people  
9 who were involved in organizing this effort were  
10 aware that the state was going to adopt something.  
11 I think we wanted to get a jump on that and do our  
12 own thing, run our own community, so that had a  
13 lot of influence on the ultimate decision by the  
14 City Commission to adopt it.

15 Secondly, I think there was an outpouring  
16 from those who thought it was something that had  
17 to be because you at least attempt to overcome  
18 some of the significant issues raised by race, the  
19 racial issues, the economic differential between  
20 groups within the community, and we had, in those  
21 days we had really outstanding people that worked  
22 on or that were elected to the office of city  
23 commissioner and most of them had businesses in  
24 the community and were successful otherwise.  
25 That's not to say we haven't had good commissions

1 since then, we have, but they filled a need and  
2 they, John Emick I think may have been the mayor  
3 at that time.

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** Actually it was Dick Raney was  
5 the mayor.

6 **MR. COOLEY:** Okay, yes.

7 **MR. ARNOLD:** He signed the ordinance then.

8 **MR. COOLEY:** That's right. I saw Dick  
9 yesterday in fact, yes, but -- and Dick was very  
10 active with these issues, and he remains so today,  
11 I think.

12 (51:06)

13 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Since you mentioned some  
14 of the individuals, do you recall, and again, I  
15 realize you weren't directly involved with the  
16 ordinance, but any particular individuals either  
17 within city government or who may have advocated  
18 on its behalf who you remember playing important  
19 roles in that time frame and pushing for things  
20 like the Fair Housing Ordinance? Any civil rights  
21 leaders in the town that you remember?

22 **MR. COOLEY:** Well, Dick, Richard Raney  
23 certainly was one. I don't want to make an  
24 attribution to someone who didn't say or do what I  
25 think.



1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Yes, I know, 50 years has been a  
2 long time to remember specifics.

3           **MR. COOLEY:** But there was significant  
4 support in the community, and I can't come up with  
5 the names.

6           (51:57)

7           **MR. ARNOLD:** Okay. Yes, I was going to ask  
8 you what, what kind of -- do you have a sense that  
9 the ordinance wasn't, other than obviously the  
10 realtors had concerns about it, but that it wasn't  
11 especially controversial and that there was kind  
12 of general community support for it once it was  
13 passed?

14           **MR. COOLEY:** I don't remember any great  
15 controversy. I'm sure -- I can't imagine that  
16 anything that came before the City Commission  
17 didn't have some --

18           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

19           **MR. COOLEY:** -- controversial aspect to it,  
20 but --

21           (52:26)

22           **MR. ARNOLD:** Do you think the ordinance, you  
23 know, from your perspective as the, you know,  
24 assistant city attorney, the prosecutor and  
25 ultimately as the city attorney do you have a

1 sense that it had a positive impact, if not right  
2 away, over time?

3 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, there's no doubt about it.  
4 Some of the practices that were engaged in before  
5 the ordinance was adopted and even in the early  
6 days after the adoption were practices that don't  
7 generally exist today.

8 Most people in the real estate business,  
9 whether they're investors or whether they've got a  
10 few properties or they've got large projects, they  
11 know what the rules are and they know that if  
12 they're going to get along they better abide by  
13 the rules. Now, sometimes it doesn't matter  
14 whether they appreciate the rules or whether it's  
15 -- the fact, the question is do they understand  
16 and apply the rules as they're written and it  
17 seems that there's been a fair acceptance across  
18 the board to follow the law. It's pretty hard to  
19 win if you've got people who are witnesses to some  
20 discriminatory act and so you've got other things  
21 to do besides be involved in trying to resist  
22 something that exists and it's not going to go  
23 away.

24 **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

25 **MR. COOLEY:** At least that's my view of it.

1 (53:49)

2 **MR. ARNOLD:** Do you recall any fair housing  
3 cases coming before you or do you feel like  
4 compliance was pretty widespread after the  
5 ordinance was passed?

6 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, no, I think it -- it became  
7 more widespread as time --

8 **MR. ARNOLD:** Sure.

9 **MR. COOLEY:** -- evolved. Yes, I recall a  
10 case in the past 10 years, I suppose, where we had  
11 litigation, and again, this is one of those mixed  
12 marriage situations, the wife of one color, white,  
13 I assume, would be the appropriate person to come  
14 forth and rent the property and then they start to  
15 move in, when the black husband showed up and the  
16 realtor, who I believe did or may still live in  
17 the deep south, took exception and said he wasn't  
18 going to let them in. Well, that creates  
19 litigation and we finally, after really a good  
20 many hours, good many days of legal combat, if you  
21 will, we ultimately got the appropriate order and  
22 there were sanctions that were imposed and I don't  
23 know what happened after I left the practice but I  
24 assume that there was some substantial compliance  
25 with the law which ended the case, but it may, I'm

1           sure there are others that are going on.

2           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right, right.

3           **MR. COOLEY:** Lot of times I found that, even  
4           though it may not have been my position to do so,  
5           I'd get the parties together or get them on a  
6           phone call and see if we couldn't work things out.  
7           Fortunately e-mails were not excessively used in  
8           those days. I wouldn't allow a client to use  
9           e-mail today.

10           (55:56)

11           **MR. ARNOLD:** Sometimes wonder how we survived  
12           without -- I mean, even --

13           **MR. COOLEY:** Very good, very well.

14           **MR. ARNOLD:** -- across the course of my  
15           career as a, I was a career military officer but  
16           started off with there was no such thing as e-mail  
17           and then by the end of my career we couldn't do  
18           business any other way so you sometimes wonder how  
19           did we do business before we had it. We seemed to  
20           do quite well.

21           **MR. COOLEY:** Yes.

22           **MR. ARNOLD:** You've already talked throughout  
23           your interview about various experiences you had  
24           in the late '60s, early '70s with some of the  
25           violence and unrest in Lawrence. Any other

1 stories or recollections that you'd like to share  
2 about that time period?

3 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, I don't know. I thought of  
4 one that -- every matter that is serious sometimes  
5 has a funny, a funny side to it.

6 I recall on a warm summer day sometime in the  
7 '60s I had my uniform of the day, which was a blue  
8 suit, white shirt, probably a red tie, and I was  
9 walking around the area of Ninth and Vermont  
10 Street. There were some women who were out I  
11 suppose shopping or getting ready to and I noted  
12 their presence and then I heard this vocal  
13 outburst from a group of young guys and they were  
14 vulgar statements and loud, and at the same time  
15 my eye caught a police car and I waved to the  
16 police to come over.

17 The policeman got out and said, "What can I  
18 do for you?" And I told him what I had observed  
19 and so he called the boys over and he said, "You  
20 know," he said, "you guys are always doing  
21 something stupid, but," he said, "you've really,  
22 you've reached a peak today because you did it in  
23 front of the prosecutor." This one kid responded  
24 immediately, he said, "Prosecutor?" Said, "I  
25 thought he was the trash man." I immediately had

1 to leave, I started laughing and I didn't want to  
2 do that in their presence.

3 (58:10)

4 **MR. ARNOLD:** One thing that as we've done  
5 research for this project certainly in the mid  
6 1960s when some studies were done, you know,  
7 Lawrence was a fairly segregated community in  
8 terms of the areas where African-Americans lived,  
9 but to what extent do you think that that  
10 segregation contributed to racial unrest?

11 **MR. COOLEY:** Oh, I'm sure that it was  
12 significant. I haven't lived in their  
13 circumstances but I have lived in poor  
14 circumstances where I was part of the dust bowl  
15 generation, if you will, and I know that with no  
16 money and place to live that's not very  
17 accommodating it's not very pleasant, that you  
18 sometimes have a bad attitude, so I grew up with  
19 those circumstances.

20 Again, I'm not trying to relate that I know  
21 what these people have suffered or have lived  
22 through, but I think that in the back, hidden in  
23 the depth of some of these people they've  
24 repressed a lot of these emotions and when the  
25 '60s came along the demonstrations and all gave

1       them an opportunity to open those repressed  
2       feelings and start to express them and, you know,  
3       the Jim Crow law was prominent. We had all the  
4       issues of the south that were more prevalent than  
5       they were here, even though we may have been more  
6       repressive than they were in the south.

7               I had a particular -- my second tour at Fort  
8       Benning I was married, in fact I got married and  
9       took off on orders to Fort Benning the same day,  
10      but the wife was finishing up her degree by E --  
11      by mail, not e-mail, and had a young lady from  
12      Alabama who was brought in in a, just a smashed  
13      group of people into an old truck and they let  
14      them off, and anyway, she once in awhile came in  
15      to clean up things, and I thought that was  
16      horrible. I think the going rate was 35 cents an  
17      hour. That was cheap even for a second  
18      lieutenant's salary. I gave her a little extra  
19      occasionally and also would try to give her things  
20      that we weren't going to use anymore in the food  
21      line and I got contacted by the driver of the  
22      truck, said, "Don't do that." And I said, "Look,  
23      you drive your truck. If she works here I'll do  
24      what I want to do." But that was a problem. If  
25      you haven't seen it you can't believe it.

1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right.

2           **MR. COOLEY:** And this was very, very common  
3           occurrence that come from Phenix City, Alabama,  
4           across the Chattahoochee River there into Columbus  
5           and then to Fort Benning and bringing these  
6           carloads of, what, I guess they called them  
7           servants at the time.

8                   (1:01:29)

9           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Would you say, you know,  
10          from your many years of perspective that you had  
11          through your time as assistant city  
12          attorney/prosecutor and then once you became the  
13          city attorney for many years after the 1960s,  
14          would you say that both the positive changes,  
15          things like the Fair Housing Ordinance, the public  
16          swimming pool, but also some of the obviously more  
17          negative experiences, like the unrest of the late  
18          '60s, early '70s, did all those things in  
19          combination make Lawrence, as painful as some of  
20          them were, a better community coming out the other  
21          end or did you see positive changes that resulted  
22          from that period?

23          **MR. COOLEY:** Sure you do. People who weren't  
24          here at the time wouldn't recognize them but this  
25          isn't the community that it was at that time. We



1        were, surprisingly to a lot of people, we were  
2        kind of a sleepy college town. We've grown and  
3        with growth you have problems that you have to  
4        address, it just, growth, it's just the nature of  
5        the beast, I think, but overall I think that we  
6        wouldn't be the community we are today if we  
7        hadn't adopted such things as fair housing, if  
8        there hadn't been other laws enacted either by  
9        Congress or by the state or by the city addressing  
10       problems of a general nature for all communities,  
11       all people, we wouldn't be near the community we  
12       are today.

13                Sure we got our problems. I think right now  
14       it's a nation or a worldwide problem that we're  
15       experiencing, which is very remindful to me of  
16       what took place back in the '60s and '70s, but it  
17       will be resolved, hopefully it will be without  
18       any more violence. I know that is an expectation  
19       that won't occur, but without great violence and  
20       without great loss of life, but it'll end. There  
21       will be a period of quietness and something else  
22       will be a problem, so -- but overall Lawrence is a  
23       great town. It was a lot easier when I could ride  
24       my moped to the office. I wouldn't dare get on  
25       one today with the traffic.

1           **MR. ARNOLD:** Those college students still do,  
2           though.

3           **MR. COOLEY:** I've got two grandchildren that  
4           drive a little different than what I would advise,  
5           but stay out of the way of those people.

6           (1:04:00)

7           **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Well, Mr. Cooley, I have  
8           come to the end of my questions. I just wanted to  
9           offer you if you have any other thoughts about  
10          anything we didn't cover that you wanted to share.

11          **MR. COOLEY:** Well, it's been, rambling, I  
12          suppose my offering is simply one that's lived  
13          longer than would be expected.

14          **MR. ARNOLD:** Well, thank you very much. This  
15          was a very useful interview and I think we got  
16          some great perspectives from you and you played a  
17          central role in a lot of these issues and so we  
18          really appreciate the fact that you lent us your  
19          time to share some of your memories, so thank you  
20          very much.

21          **MR. COOLEY:** I think it is important that we  
22          keep our history evolving.

23          **MR. ARNOLD:** Right. Great. Thank you.

24                               \*\*\*\*\*

25