**Transcript of Interview with Dayne Bowker-Lee by Monica Ruth**

**Interviewee:** Dayne Bowker-Lee

**Interviewer:** Monica Ruth

**Date:** 02/17/2021

**Location (Interviewee):** New Orleans, Louisiana

**Location (Interviewer):** Sacramento, California

**Transcriber:** Monica Ruth

**Abstract:**

This is a mini oral history of Dayna Bowker-Lee by Monica Ruth, about the silver lining of the pandemic experience.

**Monica Ruth** 0:02

Hi, my name is Monica Ruth and I'm a graduate student intern with the COVID-19 archive at Arizona State University. Today's date is February 17th, 2021, and the time is 9:04 am Pacific Standard Time where I'm sitting, and I'm speaking with Dayna Bowker-Lee. Bowker-Lee, excuse me.

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 0:21

That’s alright.

**Monica Ruth** 0:22

I want to ask you a question about your pandemic experience. But before I do, I'd like to ask for your consent to record this response for the COVID-19 archive. The COVID-19-

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 0:31

Yes

**Monica Ruth** 0:31

Okay.

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 0:32

Oh, sorry.

**Monica Ruth** 0:32

No, that’s okay. The COVID-19 archive is a digital archive at ASU that is collecting pandemic experiences. Do I have your consent to record your response and add it to the archive with your name?

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 0:43

Yes, you do.

**Monica Ruth** 0:44

K, thank you so much, Dayna. First, can you tell me your name, age, race and where you live?

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 0:53

Okay, my name is Dayna Bowker-Lee. I live in New Orleans, Louisiana. I am Caucasian for the most part. And, what else was-was I supposed to ans- answer?

**Monica Ruth** 1:07

And your age?

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 1:08

Oh, and I'm 68 years old.

**Monica Ruth** 1:10

Thank you very much. Now, I would like to ask you a quick question about the pandemic. So we've experienced a lot of a lot of changes in 2020. And many have been negative and disruptive, but maybe it's not all that bad. What is one positive thing you've experienced during the pandemic?

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 1:29

A positive?

**Monica Ruth** 1:31

Yeah. Something you might say is like a silver lining to this experience we're all going through.

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 1:39

Uh, it- I'll be honest with you, it really hasn't changed my life all that much. In that I work from my house. I am pretty self-contained. My grandkids who live around the corner still come over every Friday night, because they quarantined as well, so I'm trying to think in terms- I guess, just basically, it's made me appreciate, I- I assume, that the- the things that that we don't have. It's made me- I- I never really go out a whole lot anyway. But I do eat out a lot. I do go to you know, open air concerts, I go to the park. I’ll walk, I go swimming, you know. And so I think it's made me appreciate the things that I take for granted a little bit more. So I guess that's a positive. I hate to be evasive or vague. But it really hasn't changed my personal life that much. It's changed the way that I look at my city. Things have happened in New Orleans that have been really disruptive towards the overall culture of the city. And I- I know I digress. But, you know, but personally, myself, it hasn't really changed my day-to-day life that much. My husband doesn't live here. He comes in on weekends. That really hasn't changed. So it really hasn't changed my life that much.

**Monica Ruth** 3:25

Well, that can be-

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 3:27

Personally.

**Monica Ruth** 3:27

Yeah, that could, that could be taken as a positive. I'm sure, if-

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 3:29

Okay.

**Monica Ruth** 3;30

-Hasn't been very disruptive. Well, I appreciate-

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 3:32

No, it hasn’t.

**Monica Ruth** 3:33

I appreciate your response. Thank you for your time, Dana.

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 3:36

You're welcome. That's it?

**Monica Ruth** 3:38

That's it.

**Dayne Bowker-Lee** 3:39

Okay, well- [laughs] [audio stops]