

# Transcript of Oral History Interview with Speaker 2

**Interviewee:** Speaker 2

**Interviewer:** Speaker 1

**Date:** Unknown

**Location (Interviewee):** Unknown

**Location (Interviewer):** Unknown

**Transcription Equipment:** Otter.ai

**Interviewer Technology:** Unknown

**Abstract:** Although Speaker 2 does not consider themselves religious, they talk about how the COVID-19 pandemic had affected churches and the religious people around them. They also talk about hospital chamberlain and the few times they turn to prayer during the pandemic.

**Speaker 1 0:00**

First off: how has the COVID-19 affected your faith or beliefs?

**Speaker 2 0:06**

To be honest, it has not affected my faith or beliefs at all because I wasn't religious prior to this pandemic. So, I'm, I'm still not. The only time that I did feel the need to pray, or have any religious part in my life, was when I thought I was sick and I was scared that I might die, so I prayed. Or anytime I start to feel sick and think that I'm getting sick, I pray.

**Speaker 1 0:39**

I gotcha. So, the second question is: is your, is your religious community still, gather-gathering currently? How has the COVID affected your participation in your religious community?

**Speaker 2 0:54**

So, for me, again, it hasn't affected participation in the religious community because I didn't attend prior. But I know for my mom it's particularly hard because she relies a lot on the church. She's a practicing Catholic, so she's not able to attend church at this time.

**Speaker 1 1:14**

All right. And the third question is: is your religious community supplying or engaged in any kind of community service in an attempt to alleviate issues caused by the pandemic? And if so, what are those efforts? Which I know, you're not actively involved, but still.

**Speaker 2 1:31**

I'm sure the churches are aiding in bringing food to the hospitals, taking care of some of the homeless people, handing out packages for them. And we also have a chaplain in the hospital for patients.

**Speaker 1 1:47**

Okay, gotcha. So, you have noticed with the church, it has been participating in alleviating some, some of the issues in the hospitals?

**Speaker 2 1:55**

Yes, they do what they can, you know, as long as they're not putting themselves at risk. Unfortunately, the chaplain at our hospital is not very well trained in infection control, because the chaplain has been seeing some patients without wearing the proper protection, including gloves. And it could be a problem for actually spreading the infection more among patients as they continue to visit different patients throughout the hospital.

**Speaker 1** 2:26

And you're saying he's like performing like last rites, and actually physically touching patients without gloves?

**Speaker 2** 2:33

It doesn't always mean they're performing last rites, it could just be for comfort. It could just be, you know, to have someone come and visit. But yeah, they're, they're definitely not trained to understand infection control, so.

**Speaker 1** 2:54

I gotcha. Have you ever noticed any patients that are apprehensive to receiving, you know, his visits?

**Speaker 2** 3:04

No, because the chaplain only comes if you're, if you request them to come or comes, they don't push any of their beliefs on the patients. But I, I will say that my staff in the hospital, my coworkers, are very adamant in their religion and I have been the receiver of many religious speeches from my coworkers.

**Speaker 1** 3:30

Because it just this corona, the COVID times.

**Speaker 2** 3:34

No, actually even, even before.

**Speaker 1** 3:36

We won't get into that, we won't get into that. But other way, like last thing, and I'll let you go here, but so the chaplain is to clarify he's not just roaming around freely just wandering into random patients rooms?

**Speaker 2** 3:50

No, the chaplain, you have to request the chaplain.

**Speaker 1** 3:54

Okay, oh, that makes sense. Anyway, all right. Well, thanks for clearing all that up and talking to me today about COVID-19 and religion.

**Speaker 2** 4:07

Absolutely. Thank you and stay safe.

**Speaker 1** 4:10

Hey, you too. Bye.