PROBLEMS OF INDIANS - DROPOUTS

(Yeah, that's real good. Well, Luke, I kinda like to ask you, what do you think are some of the problems that the Cherokee Indian people are experiencing today that for some reason or another, people have just not been able to solve. I mean educational problems or social problems, working problems, employment problems, everything. What are some of your ideas on 'em.)

You mean the school dropouts and stuff like that?

(Yes, or do you even find it a problem?)

Well, I would have to take an example from myself, upon myself. Back when I was about fifteen years old, now I didn't care. I was wanting to go out to the world, see what was on the other side of that hill. Well, I regret it this day that I done that. Well, we cannot solve this poverty as long as this world is standing, this we know. We may solve some of the problems, but we cannot solve all of them 'cause I have been witnessing all these things you know at Hulbert, around the community, around the surrounding towns and upon these small boys, say fourteen to fifteen-sixteen year olds now they have problems at home, just like my problems. Now modern stuff that we have is drives 'em that way, I think, now such as automobiles, motorcycle, and stuff that is fast moving, I would call it. Back in my days, they were not fast moving, we had to walk to see what was on the other side of that hill, so right today, these high school dropouts, they want to go and make it on their own, which they don't realize they're doing it wrong. Now, I have been a witness to that, taking an example on my life when I say these things. Now I regret it this day and night that I didn't take advantage of the education that was right on my hand them days and would urge all these high school boys, Indians, whites, and the negroes to get their educations. For in their later years, later years they will find out what I mean and for