

(How did you learn to do this?)

I was taught by my grandma. Pumpkin. I was young when she used to take me along. I used to get scared, but I got used to it. And she used to tell me what to do, and that's how.

(Did your grandmother wait on women very often?)

Yeah, she waited on them--lots of them.

(Did she get any kind of pay for helping them?)

Oh, yeah, they pay you.

DISPOSITION OF NAVEL CORD AND AFTERBIRTH

(What happens then, to the afterbirth, after it comes out?)

Well, you have to kind of take that blood out of this--so long--about that long, and then you tie it with sinew. (the navel)

(That's about the length of an index finger from the baby.)

Yeah. And tie it. Tie the end of it and put it over like this and then tie it. And after you cut it off you put this over and then tie it with sinew. And then you get cloth and make a hole in it and put lard on the stomach and then put that navel through and kind of curl it on this and put grease on it and then tie it. (You put the navel through the hole in the cloth, and it's kind of curved?)

Yeah, just put it in a circle around--

(Sort of twist it in a little circle?)

Yeah. And then tie another cloth on it. And then once in a while you put grease in there.

(How long does that cloth and everything have to stay on the baby?)

Oh, till after that thing comes off. After it comes off. You don't pull it. You don't look at it very often. Just put grease in there. And then when it comes off that cloth moves away from it. Then you take it off. And then put powder or something (on) and then put another band on it.

(Is that the way the Indians used to do a long time ago, too?)

Yeah, that's the way. But these white people, they always cut it that short! That little something always stand up!

(Then after the navel comes off, what happens to it? Do you do anything with it?)